

Sajith Premadasa

Candidate Profile: Sajith Premadasa

Full Name:

Sajith Premadasa

Election Symbol:

Telephone

Date of Birth:

January 12, 1967

Political Party:

Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB)

Current Position:

Leader of the Opposition, Sri Lanka (since 2020)

Educational Background:

- **Primary and Secondary Education:** St. Thomas' Preparatory School, Colombo; Royal College, Colombo
- **Higher Education:**
 - Bachelor's degree in economics and international Relations, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), University of London

Political Career:

Sajith Premadasa is the son of Ranasinghe Premadasa, a former president of Sri Lanka, and Hema Premadasa. He entered politics following in his father's footsteps, starting his career within the United National Party (UNP). His rise through the political ranks was swift due to his family's influence, dedication to public service, and his connection with grassroots politics.

- **1994:** Entered politics after the assassination of his father during his presidency.
- **2000:** Elected to Parliament as a member representing the Hambantota District.
- **2001-2010:** Played key roles in the UNP, advocating for rural development and poverty alleviation.
- **2011:** Appointed Deputy Leader of the UNP, further solidifying his status as a potential future leader.
- **2015:** Appointed as the Minister of Housing and Construction in the Maithripala Sirisena government.
- **2019:** Ran for President of Sri Lanka as the UNP candidate but was defeated by Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

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- **2020:** Following internal party disputes, Sajith Premadasa formed the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) and became its leader, positioning himself as a key opposition figure against the Rajapaksa-led government.

Key Policies and Contributions:

1. Housing and Urban Development:

- As Minister of Housing, Premadasa launched the "Gam Udawa" housing initiative, a project focused on providing affordable housing and improving living conditions in rural areas.

2. Social Welfare:

- He has been a strong advocate for poverty alleviation, with a focus on improving healthcare, education, and access to basic necessities for marginalized communities.

3. Education and Youth Empowerment:

- Premadasa emphasizes educational reform and skill development programs for youth, proposing improvements in technology-driven learning and vocational training.

4. Economic Development:

- He has championed the need for a stronger, diversified economy, emphasizing rural development, and infrastructure investment to reduce regional inequality.

5. Anti-Corruption and Governance:

- Known for his anti-corruption stance, he has been vocal about the need for transparency, accountability, and reform in government institutions.

Vision for Sri Lanka:

Sajith Premadasa advocates for inclusive economic growth, with a strong emphasis on social justice, equitable access to resources, and the empowerment of underprivileged communities. His platform is centered on poverty alleviation, rural development, and rebuilding trust in democratic institutions, aiming to create a prosperous and united Sri Lanka.

Personal Attributes:

Sajith Premadasa is known for his down-to-earth personality and close connections with the rural population. His leadership style is often described as compassionate and people-centric, with a focus on bridging the gap between urban and rural development.

Challenges and Criticism:

- **Internal Party Struggles:** Premadasa faced significant challenges within the UNP, particularly with senior members, leading to the creation of the SJB.

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- **Electoral Defeats:** His loss in the 2019 presidential election to Gotabaya Rajapaksa was seen as a major setback, but he has since rebuilt his political career as the leader of the opposition.

Economic Policies

Premadasa's economic strategy revolves around the concept of building an **Advanced Social Market Economy**, aimed at stabilizing and revitalizing Sri Lanka's economy in the aftermath of ongoing crises. His "**Blueprint 3.0**", launched in 2024, outlines the following core components:

- **Macroeconomic Stabilization:** The blueprint prioritizes reducing inflation and managing Sri Lanka's significant debt burden. Premadasa aims to secure international support, particularly through bodies like the IMF, to stabilize the rupee and improve investor confidence.
- **Job Creation and Industrial Growth:** His focus is on expanding local industries, particularly those in agriculture, technology, and tourism. The SJB's economic platform aims to generate over a million jobs through targeted investments in small and medium enterprises (SMEs), agriculture, and infrastructure projects
- **Social Safety Nets and Poverty Alleviation:** A key aspect of Premadasa's policy is poverty reduction. By expanding social welfare programs and improving access to education and healthcare, he envisions reducing inequality and lifting families out of poverty
- **Entrepreneurship and Innovation:** Premadasa emphasizes the need for a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem, proposing tax reforms, grants, and subsidies to boost startups and SMEs. Digitalization and innovation are central to this vision, with a particular focus on positioning Sri Lanka as a hub for tech investment

Social Policies

Premadasa's social policies are designed to ensure **equity, social justice, and equal access** to essential services for all Sri Lankans, particularly marginalized groups.

