

Title  
To my Sweet One..

தான்  
தொழுவதற்கு

Author  
With love  
S. Kittu

Translated by  
Vinotha Thiyagaraj



தான்  
— & —

## Foreword

I do not possess the skill nor the authorship to write the foreword for this book comprised of my dear husband's letters. Despite this shortcoming, I sincerely wish to write a great deal about him.

I learned more about him from talking to the people around him, friends, and relatives than I did on my own.

It was my wish to share his thoughts with the same people that made me initiate the process of publishing an excerpt of the letters that he wrote during his final days.

Late in the year of 1983 I got my first opportunity to meet him in person.

Back then the Sri Lankan army used to invade every corner of Jaffna on a whim. It was during this time that the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam started operating in hiding whilst placing themselves in grave danger for the sake of reclaiming our country's freedom and ensure the future wellbeing of our people.

Without sufficient food, sleep, or a safe base to stay, they led a righteous life rich in sacrifices. They devoted themselves completely and gladly to bring about a dawn for our country, and solely focused on their duty. All this contributed to me holding them in high regard.

When I finally met Kittu himself in person I felt as if I had encountered a person I had only previously heard of in stories and epic tales, but I actually got to meet such a brave hero and a self-sacrificing sage for the first time during my lifetime.

Ever since that day an unexplainable devotion and love for him arose in me. As the days passed this eventually blossomed into a wonderful relationship based on mutual belonging and love between the two of us.

He was the one who truly made me understand and impressed upon me the importance of providing a liberated world for our people, where they would be able to live as free people, and how history has tasked us with the duty of utilizing our given time and surroundings to achieve these goals.

Among his many talents was his deep spiritual devotion. His ability to sympathize with his adversaries and feel sorry for their families, whilst simultaneously being saddened by the hardships of the people in the battlefields and doing his utmost to resolve their troubles further revealed his generous and philanthropic heart to me. Furthermore, if anyone spoke of any new information that he was not already aware of, he had a habit of listening and learning like an inquisitive child from that person, no matter who it was. All these attributes increased my respect for him manifold.

His continuous effort and labors for the sake of our country's liberation and the betterment of our people's lives whilst located in Jaffna is widely known to all.

It was during those days on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 1987 that he unfortunately lost one of his legs due to an unexpected bomb attack.

Even while he was being treated for his wound and was under severe bodily pain his thoughts never strayed far from the struggle and the people. In 1987 he managed to convey his message by delivering speeches to his beloved people during the time of his treatment on two occasions: at the Labor Day convention in Nallur and the later in May at the Suthumalai assembly.

Later he travelled to India to continue his medical treatment. It was at that time that the war against the Indian army began on Tamil Eelam, and for that reason he was ordered to remain in house arrest in India.

Because the Indian army became aware of my relationship with him, I was also put under arrest early November in Jaffna. In late November I was brought to India by the Indian Army and put in house arrest till mid-September 1988 along with him. It was then I got the opportunity to truly learn from my husband's guidance, advice, and opinions.

Later in September 1988 him, myself, and the Liberation Tigers who were staying with us were brought to Chennai Central Jail and stayed there for 27 days. From there we were brought to Jaffna and finally released on the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 1988.

Thereafter he continued to work to realize his ambition from Tamil Eelam while in hiding.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1989, our wedding took place with god's blessing. After that he travelled to London to continue his work from there.

His many labors for the independence of Tamil Eelam continued in various forms from several different locations.

But from the moment of his departure till his last breath his thoughts never strayed far from his motherland

- and that he should see his beloved people again
- that he should mingle and be amongst them again
- I was very aware of how he desperately spent his every waking and sleeping moment devising how to create a liberated and joyful existence for them.

This sentiment is also apparent in several of his letters.

The manner of his affection for the land and the people and the sheer joy of his commitment to both were immeasurable. In order to promote the prosperity of the land and the people he was forced to be separated from this land. He faced and endured many obstacles and sorrows. From mid-March 1992 till his final moment he led an isolated life. He contentedly accepted such a secluded existence because it was in service of his people.

All his letters deal with topics such as

- the liberation of our people and nation
- the pride of serving the people
- the sacred ambition of human existence.

Furthermore, these letters contain random musings of my husband. Therefore, we should accept that his letters are not stringently linear, grammatically immaculate, or written in a posh language.

He would have rushed back to the Tamil Eelam-motherland heart brimming with his thousands upon thousands of wishes and dreams to see his people again, take part in their sorrow again, share his experiences and express his intentions to them, and ensure a true liberation and a bright future for them.

He and his comrades would have set out on their sea-journey full of excitement and eagerly expecting the moment that they would be able to set foot on the Tamil Eelam soil again.

But on his route back home, the creator must have written that it was time to bring him back by his side..., when I attempt to think about what must have happened at that moment my heart fearfully shudders in denial...

Without submitting to the enemy, and whilst protecting the honor of the Tamil mother and fighting for his ambition, he and his comrades attained martyrdom.

I stand before god and my departed husband and ask only for this: let me devote my life to the people and to the path of serving them demonstrated to me by my dear husband, who lived and died for their sake.

Anne Sinthiya Krishnakumar (Laali)

06/02/1991

My dearest Laali,

Only after being separated from our land, do I comprehend how much I love it.

