

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

In this paper, the authors explain how attempts have been made by third parties in resolving inter-ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka experienced the tragic ethnic war that began in 1983 between the Tamil / LTTE (Liberation Tiger of Tamil Eelam) and the Sinhalese. The war passed out for about 25 years. The conflict rooted in this discrimination of the LTTE, a Tamil armed group in 1983. For the first time, the LTTE showed its existence by carrying out attacks and burned alive 600 anti-Tamils on July 23, 1983. The failure of Sri Lankan government effort in realizing the peace within Sri Lanka, even worsening the situation and causing greater losses. This led to the initiative of the Sri Lankan government in 2000-2009.

In understanding how to do by the International Actors in solving conflicts, the author uses two concepts, namely the Third Party Intervention and Peacemaking concept. In the third party intervention concept by Fen Osler

Hampson, there are four approaches, namely; hard realism; soft realism; governance-based approaches; and social psychological approaches. The writer uses the soft realism approach, as well as the facts of the conflict in Sri Lanka. The authors classify the efforts that the International Actors have used in resolving the conflict in Sri Lanka into two categories: Third Party Intervention and Peacemaking Efforts.

In addition to countries that have mediated, conciliated, negotiated, and facilitated, there are other countries involved in the third-party intervention in various aspects, such as: (1) *Military aids*, this inter-ethnic conflict has involved the use of violence between the LTTE which was then repaid by the Sri Lankan government. In the course of the conflict, the Sri Lankan government received military reinforcements from some nation-states such as IPKF (India Peace Keeping Force) by India, military weapons supplier by Pakistan, China, the USA, and

also Israel; (2) *Financial aids*, this conflict resulted in severe damage and loss of infrastructure for Sri Lanka. Therefore, financial aids are indispensable for Sri Lanka, and some international actors who provide financial aids include the USA, Canada, and Japan; (3) *Humanitarian and Reconstruction aids*, which comes right after the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami struck Sri Lanka. The international actors that help Sri Lanka to reconstruct damaged infrastructure and provide humanitarian assistance to Sri Lanka. International actors are the USA, Norway.

The international actors helped the SLG in providing the advanced military weapons, and it helps to calm down the riots that resulted from the LTTE rebellion. Then it also helps to maintain the security within Sri Lanka. The financial aids for Sri Lanka have been used to purchase military weapons from suppliers like China and also Pakistan. Whereas, the existence of humanitarian and reconstruction aids

have been helped the victims of the tsunami and civil war victims.

The conflict resolution efforts that have been done by international actors in addition to the forms of third-party interventions above are through peacemaking. In this peacemaking, several nation-states have undertaken their efforts in resolving conflicts through the following aspects:

(1) *Negotiation*, the negotiation process was undertaken by Norway. In the process, Norway acts as a negotiator, aiming to persuade the LTTE to meet face to face with the Sri Lankan government to discuss conflict resolution. The result of this negotiation was the creation of a ceasefire agreement signed by the two parties in 2002; (2) *Conciliation*, in order to maintain and ensure that the Ceasefire Agreement implies the full extent of both of the conflicting parties, the Government requests the assistance of Norway to establish an institution namely SLMM (Sri

Lanka Monitoring Mission); (3) *Mediation*, in this mediation process, the government was assisted by Norway until the conflict in Sri Lanka was resolved. Norway succeeded in helping to issue a conflict resolution in addition to sustaining the peace process via economic immediate assistance; (4) *Facilitation*, the USA participated in its conflict resolution through facilitation. In essence, the Bush presidency has invited both the conflicting parties of the LTTE and the SLG to the White House. The results of this USA effort may not be obvious, but as a facilitator, USA is one of the major influences for SLG and LTTE in signing the truce.

In term of military aids, the regional actors of South Asia such as India, Pakistan, and also China are directly involve the conflict because they feel like their security of South Asia will be threatened. During the intervention, although India seeks to resolve the conflict in more aggressive ways, China and Pakistan

are quite successful in helping to resolve the conflict by giving more influence to the Sri Lankan government through military aid.

Following a series of intervention and conflict resolution efforts through peace-making that have been undertaken by international actors as mentioned above, this inter-ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka had been resolved. The presence of third-party involvement contributed substantially to the Sri Lankan government so that they could reconcile with the LTTE rebellion party.

The peace-making actions by the international actors, especially Norway also contributed significantly to end the prolonged conflict. The efforts of mediation, conciliation, facilitation, and also negotiation since 2000-2009 resulted the glory of Sri Lankan government in bringing back the peace within them.

The author realizes that this thesis still has many shortcomings because of the limitations of research instruments that only a literature study. For that, the authors expect criticism and suggestions to support this paper for the better.