

FROM: BABA BAKHTAURA DEFENCE CAMPAIGN  
101, Villa Rd,  
Handsworth  
B'ham.

Baba Bakhtaura, a well known and much loved Punjabi folk singer is faced with the threat of deportation. He has lived and served our community since he came to this country in 1979. He has sung at marriages, temples and other religious gatherings and socials.

On 14 June 1982, he was 'tried' at Oldbury Magistrates on the charge of over-staying. The Magistrates sent him to prison for two months and recommended that he be deported. But, when he had finished his sentence he was not released. Only after a prolonged mass campaign was he released on bail. On the 3rd of September his appeal was heard at Wolverhampton Crown Court. The local community came out in its hundreds in his defence, and in the court, the judge ruled in his favour.

Baba Bakhtaura applied to the High Court for leave to move to a judicial review of the Home Office decision to deport him. Again because of strong community defence the High Court granted leave. The judge stated that evidence existed to show that the adjudicator had not considered the interests of the community in deciding Baba Bakhtaura should be deported.

The judicial review is taking place at the High Court, The Strand, London on either 24 or 25 October. Baba Bakhtaura has not been a specific date as yet, he will only be notified within a couple of days of the hearing. Clearly, this tactic of the Courts and the Home Office is designed to discourage black people and anti-racist white people from mobilising to protest against the deportation of Baba Bakhtaura.

THE CAMPAIGN HAS CALLED FOR A NATIONAL PICKET TO BE HELD ON 24 OCTOBER 1984 AT 10.00am AT THE HIGH COURT, THE STRAND, LONDON.

David Waddington the Home Office Minister responsible for immigration has publicly stated that he sees Anti-Deportation Campaigns as a hindrance to the rule of Law., and that Campaigns will not make any difference in his decision to deport Black People.

We must state clearly by giving support to Baba Bakhtaura on the 24th Oct. 1984 that we will not be stopped by his threats. Every victory gives encouragement and furthers the cause of other campaigns. In Birmingham alone campaigns exist for Karamjit Singh, Toufique Ahmed, Muhammad Idrish, however, there are many that have no such support and who lie under threat of deportation by the racist and sexist immigration laws.