

1982
STOP

Deportation To Apartheid

HOME OFFICE THREATENS TO DEPORT SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICAL EXILE.

ANWAR MAHOMED MUST STAY!

Anwar Mahomed has been held for 10 months in Strangeways Prison, Manchester, under threat of deportation to South Africa, from where he fled 8 years ago. If forced to go back he faces interrogation by the S. African Security Police, imprisonment without trial, torture and possibly even death. The Home Office have turned down his application for political asylum and are refusing even to allow him to appeal.

Arrested For A Leaflet

In 1974 Anwar was one of a group of Indian South Africans who produced a leaflet protesting against the white regime's move to destroy their homes and uproot their community to make way for a supermarket. The leaflet urged people to practice passive resistance and to boycott the puppet political institutions the white government was setting up to represent them. (In South Africa only whites have the vote.) They acted in secret for fear of the regime. But Anwar was detained by the security police; in his words:

"I was interrogated and beaten by six Boss agents - I was standing up all the time, and had strong flash lights directed to my face. If I blinked, turned my face or even shut my eyes, then I was either smacked on the face or I received a blow on my back or stomach. They never threw a punch at my face, but always at my body or a kick at the back of my knee joint."

Anwar however refused to admit to membership of any banned organisation. He was held in solitary confinement for three days. The police then took him to a cell "where a man was hanging from the ceiling, with his hands and legs tied behind his back." They threatened to do the same to Anwar.

Escape

Anwar was released after promising to provide the police with information. He then fled the country, using a forged passport. He fled to Mozambique and then to India, where his grandfather

obtained extensions of stay for him until his death.

In 1979 Anwar came to England as a visitor, with nowhere to go back to. In May 1981, overtaken by financial problems, he issued cheques even though his bank account was empty. He was arrested, charged with deception, convicted and sentenced to 8 months imprisonment. Anwar had been waiting so long for his trial that - with remission - his sentence was completed only a few weeks afterwards. But he has been rotting in Strangeways for nearly six months since then - kept in prison while the Home Office decides his fate.

Collusion With Apartheid

Any day now he may be deported. When his lawyer asked a Home Office official if he realised the likely consequences of Anwar's return to S. Africa, the reply was 'That's too bad'. Ex-BOSS agent Gordon Winter has confirmed that Anwar is on the files of the SA security police. No wonder he needed a forged passport to flee the country! But now the Home Office uses this passport to deny Anwar the right of appeal.

The British government professes to condemn apartheid. To deport Anwar would be blatant collaboration with it, like the blind eye which the Home Office have turned to the covert activities of South African agents in London - including blowing up the offices of the African National Congress and breaking into those of the Namibian liberation movement, SWAPO.

DEFEND ANWAR MAHOMED. RESIST DEPORTATION. FIGHT APARTHEID.

ACT NOW

1. Send a letter or preferably a telegram of protest to William Whitelaw, c/o Home Office, Lunar House, Wellesley Rd., Croydon.
2. Write to Gerald Kaufman MP and to your own MP at the House of Commons, London SW1.
3. Raise the matter in your trade union, local Labour Party, church, etc.
4. Send a message of support to Anwar Mahomed, M93955 HM Prison, Remand Centre, 1 Southall Street, Strangeways, Manchester M3.

CONTACT FOR INFO AND FUTURE ACTIONS: Manchester Anti Apartheid, 300 Oxford Rd., M13 9NS.

p&p MCR AA.