That ocean breeze and Portia tree fragrance cannot be found anywhere else no matter how hard we search for it.

We, who used to roam around freely wearing just a saaram, are now burdened with up to 5 articles of clothing.

Bone chillingly cold during the winter, burning heat during the summer.

Our land truly is heaven on earth.

When will I ever get to see it again? I am yearning.

The dogs rolling around in the dust; the coel bird sitting in the Portia tree: the coconut trees swaying like flywhisks; the jet-black palm tree; my fate has separated me from all these and left me to wither on my own here.

With love  
S.Kittu

19.04.1991

My sweet Laali,

I am writing a poem about my feelings.

Leaving a country

and arriving at another

I reminisce about my land

I am desperate to see it again

It cannot be perceived here.

The jasmine vines in the front yard of my home,

the CTB busses billowing smoke,

the wild dogs in the street corner,

and the ocean waves angrily colliding during the monsoon season,

only to subdue and retreat at the arrival of summer

the adolescent boys circling the girls' college in the morning,

cannot be perceived here; And yet

I am desperate to see it again.

With love  
S.Kittu

04.06.1991

Dear Laali,

You will not be able to understand my poems.

Since these are not poems that I am writing.

It is waves, that rise up as a result of the sorrow in my heart, that I am putting into words.

It is only now that I feel the presence of the divine.

When you immerse yourself into the divine, self-interest and egotism disappears; world justice becomes clear.

What is just is that he who is born also leaves behind all his hard-earned riches when he passes away.

This is what is just.

If this is understood self-centeredness disappears and the path ahead becomes clear.

What is the path then?

The lives and activities of the people.

First is life, here our people's way of life is being denied.

It is being repressed by armed force.

Firstly revolt against this, afterwards our way of life can be rebuilt.

In a way it is the life of the poorest that is being denied.

This circumstance needs to change.

I have witnessed

Kanthan who cuts firewood

Puthan who distills toddy

Raamaiya who plows the fields in his loincloth

Gobu who lowers his fishnet

live dependent on others during their lifetimes and only then to die begging.

Everyone needs to work tirelessly in order to bring prosperity to these people's lives.

This is exactly what divinity advises, what the revolution advises.

Divinity counsels, the revolutions point to the path ahead.

Divinity and the revolution are not separate,

it is one.

With love

S.Kittu

13.07.1991

Dearest Laali,

I received your letters...

You also wrote about our people's travails. I was very saddened to hear it. Please keep me informed about these kinds of events frequently.

The Sri Lankan government keeps pressing a military solution forward. Sri Lanka continues to impose economic sanctions upon our people as well as starving and making them the object of suffering, espionage and turning them against the revolution by forcing them into an extremely critical situation. This agenda against our fight for freedom is not just Sri Lanka's but it is shared by the world and abided by several countries.

In essence, this is a very serious problem indeed. Ordinary people who live in their own small circle without a political understanding or longsightedness or individuals with degrees, who hold themselves to be intellectuals, will not be able to tolerate these kinds of difficulties. But we cannot expect more from them. They are all our people still, our treasures. Their sorrow is ours as well. Their standard of living needs to be developed.

We need to achieve our great ambition; our only intention is that our people will one day be able to live in lasting peace and freedom. We are forced to endure much suffering, sorrow and sadness; but do not lose faith no matter what you see.

Let the world and the incompetent people say whatever they want. Do not let them stop us from serving our people. "Public service is equivalent to serving Mahesan<sup>1</sup>". Serving our people and our people's life is our life, this is the truth.

Continue your studies with a stout heart. I love our land and our people infinitely. I wish to take part in our people's bereaved and neglected sorrow. There I wish to share their grievances and partake in it along with our people.

Yet you are already in possession of that blessing. Do not lose sight of the long-term consequences of events even if you are able to participate in the people's ordinary everyday lives today. Learn to approach problems with an open heart and a broad mindset. There is no life free of difficulties and sadness; there is nothing. It is the difficulties that make up life. This is the truth.

Furthermore, being suppressed and murdered by a tyrant is not unique to Tamil Eelam or Jaffna. This is the norm all around the world. There are numerous races who have overcome by rebelling against the tyrant's oppression. When compared to such rebellions our situation almost seems bearable to me.

I will continue to fight for our people to the best of my abilities and as long as I still have strength in me.

With love

S.Kittu

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<sup>1</sup> Mahesan is another name for the hindu god Shiva.

21.10.1991

To Laali who is love,

There is plenty of work in Geneva. Days pass. It is a very beautiful country. I do not go outside. One can only admire one's surroundings if one's inner soul is at peace. Being separated from my country and my people is an extremely unbearable circumstance..... How am I to find peace in this kind of situation?

It is the greatest godsend to be at peace in one's inner soul. That is indeed true beauty. But how can mere outer beauty provide peace.

Every man is born and passes away. But it is the solace he aids to mankind that lasts. Serve to the best of your abilities. Do not spend your days in vain.

Furthermore, you are currently living amongst a small circle of self-interested and backwards thinking people. But do not get entwined in their delusional world. Be careful and think acutely. You will encounter several people like superficially grazing sheep who will not examine anything thoroughly, but instead will start preaching Vedantha philosophy despite having studied Siddhanta ideology. Their critique of the struggle for liberation will be like "four blind people assessing an elephant". Anyone is allowed to criticize anything. But one should point to possible solutions as well instead of just plain arrogant refusal. Any Siddhanta ideologist or philosopher should point to a solution that applies to the practical world, one cannot live in a delusional world. If not, it can only be called a warning.

