

STOP THE FORCED SEPARATION OF BLACK
FAMILIES

BRING ANWAR'S CHILDREN
HOME



ANWAR DITTA DEFENCE COMMITTEE

250

ANWARS EVIDENCE

Anwar has the birth certificates for each of her three children and for Jamila's six children. The names, dates, places of birth and parents' names are of course quite different:

Children of Jamila and Ghulam Mohammed

Usma Nahid d.o.b. 9-10-66 in Shahdra

Aftab Alam (nickname Ali) d.o.b. 2-7-68 in Shahdra

Muzaffar Rahman (Nickname Mazar) d.o.b. 7-7-70 in Karamabad

Imran (Nickname Mano) d.o.b. 19-10-71 in Shahdra

Imrana Nahid d.o.b. 30-10-77 in Shahdra

Ali Numan d.o.b. 27-10-79 in Imami Colony

Children of Anwar Sultana Ditta & Shuja Ud Din

Kamran Shuja d.o.b. 7-11-70 in Jhelum

Imran Shuja d.o.b. 21-6-72 in Jhelum

Saima Shuja d.o.b. 16-7-73 in Lahore

Samera Shuja d.o.b. 6-4-76 in Rochdale, Lancashire

Further more, as shown in the previous page, she also has a recent photograph of all nine children together. Medical evidence from Rochdale infirmary following the birth of her fourth child confirms that she has had four children. The inland revenue, after making their own enquires, have accepted that Shuja is entitled to tax allowances with respect to the children-which has now been denied under possible pressure from the home office. These enquiries involve thorough checking of children's birth certificates in the country of issue. Reference to the children is made in Shuja and Anwar's mortgage application and in correspondence with the DHSS. Anwar has countless letters, photographs and even tape recordings of messages from her children.



Inland Revenue

HM Inspector of Taxes Rochdale 1
Newgate House Rochdale OL16 1XB
Telephone Rochdale 47311 ext

District Inspector N-G Gamber R Gordon

Manchester Law Centre
595 Stockport Road
LONGSIGHT
Manchester
M12

Your reference

My reference G02/2463/JR

Date: January 1980

Dear Madam

MR SHUJA ud DIN

Further to your letter of 3.1.80.

Following investigations, we have accepted Mr Din's claim to child allowance in respect of Kamran Shuja, Imran Shuja and Saima Shuja.

Yours faithfully

Mrs J A Turner

Rochdale Area Health Authority

Chairman: A B Coppin

THE INFIRMARY, WHITEHALL STREET,
ROCHDALE OL12 0NR

Telephone: Rochdale (0706) 40952

Your Ref

Our Ref

Please ask for

GFMH/PO.
102535.

9th January, 1980

Dear Mr. Cohen,

Anwar Ditta, 18 Tweedale Street, Rochdale.

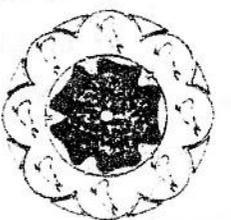
Thank you for your enquiry about the above named patient. I apologise for the delay in replying, but I felt that before doing so I should have the advice of the Medical Legal Department at the North Western Regional Health Authority. This I have now obtained.

I enclose a copy of my letter to her General Practitioner in February 1977. In this I have stated that she is para 4, which means that she has had four pregnancies.

Yours sincerely,

G.F.W. HOTSACK. F.R.C.O.G.
Consultant Gynaecologist.

Mr. S. Cohen,
The Manchester Law Centre,
595 Stockport Road,
Longsight,
Manchester M 12.



