

Lankans in Canada seek abrogation of accord. (1988, August 17).  
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## Lankans in Canada seek abrogation of accord

The Sri Lanka United National Association of Canada at a delegates conference on Sri Lankan issues held in Toronto has resolved that the Jayewardene-Gandhi accord should be abrogated and re-negotiated with the democratically expressed approval of the Sri Lankan people.

It has also opposed the merger of the Northern and Eastern provinces as it would

lead to a division of Sri Lanka on ethnic grounds.

The meeting was held on July 29 in Ontario, Canada.

The conference held at the city of Scarborough — civic centre was hosted by the Sri Lanka United National Association of Canada and attended by delegates representing expatriates Sri Lankan Associations in Canada and the U.S.A.

The following resolutions were moved at this conference.

"It is hereby resolved, that as the Jayewardene-Gandhi Accord has not been fully implemented by India as envisaged in the agreement, that this Accord should be abrogated, and renegotiated with the democratically expressed approval of the Sri Lankan people. Most importantly, due to the lack of protection to the populace accorded by the Indian Peace-Keeping Forces in the areas of operation, this force should be asked to leave within a rapid time frame. Because we believe that the problem is internal, we believe that Sri Lanka as a sovereign state, should be allowed to achieve peace in its

own way.

"We oppose the merger of the Northern and Eastern provinces as permitted by the present Provincial Councils Legislation, as it will lead to the division of Sri Lanka on ethnic grounds. We propose that the current legislation be repealed and the new legislation be based on the guiding principle that constitutional rights of all citizens such as freedom of movement are guaranteed".

a) The Government of Sri Lanka forthwith hold Presidential and General Elections to be monitored by an agency acceptable to all the Sri Lankan Political parties.

b) We urge the immediate restoration of fundamental rights guaranteed by the constitution. We also appeal to the government and the citizens of Sri Lanka to co-operate in re-establishing the Rule of Law and the return to non-violent democratic processes.

c) We further urge that the freedom of the person be immediately restored, including the speedy trial of all political prisoners and accountability of all persons taken into custody".