

# ARAF

FREE  
Number 1  
October 8

South Manchester Anti-racist Anti-fascist paper.

## HOME OFFICE IGNORES IMMIGRATION APPEAL VERDICTS!

The Home Office, twice in the past month, have shown their willingness to ignore the decisions of the "independent" immigration appeals system.

First, Nasira Begum, having successfully beaten off their attempts to deport her, heard that they want to deny her her right to British citizenship. To do this they will have to ignore the decisions of both of Nasira's immigration appeals. The Home Office claimed that Nasira's marriage was invalid and therefore had no right to stay here as the wife of a resident British citizen. Both appeals found that Nasira's marriage was valid. Now the H.O. are considering denying Nasira's right to citizenship as the wife of a British citizen - because they still claim that her marriage isn't valid. To Nasira, this is more than just a nuisance. Without British citizenship there is always the possibility of her right to stay being challenged again. (Munir Khan, who was given permanent stay, is now facing deportation-see other article).

Secondly, Mazhar Ali has come up against another of the Home Office's brick walls. In May 1979, Mazhar came over to visit his aunt and uncle to look after their four children. The immigration officer at Heathrow refused to let him in and, after a month in detention centre, he was put on a plane back to Pakistan. Mazhar appealed against that decision - and won - but the H.O. refused to accept the decision and a second immigration appeal, in December 1980, again found in Mazhar's favour. Now we hear that the High Commission in Pakistan are still refusing to Mazhar an entry clearance certificate so that he can come to this country.

STOP  
Nasreen  
Akhtar's  
DEPORTATION



DEMONSTRATE  
SATURDAY 17th Oct.  
ROCHDALE

2pm Church Stile,  
behind Town Hall.

This paper is intended to publicise, support and initiate activities which combat racism, from whatever source.

It will cover as wide a range of news and comment as possible, exchanging ideas, investigating and criticising in a way the established media does not do.

To succeed it will need more people to contribute and to help with distribution.

contact us at:-

ARAF, c/o 595 Stockport Rd Manchester 12

# NASREEN NEEDS SUPPORT NOW!

Nasreen Akhtar and her children, who have lived in Rochdale for four years, are facing expulsion from this country. Other Asian women are also threatened with deportation on the same pretext. With the powers the Home Office officials hold and use under existing immigration laws, thousands of black women face deportation if they separate from their husbands.

## NASREENS ACCOUNT

*I was married and living in Pakistan with my first husband, when he died in 1971 leaving me a widow with two children. My sister, who was living in Rochdale, arranged that I should marry again to a man living here and the wedding ceremony was performed over the phone. This is perfectly legitimate in Islamic law. I have a Pakistani marriage certificate but still when I applied to join my husband in England I was given only temporary leave to enter, until the marriage could be 'legitimised' under English law.*

*In 1974, I came with my daughters to live in Rochdale with my husband and his family. We could not repeat the marriage in an English registry office because the authorities insisted on checking the documents relating to my and my husband's previous marriages. Permission to register the marriage was given almost twelve months later. By this time our marriage had broken down. Shortly afterwards we separated when I was seven months pregnant.*

*When the Home Office found out that we were living apart and that the marriage has not been registered, they decided to deport me and my daughters.*

## RACIST IMMIGRATION LAWS

Nasreen Akhtar is threatened with deportation not for anything she has done, but because of the Home Office's eagerness to deport black people.

On 30th March, Nasreen suffered the indignity of appearing before a supposedly independent Home Office appointed adjudicator to appeal against the Home Office's decision to deport her. The adjudicator made no secret of the fact that the immigration laws are a way of keeping out and repatriating black people who are not considered useful to the British economy. He alleged that Nasreen was "resolved to live here on social security for so long as she can". He refused to take seriously the sworn testimony of an expert on Islamic law and marriage. He refused to consider where she and her children could live, or the disruption to the children's education. (Nasreen's eldest daughter is now preparing to take C.S.E. examinations.)

