

ஒட்டாவா தமிழ் ஒன்றியம்

OTTAWA TAMIL ASSOCIATION L'ASSOCIATION TAMOUL D'OTTAWA





Ottawa Tamil Association (OTA) - 2024

- 1. 8th Tamil Heritage Month Gala 2024
 - Keynote Speech by Mr. Rajeev Sreetharan on Justice for Tamil Genocide in Sri Lanka - A Legal Roadmap
 - OTA continue to elevate the quality of the annual dinner
- 2. Tamil Genocide Remembrance Day and genocide recognition
 - o <u>Tamil Genocide Remembrance Day (May 18, 2024) Commemoration in Ottawa</u>
 - OTA participated the Tamil Genocide Remembrance Day event in Tamil State of Unition at <u>Library of Congress in Washington DC introduction of H. Res 1230 on</u> <u>May 16, 2024</u>
 - Statement by the Prime Minister on the Tamil Genocide Remembrance Day
- 3. 9th annual Fall Donation Tamil Eelam Humanitarian Assistance Fund (TEHAF)
 - <u>TEHAF</u> A Tamil Diaspora fund made available for good standing humanitarian groups to get some financial support for their projects
 - OTA donated over \$1500.00 from Fall Fundraising and continue to support this project
- 4. 4th Thiyagi Thileepan Food Drive Donated to Ottawa food bank over 1000 lbs



Ottawa Tamil Association (OTA) - 2024

Expanding to Global collaboration

- Continue to play significant role in Federation of Global Tamil Organizations
 (https://fgto.org/) to advance justice for Eelam Tamils and TEHAF humanitarian work
- OTA started to work in a committee at FetNA (https://fetna.org/) to advance Tamil
 Genocide Recognition efforts and fetNA
 <a href="mailto:president's message on H.Res 1230 explains why it is important.
- Planning to jointly organize next <u>Global Tamil Submit in San Antonio, Texas on July 6,</u>
 2024 to strengthen the common position of Tamils

2. Supporting Tamil Genocide Memorial and archive efforts

As a member of Tamil Genocide Memorial (https://tamilgenocide.com/), continue to support digital archive project

3. Community activities

- Annual Thanneer Panthal at Ottawa Sivan Ther Festival
- 4th Thiyagi Thileepan Food drive

4. Tamil Conferences Documentations

- Summer students help the <u>2nd conference</u> (2018) documentations
- Continue to work on <u>next conference documentations</u>



<u>ottawatamilassociation.ca</u>

Ottawa Tamil Association (OTA) - since 2014

1. Policy and focus

- Tamil Genocide Reconition & Tamil Heritage including highlighting legitimate Eelam
 Tamil struggle for freedom
- Setting up better Canadian life

2. Collaborations

- Jointly released 2015 NPC based booklet with Brampton Tamil Association in 2016. https://archive.org/details/srilankasgenocideagainsttamilsbooklet
- Jointly organized 2018 2nd International Conference on Tamil Nationhood and Genocide in Sri Lanka.
 - https://tamilconferences.org/conferences/second-conference/
- Conference on Tamil self-determination in 2022 jointly organized <u>https://tamilconferences.org/conferences/upcoming-conference/</u>
- Several other joint efforts (Tamil Genocide Rememberance May 18, youth skill development workshops, food drive, advocacy, etc.) with multiple Canadian Tamil organizations



Ottawa Tamil Association (OTA) - since 2014

3. Justice for Sri Lanka's Genocide against Tamils

- Continuous advocacy, engagements and collaborations to get recognition for Tamil Genocide as part of justice.
- Supporting research efforts on Tamil Genocide and justice via conferences and documentations
- Advocating for Tamil Genocide Education Week in Ontario and supporting Tamil
 Genocide Memorial and archiving projects
- Annual commemoration of Tamil Genocide Remembrance Day May 18

4. Tamil heritage and history

- Continuously supporting Tamil Heritage Month
- Partnered with Tamil Genocide Memorial (TGM) in archiving and documenting the Tamil Eelam history
- Tamil Chair support efforts and engagement with Tamil Center (Toronto) via TGM



Ottawa Tamil Association (OTA) - since 2014

6. Fundraising and annual events

- Tamil Heritage Month Gala Last Sunday in January
- Spring Big Bike to support heart and strong foundation Spring
- Thiyagi Thileepan Food drive to support Food Bank September
- Fall Fundraising for Eelam Tamils Fall

7. Skill development and Entrepreneurship

- Summer student hiring and mentoring each year
- Workshops and seminars for entrepreneurship and students
- Webinars for community knowledge from experts

8. Conferences, Summits and publications

- Collaboratively maintaining https://tamilconferences.org/
- 9. Transparent and accountable
 - Publish Financial statement annually and Yearly AGM for members
 - Hold public town hall meeting for the community engagement and feedback





Ottawa Tamil Association (OTA) - Future

OTA will continue to promote and focus on:

- 1. Canadian core values of equality, freedom, and democracy
- 2. Community activities, events, Tamil Heritage and Tamil Eelam history
- 3. Advocating and safeguarding the Eelam Tamil
 - a. Ensure Eelam Tamils are offered justice for the Genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity committed against them by Sri Lanka
 - b. Work with the International community to facilitate an Independence Referendum for the Eelam Tamils to exercise their legal rights to self-determination as per international laws.
- 4. Increase the collaborations with like-minded Organizations globally and nationally
- 5. More joint efforts to provide skill development for the community
- 6. Continue the yearly charity work with Foodbank, the heart and Stroke foundation, and other humanitarian projects



How you can support Ottawa Tamil Association?

- 1. Get involved and support OTA annual events
 - a. https://www.facebook.com/ottawatamilassociation
 - b. Become a volunteer
- 2. Become a member of Ottawa Tamil Association
 - a. https://ottawatamilassociation.ca/ottawa-tamil-association/membership/
- Donate to Ottawa Tamil Association
 - a. https://ottawatamilassociation.ca/ via the Donate button

OTA is run by volunteers and community support is always appreciated!





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