

Broken Paradise

Poetry from 3 decades of Sri Lanka's civil war

BBC Radio 4

Sunday 7th April 4.30pm & repeated Saturday 13th April 11.30pm

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Lakshmi Holmström by Gillian Tapping

Acclaimed translator **Lakshmi Holmström** introduces some of the most powerful Tamil poetry to emerge from the 26 year long conflict in Sri Lanka in which an estimated 70,000 people were killed as militant Tamil Tigers tried to establish a separate Tamil state in the north of the island.

These poems bear witness to the atrocities committed by both sides and chart some of the war's most significant turning points, from the deadly introduction of female suicide bombers to the final bloody showdown on a beach near Jaffna. Poets featured include Cheran, M.A.Nuhman, Sivaramani, Shanmugam Sivalingam and Kutti Revathi.

Poem readings by Hiran Abeysekara, Vayu Naidu and Vignarajah

Producer Mukti Jain Campion

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