## BLACK PEOPLE

Nasreen is not the only black woman in this country whose residence here is threatened. Other women who leave their husbands, or who are deserted or thrown out may be told to leave the country by the Home Office. The racist and sexist practices of immigration controls force Asian women who come to join husbands to declare themselves dependent on a man or face the prospect of deportation. Immigration law puts black people into strictly defined categories. If a black person moves outside the boundary of that category she or he will be treated as a criminal by the Home Office and confirmed as such by the appeal courts.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

Nasreen has to appear before the Immigration Appeals Tribunal in London on October 19th. Unless there is strong and widespread support the Home Office will not let her stay. Nasira Begum and Jaswinder Kaur have recently won their right to stay with the support of campaigns. Campaigns can succeed. Anwar Ditta and Cynthia Gordon also won because of campaigns. Now Nasreen needs your support.

Come to the demonstration on October 17th in Rochdale - that's two days before Nasreen's appeal in London.

Send your organisation's support to the campaigns and money if possible.

Write to your MP and the Home Secretary with copies to her MP Cyril Smith (Ref: A248243)

Organise meetings in your area with women's groups, black organisations, trade unions, etc. - we can provide a speaker. Start a petition - we can provide forms.

Contact: Friends of Nasreen Akhtar, 59 Ashworth Street, Rochdale.

For more details contact Rochdale 31491 (daytime)



# Home Office breaks it's word + tries to deport Mumtaz

AND HER TWO CHILDREN

ATTIA (18 months) and NADIA (2months)

Mumtaz Kiani is one of the latest to feel the vindictiveness of the Home Office. After giving her indefinite leave to remain in the UK in May 1978 they are now trying to deport her and her two children even though they were born here.

Her case is very similar to Jaswinder Kaur and her son Manjit, who recently won their right to stay after a militant campaign had won wide support.

In both cases the Home Office found an excuse to deport the husband and then proceeded to deport the rest of the family, as a sexist aspect of the immigration laws makes many women's resident status dependent on their husband.

In this case the Home Office alleged that Mr Kiani was a seaman deserter and he was deported in February 1981, but Mrs Kiani has no intention of going as well.

She has no relatives in Pakistan, both her parents are dead and her only brother lives with her in Bradford.

She is working in Bradford and supporting her two children. She has been here since 1975, her children were born here and have a legal right to stay here.

So if the H.O. has its way it will mean either splitting up the family and depriving two very young children of their only parent or effectively deporting two British citizens.

The defence campaign has been greatly encouraged by the victories of Jaswinder, Nasira, Cynthia and Anwar.

Those women only won because they gained tremendous support. The same is needed to stop the deportation of Mumtaz, Attia & Nadia. WHAT YOU CAN DO.....

1. Write a letter of protest to her MP EDWARD LYONS at the HOUSE OF COMMONS. (Home Office reference K 265598 must be quoted on all correspondence.)
2. Write a letter of protest to TIMOTHY RAISON, minister at the HOME OFFICE, QUEEN ANNES GATE, LONDON SW1.
3. Affiliate to the campaign, Get your union etc to affiliate and send moral and financial support.
4. Organise a public meeting in your area.
5. Send a personal donation.
6. Let the defence campaign know what you have done.

MUMTAZ KIANI DEFENCE COMMITTEE  
c/o FOURTH IDEA BOOKSHOP  
14 SOUTEGATE  
BRADFORD

# STOP GRAHAM Shirley Gordon's Deportation

Shirley Gordon came to this country from Jamaica in 1974 as a visitor but was at no time served with notice to leave the country. In 1978 Shirley married, and was given indefinite leave to remain and allowed to travel to and from the UK. Shirley divorced her husband this year. In August this year, after a short trip abroad, she was detained and questioned for five days. She was very ill and as a result is in hospital recovering from major surgery.

Even now, neither Shirley nor her legal representative have been given any reasons for her threatened removal. A defence campaign for Shirley has been set up, contact c/o Newham Rights Centre 285 Romford Rd Forest Gate LONDON E7.

