



Will you be a voice for Muthu Raja?

He is a sick captive elephant in Sri Lanka. We have to ask Ranil Wickremesinge who is the president of Sri Lanka to give permission for him to be freed. If the president says “yes”, he can go home. Will you help us?

This is his Muthu Raja’s story

Muthu Raja is 31 years old. He was given as a present to Sri Lanka by the queen of Thailand in 2001.

Raja means ‘KING’ and he is very handsome

The problem is that he lives tied in chains to a tree and is not allowed to move around unless it is to work in parades. He is being badly treated. He is injured, and his feet are especially bad. Did you know that injured feet kill many elephants? But Muthu Raja’s injuries have not been treated. We want him to get better and have a happy life after his long years of hard work for the temple where he lives.

Sri Lanka does not have the facilities that Muthu Raja needs to make him better, but in Thailand they do, and they are **waiting for him to make him better. YAY!**

So, Dear Mr President, please allow Muthu Raja to go back to Thailand where he can get well.

YOU CAN SPEAK FOR MUTHU BY SENDING A POSTCARD WITH A DRAWING, OR A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT, & HE WILL SEE THAT PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD CARE ABOUT THIS ELEPHANT. WE WILL COLLECT ALL OF THESE TOGETHER AND TAKE THEM IN PERSON TO THE PRESIDENT.

EVERY VOICE MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

WITH YOUR HELP WE CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS.

You can read more about our work for sri Lankan animals at www.raresl.org

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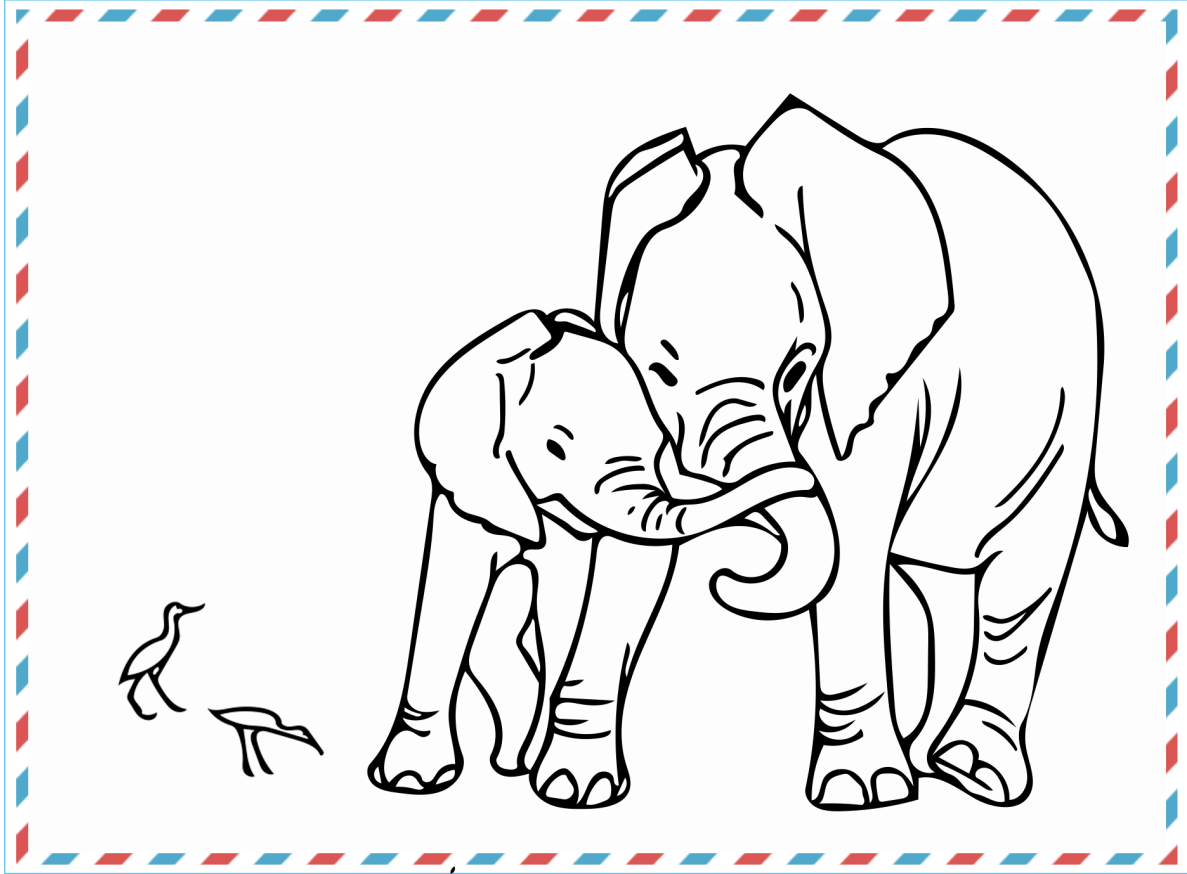
POSTCARD

Rally For Animal Rights & Environment

FOR CORRESPONDANCE ADDRESS



FOR WHAT YOU SEE, OR WOULD LIKE TO SEE



PLACE:
DATE:
NAME:

POSTCARD

Rally For Animal Rights & Environment

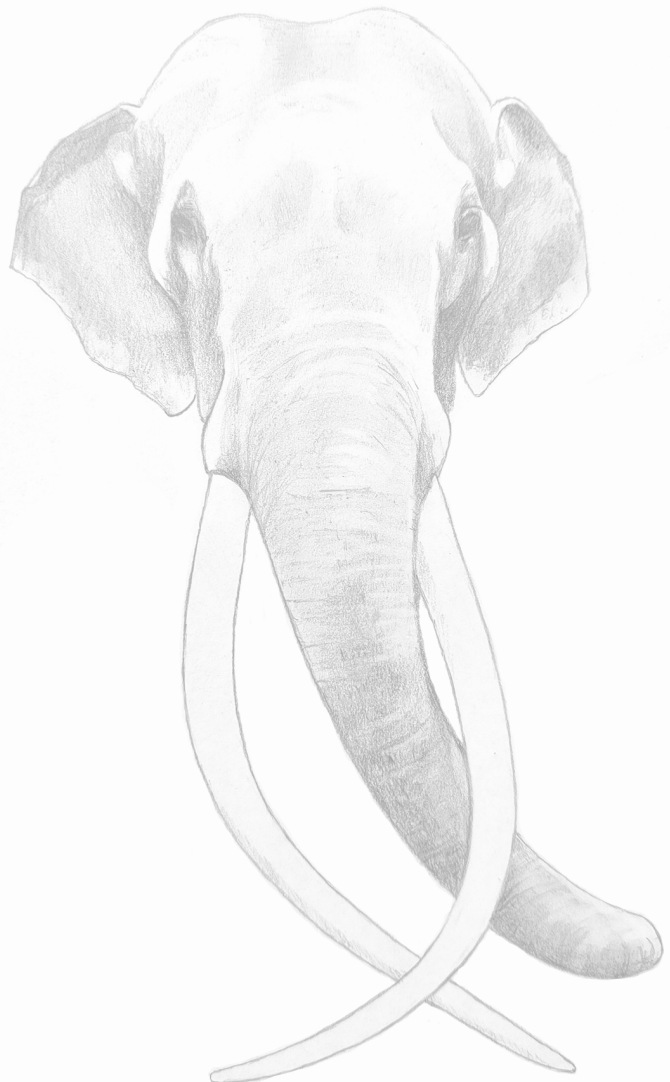


FOR CORRESPONDANCE

ADDRESS

FOR WHAT
YOU SAY

YOUR MUTHU RAJA
PORTRAIT



Our petition for Muthu Raja at Change.org

<https://www.change.org/p/ask-the-president-of-sri-lanka-to-sign-the-president-s-decree-for-reretirement-of-abused-thai-elephant-muthu-raja>

Muthu Raja is a beautiful 30-year-old bull elephant who was born in Thailand and gifted by HRM the Queen mother of Thailand, Rajawongse Sirikit Kitiyakara, back in 2001 to Sri Lanka. When he was 10 years old, he was chosen in honour of the then queen of Thailand and current queen mother, because of how beautiful he looked even as a calf, so that he can be gifted to the people of Sri Lanka.

Muthu Raja, however ended up serving a local Buddhist temple named Aluthgama Kande Viharaya in the south of Sri Lanka, chained, laboured, neglected and abused. Muthu Raja was rented off by the temple to cultural parades all over the country and when he wasn't, he was made to stand for hours blessing temple visitors for money as they walk under his belly or worse doing hard labour. He was simply over worked.

With no respite in sight, Muthu Raja's life turned to the worst when he sustained an injury to his left leg, that got worse over 4 years as he never received the veterinary care he needed. His left front leg is now permanently injured due to years of negligence and he has extremely thin foot pads and foot abscesses which can lead to a painful death. He has abscesses and bullhook wounds all over his body as well.

The temple sadly continues to employ 'Muthu Raja' for traditional peraharas/parades despite him struggling to walk. These injuries are so severe and complicated that Sri Lanka now doesn't have the veterinary capacity to help heal Muthu Raja. This means if he stays in Sri Lanka it will lead to eventual death due to negligence and health complications. The President of Sri Lanka needs to sign Muthu Raja's release. It's the most important step in guaranteeing Muthu Raja's safe retirement.

At present Muthu Raja's health issues have become chronic. He suffers from leg complications including what is referred to as 'foot rot' in elephants, one of the major causes of deaths in captive elephants. Since October 2021, we at RARE- Rally for Animal Rights and Environment (RARE Sri Lanka) and other animal organisations and thousands of animal lovers in Sri Lanka and around the world have been calling for the rescue of Muthu Raja, pleading for his immediate retirement. He needs the medical help that is desperately required to save his life.

Thai Elephant Conservation Centre, in Lampang, Thailand is also a project initiated by HRM Queen Sirikit and is equipped with one of the best and most advanced elephant hospitals in the world. We want to see Muthu Raja immediately transferred to Ridiyagama Safari Park, in Sri Lanka for urgent treatment and later when he is fit enough to fly he will need specialised intensive veterinary care in the Thai Elephant Conservation Centre in Lampang. There, at home in Thailand he will have the chance to recuperate with the world's best and experienced vets specialising in elephants.

Muthu Raja now has to limp his journey home; receive the veterinary care he needs to save his life and finally stride in peace at home, a born free elephant in Thailand, where he always belonged. This can only happen when President of Sri Lanka Mr Ranil Wickramasinghe who is famous as a progressive liberal Buddhist visionary, sign the Presidential Decree for his release.

It would be wonderful if you could sign the petition at [Change.org](https://www.change.org/p/ask-the-president-of-sri-lanka-to-sign-the-president-s-decree-for-reretirement-of-abused-thai-elephant-muthu-raja)