- **Healthcare:** Premadasa aims to overhaul the public healthcare system, expanding coverage and improving the quality of services. His plan includes building more hospitals, providing better medical training, and increasing access to affordable medication
- **Education:** Recognizing education as a tool for empowerment, Premadasa proposes reforms to improve school infrastructure, enhance teacher training, and ensure that rural communities have equal access to quality education. His platform also supports free higher education and scholarships for underprivileged students
- **Women and Youth Empowerment:** A key component of Premadasa's social agenda is empowering women and youth. He supports gender equality initiatives, aiming to increase female participation in the workforce through flexible working conditions and maternity benefits

For youth, his policies focus on expanding vocational training and skill development programs to address unemployment

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- **Social Safety and Welfare:** Expanding the existing social welfare system is integral to his vision. Premadasa has committed to increasing social security benefits, improving housing programs for low-income families, and addressing food insecurity through targeted subsidies

Foreign Policy

While Premadasa has not laid out an extensive foreign policy plan, key themes are apparent from his broader economic and social goals:

- **Strengthening Diplomatic Ties:** Premadasa's foreign policy is expected to focus on restoring and maintaining robust relations with global economic partners. His plan emphasizes aligning with international organizations like the IMF and World Bank to support economic stabilization
- **Trade and Investment:** The platform prioritizes forging trade agreements that benefit local industries, particularly in agriculture and technology. Premadasa aims to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) by improving the ease of doing business and offering investor-friendly policies
- **Regional Cooperation:** Premadasa also underscores the importance of regional cooperation, particularly through SAARC and ASEAN, to secure Sri Lanka's role in South Asian economic integration

Environmental Policy

Premadasa's platform includes a **comprehensive environmental sustainability agenda** aimed at addressing climate change and protecting Sri Lanka's rich biodiversity.

- **Climate Resilience:** Recognizing the impact of climate change on agriculture and livelihoods, Premadasa proposes to invest in sustainable farming practices, renewable energy, and disaster management systems. His policy emphasizes building infrastructure that is resilient to floods, droughts, and other climate-related threats.
- **Conservation Efforts:** The manifesto commits to conserving Sri Lanka's forests, wildlife, and marine ecosystems. Premadasa has expressed support for expanding protected areas and implementing strict environmental regulations to prevent deforestation and habitat destruction
- **Renewable Energy Transition:** A key component of his environmental vision is transitioning Sri Lanka to renewable energy. Premadasa supports increasing the country's reliance on solar and wind energy and reducing the dependence on fossil fuels

Previous Positions Held

- **Minister of Housing and Construction (2015-2019):** Premadasa held this position during the Yahapalana government, where he was responsible for overseeing housing initiatives and construction development projects across Sri Lanka.

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- **Deputy Leader of the United National Party (UNP):** For a significant period, Premadasa served as the deputy leader of the UNP, one of Sri Lanka's oldest political parties, before transitioning to lead the **Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB)** in 2020, a breakaway party from the UNP.
- **Leader of the Opposition (2020-present):** After forming the SJB, Premadasa became the **Leader of the Opposition**, where he has played a pivotal role in holding the government accountable and advocating for economic, social, and environmental reforms
- **Member of Parliament for Hambantota District (2000-present):** Representing Hambantota District for over two decades, Premadasa has demonstrated strong ties to his constituency, advocating for development in rural areas.

Accomplishments

- **Housing for the Poor – "Semata Sevana":** As Minister of Housing, Premadasa spearheaded the **Semata Sevana** housing initiative, which aimed to provide affordable housing for low-income families across Sri Lanka. Under his leadership, thousands of homes were constructed, improving the living standards of marginalized communities
- **Empowerment through Vocational Training:** Premadasa emphasized the importance of skill development and education by promoting vocational training programs for youth, particularly in rural areas. This initiative aimed to reduce unemployment and provide better job opportunities for young people
- **Leadership During the COVID-19 Crisis:** As the Leader of the Opposition, Premadasa played an active role in advocating for stronger health measures and economic relief packages during the COVID-19 pandemic. He called for a more robust government response to protect vulnerable populations and support the economy
- **Promoting Gender Equality:** During his tenure, Premadasa also worked on policies that promoted women's participation in the workforce and ensured gender equality in various sectors of society. He supported initiatives that provided better healthcare and educational opportunities for women, along with enhanced maternity benefits
- **Hambantota Development Projects:** Premadasa has consistently advocated for the development of his home district, Hambantota, through infrastructure improvements, educational initiatives, and agricultural projects designed to boost local economies and improve livelihoods