## H.O. ignores verdicts

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These latest decisions by the H.O. to ignore immigration appeals verdicts come hard on the heels of other events that have cast shadows over the entire appeals system. Last summer Anwar Ditta's children were refused, by an appeals adjudicator, permission to come to this country. He said that Anwar had not proved they were her children. Yet when blood samples were taken by Granada's World in Action programme they proved (to 99.99% certainty) that the children were Anwar's and the H.O. had to let them in. Then the appeal of Nasreen Akhtar against deportation was thrown out after the adjudicator was racist and insulting to Nasreen during the appeal and in his report. Cyril Smith (Nasreen's MP) has since called for the sacking of that adjudicator. Nasreen is still fighting the attempt to deport her (see left)

The Home Office, by refusing to accept the decisions in favour of Nasira and Mazhar, are making a farce of the so-called "independent appeals system". It is clear that only forceful public campaigns, such as those of Anwar Ditta, Jaswinder Kaur, Nasira Begum and Cynthia Gordon, can effectively defend the rights of black people attacked under this country's racist immigration laws.

# ASIAN YOUTH MOVEMENT

THE FIGHTING FRONT AGAINST  
RACISM, FASCISM AND NEO-COLONIALISM.

The Asian Youth Movement is a fighting front of the Asian section of Black youth, against government policy of deliberately whipping up national chauvinism, provoking violence and implementing a policy which oppresses and discriminates against national minorities.

The movement's programme at this stage is to fight for complete equality regardless of colour, sex or religion and to support the struggles of the oppressed people throughout the world against exploitation.

The AYM recognises the the struggle for complete equality and the fight against racism is part of the struggle against exploitation of all forms and believes in the widest possible United Front against state racism, based on common principles and maintaining separate organisational identity

## What we have been doing

Besides the general struggle against state racism in the form of determined opposition to the racist immigration laws, the proposed Nationality Bill, SUS laws and police brutality we have been actively supporting the struggles waged by our brothers and sisters for basic democratic and human rights. We have successfully campaigned with other progressive organisations and individuals:

1. For the right of Anwar Ditta to have her children here.
2. For the right of Nasira Begum to live in this country.
3. For the right of Jaswinder Kaur to stay

We have also supported and participated in public events organised by the Cynthia Gordon Action Committee, the Manchester Section of the New Cross Massacre Action Committee, and at the moment we are actively supporting the Mumtaz Kiani Defence Campaign, the Moss Side Defence Committee and the Bradford 12 Support Committee amongst other things.

We have always maintained that defendants are central to any campaign and our support has always been unconditional and any criticism we may have had never went outside the various defence committees. We would be happy to work with any organisation or individuals for a just cause (based on common principles) and provide a free translation service where possible for defence campaigns. If any organisations or individuals want to work with us around any particular issue we can be contacted at the address given (strictly by appointment) for further discussion.

## Why Moss Side Erupted

Every town which saw a major breakdown in law and order had a reputation for tough and repressive policing and had experienced excessive police harassment. The do-gooders and noisy trends are now busy arguing about the possible causes for the disturbances and have mainly identified youth unemployment as the chief cause. Undoubtedly, black youth unemployment has risen sharply, but the single most important reason for the unrest is police provocation.

The problems faced by black people cannot be solved by better policing and, since the police are only an arm of the state, it is rather meaningless to expect a racist state to have a non-racist police force. But the recent spontaneous eruption in the various cities is a direct result of police instigations. Before Brixton erupted, the police, some allegedly wearing NF badges, stopped and questioned 1000 youths in the so-called crackdown against general crime.

As the Liverpool 8 Defence Committee stated, the chief constable (Kenneth Gordon Oxford) of Merseyside's "own racism, combined with his belief that tough repressive policing methods are the best way of keeping order, have resulted in excessive police harassment, especially of black people, which stretches back many years.

Moss Side too has a history of police harassment. Around March 1981 the Manchester Evening News reported that knives, coshes, hatchets and hand made clubs were found in Moss Side police station lockers. Many black youths have said that these weapons were used against them time and time again. On March 13 police arrested a black youth in Moss Side Library for carrying a piece of bamboo reed  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch thick and 2 feet long. 16 police vehicles and 28 policemen, some with dogs, were involved. The list would be endless. As a black youth said on TV after the events "Even if you kick a dog once, twice, three times...eventually it will turn back and bite you."

