

Press Release

One of Bradford 12 is Freed!

May 26 1982

Jayesh Amin, one of the 12 young Asians - the Bradford 12 - today walked out of Leeds Crown Court a free man. Both the charges against him - of manufacture of explosive substances with intent to endanger life or property, and conspiracy to make the same for an unlawful purpose - have been dropped.

Judge Beaumont agreed that the prosecution did not have sufficient evidence against him. He directed the jury to immediately bring in a not-guilty verdict on both counts.

He also directed not-guilty verdicts on the first count (manufacture) for two other defendants - Sabir Hussain and Saeed Hussain.

This is a victory for the defence campaign which has consistently demanded that all charges against the Bradford 12 be dropped.

Jayesh Amin, during the nine months that he has been awaiting trial, has spent five weeks in custody and the rest of the time under virtual house arrest - including a total ban on all political activity.

The trial of the remaining eleven continues with the opening of the defence case and Tarlochan Gata Aura taking the stand. Today in court he took the main responsibility for making petrol devices in Bradford last July.

He denied they were made for an unlawful purpose. They were made to be used as a last resort as "a shield of fire" in self defence against skinhead attacks on the black community. He had received definite reports that coachloads of skinheads had been seen approaching Bradford.

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