Ethical Standards

Sajith Premadasa has built a reputation as a politician who prioritizes transparency, accountability, and ethical governance. His ethical standards are reflected in several key areas:

- **Commitment to Anti-Corruption:** Premadasa has consistently voiced his stance against corruption, advocating for stricter anti-corruption measures within the government. As part of his campaign promises, he has emphasized the need to establish stronger mechanisms

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for public accountability and transparency in both the private and public sectors. He believes that eliminating corruption is essential for economic recovery and public trust

- **Focus on Public Welfare:** Premadasa's tenure as Minister of Housing showcased his ethical commitment to improving the living conditions of the poor and marginalized. Rather than focusing on elite interests, he worked to provide affordable housing for low-income families, highlighting his focus on the greater good and social welfare
- **Respect for Human Rights:** Premadasa has been an advocate for human rights and civil liberties. He has voiced opposition to any form of suppression or misuse of power that violates basic human rights. This ethical stance is crucial in his approach to leadership, where he consistently promotes democratic values and the protection of individual freedoms

Consistency in Principles

One of Premadasa's most significant attributes as a political leader is his **consistency in principles**. Over the years, he has remained steadfast in his core beliefs, particularly in the areas of economic equality, social justice, and inclusive development:

- **Social Justice and Inclusivity:** Throughout his political career, Premadasa has maintained a clear focus on promoting social justice and uplifting marginalized communities. Whether through housing projects, poverty alleviation programs, or educational reforms, his commitment to inclusivity has remained unwavering. His **Semata Sevana** housing project is a direct reflection of this long-standing commitment to equitable development
- **Dedication to National Unity:** Premadasa has consistently emphasized the importance of national unity and reconciliation, advocating for policies that transcend ethnic and religious divides. His vision for Sri Lanka is centered on fostering unity among all communities, a principle that has been a recurring theme throughout his leadership
- **Advocacy for Democratic Governance:** Premadasa has consistently upheld the values of democratic governance and has been a vocal proponent of strengthening Sri Lanka's democratic institutions. His leadership in the opposition has been marked by his efforts to promote transparency, hold the government accountable, and ensure that democratic principles are protected

Public Engagement

Sajith Premadasa has developed a reputation for being highly **engaged with the public**, particularly through his direct interactions with citizens and efforts to address their concerns:

- **Grassroots Connection:** Premadasa is known for his ability to engage with people at the grassroots level, often visiting rural areas and listening to the concerns of marginalized communities. His public appearances often involve speaking directly with underprivileged groups and focusing on their specific needs, such as housing, healthcare, and emp

This hands-on approach has earned him significant support, especially among lower-income citizens and rural populations.

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- **Responsive to Public Issues:** Throughout his career, Premadasa has shown a keen awareness of public issues and concerns. During the COVID-19 pandemic, for example, he was vocal about the need for more comprehensive government action, particularly in terms of economic relief and public health measures. His criticism of the government's handling of the pandemic highlighted his responsiveness to urgent national challenges
- **Digital and Media Savvy:** Premadasa is also proficient in using digital media to engage with younger voters and the broader public. His use of social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter has allowed him to connect with a more tech-savvy audience and communicate his policies and initiatives efficiently. He frequently leverages these platforms to promote his campaigns and raise awareness of key issues

Leadership Qualities

Premadasa's leadership qualities have been consistently highlighted throughout his political journey, both in his formal roles and during election campaigns.

- **Hands-On Leadership:** One of Premadasa's most recognized leadership qualities is his **hands-on approach**. As Minister of Housing and Construction, he was actively involved in overseeing development projects, particularly the "Semata Sevana" housing scheme, which aimed to improve living conditions for underprivileged families. His personal involvement in these initiatives has solidified his image as a leader who is deeply committed to public service
- **Visionary Leadership:** Premadasa's leadership is also marked by a clear and consistent vision for the country. His focus on **inclusive development**, economic recovery, and national unity reflects a long-term strategy to address Sri Lanka's most pressing challenges. His policies on poverty alleviation, job creation, and infrastructure development show his forward-thinking approach to governance
- **Decisiveness and Accountability:** As the Leader of the Opposition, Premadasa has demonstrated **decisiveness** in holding the government accountable, particularly in matters related to economic management and corruption. His criticism of the government's policies and calls for transparency have positioned him as a leader who values accountability and ethical governance
- **Empathy and Relatability:** Premadasa's public image is bolstered by his ability to show **empathy** and relatability, especially toward those facing economic hardship. His initiatives for poverty alleviation and housing for the poor reflect a deep commitment to social justice, which resonates with large segments of the population. His speeches often emphasize solidarity with the people, portraying him as a leader who genuinely understands and advocates for the public's needs

Political Party: Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB)

The **Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB)**, or the United People's Power, was formed in 2020 as a breakaway party from the United National Party (UNP). Premadasa became its leader following

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disagreements with UNP leadership, particularly over the party's direction and handling of key issues.