The Adjudicators Ground for refusal

(Extracts from determination delivered at hearing 30-7-80)

Appellants..... Kamran Shuja
Imran Shuja
Saima Shuja

Determination and reasons

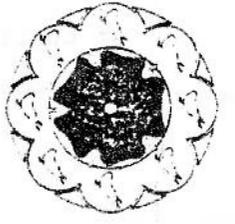
"This is the appeal of Kamran Shuja, Imran Shuja and Saima Shuja, stated to be aged 9,7, and 6 respectively, of Pakistan against the refusal to grant them entry clearance to join for settlement the joint sponsors Shuja Ud Din and Anwar Sultana Ditta of Rochdale as their stated par- parents...In their evidence the sponsors did not dispute...At the time of marriage she was 14½ and because this was below the legal age of marriage ,her age was falsely given as 22 (actually 20, shows what atten- tion the adjudicator paid to evidence submitted-ADDC) ...three children was born to them in Pakistan .The husband dissatisfied with the amount he could earn in Pakistan, left to seek work in Denmark but was unable ...Germany and France.He travelled to the United Kingdom as a transit passenger, overstayed and eventually was given leave to remain per- manently .His wife wished to return to the United Kingdom which she considered to be her home having been born here...On arrival in the United Kingdom she and her husband were told that the Pakistan marri- age was not recognised in the United Kingdom so they married again in the local register office ... They said that they told the registrar that they were a bachelor and spinster and made no mention of the Pakistan marriage because they had been told it would not be recognised in the United Kingdom...The sponsor's sister ,in her evidence ,told basically of the same sequence of events.The impression given by her was adversely affected by her scarcely concealed hostility to not only the pr oceedings in general, but also to the sponsor's representa- tive...The object and purpose of orral hearing is to enable the ad- judicator to have the benefit of hearing evidence given personally and from his impression of the witnesses and their demeanour to judge credibility...I have in particular ,to consider the credibility of the sponsor, her husband and her sister...I could not accept that Anwar Ditta...simple village woman ...Although they left the United Kingdom in mid-childhood after being born here and may in consequence, be lacking in education ,they had an excellent command of English and were far more westernised and sophisticated in their demeanour than the average member of the immigrant community...



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 ROCHDALE OL1 2 0NR
 Telephone: Rochdale (0706) 40952



Manchester Law Centre
 595 Stockport Road
 LONGSIGHT
 Manchester
 M12

Your reference
 My reference 602/2483/JJR
 Date: January 1980

Your Ref Our Ref Please ask for

 GFMH/PO. 9th January, 1980
 102535.

Dear Mr. Cohen,

Anwar Ditta, 18 Tweedale Street, Rochdale.

Thank you for your enquiry about the above named patient. I apologise for the delay in replying, but I felt that before doing so I should have the advice of the Medical Legal Department at the North Western Regional Health Authority. This I have now obtained.

I enclose a copy of my letter to her general practitioner in February 1977. In this I have stated that she is para 4, which means that she has had four pregnancies.

Yours sincerely,
 G.F.W. HORSACK. F.R.C.O.G.
 Consultant Gynaecologist.

Mr. S. Cohen,
 The Manchester Law Centre,
 595 Stockport Road,
 Longsight,
 Manchester M 12.

Further to your letter of 3.1.80.
 Following investigations, we have accepted Mr Din's claim to child allowance in respect of Kamran Shuja, Imran Shuja and Salma Shuja.

Yours faithfully
 Mrs J A Turner

It has long been accepted and rightly so that if a person has lied once it does not mean that they will never tell the truth, and persons should not be penalised for a previous lie by being prevented from having their family reunited...The PARENTS of the appellants have on their own admission on several occasions lied to, or deceived, persons in official positions both in the United Kingdom and Pakistan. How can they therefore expect me to give any weight to their credibility?...In consequence of their own admitted lies and deceptions...I am unable to accept the credibility of the principal witnesses. A large quantity of documentary evidence was produced...There were the usual local birth and marriage certificates. I saw no family letters. Some of the remittance receipts were dated prior to the application and these...which pointed unequivocally to the relationship but were too few in number...In these circumstances I cannot find that the appellants have on the balance of probabilities discharged the burden of proof upon them and dismiss the appeal."

