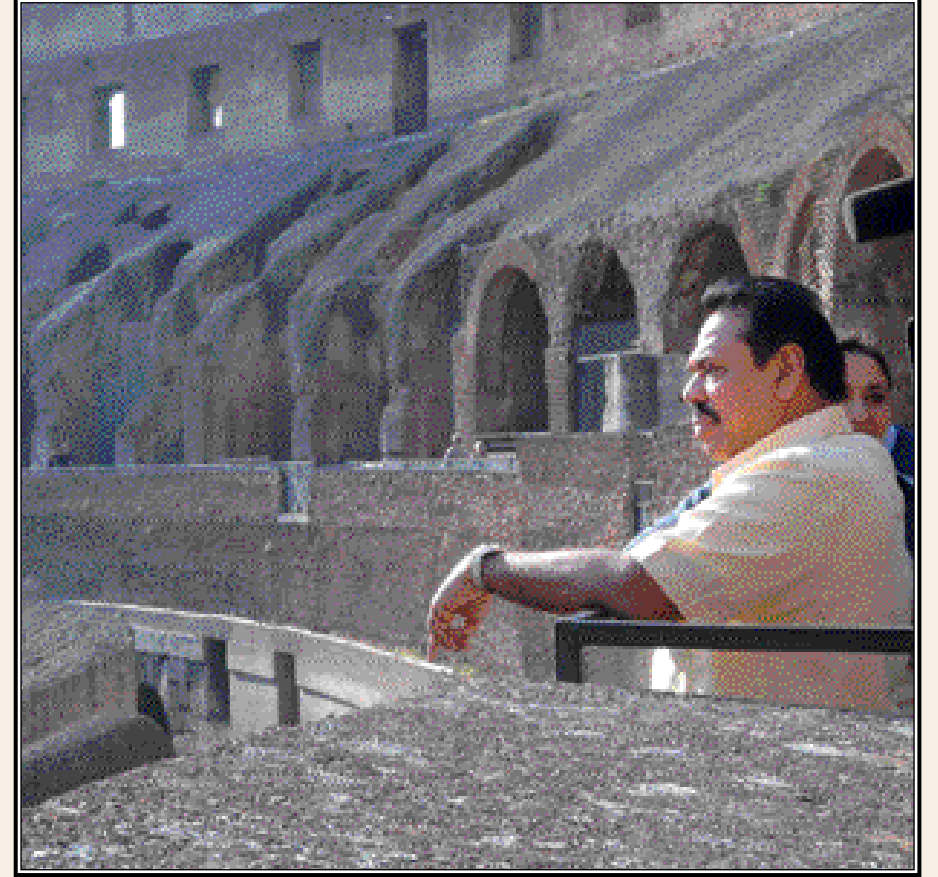




President Mahinda Rajapaksa presenting a gift to the Pontiff



The President visits Rome forum

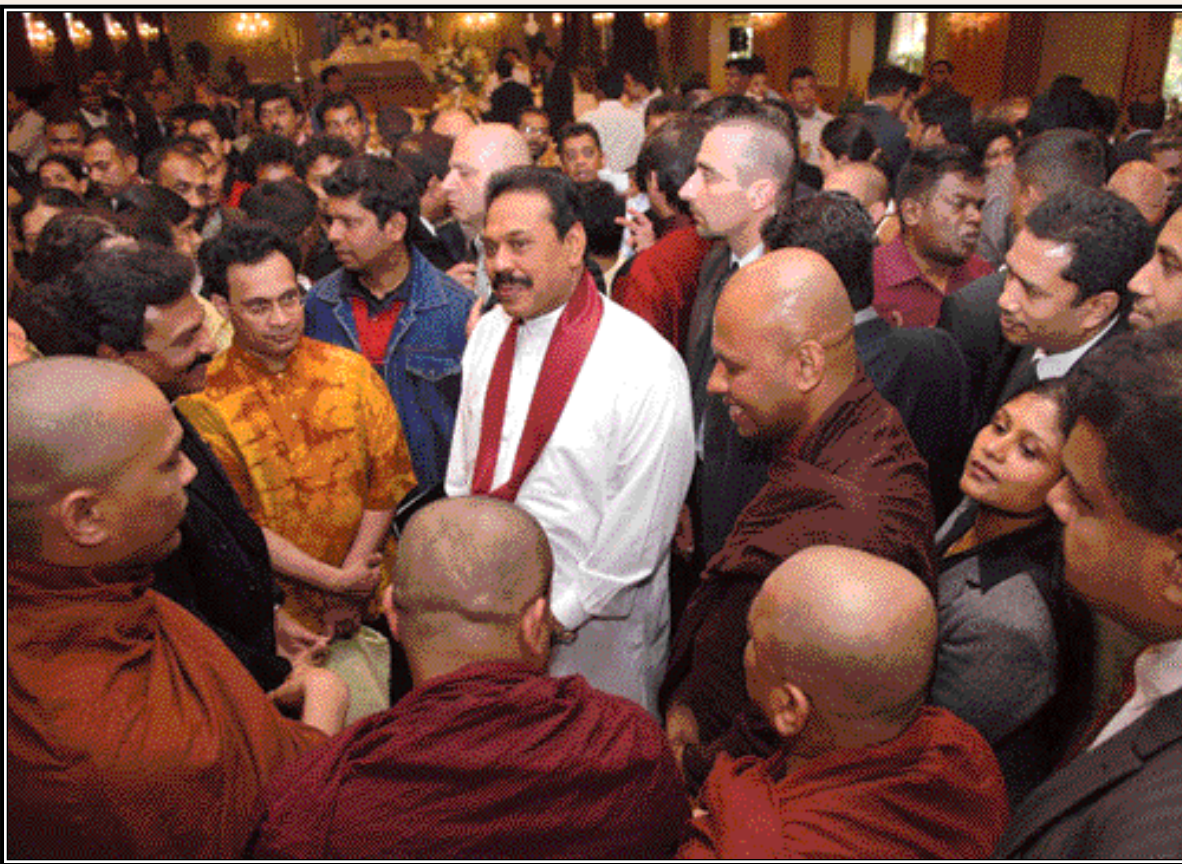
Historic meet in Holy See

President Mahinda Rajapaksa undertook a historic visit to the Holy See and to Rome to have an audience with Pope Benedict XVI to receive blessings from His Holiness. The Sri Lankan delegation also met Italian leaders and arrived at several significant agreements benefiting Sri Lanka. Here are some highlights of the visit.

Pictures by Sudath Silva



The President and the Sri Lankan delegation with the Pope



The President at the reception hosted by Sri Lankans in Rome



The President and the First Lady meeting Cardinal Francis at the Vatican. Arch Bishop Dr. Malcolm Ranjith is also here



Swiss guard of honour to the President at Vatican



The President visits Basilica Church in the Vatican. Arch Bishop Dr. Malcolm Ranjith is also present