

## Sri Lanka

### **Monica Alfred**

Nonviolence activist and trainer  
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*Monica is the co-founder and director of AHIMSA Barefoot University for Peace and Development in Sri Lanka. In general she combines education and training in conflict resolution, peace and psychosocial with her work in teaching, writing and training with her focus on a peaceful Sri Lanka. She holds a Masters in Philosophy from the University of Bradford and a Master of Arts from the same University. For the past years, Monica has been a faculty member of the ACTS master course in Cambodia.*



### **Dishani Jayaweera**

Center for Peacebuilding and Reconciliation  
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*Dishani has been actively involved in the peace & non-violent conflict transformation field since 1997. Ms. She is a co-founder and current Director of Programmes at the Centre for Peacebuilding and Reconciliation where she invests her time and energy as a programme designer, trainer and facilitator. She previously worked as Programme Officer and Co-ordinator at the National Integration Programme Unit and has worked alongside other NGOs to design and deliver programs on peacebuilding and reconciliation. She is a graduate of the Masters in Applied Conflict Transformation Studies and has participated in additional training on conflict resolution, mediation and reconciliation in various international settings. Ms Jayaweera is currently pursuing research on the relationship between state power and role of "Buddhism" within the ethnic majoritarian system.*



### **Jayanthi Seveviratne**

University of Kelaniya  
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*Jayantha is an Associate Professor at the Department of Philosophy, University of Kelaniya; he designed and now co-ordinates the Peace & Conflict Resolution degree programme. He co-founded and is chairman of the Centre for Peacebuilding and Reconciliation (CPBR). He was a Member of the Presidential Task Force on Ethnic Affairs and National Integration from 1998-2001 and served as Director of the National Integration Programme Unit. He was a member of the faculty and Board of Management of the National Youth Political Academy. He has been widely published on conflict resolution in Sri Lanka and has participated in, and delivered papers at, conferences in Sri Lanka and internationally.*



### **Arulappu Iruthayanathan (Rajan)**

Local Peace Activist  
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*Rajan currently works for Christian Aid as Senior Programme Officer for the east and country focal for the HIV programme and is a member of the Human Security Action Group. Rajan has extensive involvement in community peacebuilding and working to facilitate dialogue between conflicting parties. He is currently researching his PhD on the link between poverty and HIV/AIDS. He has a Masters of Arts in Human rights, UN charter, Refugee law and Citizenship and a Masters of Philosophy on Social Justice and Sustainable Development from London Metropolitan University. Additionally, he has a Post Graduate diploma in Disaster (Human or nature-made) Mitigation & Preparedness and Disaster Risk Reduction.*



## **Sushanthy Gobalakrishnan (Sushi)**

RedR UK/CHA

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*Sushi is presently attached to RedR UK in Sri Lanka as the District Learning Support Officer for the Northern region. main responsibilities involve identifying the learning needs among the humanitarian stakeholders in the Northern region of Sri Lanka and developing and facilitating the relevant learning events for the humanitarian sector. She is also a consultant/facilitator in the subjects related to Conflict Transformation & Peacebuilding, Conflict Sensitivity & Development, Training of Trainers selected topics on Humanitarian issues such as Sphere Minimum Standards, ICRC Code of Conduct & CPA. She has also worked with RTC as a Tutor for the annual Working with Conflict Course and as a Co-Facilitator with the Canadian Human Rights Foundation for the annual International Human Rights Training Programme. She is currently finalising the ACTS programme.*



## **Rani Samuel**

Program Officer, Helvetas

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*Rani's current role with Helvetas focuses on project development in the area of 'Civil Society and the State', involving programs targeting good governance, rule of law, democracy, peace building, conflict transformation and human rights. She has an in-depth understanding of the Sri Lankan conflict having worked for over 15 years in various advisory, managerial and consultation roles dedicated to humanitarian assistance, peacebuilding, democracy and human rights. She has a thorough understanding of development issues in Sri Lanka, particularly those affected Northern and Eastern Sri Lanka, and extensive involvement in disability support programs. She has an Executive Diploma in Business Administration and has participated in and delivered trainings and presentations in Sri Lanka and internationally.*



