

STOP THE HARASSMENT OF KASHMIRIS NOW

For 37 long years the people of Kashmir have been bitterly subjugated and oppressed, their mother land divided between India and Pakistan. The struggle of the Kashmiri people for national liberation has been buried under "Indo-Pak" security interests. Kashmiri people have not been silent in their suffering and have fought valiantly for the liberation and reunification of their mother land, although the "free" press of the world has not taken heed of their struggle.

Among the true sons of Kashmir was Shaheed Maqbool Butt, one of the founders of the Kashmir National Liberation Front (KNLF). His basic belief was that the solution to the suffering of the Kashmiri people lay in their struggle for national liberation. Whilst Shaheed Maqbool Butt and other members of the KNLF were organising in the Indian occupied part of their mother land, they came under the scrutiny of the infamous Indian intelligence forces. They were followed and an armed skirmish took place between the Liberation Front and the Indian army. Both sides suffered casualties. Shaheed Maqbool Butt was later captured and charged with the murder of an Indian intelligence officer. Shaheed Maqbool Butt escaped from prison, and on arrival in Azad Kashmir he was arrested, tortured and investigated as a suspected Indian agent. After protestations from Kashmiri people he was released. He was later arrested again after the hijacking of the Indian airline Ganga, and charged as an Indian agent. On his release, he returned to Indian held Kashmir to continue the struggle and again he was captured. After the abduction and killing of the Indian diplomat in Birmingham, Shaheed Maqbool Butt was vengefully murdered in New Delhi jail.

The British police reacted to the killing of the Indian diplomat by unleashing a vicious, racist campaign against Kashmiri people. Numerous houses were raided, peoples' doors smashed in and whole families terrorised. Kashmiris were subjected to racist abuse, physical intimidation and torture. Almost every Kashmiri activist was taken into the police station and subjected to horrific abuse.

So far, five Kashmiri youth have been charged with "kidnapping", and the police raids still continue. The police are trying to criminalise the whole Kashmiri community. Kashmiri people are not criminals, they are freedom fighters.

VICTORY TO THE KASHMIRI PEOPLE
LONG LIVE SHAHEED MAQBOOL BUTT
FREE THE FIVE KASHMIRI YOUTHS NOW

PUBLIC MEETING

Date : SUNDAY 8th APRIL
Time : 1.30pm.
Venue : DIGBETH CIVIC HALL, BIRMINGHAM 5.