A Reply to Some Peripheral Matters Raised by The Adjudicator

The home office originally refused the children's application on the grounds that the secretary of state 'was not satisfied that Kamran, Imran, and Saima were related to Anwar Sultana Ditta and Shuja Ud Din as claimed.' The adjudicator in his determination refers to Anwar and Shuja as the parents of the appellants and cynically adds 'It has long been accepted that if a person has lied once it does not mean that they will never tell the truth and persons should not be penalised for a previous lie by having their family reunited.' The so-called lies and deceptions the adjudicator refers to are:

1. Anwar was 14½ when she married Shuja in Pakistan and her age was recorded as 22 (actually 20).
2. Anwar and Shuja married in Rochdale at the registry where they agreed they were a bachelor and a spinster when they were already married to each other, because they were told by a friend that their Muslim marriage in Pakistan would not be accepted here.
3. Shuja was an over-stayer (his stay was regularised long before the appeal and he always had the legal right to be in Britain).

The only issue relevant to the case is whether the three children (the appellants) are Anwar's and that should not be determined by the adjudicator's subjective view about the credibility of the principal witnesses, or his opinion about the sophistication of the average member of the immigrant community. If the object and purpose of a hearing is to judge credibility as the adjudicator mentions, of the principal witnesses then it is indeed

a sorry condemnation of the whole farce. It is an indelible stigma of dishonour to society as a whole if a persons life can be wrecked by an individuals subjective view on another persons credibility. Even if the object of an hearing is limited to the adjudicators view of the credibility of the witnesses, then he has failed miserably in discharging that obligation objectively.

1. The adjudicator failed to give proper consideration to Anwar's marriage to Shuja Ud Din in Pakistan and the consequent co-habitation, and concentrated on the fact that Anwar's age was given incorrectly. A girl in Pakistan can validly marry below the age of 16, if she has attained puberty, though the person officiating and the groom if he was over 18 would be liable for punishment under the child marriage restraint act. This particular act is not in strict accordance with the Islamic Shariya, the clergy never accepted it fully and people do not feel any moral obligation to abide by the child marriage restraint act because a girl marrying below the age of 16 does not break any known ethical code. This particular act does not even restrict the evil of forced child marriage because even under this act the guardian of a minor can give a girl or a boy in marriage—the only safeguard it provides is that such a marriage can be repudiated if the girl so desires after attaining maturity. Anwar did not have an arranged marriage and she was 14½ years of age when she got married. Why is it so difficult to understand the reasons for giving her age, not by Anwar herself, as 20 when she was only 14½? If the adjudicator would concentrate on the fact that Anwar was married to Shuja in Pakistan he would have found it easier to accept the three children as Anwar's.

2. The adjudicator completely failed to recognise the fact that due to the frequent changes in the law it is perfectly understandable that Anwar believed that her muslim marriage in Pakistan would not be accepted here and decided to go through the formality of a marriage in a registry office. What relation does Anwar's command of English or sophistication have with the complications of law?

3. It is of no relevance to the case that Shuja was originally given a transit visa and he over-stayed. His stay had been regularised and the hearing was not about Shuja's immigration status. The fact that he is freely admitting that he overstayed should be considered in his favour and not held against him.
4. The adjudicator dismissed the large quantity of documentary evidence as 'there were the usual local birth and marriage certificates.'
5. Remittance receipts were dismissed as too few.
6. No weight was given to medical evidence submitted.
7. The evidence of Anwar's sister, an eye witness, was not given proper consideration because she was, according to the adjudicator, hostile to the whole proceedings.



**Anwar Ditta
'Bring my children
home!'**

'YOU have the power to bring my children home. Come out and demonstrate.' That's the message of Anwar Ditta, who for the past four and a half years has been struggling to be reunited with her three young children.

What is preventing her is the barbed wire round Britain's coast in the form of the immigration Act. Your opportunity to demonstrate your opposition to these racist laws is on Saturday, 15 November in Rochdale.

Assemble at Church Stile, off Drake St, at noon. Speakers from the Pakistani, Indian, Kashmiri, and Bangladeshi workers' associations.

*Rochdale Observer
Saturday
19 January 1980*

**Mother's
plight**

MRS Anwar Ditta, the Rochdale mother campaigning for the right to have her three children come to England from Pakistan, spoke about her plight to members of Rochdale Trades Council on Wednesday.