Listen to what everyone has got to say; think, think carefully; think independently; no one will think for you.

Whenever I have the time, I continue to study what I can. There is so much we should learn about the world. You do the same. Do not just study your books, study the world and life as well.

They tell us something every day, every hour. The one who understands this properly and studies it becomes a sage. Do not get fooled by the smooth talk of phony philosophers who preach empty beliefs. Only thought and exploration can elevate a person. But a person will always have to compromise on his thinking for the sake others and the advancement of humankind. One should not just boast one's own wit and criticize others.

I have been given the opportunity to be a freedom fighter and dedicate myself to the dawn of my people during my lifetime, I perceive this to be the greatest blessing. It is my wish that I should be able to continue this blessing for the remainder of my lifetime. The reason we continue to fight is to bring about a peaceful and bright existence for our people. It does not seem as if our enemy will meet our needs or demands. They expect us to be satisfied with what they offer instead of being willing to hand us our rights. We are neither greedy nor ignorant of the way of the world. The basic right that we are asking for is the right for our people to live out their lives on our land. A provincial council or a council with even more power cannot ensure our safety. We are searching for a solution that will guarantee the complete safety of our people.

With love

S.Kittu



22.10.1991

My dear Laali,

I have not received any of your letters since arriving to Geneva. For some reason I feel no excitement today. There is talk about largescale battles being carried out in Jaffna. I am filled with worry.

There are several changes in the western countries and an awareness that makes them more sympathetic towards our cause. But these changes have not yet taken root in Asia. However, we cannot lose faith because of that. We will continue to fight. That is the only way we can reclaim our rights.

We are a national race. We have the right to determine our own fate. This can also be said in the following manner. We have the right to determine our own political status. There is no need to be inferior to the Sri Lankan government. We are fighting for an independent country called Tamil Eelam. But we are simultaneously observing the novel political developments in the world. We have discovered the existence of a momentum for us to utilize like several other national races who have succeeded in gaining their sovereignty. Therefore, we will also create a sovereign and independent government and live side by side with equal status with the neighboring government of Sri Lanka. Finding a solution within the Sri Lankan government for our problems has become an impossibility that none of us can achieve. We are not going to accept such a solution either.

There are countless of Tamil people living as refugees abroad. There are 20 thousand Tamils in Swiss alone. There is growing determination in the European countries to send these Tamil refugees back. There has arisen a negative sentiment against our people in Germany and Swiss. Our people are targeted and attacked in many places. For this reason, these countries are trying to send them back. Not even the Tamils living abroad can live in peace. There is no freedom anywhere. It is only after a country of our own is created that we can live proudly anywhere. No matter how many tribulations our revolution faces we need to stand our ground and conquer them and become victorious. The people's tragedies and sorrows leave me extremely dispirited. But if we are afraid to suffer and give up our fight now, our race can never live peacefully. Therefore, we will bear any suffering and continue to fight.

We are not fighting to realize a Tamil Eelam just for our supporters only. It is for everyone. It is for those who support, do not support, and oppose us as a united group of people that we are fighting. About this we are certain and clear. But if we are to carry out our revolution, we cannot tolerate those who seek to destroy it and those who aid that.

There will always be troublemakers and dissatisfied individuals. They are however powerless beings. They are people who have not understood the true meaning of the revolution. Just like how a blind person sees the world, they view the revolution from the bottom of a well based on random knowledge they have gained somewhere. They are pretending to asleep; nobody can wake them up.

I am working as tirelessly as I can to ensure that our people can live well. I have made many attempts to initiate negotiations with the Sri Lankan government. But they believe in a military solution and seek to solve our problem using the military. One reason for this is that Sinhala racism has outgrown its politicians. Using cheap tactics these indecent politicians have created racial divisions amongst people who used to live in harmony. In 1956 Bandaranaike<sup>2</sup> of S.W.R.D<sup>3</sup> encouraged the racist sentiment against Tamils for the first time in order to gain power. This story has continued for forty years. Even to this day Premadasa's<sup>4</sup> opposition encourage hostility against Tamils to gain support amongst the Sinhala people.

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<sup>2</sup> Former Prime Minister of Sri Lanka from 1956-1959

<sup>3</sup> Political party in Sri Lanka

<sup>4</sup> Former president of Sri Lanka 1989-1993

In order to prove that he is a greater Sinhala person, Premadasa carries out even more destructive attacks against Tamils. Basically no one cares about the Tamil people.

Several changes are taking place around the world now. You must have heard of what recently happened to the Soviet Union. From a Soviet Union that once consisted of several different nationalities, each one has now broken away and gained their sovereignty. Each national race has emerged as entities capable of determining their own defense, finance, and foreign relations. Furthermore, they are willing to create a collective assembly where their representatives can gather in case of need. The international society has also accepted their declaration for freedom. Similarly, a part of Yugoslavia called Croatia wishes to become independent. Due to their status as a national race, Croatia is asking for the right to establish their own sovereign republic. The international society has also expressed their support for this.

