RELIGIOSITY, VIOLENCE, POLITICAL RECOMPOSITIONS
REFLECTIONS FROM SRI LANKA AND ITS DIASPORAS

November 5-8 2023

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
University of Catania

PALAZZO PEDAGAGGI
VITTORIO EMANUELE II 49
CATANIA
Room ‘XXI Marzo’ | 2nd floor

Monday November 6

10:00  Institutional greetings
Francesco Priolo
Dean of the University of Catania
Giuseppa Di Gregorio
DSRS Director

10:15  Conference presentation
Mara Benadusi
University of Catania

10:30  Rituals & Migrants in South Italy
Berardino Palumbo
University of Messina

11:00  Coffee Break*

11:30  Opening Keynote
Institutional Affordances: Religion in a Time of War in Sri Lanka,
Jonathan Spencer
University of Edinburgh
Lunch at 1 pm*

Tuesday November 7

09:30  Opening Keynote
Documenting Post-War Ethno-Religious Violence in Sri Lanka: Lessons from the Recent Past
Farzana Haniffa
University of Colombo

11:00  Coffee Break*

11:30  Round Table
Chair: Giovanni Cordova
University of Naples ‘Federico II’
Religious Coexistence and Migrations: Perspectives from Sri Lankan Diasporas in Sicily
Don Carlo Palazzolo (Director of Foundation Migrants, Catania); Mataci Dhammasin Thero (Monk at the Buddhist Temple, Catania); Don Duminda Suresh (Chaplain of the Catholic Sri Lankan Community in Catania).

15:00  Session 1
Chair: Mara Benadusi, University of Catania
Discussant: Filippo Osella, Sussex University
Giacomo Mantovan
CRIA ISCETE-JUL, Lisbon
«The Great Heroes’ Day is much holier for us than religion». The commemoration of martyrs in the post-war Tamil communities
Eugenio Giorgianni
University of Messina
Saint of the others. Devotional citizenship of Sri Lankan Tamils in Palermo

16:30  Coffee Break*

17:00  Film Screening
For a son, Italy 2017
Suranga Deshapriya Katugampala

Wednesday November 8*

09:30  Round Table
Interuniversity Cooperation & networking

11:00  Visit to the Benedictine Monastery of San Nicola

*Events only for the invited speakers