The Trades Council has pledged support to Mrs Ditta in her fight for an early hearing of her appeal against the Home Office decision not to allow the children to come to Rochdale.

Mrs Ditta also received support from the Rochdale Constituency Labour Party on Thursday.

At the general management committee at the Smith Street headquarters, she reiterated her willingness to take a blood test and even a lie detector test to prove she is the mother of the three children.

She said: "I was born in Birmingham, brought up in Rochdale, and went to Pakistan with my father. I married when I was 15 and came to England in 1975 without my children, to earn money and prepare a home for them in Rochdale."

**Racist British State Denies
the Most Basic Rights of
National Minority People**

The British state has refused, losing the last host of racist laws which deprive the national minorities of even the most basic democratic rights — for example, the right of a family to be united. At this time, there are many cases of families being unable to join their husbands, wives, mothers, etc., settled in Britain. They are kept on "waiting lists" which can last for four years before an interview is granted by the Home Office, and many dependants of workers settled here are refused entry on spurious grounds, minor "discrepancies" in the interviews, etc.

An example of a family which the Home Office has not allowed to be united is that of Mrs. Anwar Ditta. Anwar was born in Birmingham in 1951, and sent to Pakistan by her father in 1962. She subsequently married her husband Shuja Ud Din in Pakistan in 1968. Shuja came to Britain in 1974, and Anwar herself returned in 1975, leaving behind three children who were born in Pakistan — Kamran, Imran and Sajma.

After having settled and bought a house in Rochdale, Anwar and Shuja applied for their three children's entry in September, 1976. The application was refused on May 18, 1979, and the appeal was also refused in July this year. Then, on September 16, 1980, leave to appeal against the adjudicator's decision was

refused, losing the last channel in the legal battle of the family for the three children to be reunited with their parents.

The documents and other evidence submitted by Anwar and Shuja were fully valid and were not challenged by the Home Office. The entire case of the Home Office rested on what it calls "lies and deceit" on the part of the parents towards the authorities. The alleged "lies and deceit", used as grounds for refusal, were that: 1) Anwar was married to Shuja at the age of 14½ and the Maulvi (priest) put her age down as 22 at the time of marriage; and 2) Anwar and Shuja re-married in a local registry in Britain where they agreed they were a bachelor and spinster, thinking that their original marriage in Pakistan would not be recognised.

The Home Office considers the above "lies and deceit" to be "reasonable grounds" for refusing entry to three young children now living in Pakistan who wish to join their parents in Rochdale.

Anwar and Shuja have refused to be intimidated by the Home Office and are continuing the struggle for their family to be reunited. A demonstration is being organised in Rochdale on Saturday, November 15, assembling at Church Stile, off Drake Street, at 12 noon.