With love

S.Kittu

**14.11.1991**

To my dear Laali,

..... There is not much to write about me here. I have rented a small house for myself. The work is progressing somewhat. The remaining time I just spend studying. The cold weather has arrived. Swiss is a beautiful mountainous country. But it does not even come close to our country. Besides, we are unwanted guests here; our people are getting beaten several places here.

If we are to live proudly anywhere in this world we need to be able to live as autonomous citizens. We will not get accepted as refugees by everyone forever. We will only be able to live proudly if we get a country of our own. Please do not think that I preach comfortably from here while you all are living in great difficulty over there. It has become even more evident for me now after travelling abroad that we need a country of our own.

Despite us trying our best to solve our problems in a peaceful manner from here, Sri Lanka is not willing to understand our troubles. They keep on attempting to destroy us using military force. They keep telling us to put down our weapons and accept the provincial council-solution.

AK-47's are not intrinsically valuable to us. We only use our arms defensively. We need definite assurance that our Tamil people will be safe. Can we accept the Sinhalese forces as an assurance for our safety?

Some might believe us to be in love with our weapons, and not to know any other path besides the armed resistance. But we are not like that. I say this precisely because my insight in politics and the way of the world, if we are to regain our rights we need to fight.

If the enemy is willing to enter into a compromise, we will definitely not hesitate. However, our enemy keeps deceiving the world in the name of negotiation, compromise, and peace. At the same time, they are eager to concede to a provincial council solution through negotiation. And then they boast it to be a great "benefit".

What we need is our rights. We are a national race. We are entitled to rights. It is merely this we are asking for. We are more than willing to enter into talks about how two races with equal rights can live side by side peacefully on the island of Sri Lanka. But no Tamil is willing to subjugate himself to a Sri Lankan government obsessed with Sinhala supremacy again.

I am greatly saddened at the thought of our people. They continue to face endless troubles in their everyday lives. Death is only one part of it. Hunger and starvation are the other side. There is no end to these kinds of sufferings that they are forced to endure. We need to create prosperous future for our people.

How are your studies coming along? You have gotten an opportunity to be of service to the people. Take care of our people to the best of your abilities. Serving the people is the greatest blessing. Even if we devote ourselves to religion by praying to god public service still emerges as the noblest cause.

With love

S.Kittu

**25.1.1991**

To my dear Laali,

My heartfelt Christmas wishes.

The day before yesterday we commemorated the Memorial Day for our martyrs. More than 1700 people gathered. Nedumaran brother and Maniyarasan arrived from Tamil Nadu.

There is nothing but cold here. We do not go outside. We are confined to our houses. The cold is around -18 degree Celsius. Even the cold is pushing me towards my country. It is not sufficient that the weather is nice to look at. It needs to comfort one's feelings as well. There is endless snow here. Sheer whiteness. It is only good to look at; definitely not to feel. Our country is not only beautiful to look at, but also to live in as well.

My love, today is Christmas day. On this day I wish you from the bottom of my heart. I pray for you to have a peaceful life unaffected by any problems. Put the rare opportunity you have received to serve the people to good use. Public service is the true essence of living. Expand your intelligence and knowledge. Think of the people, think for the people. That is life. Focus on your studies. That is the repayment you give me.

With love

S.Kittu

**01.01.1992**

To me loveliest Laali,

My sincerest wishes to you on this New Year's Day. Live, live, live prosperously. Moreover, live knowledgeable. Moreover, live respectably with a good name, and live for others, and devote yourself to public service. Moreover, only think of the good. Furthermore, only do good... I wish you to live, live.

With love

S.Kittu

19.01.1992

To the object of my affection Laali,

I received the pictures. Sorrow gripped my heart. Our fight for freedom has cost priceless lives.

I continue to conduct meetings and gatherings here in one area after another. Therefore, I travel a lot outside. The people here support us greatly.

It is ceaselessly cold here. The cold compromises my mobility. I desperately long to break free and run from these constraints.

I cannot be departed from

neither my land nor you

What am I to do, there seems to be no path

My duty stands in the way of you and me

It is okay, I understand that duty is greater than love.

But my duty

has ripped me apart from my land for an extended period of time.

My dear, I love you and the land.

Therefore, my homesickness is manifold.

I do not expect anything from my land,

but a burial place.

My love, please understand my longing.

This is not just wailing

It is the howling of a soul forced to live apart

from his beloved land.

With love

S.Kittu

**20.01.1992**

I read whenever I have time to spare. Our politics has reached a very delicate state. We realize that we are a sovereign race. But our enemies seek to reduce our rights by stating that Sri Lankan Tamils are not a sovereign race.

Furthermore, we have initiated talks with several political networks. Therefore, I am forced to study quite a lot. I try to learn as much as I can.

With love

S.Kittu

**06.03.1992**

To my dear Laali,

I am very well. Keep me frequently informed about your wellbeing.

Please extend my sincere greetings to all my friends.

At the moment, battle clouds are over the Jaffna peninsula. The attacks on the Jaffna peninsula can start anytime now. Still, we are trying our best via the international society to pressure the Sri Lankan government into ceasing these attempts to attack. Several countries and international organizations have sanctioned the Sri Lankan government. And still, there is no way to predict what will happen.

Most importantly, you need to take care of your studies, your studies need to benefit the people. It needs to be useful for the advancement of humanity. That is the reason why you are studying.

