

## SAVE KAMAL KUMAR FROM DEPORTATION !

Kamal Kumar is asking the Court of Appeal to <sup>reverse</sup> ~~reserve~~ the deportation order made against him. The Court's decision will effect the lives of thousands of people who have come to Britain from the Indian sub-continent, Africa and the Caribbean.

Kamal Kumar married Naranjan Kaur on 14th July 1978, having been admitted for 3 months as a fiance. The marriage had been arranged years before, and the Home Office themselves accept that it was genuine. The couple began their married life at Naranjan's parents' home in Birmingham, and in August of the following year Kamal applied for indefinite leave to remain in the UK through his marriage. The immigration rules entitle people in his position to indefinite leave so long as the marriage is still intact one year after the ceremony, which Kamal and Naranjan's was.

But while the rules say one thing, the Home Office takes liberties by delaying consideration of applications like Kamal's - sometimes for as long as 3 years - until the couple separate. Then they deport the partner without indefinite leave on the grounds that the marriage no longer existed at the time when the application was considered.

The practice is a completely arbitrary extension of Home Office powers beyond what the immigration rules say. It is so widespread that the majority of people deported due to the breakdown of their marriage were still living together with their partner at the time they made their application for indefinite leave to remain.

Kamal and Naranjan even had a child by the time of the Home Office's decision to deport him. Their marriage fell apart due to blackmail from Naranjan's parents, who persuaded her to demand that Kamal buy a house or else she would write to the Home Office to tell them she no longer wanted to live with him. Kamal refused and the letters went.

All this took place after Kamal had made his application, but the Home Office, as always, chose to ignore the application at the time it was made, and take notice only when the letters came in.

Kamal is only the latest in a long line of people mistreated by the Home Office's delaying tactics in this way; tactics which overlook the fact that modern marriages frequently break up earlier than they used to, and that this can happen however genuinely and seriously the marriage was entered into.

But Kamal is the first such person to take the Home Office to the Court of Appeal for a ruling to make them stick to the immigration rules by considering applications on their merits at the time they are made. If he wins it will benefit countless others now and in the future.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

1. Arrange a meeting of your organisation and invite a speaker from the Defence Committee.
2. Write to your MP, and the Home Office. Please send us a copy of your letter.
3. Take petition forms from the Committee and ask your friends to sign in Kamal's defence.
4. Support the demonstration and pickets we are planning.
5. Send donations, so that we can tell thousands more people about Kamal's case.

For further information you can contact us via the address below :  
p&p Kamal Kumar Defence Committee, c/o,  
Cheetham Al-Hilal Community Project - 443 Cheetham Hill Rd  
Manchester M8 T. 061-740 0577 (10.00am - 6.00pm)