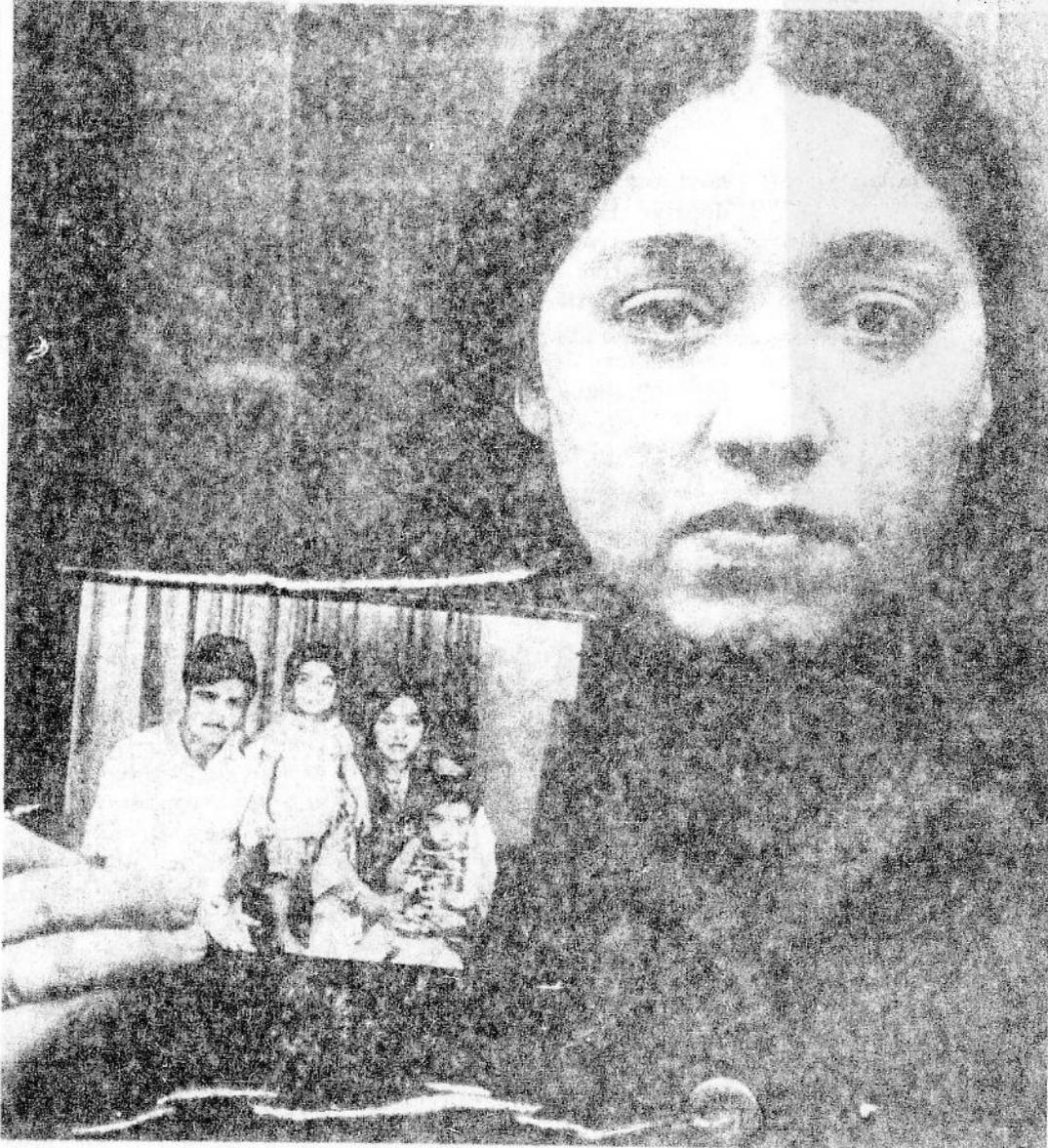
End Item

Mrs Ditta, of 127 Crawford Street, Rochdale, has documents, receipts, photographs and letters which, she says, prove the children, aged nine, seven and six, are hers. She regularly telephones them and sends money and clothes.

All attempts to bring them into England have failed. A letter sent to the Prime Minister received the reply that it was "receiving attention", she told members.

She invited members to attend a mass picket on 2 February outside Rochdale Conservative Party headquarters in Drake Street in support of her cause.

A collection of £28 was presented to her at the end of the meeting.



Give me back my family

BIRMINGHAM-born Ms. Anwar Ditta picketed the Home Office yesterday over a decision to separate her from her children by refusing them leave to enter Britain.

Ms. Ditta, brought up in Rochdale, has three children, Karen (9), Imran (7) and Saima (6), born in Pakistan where she lived for several years.

She and her husband left the children with their grandparents when the two returned to Britain to look for jobs, and now immigration officials have banned them from bringing the children over to join them.

According to the Home Office "the couple has not established they were the parents of the three children."

But Ms. Ditta has birth certificates, and medical records, to show conclusively they are hers.

Let Anwar's children in!

