

LIBERATION



bulletin of Asian Youth Movement

The blood of Parveen Khan, Aqsa, Kamran, and baby Imran
will not go in vain

Unite to stop racist attacks

In the last few months we have seen the increaseⁱⁿ racist attacks. Satnam Singh Gill an Asian student, was murdered in broad daylight in Coventry. On the early morning of July 2nd, petrol was poured through the letter box and ignited at the house of the Khan family in Belgrave, Walthamstow, London. The resulting fire killed Mrs. Parveen Khan (31), daughter Aqsa (10), son Kamran (11) and baby Imran (2). Muhammed Yunis Khan, the sole survivor was badly burnt. In Manchester, a Mosque was attacked by fascist thugs during the holy month of Ramzan. The police, as they always do, arrived after the event was over. Racist attacks in Oldham, Rochdale, Bradford... are on the increase. We reported in the past that a Pakistani brother's house in Longsight was attacked by racists and the police charged the brother instead. The case against him did not stand up in court and it was stated that the victim, and not the criminals, was charged by the police. Relying on the police to protect the life and property of Asian and other minorities is futile. This does not mean forming vigilante squads but organising the whole community to be vigilant, and prepared to fight against racist attacks. But some of our community 'leaders' have lost all faith in the people and pin their hopes on the police and other state agencies.

'Old' Leadership has lost faith in the people

After the Khan family was murdered, an action committee was formed which decided to hold a protest march. Leaders of the Community Relations Council like Dr. Abdullah Sheikh and some 'old community leaders' sabotaged the march by calling upon the Metropolitan Police Commissioner to ban the march.

Despite the ban on the marching and attempts by the police to stop the Youth from gathering, Asian and other black youth assembled on Saturday 11th July and demanded to march. They chased off NF thugs and prevented a Southall type attack on the Asian community by racist gangs.

ASIAN YOUTH MOVEMENT



If you would like to, join/know more about, the Asian Youth Movement, please return completed form To AYM, c/o Abasindi co-operative, Moss Side People's Centre, St. Mary's Street, Moss Side, Manchester 16

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Youth show the way

Hundreds of skinheads were allowed to go into Southall supposedly to attend a concert and attacked local Asians, including elderly women and children in the streets. Police knew about the skin head plans but went to the wrong concert. Thousands of Asian Youth took to the street to beat back the racist thugs.

Why Moss side had to erupt

Every town which saw a major breakdown in law and order had a reputation for tough and repressive policing and experienced excessive police harassment. The do gooders, and noisy trends are now busy arguing about the possible causes for the disturbances and have mainly identified youth unemployment as the chief cause. Undoubtedly, black youth unemployment has risen sharply, but the single most important reason for the unrest is police provocation.

The problems faced by black people cannot be solved by better policing and since the police is only an arm of the state, it is rather meaningless to expect a racist state to have a non-racist police force. But the recent spontaneous eruption, in the various cities, is a direct result of police instigations.

Before Brixton erupted, the police, some allegedly wearing NF badges, stopped and questioned 1000 youths and arrested 100 in the week before 10th April in their operation Swamp, the so-called crackdown against general crime. When a black youth who had been stabbed was arrested, put in a police car and kept there and questioned, the tolerance of others were pushed to the limit and the police car was attacked to take the injured youth to hospital.

The chief constable of Merseyside, Kenneth Gordan Oxford's, as the Liverpool 8 Defence Committee stated, 'own racism, combined with his belief that tough and repressive policing methods are the best way of keeping order, have resulted in excessive police harassment, especially of black people which stretches back many years.'

Moss Side too has a history of police harassment. Around March 1981, the Manchester Evening News reported that knives, coshes, hatchets and hand made clubs were found in Moss Side police station in the lockers. Many black youths have said that these weapons were used against them time and time again. On the 13th of March police arrested a black youth in Moss Side Library for carrying a piece of bamboo reed 1/2 inch thick and 2ft. long. 16 police vehicles and 28 policemen, some with dogs, were involved. The list would be endless. As a black youth after the events said on TV, even if you kick a dog once, twice, three times...eventually it will turn back and bite.

Rusholme

Some of our community leaders openly stated that the police knew as early as 2pm. the night Wilmslow Rd. was 'attacked'. Enough vans were moved through the road before the incident but the police did nothing when the trouble started. The youths were forced to move through Wilmslow Rd. by carefully setting up police road blocks so that a few Asian shops would be broken. The incident could have been avoided if Asian community leaders would have joined in with the progressive Black Organisations to appeal to the youth why black people must be united and the need for organised protest. But, like in Walthamstow, in Manchester too some of our old community 'leaders' have lost faith in the people. Instead, they pinned their hopes on the same police who carry out fishing raids in search of so-called illegal immigrants never turn up in time when our homes and mosques are attacked and charges us instead of racists when racist attacks are reported, and thus played directly into the hands of reaction. Even shopkeepers who our 'leaders' are supposed to represent at least were not informed, so high is their faith in the police.

It is reported that 4 National Front members were arrested during the troubles. Every major Black organisation, progressive individuals and a lot of young people have since stressed the need for unity amongst all sections of the black community. Some of our Asian established leadership has lost the will to fight. It is now upto Youth to build the militant unity of all oppressed people.

BLACK PEOPLE MUST UNITE ! HERE TO STAY HERE TO FIGHT!

THE STATE MUST COMPENSATE FOR ALL DAMAGES TO PROPERTY NOW!

DROP ALL CHARGES NOW !