ASIAN YOUTH MOVEMENT (MANCHESTER)  
c/o ABASINDI CO-OPERATIVE  
MOSS SIDE PEOPLES CENTRE  
WESTWOOD ST  
MOSS SIDE  
MANCHESTER 15.



## What's 'Araf'?

The basic political tenet of this paper is that there is a race problem in Britain that problem is the existence of racism.

Officially this problem does not exist and the authorities turn every way they can to shut it out - racist motivations and aims are given other names and ascribed innocent purposes. Instead there is the 'black problem'. This first issue carries articles which clearly illustrate this.

For those of us who recognise what is happening there is the question of how to challenge and change the course of events.

Over the years in Manchester there have been a number of newsletters and bulletins produced by groups working in the struggle against racism. These have been produced to spread information and to draw support for activities organised by various campaigns. The objectives of this paper are a little wider. The intention is to produce an anti-racist paper closely connected to events and campaigns taking place but also to provide analysis and comment about national and local developments and about anti-racist activities. The intention from the start is to be a forum for critical comment and discussion as well as news exchange.

These then are the broad definitions with which this paper is being launched. How the paper develops in the future is largely dependant on the feedback and how people in the anti-racist struggle respond and relate to it.

Comment is welcome, and in the hope of initiating a process of discussion a meeting will be held on MONDAY NOVEMBER 4th 7.30pm at S.L.N.C. 642 Stockport Rd Longsight.

If however you are unable to come to this meeting, you could send us your views, comments and news by post.

## Police in Longsight

On Sunday September 20th a meeting between members of the Longsight community and the police was held in the Longsight library under the auspices of the Inner City ward committee for the area. The people voiced their complaints, most prominent of which was the slowness of the police to respond to 999 calls. Various local people spoke of long delays even when one arrived home to find the home actually being robbed.

The police response was not encouraging. They said that very often people phoning in did not give sufficiently accurate details for the police to give the call priority. They said that improvements could be made but that police resources are stretched and advised people to use the 999 system rather than ringing the station direct.

When the question of racist attacks was raised the police asked what was meant by 'racist attack' and explained that police policy was not to interfere in domestic disputes or neighbourly disagreements. This had never been mentioned previously when white residents complained of trouble with teenagers in the area. They suggested that if someone felt sufficiently aggrieved they should take out a private prosecution. Whilst previously they had been willing to discuss problems and to look for room for improvement now there was no problem at all!

Of course to categorise racist attacks as trivial 'neighbourly disagreements' is to completely ignore what happens in these situations. The question of 'neighbourliness' doesn't enter into it, the attackers have exactly the opposite intention.

Quite simply the police believe that black people exaggerate stories and deliberately play on people's sympathies in order to get their own way.

Such is the stuff of racism.

## Charges for NHS Treatment-Resistance is Growing

2 local NHS trade union branches have recently passed resolutions strongly condemning the proposals presently going through parliament which for the first time will mean systematic identity checks in hospital waiting rooms. Those 2 branches (NUPE and ASTMS) are now organising a public meeting as part of a growing campaign to stop the proposals being implemented.

THESE PROPOSALS MEAN that workers from abroad, long term visitors and overseas students will now have to prove their right to health care, or pay for the privilege. But in order to make some pay many others who have the right to free health care will now have to prove that right. In effect IF YOU ARE BLACK, HAVE AN ACCENT OR A FOREIGN SOUNDING NAME YOU ARE LIKELY TO BE SUSPECT.

On top of this racial oppression, these proposals will also boost private medicine (which we were once promised would be phased out) and will actually cost more money in bureaucratic procedures than they will save in reduced treatment.

To hear the exact details of the proposals, their effect and the growing resistance to them, come to the meeting:- OCTOBER 14th 7.30pm WEDNESDAY at ST MARY'S HOSPITAL CONFERENCE ROOM, HATHERSAGE ROAD.