CAIL NEWS
SPRING 80



BRING ANWAR BITTA'S CHILDREN HOME



FIGHT THE RACIST IMMIGRATION LAWS

LET MY
BROTHERS IN

MILITANT
SPARE RIB
CLASS STRUGGLE
LONGSIGHT NEWS
KALA TARA

and various other Newspapers gave extensive coverage which had to be omitted for lack of space.

ANWAR DITTA

Born in Birmingham 28th November 1953.
Brought up in Rochdale.
Parents seperated in 1962 and custody given to father who sent Anwar and her sister to Pakistan to be looked after by grandparents.
Married Shuja Ud Din in Pakistan 1968.

CASE HISTORY

Shuja Ud Din came to England in 1974
Anwar Ditta came to England in 1975
Applied for children on 9th Sept 1976 when they could afford a house.
Family interviewed on 21st Feb. 1978
Refused entry 18th May 1979
Appealed against decision 8th June 1979.

Appeal heard on 28th April and 16th May 1980 in Manchester.

Appeal refused on July 30th 1980.

16th September 1980 leave to appeal against adjudicators decision refused.
30th September 1980 Home Office declare case of Anwar Ditta completely closed!

EVIDENCE SUBMITTED BY ANWAR TO APPEAL

Birth certificates of the three children and marriage certificates
Family photographs showing Anwar, Shuja and their children
Statements from witnesses to the births in Pakistan
Tax forms showing allowances for four children
Mortgage application mentioning four children
Remittance receipts for money sent to Pakistan, some dated prior to the application.

ANWAR'S CHILDREN

Kamran: born 7th November 1970 Pakistan
Imran: born 21st June 1972 Pakistan
Saima: born 16th July 1973 Pakistan
Samera: born 6th April 1976 Britain

THE CAMPAIGN

Public meeting in Rochdale sets up defence committee in November 1979.
Anwar speaks at London Campaign Against Racist Laws rally of 20,000 November 1979.
3,000 signature petition handed to Timothy Raison, minister responsible for immigration at Manchester Town Hall.
Demonstration in Rochdale over 300 people on 1st March 1980.
Demonstration in Manchester over 500 people on 26th April 1980.
Silent pickets outside appeal hearing and appeal room packed with supporters on both occasions.
Emergency meeting in Rochdale with large attendance from local Asian community 10th August 1980.
Demonstration in Rochdale over 300 people 6th September 1980.
23rd September 1980 Picket of Home Office in London.

Appeal for Funds

We need an estimated £10,000 to

Cover extensive legal expenses

Send a solicitor to Pakistan and a respected individual to collect irrefutable medical evidence to prove that the children are Anwar's.

Keep up the campaign.

You can contribute to the Anwar Ditta Defence Committee

or

Anwar Ditta Legal fund

All correspondence to Anwar Ditta Defence Committee

c/o 127 Crawford St.

Rochdale telephone 39832

What you can do

Set up a support committee in your area and get it affiliated with the defence committee.

Organise a meeting for Anwar to Speak

Set up a financial target you intend to raise every month

Pass a resolution of support through your trade union/student union

Maintain regular contact with the defence committee

Write to the Home office, your MP and the press protesting against the forced separation of Anwar's family.

ADJUDICATOR'S GROUND FOR REFUSAL (Extracts)

" Although in my view the Entry Clearance Officer was justified on the basis of the evidence before him in refusing the application, the oral testimony could be sufficient to tip the balance in the appellants (Anwar's three children) favour. The object and purpose...is to enable the adjudicator...from his impression of the witnesses...to judge their credibility. .. I could not accept that Anwar Ditta and Hamida Rafique were simple Asian village women....Although they left the UK in mid-childhood...be lacking in education, they had an excellent command of English and were far more westernised and sophisticated in their demeanor than the average member of the immigrant community...I cannot exclude from any consideration the credibility of members of the family... It has long been accepted that if a person has lied once it does not mean that they will never tell the truth and persons should not be penalised for a previous lie by being prevented from having their family reunited...The PARENTS of the appellants (Anwar and Shuja) have on their own admission on several occasions lied to, or deceived, persons in official positions both in the UK and Pakistan....In these circumstances I cannot find that the appellants have on the balance of probabilities discharged the burden of proof on them and dismiss the appeal."

