

HOME INSIDE

News

Features

Opinion

Business

Editorial

Sports

Marriage Proposals

Classifieds

Obituaries

 CARTOON WORLD NEWS SERVICES

Advertising Rates

Advertising  
Supplements

Stock Watch

Subscription Rates

Submit Your Opinion

 ARCHIVES GROUP SITES

දුරකථන

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## Opinion

### Where do those innocent people belong?

*'Home is the place where, when you have to go there,  
They have to take you in.'*

**Robert Frost**

*(The Death of the Hired Man)*

Last week, the government blundered badly by trying to forcibly remove some Tamil 1 from Colombo lodges. Under different circumstances, in 1983, when the Tamil people being killed and their houses burnt in the southern cities by the Sinhala mobs, the UNI government, while encouraging the rampaging mobs, also sent the victims to the North East.

Robert Frost has given a very interesting definition of home. It is as incisive and accur is lyrical: 'Home is the place where, when you have to go there,/they have to take you this definition, Sri Lankan governments and politicians, irrespective of their political l seem to recognise instinctively and intuitively, that the North-East of Sri Lanka is homr Tamil population of the country, and the South of Sri Lanka is not.

This kind of thinking seems to underpin large-scale anti-Tamil mob-violence and killin as in 1958, 1977 and 1983 and the recent evictions of Tamil lodgers from Colombo.

The LTTE is also being driven by a similar belief, as evident from its policy of ethnic cleansing. It is on a campaign to rid the North and the East of the Muslims and the Sin

Ironically, the LTTE and the government seem to agree on this matter.

Mistrust between the Tamil and the Sinhala communities has led to the present day pr which should be solved through devolution of power.

Under no circumstances should anyone be allowed to segregate Sri Lankans and confi to certain parts of the country.

Let the whole of Sri Lanka be the home to all communities and Frost should be follow defining what a home is.

*Nishan de Mel*

*Via e-mail*