

Invitation:

# Møde med delegation fra Sri Lanka om fremme af fred gennem arbejde for tros- og religionsfrihed.

Tid: fredag den 28. april kl. 14:15-15:00

Sted: Christiansborg, Det Konservative Folkepartis gruppeværelse (vær. 2-009)

Medlemmer af Udenrigsudvalget og Kirkeudvalget inviteres hermed til et uformelt møde med en delegation fra Sri Lanka. Delegationen kommer fra National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka (NCEASL), der gennem årtier har arbejdet for at fremme fred og tros- og religionsfrihed i Sri Lanka og det øvrige Asien.

Organisationen står bag det prisvindende online univers 'minor matters' <https://minormatters.org/en>, der har modtaget projektmidler fra Danmark. NCEASLer kendt for deres utrættelige kamp for retfærdighed for alle, i et sådant omfang at de kontaktes af andre minoriteter for juridisk rådgivning og assistance i relation til diskrimination, vold og forfølgelse baseret på tro eller overbevisning.

Delegationen fra NCEASL præsenteres herunder. Mødet foregår på engelsk.

Vel mødt!

Helle Bonnesen MF

Det Konservative Folkeparti

Tilmelding til Filip Buff Pedersen: [fbp@cku.dk](mailto:fbp@cku.dk)

## **Godfrey Yogarajah**

Godfrey Yogarajah is the General Secretary of the National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka and Chairman of the Asia Evangelical Alliance. He is also the Ambassador for Religious Freedom of the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) and a member of the International Council of the WEA, a network of some 630 million Christians. For the past 30 years, Godfrey has been engaged in ministry with the persecuted Church globally. He travels extensively to restricted countries to meet with governments to advocate for religious freedom and train church leaders on coping strategies for persecution. Previously, he also served as the Deputy Secretary General and Deputy CEO of the WEA and the Executive Director of the WEA Religious Liberty Commission.



A graduate of the University of Serampore in India with a B.Th and a B.D, Godfrey was awarded the 'Good Samaritan' award by Advocates International in 2004 in recognition of his contribution to minority rights, human rights, and religious freedom worldwide. In 2005, he was awarded the 'Pro Fide' Award by the Friends of Martyrs Finland for his work with the persecuted Church. In August 2015, Godfrey was bestowed the second highest national honour, 'Deshamanya' by the government of Sri Lanka for meritorious service to the nation.

## **Mike Gabriel**

Mike Gabriel is the Head of the Religious Liberty Commission of the National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka. Mike also serves as a researcher for religious liberty for the office of the Ambassador for Religious Freedom of the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA). Additionally, he is also the coordinator for the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP) of the WEA, an annual, global event that mobilizes prayer for persecuted Christians around the world. Mike has a particular interest in exploring how new media and digital technologies could be used to advance human rights and build peace in restricted contexts.



Mike has a master's degree in Human Rights from the University of Colombo and a bachelor's degree in Management Studies from the Open University of Sri Lanka.

## **Akshina Palihawadana**

Akshina serves as the Manager of MinorMatters, at the of Religious Liberty Commission of the National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka. She oversees MinorMatters, a campaign dedicated to promoting the Freedom of Religion of Belief in Sri Lanka.

Akshina holds a master's degree in business administration from Teesside University in the United Kingdom and a bachelor's degree in business management from Northumbria University, also in the UK.

