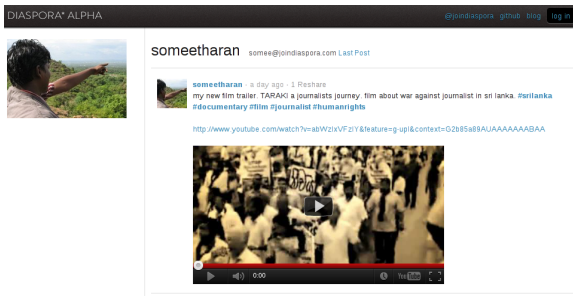


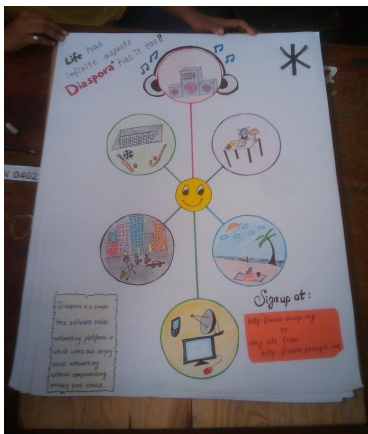
Thrissur, Kerala, India: Award-winning Sri Lankan documentary film maker Someetharan opens an account on diaspora social network[1]. His films like Burning Memories and Mullaitivu Saga brought situations of Tamils in Sri Lanka to international limelight. He came to Thrissur with his new film Taraki, which was the closing film of Vibgyor International Film Festival[2].



Diaspora is a Social network similar to facebook and twitter but unlike them it is Free and Decentralized. Decentralization brings choice of service providers and even an option to be your own provider. It is similar to how someone with a mobile phone connection with BSNL can talk to Airtel or user of any other mobile service provider. It ensures ownership and control over the information we share with others. It means no one can

remove or alter information we share without our permission. In addition, the protocol used in this ensures better privacy.

Four students from New York University started this Free replacement for centralized social networks like facebook and twitter. Ilya Shitomirskiy, Daniel Grippi, Maxwell Salzberg, Raphael Sofaer got inspired to start this project by well-known Free Software advocate Eben Moglen's speech about dangers of centralized services like this.



diaspune[3] is a group of activists working to promote Diaspora and is based out of Pune. Some diaspune activists who came from Pune to spread Diaspora, introduced Someetharan to Diaspora. "Artists with a social commitment needs Free tools like Diaspora for their creative freedom", Someetharan said.

Anyone can start using Diaspora by choosing a service provider from the website <http://podupti.me>. Even though it is decentralized, once you start an account, it is very easy to use similar to facebook or twitter and we can easily share information, pictures and videos with our friends. Hashtags, which was made popular by twitter helps us to find information related to our topics of interests very easily. Diaspora has also got hashtags.

You can contact Diaspune activists Labeeb Mattra (+91 9923709772 or mmlabeeb@diasp.org) or Praveen Arimbrathodiyil (+91 9561745712 or j4v4m4n@joindiaspora.com). Someetharan's diaspora account is <https://joindiaspora.com/u/somee>.

[1] <http://diasporaproject.org/>

[2] <http://vibgyorfilm.org/>

[3] <http://diaspune.net/>