

Abstract

“No government has the right to hide behind national sovereignty in order to violate the human rights or fundamental freedom of its people. Whether a person belongs to the minority or the majority, that person’s human rights and fundamental freedom are sacred”. This statement was made by the former Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan.

Trincomalee is situated in the eastern coast of Sri Lanka. All three major ethnic communities namely Tamils, Muslims and Sinhalese inhabit here, and they are all in equal numbers. Sri Lanka’s 30 year long conflict was based on human rights. Minority communities were badly affected by it. Even though the conflict came to silent mode in 2009, the fight for basic rights is still continuing.

Throughout the conflict history the Methodist Church Trincomalee was recognized as refuge by the affected community. But most of the time the Church tried to balance herself only with the relief assistance. There were very few incidents, the Church took the initiatives in the human rights field which were not successful.

My quest in this research is to develop some strategies for the Methodist Church Trincomalee to actively involve herself in this field.