

Dear Member,

I am writing to my beloved members of CIPM on the aftermath of devastating surprise terror attack on Catholic and Christian churches and the number of hotels on the Easter Sunday (21st April) which resulted in the loss of more than 250 lives and injuring and disabling over 500 people.

CIPM joins with all Sri Lankans and the rest of the world in condoling with the families of all those deceased brother and sisters, Sri Lankan and other nationals. We further wish and pray for all those who are injured and are in the hospitals a speedy recovery and to get back to their walks of lives as soon as possible. Further I share the grief and sorrow of any relative of our members if effected due to this carnage.

We as CIPM condemn this heinous, dastardly and cowardice act of terrorists purporting to be of Islamic faith of which this criminal never belongs to any religious denominations but just a set of ruthless extremists.

I would like to share with you that we as CIPM have released a print media communique in few major English daily's condemning this inhumane act of terrorists as a responsible national institute.

We as CIPM recognizes the fact that Sri Lanka is a multiethnic, multireligious and a diverse country and we tolerate freedom of all and embrace diversity respecting all religions and ethnicities equally. We as People professionals celebrate unity in diversity in an inclusive society where value and talents of every human being are recognized.

Our country has experienced the kind of terrorism not more than ten years ago for some 26 years and we have suffered enough. But through this sufferance we have become a bit more mature nation and have become resilient and sensible, that's what is been demonstrated by the laudable Catholics in the country! their commendable way of managing grief and sorrow and how they have moaned and buried the loved ones are exemplary!

Majority of the nations in the world are still struggling to achieve this level of maturity and civility that we Sri Lankans have demonstrated which really gives us a glimpse of the enlightenment that we can achieve as a nation soon.

We have shown to the whole world the true kind of tolerance of a Buddhist nation this time and the level of maturity of our people. We proved that we Sri Lankans will not succumbed to the disastrous ends that the terrorists aspire to achieve! Therefore, today the whole civilized world stands with us in unison condemning terrorism and coming forward to help us crush terror outfits. Don't you think that itself is a wonderful achievement! Unfortunately, though through a great tragedy! However, we could overturn an undue negativity of the world that castigated Sri Lanka as rouge nation which crushes ethnic minorities. We proved them wrong this time around.

Sri Lanka as a nation will never give in to terrorism it is time we fight against terrorism and extremism, against such movements and outfits we shall stand as one and help our great armed forces to eradicate all forms of terrorism and extremism from the face of this island. We as People Management Professionals must help our mother Lanka to achieve normalcy as fast as possible and to let our people to get to their walks of life. I gather we as Professionals of people have a great responsibility in helping achieve this end and support reconstruction and rehabilitation on our own and in what ever the manner that we are called

for by the state. We must create an environment for our people to get rid of all the bitterness soon and embrace the beautiful freedom, peace and harmony back again! We must show to the world that we are a nation of 22 million determined people who can rebuild our industries, economy and our beloved nation swiftly and placidly to welcome the tourists back again with our inherent warmth and hospitality with confidence and pride.

Let us put aside the blame game, leave it to the people who deserved it and do our part as an individual and groups in our own workplaces. Let us stop cursing the dark but light up our selves because there is tomorrow, and our sons and daughters are waiting to shine in that tomorrow, so let us pave their way with light and be their shining armor.

Finally, *sometimes it takes a good fall to really know where you stand*, therefore we shall overcome!!

May the peace be with you!

Dhammika Fernando- President