

The Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone launched the Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL) Public Archives and the Refurbished Peace Museum in Freetown on 10 December 2019.

The Special Court for Sierra Leone was established by an Agreement between the Government of Sierra Leone and the United Nations in 2002.



The SCSL Public Archives are located in the Peace Museum. The Peace Museum is a legacy project implemented by the SCSL from 2010 to 2013. It was handed over to the Government of Sierra Leone in 2013 upon closure of the Special Court.

The Museum deteriorated since its handover. It has now been refurbished



from its dilapidated state by the Residual Special Court in order to create the minimum conditions required for the holding of the SCSL Public Archives. The refurbishment was initiated in October 2018.



The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) records and the collection of war artefacts



which are housed in the Museum also benefit from the improved internal environmental conditions in the Museum. The SCSL Public Archives and the TRC records are of enduring value to victims, civil society activists, academics, lawyers, journalists and future generations in Sierra Leone. They provide an unbiased account of the war, and supports scholarly institutional and personal research.



Additionally, the Museum also contains other significant historical documents and war-related materials, such as photos of crime scenes, weapons, documentaries, and uniforms among others. Together, the Peace Museum and the SCSL Public Archives serve as a memorial, research and historical site for both Sierra Leoneans and others.

The goal of having the Peace Museum, TRC records and SCSL Public Archives is to help explain the decade-long war and make the value of the Public Archives more meaningful to the people in Sierra Leone. For this reason, the Public Archives in Sierra Leone showcases relevant information and evidence from the archives of the Special Court. By doing this, the Peace Museum and SCSL Public Archives bequeath an invaluable justice and accountability legacy to posterity as they memorialize hands that vanished

and lips that were sealed during the Sierra Leone decade-long war.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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DONATE

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Launch of the Special Court Public Archives and the Refurbished Peace Museum. 10 December, 2019