## **Abdul Cader Mohamed Mahir**

Center for Peacebuilding and Reconciliation (CPBR)

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*Mahir is currently the Project Manager of Young Visionaries project which is implemented by CPBR to prepare future leadership for conflict transformation and co-existence in Sri Lanka. He belongs to the second largest minority population and lives Batticaloa district of Sri Lanka that had been subjected to armed conflict for more than three decades. He started as a volunteer with CPBR and gradually promoted to become coordinator then project officer of Socially Engaged Religion for Conflict Transformation in Sri Lanka.*



## **Kuladevan Sivashekar**

Centre for Peace Building and Reconciliation

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*Kuladevan is the Communications Officer of the Centre for Peacebuilding and Reconciliation based in Colombo. He has fair knowledge in Design and IT which he contributes to the benefit of the organization while getting valuable exposure working with NGO, and learning more about peacebuilding and conflict transformation.*



## **Nimal Dissanayake**

Centre for Peace Building and Reconciliation

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*Nimal is from the north-central province of Sri Lanka and is now working as a Senior Coordinator at Centre for Peace Building and Reconciliation in Colombo. Nimal has developed his capacities through 10 years of work experiences in the field of social services.*



## **Gabriel Devendran Alfreds**

Lanka Centre for Social Concern

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Father Gabriel is a Jesuit Priest for 14 years now and has been the Director of Lanka Centre for Social Concern since 2008. Previous to this he was Field Coordinator for Jesuit Refugee Service in Mullaitivu (2005-2007) and Tsunami Relief work at St. Sebastian's Parish in Batticaloa (2005-2007).



## **Ranjit Abeyasinghe**

Shanti Community Animation Movement

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*Father Ranjit is a Jesuit Priest for 19 years now and currently the General Animator of the Shanti Community Animation Movement in Sri Lanka. Prior to this he did his missionary work in different countries: Nigeria (1994-1999); Pakistan (2000-200); Ghana (2005-2006); Liberia (2007-2009)*



## **Ruki**

*is Head of the Human Rights in Conflict program of Law & Society Trust, a Colombo based human rights organization and is engaged in monitoring and documentation rights violations, advocacy, training on human rights and protection and assistance to human rights defenders and journalists at risk.*



## **Devanand Ramiah** (nominated by Emma Leslie and L Ja Nan)

UNDP

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*Devanand is a Conflict Prevention and Recovery Specialist (Asia and Pacific) for the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) of United Nations Development Program. Before moving to BCPR in New York, Devanand served as the Peace and Development Specialist for UNDP Sri Lanka for four years. His UN experience includes serving in the United Nations Peacekeeping Missions in Kosovo and East Timor. Prior to joining the UN, he served as the Coordinator of the Peace and Conflict Analysis Unit at the Center for Policy Alternatives, Colombo, Sri Lanka. Devanand is a Fulbright scholar and holds a Masters degree in Conflict Transformation from the Eastern Mennonite University, Virginia, USA. Devanand has extensive training and teaching experience. He has served as a faculty for the Colombo based Conflict Resolution Programme of Bradford University, Conflict Resolution Masters Programme of Colombo University and the Conflict Resolution and Peace Skills Programme of the United Nations University for Peace. He currently co-teaches the Masters course on Applied Peace Building at the School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, New York.*



**Chinthaka Senadeera** (nominated by Emma Leslie and Baht Latumbo)  
Freelance Documentary Film Maker  
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*Chinthaka is a professional documentary filmmaker and took a participatory video training workshop at Deccan Development Society (DDS) in 1999. Since then he has made several advocacy videos and documentary films and won awards, capturing many rural development projects in Sri Lanka and India, with strong influence from his father (Podi, co-founder of Action Asia) who showed him the reality of Sri Lanka society and taught him the real meaning of life and social and environmental issues in South Asia. He recently finished Bachelor of Media Arts (with honors) at Waikato Institute of Technology in New Zealand and Bachelor of Arts (Mass Communications) at Osmania University (2008), India. In October 2009 he launched his documentary film in Hamilton, New Zealand, "Hidden Reflections of Beliefs" -- a film focusing on different faiths and the world peace.*