COMMENTS

The so called lies and deceptions the adjudicator refers to are:

- (i) Anwar was married in Pakistan to Shuja Ud Din at the age of 14½ and the Maulvi (head villager) put her age as 22 because 14½ is below the legal age of marriage in Pakistan. (A girl in Pakistan can validly marry below the age of 16, if she has attained puberty, though the person officiating and the groom would be liable for punishment under the child marriage restraint act. This act contains many anomalies, has never been fully accepted by the clergy and has caused has caused tremendous confusion even among the Pakistan legal profession.)
- (ii) Anwar and Shuja Ud Din re-married in the local register office in Rochdale where they agreed they were bachelor and spinster, while they had already married in Pakistan. Anwar and Shuja did not understand the full implications of the words Bachelor and spinster and at any rate thought their Muslim marriage in Pakistan would not be recognised in the UK - that is why they decided to marry in a register office in the first place.
- (iii) The adjudicator actually says that Anwar is the mother of the three children even though this is the reason the Home Office have given for keeping them out.
- (iv) The 'burden of proof' is on Anwar and Shuja not the Home Office.

INTRODUCTION

For 4½ years , Anwar Ditta , a Birmingham born woman , has been fighting against the racist immigration laws to be reunited with her three children - Saima , Imran , and Kamran. For 4½ years Anwar and her husband Shuja , have been denied the basic democratic right to lead a normal family life with their children.

Anwar first applied unsuccessfully for permission to bring her children here from Pakistan under a Labour government. Her appeal was heard on 28th and 16th April and rejected on July 30th 1980 under the Tory government. On 16th September 1980, her leave to appeal was refused and on 30th September the Home office declared the case of Anwar Ditta closed. Cyril Smith, Anwar's MP, refused to make any further representation on her behalf. It is worth mentioning that the Liberals have a policy to oppose all immigration controls in reality their leading member of parliament has refused to uphold even the most basic human right. The only way Anwar will ever be reunited with her family is if we can build a genuinely anti-racist movement. YOU have the power to bring Anwar's children home. Since the campaign started, Anwar has got the support of a number of organisations and individuals, including MPs and trade union branches. We must keep the pressure on. Support Anwar and help build the broadest possible united front to uphold the most fundamental and basic human right black people are denied today - the right to bring dependants without racist harassment and annoying delays.

The Case of Anwar Ditta in Her Own Words

I was born in 28-11-53 in Birmingham. I was brought up in Rochdale. My parents were separated in 1962 and custody was given to my father. He sent my sister and me to Pakistan.

I was married in 1968. I had my first child on 7-11-70, the second was born 21-6-72. The girl was born on 16-7-73. I came to England in 1975 and Samera, my fourth child, was born on 6-4-76. I applied for my children to come here in 1976, and as evidence gave them birth certificates, photographs of the children - some with me in them - and the children's medical cards. And after all these the home-office still refused to believe me. Why?

I am willing to give a medical test. I am willing to give a skin test. I am willing to go onto a lie detector to prove that they are my children. I'm not telling them any lies, why should I tell them lies? Why should I claim other peoples children? I hate to use the word claim, but this is the word Home office use. I applied for my children.

People think why did I leave the children? This is not a crime. I didn't know English Law. I didn't know that I could bring my children straight away and the home office would have provided them with accommodation, money and everything. If I had known that I wouldn't have been going through all this trouble now. I thought that if I go to England and get a job and buy a house and we have got settled then I'll call the children. I didn't want my children to suffer. I didn't want my children to go to jail. Some people tell lies and bring other peoples children under other names but I am doing it the legal way because they are my children.