- **Formation of the SJB:** Premadasa, previously the deputy leader of the UNP, split from the party after his bid to secure the party's leadership was unsuccessful. In response, he launched the SJB to create a more dynamic, reform-oriented opposition party, aiming to address the grievances of those dissatisfied with the UNP's leadership under Ranil Wickremesinghe. The SJB positioned itself as a party of the people, focusing on transparency, social justice, and development
- **Key Ideologies and Principles:** Under Premadasa's leadership, the SJB champions progressive policies centered on economic reform, poverty alleviation, and enhancing social welfare systems. The party seeks to balance market-oriented policies with social protections, making it attractive to both moderate liberals and the economically disenfranchised
- **Electoral Performance:** Since its formation, the SJB has gained substantial support, quickly becoming the main opposition party in the Sri Lankan Parliament. It performed well in the 2020 parliamentary elections, securing a significant number of seats and consolidating Premadasa's leadership as a key opposition figure

Coalition and Alliances

In addition to his party leadership, Sajith Premadasa has been actively involved in coalition-building efforts, recognizing the importance of political alliances in gaining broader support across different segments of Sri Lankan society.

- **Alliance with Minor Parties:** As leader of the SJB, Premadasa has cultivated alliances with several minor political parties, especially those representing **minority communities** such as Tamils and Muslims. These alliances are crucial in expanding his voter base and building a coalition that can challenge the ruling party. Notable alliances include partnerships with the **Tamil Progressive Alliance (TPA)** and **Sri Lanka Muslim Congress (SLMC)**, both of which align with his platform of inclusive governance and ethnic reconciliation
- **Support from Trade Unions and Civil Society:** Premadasa also enjoys backing from various trade unions and civil society organizations. These groups support his focus on labor rights, wage increases, and social safety nets, which are central tenets of his platform. His commitment to addressing workers' issues and protecting public services resonates strongly with unionized workers and activists
- **Coalition with Leftist Parties:** Premadasa has worked to forge connections with left-leaning parties and figures, appealing to their support for economic justice and anti-corruption measures. This coalition-building has helped the SJB position itself as a broader, more inclusive platform, drawing support from both centrist and progressive voters

Polls and Public Sentiment

Public opinion regarding Sajith Premadasa has fluctuated based on the political and economic environment in Sri Lanka. However, he remains one of the country's most popular opposition

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figures due to his proactive approach in addressing the concerns of citizens and his focus on reform.

- **Public Sentiment:** Premadasa's popularity has grown over the years, particularly after his strong performance in the 2019 Presidential Election, where he received over 40% of the vote. This solid base of support underscores his appeal, particularly among urban voters, the youth, and rural communities who resonate with his message of social justice, poverty alleviation, and housing reforms

His efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic, where he criticized the government's response and provided relief to affected communities, earned him praise and boosted his public image

- **Polls:** In the lead-up to the 2024 election, polls suggest that Premadasa remains one of the most viable contenders against the ruling party. He continues to attract support from disillusioned voters frustrated by the economic crisis and corruption scandals under the current government. Public opinion surveys often indicate that while Premadasa's popularity may not have overtaken the incumbent or other major candidates yet, he consistently polls as one of the top alternatives, particularly appealing to moderate and progressive voters
- **Youth and Rural Support:** A significant aspect of Premadasa's public backing comes from younger voters and rural communities, primarily due to his focus on poverty alleviation, youth employment, and grassroots development projects. His engagement with these groups has made him a favorite among those who seek a break from the traditional elite-driven politics of Sri Lanka

Endorsements

Premadasa has received several key endorsements from political figures, parties, and civil society organizations, which have been instrumental in bolstering his candidacy:

- **Political Endorsements:** Several minority political parties have endorsed Premadasa, especially those representing Tamil and Muslim communities, such as the **Tamil Progressive Alliance (TPA)** and **Sri Lanka Muslim Congress (SLMC)**. These parties have aligned with Premadasa due to his inclusive policies on national unity, reconciliation, and minority rights

Endorsements from these minority groups are crucial for securing a broader voter base beyond the Sinhalese majority.

