

CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE CRIMINALISATION AND DEPORTATION OF BLACK YOUTH.  
c/o 101, VILLA ROAD, HANDSWORTH, B'HAM.

During the uprisings of 1981, two clubs operating color bars and infamous for their racist practices, were petrol bombed. On the 24th of May 1983, Karamjit Singh and four other youths were imprisoned for arson. Karamjit was sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment by the court.

On no occasion had the court recommended deportation or any other proceedings against the youths. The harsh sentences were thought to be sufficient. However, whilst in prison Karamjit was interviewed by an immigration officer. The immigration officer initiated his own actions and became police, judge and jury in Karamjit's case. Karamjit completed his sentence and supposedly paid his "debt" to society, but within months he received a document outlining the Home Office intention to deport him.

At no time did the courts consider that Karamjit Singh should be deported. It is clear that the Home Office is attempting to link deportation with criminalisation. Therefore, this is a threat to all black people who resort to self-defence, a right we as black people have in a country where racist murders and attacks go hand in hand with police harassment and criminalisation of black people. The experience of the Bradford 12, Newham 8 and now the Newham 7 only illustrates this too well.

Recently this year Karamjit lost his appeal before the immigration appeals tribunal, after which he lodged application for a Judicial Review. Leave to apply for Judicial review is to be heard on Wednesday, October 10th at 10:00 am in the High Court, The Strand, London.

The date was set only days after the application was lodged, whereas this normally takes up to a month.

Once again the Home Office has speeded up the process where a campaign exists. In an attempt to stop Black people mobilising support. A national picket for the 10th Oct has been called by the campaign. We are confident that Home Office tactics will not deter Black people from organising and fighting repatriation. The campaign calls upon all black people, anti-racist white people, to join us in the fight against criminalisation and deportation of Black People on Wed, 10th, October 1984.

FROM: KARAMJIT SINGH DEFENCE CAMPAIGN.