Degrees are not just a means to earning a higher salary. Neither is it merely a gateway to achieving greater status in society. Nor is it a matter of pride. Every person needs to study to be able to sincerely help the people, engage in public service, labor for the people. However, education and degrees are solely a matter of prestige in our society.

Here in European and advanced countries every individual throws himself wholeheartedly into his work. But in our society education is only valuable due to the increased salary and prestige that comes with it.

It is important to have clarity regarding the purpose for our education while we are studying. What is one's ambition? What is one's goal? One needs to have clarity about these as well.

Concurrently, you need to understand the people properly as well. Who are the people? How are the people? This is food for thought. When one says people, it encompasses everyone. Decent people, people who pretend to be decent, people who outwardly act one way while hiding their contrary true intentions inside, jealous people, enemies, friends, foes, and everyone in every possible version are all included when we say people.

When we say people, it addresses people with all kinds of demeanors. Both selfless individuals who live for others, individuals who is only concerned with their own wellbeing, and backwards thinking individuals.

You however need to engrave it in your heart that you need to finish your studies so that you can be of service to all these people.

Do not become spiteful because of the differences between human beings; there are precious gems amongst humans as well.

Strengthen your relations to decent people. Do not expect anything from the rest.

With love

S.Kittu

**20.04.1992**

To my dear Laali,

I am at a different location now. I trust my Swiss friends to have informed you about me.

Please write more about my friends and family.

Be more generous to the poor. We need to love the poor and uneducated even more.

The poor and uneducated will not behave like the educated towards us. They do not know how to behave like that. We cannot fault them for that.

I am not demanding you to adopt my opinions. As we gain more knowledge, age, experience, and rank, we need to gain more humility. Humility is to understand the world and its people and be of service to them.

However, we keep witnessing the arrogance of educated people. When a human being comes in possession of greater knowledge and education, it should humble that person. That is true human nature.

With love

S.Kittu

**16.05.1992**

My dear Laali,

Today I am well.

Please write letters to me often. When I was in grave danger, your last letter calmed me down greatly. When you wrote that I had the psychological strength to face any obstacle, I felt my confidence increase as I repeatedly read it.

I am still on the run. I need to manage a couple of problems and certain pressures. I will manage, do not worry.

Do not worry excessively about me. I can manage it all.

We only need to keep in mind that we must labor for the underprivileged and the people at all times. We need to respect the impoverished, uneducated, and working people. We need to do what we can for their prosperity.

The respect that is demanded of the wealthy and upper-class people, that make a living of leaching on the people, is not given to the lower-class people. This situation and state of mind needs to change. Every human being and learned individual needs to consider this and act accordingly.

I am greatly looking forward to the day that I will be reunited with you again.

With love

S.Kittu

**03.06.1992**

Laali my love,

I have not received your letters lately. Why is that? I am doing very well. Please write about your wellbeing in your reply.

Nowadays all I do is to study. English, politics, general knowledge as well as drawing occupies me.

How are my friends? Please tell them that I asked for them.

I merely told you to focus on your studies, but not to do so incessantly like a machine. Take proper breaks in between studying. The heart benefits even more from rest than from studying and it will make you more receptive to further learning. Go to the temple as often as you can.

I have observed these so called first world countries, a label denoted to well-developed countries. But for some reason I am unable to compare them to my country. Despite wearing many layers of formal clothing and coats, I do not feel as magnificent as I do while wearing and walking around in a simple saaram.

Many tiered buildings and broad roads do not compare to our front yards.

Here I am constantly faced with foreign faces. They treat us in the same way. It is not possible to see the familiar faces from home here.

Our people live here bereft of their addresses, faces and identity! How can one live on this land?

One cannot form attachments to foreign surroundings. I survive because of the duty that I carry in my heart. Make sure that you do not allow any dreams of moving abroad during your lifetime to fester in your heart. Do not ever think that life abroad is heaven and the ticket to a life in luxury and without burdens. No country on earth comes close to our homeland. Every necessary thing for living a joyful life exists there. There is nothing but computers and machines here. Human beings are absent.

I pass my time somehow. My only wish and ambition is to serve my people and country to the best of my abilities.

My only sorrow is that I am not able to work fully for this cause after going abroad. If only I was back home, I would be able to do so much more. I am greatly saddened by the fact that I cannot put my talents to good use here. I am very much aware of how fleeting, precious and valuable each moment is. I cannot bear to think that my time is being wasted uselessly here. I am longing for my land and the wind that blows there.

With love

S.Kittu

**09.06.1992**

To Laali my love,

I cannot say anything about the future. I am constantly on the chase due to various problems. However, I am not worried about them. But I cannot stand being on the run nonstop. I cannot say when this will end yet.

But on the one hand this is but a small thing. These obstacles are bound to cross our paths at some point in our line of work. After all human existence is an unceasing exercise in encountering problems and finding a way to manage them anyhow.

There are so many things happening in our country. I keep thinking that I should be on our soil to witness these events unfolding. Instead, I am forced by circumstance to live somewhere else.

One truly has to be blessed to be able to live on our soil. Motherland, mother soil, one's own country, I find infinite meanings in being able to say this.

The generational history of our ancestors lives on in every corner of our land. Our blood and sweat is mixed in with that soil. That is the appeal of that land, which attracts us and pulls us towards it. But there is nothing here. It is only possible to live here if one finds a way to exist while forgetting one's own roots. Even some of our own is living like that here. But no one has a very high regard of them.