(The home office) can say anything. They are saying in the statement that details of the young children in the family are similar - their ages, even their names. But why should I call my sister-in-laws children? Why should I want to look after anyone else's children? Why should we suffer the way we are suffering? We've got no social life except the worrying and suffering and struggling and thinking how we are going to pay the bills. We never thought of going out. We never even have a decent day. We are never happy, sometimes we never even have smiles on our faces for days and weeks. Why? Because they are our children. There's nobody in the world who can prove they're not our children.

It is just the home office who are saying that—and without investigating. When a person commits a crime, for example murder, they only need one or two witnesses to convict him. I have got more than ten or twenty witnesses who can prove they are my children, but the home office doesn't bother to ask them. There's my sister who lives in Nelson who was present at the birth of my children—but nobody bothered to ask her. The home office can investigate in Canada, Denmark, and in London, Stoke-on-Trent, Nelson, Manchester, Bradford and Rochdale. They can investigate in Pakistan and Kuwait. They can ask about the photographs, they can ask people who know us. It is really ridiculous. They could investigate. Why don't they investigate? Because they don't care for Black people. It is really unfair. They have no feeling for human beings.

Why should we pay a bill of £383 for phone calls for other people's children. That money was out of my husband's pocket.

He works seven days a week. He has to send money home—That's £50 or £60 a month, he's got to pay a mortgage of £50 a month, and we have got to run ourselves. The adjudicator said the remittance receipts were too few. What is the price of mother's feelings to him? We send what we can afford. It's six months since we bought any clothes, when ever we go down town we have never gone together, we just do ordinary shopping and come back home—we know that we can't afford anything else. Why are our children going to a private school in Pakistan. Because they are our children, and we don't want them to get into problems with English when they come here. I know how children are treated when they come here—they get called blacks and all that. Why do they do all these things. It's the government who begin all these things by saying the blacks are taking all the jobs and the blacks are taking all the houses. The blacks work for it, they work very hard. They save money and buy things, they buy their house, they send money for their children. They want their families here. I was accusing the Labour government because the laws are very strict, but just think the conservatives don't like black people. If the Labour government was destroying people's lives and destroying my family, how can the conservatives be of any help to me?

Why am I going to these meetings, why am I getting people to help me? Because they are my children. Do you think it is easy to campaign? It's really ridiculous, making black people suffer and destroying their families. What kind of law is this? God knows what hell we are going through. But we are not dealing with human beings.

WHAT THE HOME OFFICE SAYS:

The home office has refused the children's applications on the grounds that the secretary of state "was not satisfied that Kamran, Imran and Saima were related to Anwar Sultans Ditta and Shuja Ud Din as claimed".

It is not clear what the Home office thinks really did happen, and, in any case the Home office does not have to offer a consistent story to support the refusal. The onus of proof is entirely on Anwar and her family.

Two suggestions are made indirectly in the Home office statement as to what their officials appear to have believed about the case. Anwar has a great deal of evidence to show that these suggestions are false:

I Anwar Sultana Ditta never went to Pakistan

First of all the entry clearance officer says:



"I pointed out that no clear evidence of Anwar Sultana Ditta ever having been in Pakistan had been produced"

Later on in the statement he says :

"It appeared that there might be two Anwar Sultana Dittas, i.e. one who married Shuja Ud Din in Pakistan in 1968 and the other whom Shuja Ud Din married in the United Kingdom in 1975"

No positive supporting argument is offered for this extra-ordinary suggestion !



Jamila's 6 children and
Anwar's three children
photographed together

Anwar's Evidence

Anwar has the photographs of herself in Pakistan with her children, and with relatives who have never been in this country. Witnesses include Hameeda her sister, who was present at the birth of her first child, Kamran. She has an identity card issued in Pakistan bearing her thumb print. Her medical record in this country shows that she suffered from asthma as a child and required frequent medical attention, but there was a gap of thirteen years before she reregistered with a Doctor in this country. Her father declared an affidavit that he sent Anwar to Pakistan at the age of 9 with her sister Hameeda.

Anwar Sultana Ditta did not have three children in Pakistan

" There is a similiarity in ages and even names between the children of Jamila and the three applicants"

The immigration officer here implies that the applicants are the children of Anwar's sister-in-law.