- **Trade Union and Labor Group Support:** Premadasa has also garnered the support of various trade unions and labor groups, who see him as an advocate for workers' rights. His policies on raising wages, job security, and improving working conditions have resonated with these organizations, enhancing his credibility as a candidate committed to economic justice
- **Civil Society and Academic Endorsements:** Several civil society organizations, NGOs, and academics have endorsed Premadasa for his commitment to transparency, anti-corruption measures, and social welfare initiatives. His focus on combating corruption and enhancing

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governance has made him a preferred candidate for those seeking reform and accountability in the political system

- **Endorsements from International Bodies:** While Premadasa has not officially received widespread international endorsements, his reform-oriented agenda and emphasis on human rights have earned him favorable recognition from international organizations and rights groups. His policies on national unity and reconciliation have also resonated with international advocates for peace and justice

Debates

Sajith Premadasa has participated in several high-profile debates during his political career, both in the parliament and during election cycles. His debate style emphasizes practical solutions, transparency, and social welfare. While he generally avoids personal attacks, his approach tends to focus on holding the government accountable for corruption and mismanagement. Premadasa has also been strong in advocating for minority rights and national unity, themes that resonate with many voters.

- **Strengths in Debates:** Premadasa is articulate, well-prepared, and empathetic to the concerns of the common people, which helps him connect with voters during debates. His practical proposals on poverty alleviation, affordable housing, and job creation tend to resonate with a broad section of the electorate.
- **Challenges in Debates:** In comparison to more seasoned political debaters, Premadasa has sometimes been criticized for not being forceful enough on critical issues such as foreign policy or addressing the deeper economic challenges that Sri Lanka faces. Some voters believe his proposals lack a strategic long-term vision for economic reform

Interviews

Premadasa uses interviews to communicate his policies and address specific public concerns. In interviews, he maintains a focus on his record of public service and reforms, often highlighting his housing projects and the need for social equity. He also frequently discusses his plans for economic reform, employment, and the healthcare sector.

- **Interview Strategy:** His communication style during interviews is generally non-confrontational, preferring to emphasize solutions rather than critiques. He uses this platform to build trust with the public, explaining the feasibility of his policies while maintaining a practical and empathetic tone.

Challenges and Opportunities

Feasibility of Promises

Premadasa's platform includes promises of economic reforms, poverty alleviation, and inclusive development, but their feasibility depends on several factors.

- **Economic Recovery:** One of Premadasa's key promises involves **job creation, economic relief packages, and infrastructure development**. While these promises are attractive to voters, their feasibility is contingent on stabilizing the economy, attracting foreign investment, and reducing national debt. Premadasa would need to implement stringent

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fiscal reforms, negotiate international support, and manage internal resources more efficiently to deliver on these promises

- **Housing for All:** His signature **housing initiative**, which began during his time as Minister of Housing, is a cornerstone of his platform. Premadasa has pledged to expand affordable housing for the poor and middle class. While feasible on a limited scale, the expansion of such programs requires significant government funding and private sector collaboration. Ensuring transparency and overcoming bureaucratic inefficiencies are crucial to the success of such initiatives
- **Anti-Corruption Measures:** Premadasa has emphasized the importance of combating corruption as part of his governance strategy. While feasible from a policy perspective, implementing effective anti-corruption measures requires overhauling judicial and governance frameworks, which can be slow-moving due to political resistance

Potential Obstacles

- **Economic Instability:** Sri Lanka's ongoing economic crisis poses a significant challenge to the feasibility of Premadasa's promises. Issues such as high inflation, foreign debt, and currency depreciation could limit the government's ability to invest in public welfare and infrastructure programs
- **Political Opposition:** As leader of the opposition, Premadasa faces strong competition from the ruling party and other political factions. His ability to implement policies could be hindered by parliamentary gridlock or pushback from entrenched political interests
- **Public Trust:** While Premadasa is seen as a reformist and compassionate leader, his affiliation with the **United National Party (UNP)** prior to forming the **SJB** has led to skepticism among some voters who associate the UNP with past failures. He needs to continue distancing himself from past regimes and emphasize his independent leadership to gain broader public trust