My love, those of you who are able to live there, please understand the significance of your existence. Love the land. And when I say land it also includes the people. Learn to love everyone. This is not merely preaching or philosophy. Prove that it is possible to practice this in real life as well.

Learn to treat the rich and poor equally. Give the same amount of respect to the learned as to the lay man. Take this change of behavior to heart. Demonstrate it through your actions. This is not socialism nor religion. It is simply what it means to live as a human being.

Each person's life has a purpose. But we have to look for the purpose of our own lives ourselves. We need to rid ourselves of the filth inside us. The point of searching for one's purpose is precisely to rid oneself of this filth.

Caste- and class-based differences between rich and poor continue to exist in our land. This puts our ignorance on display. Change needs to take place. As a first step each and every one of us can initiate a personal search independently and thus bring about a change in the overall society.

With love

S.Kittu



24.06.1992

As always to my one who is full of love,

I am well, very very well. I am very eager to hear how you are doing.

I spend all my days on the run across countries as a nomad despite having a country of my own. This run of mine is not over yet. I continue to run.

Despite having a country of my own

As a nomad

All my days

across countries

I am on the run

I do not need physical strength to run

Strength of mind is sufficient

I do not need my legs to run

Cognitive faculties are sufficient

I become more and more certain the more I run.

The only way for us to cease running

is to create independent solid ground of our own to stand on.

(This is not a poem; it is my musings).

I am longing to return to my soil. But the opportunity for that has not arisen yet. You have received the precious opportunity to live on our land. Love the land, love the people, and love those close to you and your family. Today you are advancing. As you rise in rank you need to maintain your humility. Deepen your bonds to your relatives.

Love your people and your land. Love those wonderful persons who fight for our land and people's liberty. We are all human beings. View them all as being human.

I have heard of numerous philosophical books and philosophies. They all teach us fight against injustice and oppression. No philosophy dictates us to foster injustice or oppression. It is always each human being's sense of duty that will help him in his fight against injustice.

There is not much to write about me .... I spend my time studying and drawing pictures. Even if I am not excellent, I am decent at drawing.

Do not worry too much about me. I will always bear whatever may come and labor for my ambitious path to the best of my abilities.

With love

S.Kittu

**29.06.1992**

My dear Laali,

When this letter reaches you, you will have completed your exams. Nevertheless, my congratulations.

You will be able to serve several thousands of people now that you have received your degree. Your studies are so significant. Just focus on your studies without worrying about anything else. You are helping the people just by working on your coursework. This fact brings comfort to the soul. Try to find joy in helping the people. Public service is true joy. Learn to feel this true joy.

..... Do not think about me. One must swim against the current and overcome these problems. Just devote your attention to your studies. Someday a day will bloom for us; and we will see each other then.

Please tell my friends that I asked for them. And also tell them to write letters.

..... Our sun will surely shine one day. Our life together will continue from that day.

With love

S.Kittu

**24.07.1992**

To my dear Laali,

When will the next semester begin again after you have completed these exams? Even if school has not started yet, attempt to help the people somehow. Find a way to spend your time on serving the people somehow.

If one comes to realize the joy that helping the underprivileged and helping the people brings, there is surely nothing that comes close to being as precious as that.

Understand the true significance of your studies and your work. A human being's academic growth is a result of how much he helps his fellow human beings. Unfortunately, not a single academic thinks this way. There is a growing tendency amongst them to think of the poor as being beneath them due to the difference in their studies, title, and prestige. In reality a society creates academics and intellectuals to address its societal needs. I do not understand how they can be so stonehearted and selfish as to study and grow using the people's money and then abandon the same people as soon as they get their degrees. Therefore, it is important the pay attention to the purpose of one's education while studying.

Please write about my friends. How is the situation there?

Please go visit Castro. And report back about his physical health.

Moreover, also write back about the state of mind amongst the disenfranchised and the mindset of the educated.

I will continue with this after I receive your letters.

With love

S.Kittu

**02.08.1992**

Laali my love,

I am good and eagerly awaiting to hear about your wellbeing. I am eagerly awaiting your letter. Please write about how your exams went.

A human being must fulfill the responsibility that comes with being born. You have certain duties. Search for them. You will discover yourself in the process.

We are steadfastly going on with our efforts to bring about peace. But the Sri Lankan government does not appear to be interested in peace. They are stubbornly attempting to destroy our revolution through military means.

With love

S.Kittu

**10.10.1992**

To my dear Laali,

Try to find the time to also study and revise useful events and philosophies while studying or on days when you are working. Do not just limit yourself to the teachings of your academic curriculum but also study the works of other great human beings.

Develop a curiosity for human life.

There is more to life than just you and me marrying, having children, and raising them. We are the ones who must discover the meaning of our own lives. I am still in the process of discovery. You try searching as well.

Let your thoughts be humble, always consider human service to be of importance.

Learn to live honestly and truthfully.

Do not speak ill of others with anyone. Of course you can be honest with even problematic people. But there is no need to express all your opinions either.

Speak honestly, act honestly, always be vigilant about this. There are excellent books at the public library. Borrow and read those.

Do not carry out your studies and work out of obligation but engage in it as if it were truly meaningful.

