

# Children's memorial flag released

The Sri Lanka-United Nations Friendship Organisation (SUNFO) has organised a special ceremony to fly the "Children's Memorial Flag" and also to remember thousands of children who were killed by violence and war on April 27, 2001. (The fourth Friday of April is the day of remembering and honouring lost children) at 4.00 p.m. at the 'SUNFO National Coordination Centre', No.63, Madampitiya Road, Colombo 15.

Children's Memorial flag is a moving image—a red flag depicting blue, paper-doll like figures of children holding hands. In the centre, the white chalk outline of a missing child symbolizes the children lost to violence. Created by a 16 years old student in Alameda County, California, the Children's Memorial Flag honours each lost child and raises public awareness about the continuing problem of violence each year. Our hope is that this powerful symbol will ignite action to prevent future occurrences of violence against children. All over the world people are joining this great effort by either flying the flag, issuing proclamations, or participating in ceremonies to memorialize lost children. The childrens memorial flag has become an increasingly recognizable symbol of the need to improve all efforts to protect children.

Director General of SUNFO Peace Ambassador Dr. Deshapriya S. Wijetunge announces that this is the first time the CHILDRENS MEMORIAL FLAG is flying in Sri Lanka and also celebrating the Day for Lost Children. Many activities will be conducted by the SUNFO Childrens Division to make the public aware and fly the flag throughout the year in different parts of the country whenever a child dies from violence.