Opportunities

- **Grassroots Appeal:** Premadasa's strong connection to rural communities and grassroots organizations presents a significant opportunity. His focus on housing and poverty alleviation has built a loyal base among working-class citizens, which could help him win over critical swing voters
- **National Reconciliation:** His policies on **minority rights and ethnic reconciliation** offer an opportunity to attract the support of Tamil and Muslim voters, both of whom are key to winning a national election. Premadasa's inclusive approach may help him build a broader coalition
- **International Partnerships:** If Premadasa can successfully negotiate foreign aid and international support, particularly with organizations such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), he could navigate the economic crisis more effectively. Strengthening Sri Lanka's international relationships offers an opportunity for long-term economic stability

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Sajith Premadasa's **Personal Vision and Values** have shaped his political career and continue to define his leadership as a key figure in Sri Lankan politics. His vision is rooted in a desire to create a more inclusive, equitable, and just society, and his values emphasize transparency, social welfare, and national unity.

1. Personal Vision

A People-Centered Approach

Premadasa's core vision revolves around creating a **people-centered governance** model. He envisions a Sri Lanka where the government works primarily to uplift the standard of living for all its citizens, focusing particularly on marginalized communities, the poor, and ethnic minorities. His platform emphasizes inclusivity, poverty alleviation, and accessible social services, such as education, healthcare, and affordable housing.

- **Empowering the Poor:** A key component of Premadasa's vision is to **eradicate poverty**. He often speaks about his ambition to empower the poor through programs aimed at economic development, employment opportunities, and social protection systems. Premadasa's famous housing initiative during his time as **Minister of Housing and Construction** reflects his broader ambition to provide sustainable livelihoods for all Sri Lankans
- **Reconciliation and National Unity:** Premadasa strongly believes in **ethnic reconciliation** and fostering unity among Sri Lanka's diverse communities. His vision is to create a Sri Lanka where all ethnic groups—whether Sinhalese, Tamil, or Muslim—feel a sense of belonging and equality. This has translated into his policies on minority rights and reconciliation after decades of civil conflict
- **Economic Reform and Development:** Premadasa's economic vision involves **rebuilding Sri Lanka's economy** by encouraging investment, job creation, and increasing exports while simultaneously reducing the country's foreign debt. He emphasizes long-term growth and self-sufficiency, balancing economic reforms with social welfare programs to ensure that no community is left behind

2. Values

Transparency and Accountability

Premadasa has consistently emphasized the importance of **transparency and accountability** in governance. He has frequently criticized corruption within the political system, pledging to implement anti-corruption measures and promote good governance. His values focus on honesty and integrity, not only in his personal conduct but also in the institutions that govern the country.

- **Ethical Leadership:** Premadasa is known for his commitment to ethical leadership, which he believes is fundamental to addressing Sri Lanka's socio-economic challenges. He promotes open government practices and advocates for greater scrutiny of government officials and public funds

Social Justice and Equality

Premadasa's policies reflect a deep commitment to **social justice and equality**. His vision for Sri Lanka is one where all citizens, regardless of their economic status or ethnic background, have

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access to essential services such as education, healthcare, and housing. He advocates for **progressive social policies** that redistribute wealth and resources more equitably.

- **Welfare and Housing:** One of Premadasa's hallmark initiatives has been his housing programs, which aim to provide affordable homes to Sri Lanka's underprivileged communities. His belief that everyone deserves a dignified life through adequate shelter and support reflects his broader values of **equality and social welfare**

National Unity and Inclusivity

Premadasa's values are strongly aligned with the principles of **national unity** and **inclusivity**. He often speaks of his desire to heal the ethnic and religious divides in the country, fostering a sense of belonging for all communities. This is reflected in his policies that support minority rights and reconciliation efforts.

- **Inclusiveness in Governance:** Premadasa emphasizes the need for an inclusive governance model where people from all walks of life are represented. He seeks to create a government that listens to and acts upon the needs of all its citizens, ensuring that minorities, women, and marginalized groups have a voice

Consistency in Principles

Throughout his political career, Sajith Premadasa has been consistent in upholding his principles of social welfare, transparency, and anti-corruption. Despite political pressures and changing environments, he has remained firm on his commitment to poverty eradication and national unity. His consistency is particularly evident in his continued advocacy for affordable housing and economic reforms

Sajith Premadasa's **personal vision** is to lead Sri Lanka toward an inclusive, just, and transparent society, focusing on poverty alleviation, economic development, and national unity. His **values**—centered on transparency, social justice, equality, and inclusivity—underscore his commitment to serving the people, especially the marginalized, and creating a society where all citizens have an equal opportunity to thrive.