I do not wish to be carefree; it is not in my nature to be so either. I suppose that I could be carefree if I truly wanted to, but I find myself unable to.

With love

S.Kittu

04.11.1992

To my Laali who is full of love,

I received your letters. Thank you.

I am confident no matter where I happen to be at. I do not pass time in vain. I am constantly chasing time. Even now I am short of time. Studies, drawing pictures, contemplation, sacrifice, physical exercise, I barely have time due to all these endeavors. I am working to such a degree.

A great deal of time is spent on discussing and examining various problems with each country's national branches. In this way time and I are ever in constant competition with each other.

Generally, the human heart longs for what it does not have or has been deprived of and thinks about it in anguish.

Additionally, it fails to appreciate and esteem what it already is in possession of.

The same heart will always desire that which is out of reach and become dispirited, while refusing to appreciate what it has and give thought the livelihoods of those less privileged than itself.

That is the nature of the human heart.

The one who overcomes this becomes a sage.

We are not sages. That is the reason why we are saddened by everything.

Therefore, let us go on in life instead of making a big deal about this.

Let us train the heart using our minds.

Advance, keep on advancing, keep advancing by solidifying your heart.

Oh, my little woman!

Everyone faces pain, sadness, and sorrow in life. These are merely obstacles and will not become permanent features. Let us review the sadness of yesterday, and view today's sorrow in the same light. Tomorrow we will laugh when we think of these sorrows.

So, let us overcome the present day's sorrows and emerge victoriously. My time passes contentedly. Do not worry about me.

Please do not spoil your health thinking that I am depressed.

With love

S.Kittu

07.11.1992

Dear Nishanthan, Gayathri, Kundan, and grandma<sup>5</sup>,

..... My congratulations and blessings.

Time passes on by; let your intellect grow along with it. Study as much as you can. Think well. Try to pay particular attention to subjects that will increase your general knowledge. Discover new things and insightful philosophies.

Borrow interesting books from your school or at the library and read them.

Do not just study but learn to live accordingly. Live honestly and truthfully. This is true for small as well as great deeds.

Do not live selfishly. Do not grow close to people are like that, try to distance yourself from them.

Find decent friends. Maintain healthy friendships.

Honesty and truthfulness are important. If you live honestly you do not have to fear anyone. Try to abide by honesty and truthfulness even during small deeds.

Behave with integrity and honesty both at school and at home and be an exemplary role model for them.

Do not become jealous of anyone.

Live modestly. Work dutifully. All your duties rest in your work.

Try to avoid meaningless disputes and troubles. Think wholesomely, think profoundly, and articulate your opinions.

While trying to avoid arrogance and a live of excess, attempt to refine your humility.

Emphasize with others and disenfranchised people. Try to save up money in your piggy banks; spend the money you have saved up directly on the poor or on refugees. This is a challenge to you. Try to monitor how much effort you put into saving up money for others or for refugees.

Always try to nurture your civic-mindedness. Learn to live like this.

Each human being has his duty. It is this which keeps him and the people around him alive.

Money and glory are nothing; the heart is the greatest. Your souls should always think virtuously. You need to train yourself for this.

Do not waste food or money; there are countless people who suffer without access to either.

Do no desire glory. Glory is addictive. It is capable of erasing human spirituality. Do not enter into service in order to achieve glory. Not just service, do not engage in anything for glory or for the sake of achieving glory. A good reputation is not something one can attain; it will develop on its own.

Now is the time for you to be a student, this time will not return once it passes. Spend this time usefully. One cannot study after the age of 24. But before then one can study abundantly.

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<sup>5</sup> This is the last letter he wrote to his older brother's children

You should always cultivate a search for spirituality within yourself.

Nishanthan, Gayathri!

Do you sense that I am writing from my heart? Now you are transitioning from childhood to adolescence. You need to understand life. You need to learn how to live. Human beings should live as such.

Embark on your future with bright expectations. You are the ones who determine which path to take. Guide Kundan and Tamizhini as well. Train them for life.

“May you have a bright future”

With love

S.Kittu

**16.11.1992**

Dear mother, father, cousin, and kids<sup>6</sup>,

I am eager to hear about your wellbeing. I am doing well.

I received the letter that mother wrote.

I am doing well. Do not think and worry about me. Where I am staying at the moment it is constantly cold. Everything is white once you leave the house. It has snowed greatly. For that reason, I have not ventured much outside.

Besides that, I am doing very well. I study quite a lot as there is a lot of spare time nowadays. A great deal of my time passes while studying.

There is not much to write about me.

How is mother's physical wellbeing? Please be mindful of her nutrition. Try to avoid food such as rice and flour. Eat plenty of kurakkan flour, palmyra flour, and fish.

Mother, do not stay at home by yourself. Go and stay at brother's house or Laali's house as often as you can.

Do not speak ill of anyone. Because they might have many redeemable qualities. If you want to speak well of someone, you do not need to be cautious of anything and you may speak freely. But think carefully if you intend to speak ill of anyone, choose your words carefully before uttering them.

Therefore, think carefully about what you want to say before you speak. Moreover, you need to speak in a manner that befits your age and experience.

It is our backwards thinking tendencies that we need to overcome. If society is to transform our households needs to undergo these changes first.

Importantly, we need to discard caste differences. Become exemplary in your behavior for the sake of society. Always think of doing well by others.

