

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



#Justice4theTrinco5

FLICKR PHOTO ACTION

Justice for Ragihar Manoharan

Ragihar Manoharan, a 20-year-old Sri Lankan Tamil student, and four fellow students had gathered for a chat near the seafront in the town of Trincomalee in northeastern Sri Lanka at about 7 p.m. on January 2, 2006, when a grenade was thrown at them from a passing auto rickshaw. The students ran, but at least three of them were injured in the explosion. A short while later, a group of 10 to 15 officers in uniform, believed to be police from the elite Special Task Force, arrived. They reportedly put the injured students into their jeep and beat them with rifle butts, and then pushed them out onto the road. According to a witness, the security forces then shot the five students dead.

Despite subsequent court hearings and an investigation by a presidential commission of inquiry, no one has been convicted for these murders. Ragihar's father gave evidence at the proceedings and then received death threats. Ultimately, Ragihar's family was forced to flee Sri Lanka.

Justice for Ragihar and the rest of the Trinco Five has been one of the GOTB actions for several years. In July 2013, due to the mounting international pressure, the Sri Lankan government arrested 12 Police Special Task Force members in connection with the murders. All 12 were out on bail while the case was pending. In July 2019, the court acquitted all of the defendants due to lack of sufficient evidence. The Sri Lankan Attorney General later ordered the police to re-open investigations into the killings. We are continuing to call on the Sri Lankan government to effectively investigate and prosecute those who murdered Ragihar Manoharan and the rest of the "Trinco Five."

Both the 2017 and 2018 reports on Sri Lanka from the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights cited the case of the Trinco Five students as an emblematic case of human rights violations for which no appreciable progress has occurred.

•• HERE'S HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FLICKR PHOTO ACTION:

- » Take a photo of yourself, your friends, etc., holding a sign saying [#JusticeforRagihar](#) and [#Justice4theTrinco5](#)
- » Put the photo in the body of an email (and not as an attachment) with nothing else
- » Write your photo caption in the subject line of the email
- » Email your photo to laps49thats63dear@photos.flickr.com

You're done! You can find your photo at:
www.flickr.com/photos/justice4thetrinco5

If you prefer, email your photo to Jim McDonald, AIUSA Sri Lanka Country Specialist (jmcdonald@aiusacs.org), and he will post it on the Flickr page.

🐦 FOR THOSE ON TWITTER:

Send your photo to the Sri Lankan Embassy in the U.S. ([@slembassyusa](https://twitter.com/slembassyusa)) and to Jim McDonald ([@jmccdon](https://twitter.com/jmccdon))

•• SEND A LETTER

Send a letter to the Sri Lankan government calling for justice for Ragihar and the "Trinco Five" students. Visit bit.ly/TrincoFive

Thanks for fighting for justice for Ragihar Manoharan and the "Trinco Five" and for human rights in Sri Lanka. For more information on Amnesty's concerns in Sri Lanka, visit www.amnestyusa.org/sri.lanka.