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<sup>6</sup>The last letter he wrote to his mother.

By the way, what is Samiyan doing now?  
I may live today and pass away tomorrow.  
He who has left to join the revolution must happily welcome death  
at any time and at any stage.  
I am well aware of the fact  
that my time is shorter than ordinary people's.  
Therefore, I am trying to redeem my wrongdoings.  
This venture may also be called searching for oneself.

I have not done wrong by others during my lifetime or thought of doing so either. But I think that even if I did not explicitly commit any crimes as a child, I have not always acted as I should have.

“We are human beings. We keep on making mistakes”. However, precisely because we are human beings; we should attempt to correct them as well.

With love

S.Kittu

**15.12.1992**

My dear darling woman,

I received your letters, birthday wishes, and new year wishes. Thank you.

My love! You will surely pass your exams this time as well. Do not worry. My congratulations for your victory.

Moreover, your exams may be over by the time you receive this letter. Spend your leisure time well. Take responsibility of the Children's Medical Camp. Engage yourself with great enthusiasm and showcase your talents candidly.

No matter what work you do, do it profoundly and with heart. If the work is not compatible with your heart, natural disposition, or studies avoid it.

It has become everyone's responsibility to protect and take care of our fighters in the current situation. Our revolutionaries are fighting for a brighter future for us all. They are sacrificing themselves without any regard for themselves. Our fighters do not engage in the revolution expecting any reward or benefit today nor in the future; the movement does not raise any one to be like this. At the same time, it is possible that the movement's fighters may commit mistakes and errors once in a while due to lack of maturity or experience. But they will be corrected; they will not endure.

With love

S.Kittu

To Laali my love<sup>7</sup>,

..... Medicine is not just wrapping bandages arounds wounds and handing out medication. It is healing the patients who cannot be cured.

It is necessary to create the appropriate surroundings and state of mind that will facilitate the recovery of the patient. Additionally, ingesting the right food and creating sanitary surroundings are also very important. When you engage in this line of work, you must do so wholeheartedly. In this situation wholehearted enthusiasm will encourage and rejuvenate you.

It is important that all these conditions are created in addition to providing the right treatment.

Moreover, there are certain things that I wish to know; and that I would like to engage in as well. How are the medical facilities coming along in Tamil Eelam and particularly in the northern province? How is medical treatment and sanitary conditions made available to all the provinces and every village in practice? How is the government providing these services? Is the department for medicine and the department for sanitation two different entities or do they interact with each other?

Besides the abovementioned how can we provide even greater medical service to the people? What are the deficiencies in the current set-up and practices? Medical service needs to be made available to all the people. Please investigate what necessary methods we need to deal with in the future to make the aforementioned a reality for my sake. This matter requires some research; please do a little research on this on my behalf.

These days I am always reading about enlightenment. It is my sincere wish to encourage and awaken our people and particularly our fighters to soul- and truth searching.

If we are to carry out truth and justice, it is necessary that those of us who are fighting are genuine revolutionaries. It is only by cultivating honesty, truthfulness, and righteousness within ourselves that we can become true revolutionaries.

It is important to promote teachings that will encourage empathy for the people and humankind as well as self-constraint amongst the fighters. Moreover, a process of searching for oneself should be initiated.

Both having strength of character and being truthful are truly powerful. Each revolutionary needs to cultivate strength of character and power within themselves and thereby lead the way for the people and the land.

Our fight and the revolution can be viewed as an expression of public service. So, we should carry on with our duty by understanding and taking pride in public service. More than anything we need to morph ourselves into true and genuine revolutionaries.

I am attempting to establish this type of training and way of life.

It is necessary to kindle soul-searching amongst the people. The people must be trained to hold truthfulness and justice to be their greatest ambitions in life.

Rather than to search for an inaccessible god it is more worthwhile to pursue attainable justice.

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<sup>7</sup> This was written after the 15<sup>th</sup> of December 1992. This is his last letter.



Truthfulness needs not only to be included in the morphology and the action of the word justice, but it also needs to be taken to heart.

My love, there is so much left for us to do. We need to cultivate soul-searching within ourselves. Soul-searching is not just education or intellect; it is complying with it in practice as well.

We need to live according to a humble lifestyle, and with self-constraint, and humility.

We need to encourage others to search for justice and vitality in their own lives by our example.

First of all, we need to diminish our desires and live modestly. We need to prepare ourselves for that from this very moment.

It is my wish that we should devise our future in according to this. I truly wish to lead not just our people but our fighters along on this path as well.

My love, even you will understand me. You will support me in my principles; furthermore, I am well aware of how you will inspire me through the affection you have for me.

You not plead for yourself when you pray to god. Do not ask for anything for yourself. If you act duly it will happen on its own.

Truth and justice will guide you.

It is our duty to act truthfully and honestly. The candor of our duty will lead us to the correct path.

Hence, I truly believe that the greatest thing is to be able to live correctly guided by the light of truth.

I want to do so much more for us to be able to live a humbler life. I sincerely wish to discover my shortcomings and live more truthfully.

I expect to see these changes in you when we meet again.

I want you to exceed me in this regard.

We need to perceive the problems we run into as mere obstacles in our life. No matter the obstacle we will overcome it and emerge victorious.

With love

S.Kittu