# BRADFORD 12

Three of the twelve Asian youths facing conspiracy charges in Bradford have now been released on bail by High Court judges. But Bradford magistrates are still refusing to grant bail to the remaining defendants. Two weeks ago five of the youths refused to leave their cells to attend court as a protest against the bail refusals.

The magistrates, before whom the defendants appear each Thursday, have stopped hearing bail applications. They do not see the bail granted by High Court judges as a "Material Circumstance" relevant to the bail applications of the others.

The remaining youths have now begun putting their cases before Judges.=

Meanwhile mass pickets are taking place outside the court every Thursday at 9am. A picket has also been held outside the offices of the Director of Public Prosecutions in London.

## LIFE SENTENCE THREAT

The youths are charged with conspiracy to cause grievous bodily harm and endanger property. Police say they plotted to use petrol bombs against the police, skinheads and large shops. The 12 deny the charge which carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment. The 12 were rounded up in a series of police raids on July 30th and 31st, a fortnight after police claim a number of petrol bombs were found on wasteground.

The serious charges they face are unusual for petrol bomb cases, which supports the view of the Asian Youth Movement that "behind the fantasy of the charges the real issue at stake is the black community's right to defend itself".

## RACIST PETROL BOMBERS GIVEN BAIL

On July 14th a gang of about 40 white youths chanting racist slogans and giving the Nazi salute threw a petrol bomb and attacked an Asian pupil at Greenland School in Keighley. Just two of them were brought before the juvenile court, and they were charged simply with assault and stealing petrol to make the bomb.

The Asian who was attacked was also charged with possession of an offensive weapon. He had a pen knife and knuckleduster which he had brought to school after a similar attack the previous day.

On July 24th (after the police had found the petrol bombs but before the 12 arrests were made) two Asian homes in Leeds Road, Bradford were gutted in an arson attack. Three white men were arrested and charged with conspiracy to assault. The serious nature of this charge did not however prevent the magistrates allowing bail.

## 12 FOUGHT FOR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

The Bradford 12 have been singled out for heavy treatment because, say their July 11th Action Committee, they "fought for the democratic rights of black people. Now the government and police are trying to silence them". We must not allow this. "Their trial is our trial, Asians, West Indians and Africans must unite and struggle to win their freedom. We call upon white workers and unemployed to support us. Together we must say NO to political repression."

The regular meeting place of the Action Committee, Bradford's Textile Hall was badly damaged by fire on Sunday August 23rd. The police say they are "satisfied that enquiries so far do not reveal an offence of arson."

The July 11th Action Committee's new address is c/o 2 Spring Bank Place, BRADFORD 6.

## MANCHESTER SUPPORT COMMITTEE SET UP

Manchester Asian Youth Movement called a public meeting on 26th September to set up a support committee.

Statements of support came from a range of organisations and individuals. It was generally felt that the Bradford 12 were being used as scapegoats in an attempt to defeat militant black resistance to harassment by the police and racist gangs.

It was recognised that only a huge national campaign would have any chance of freeing the 12. It was decided to organise a Public Meeting on November 7th and to raise money to help with legal and campaign costs. Speakers invited to the Public Meeting are Darcus Howe, Anwar Ditta, local Asian community leaders and the July 11th Action Committee. Full details will be circulated closer to the date.

## Thrown in jail for "irregularities"

The health of a man threatened with deportation to Pakistan is suffering as he languishes in Armley jail.

Azid Malik, from Batley, was arrested without warning and thrown into prison. He has been charged with no offence but the H.O. say there may have been 'irregularities' in his entry to Britain in 1971.

He is very distressed, not eating or sleeping. If deported Azid is likely to be shot as he left Pakistan when about to be called up to fight against India. If there were 'irregularities' in his entry he could have applied for and would have been granted an amnesty in 1973.

Contact Friends of Azid Malik c/o 104 Commercial St BATLEY Yorkshire.



# ARAF'S DIARY

## October

- Mon 12 ROLE PLAY TECHNIQUES (2nd of 6) -  
organised by Asian Youth and Community  
Workers' Assoc. 7.00-9.00 pm at  
Longsight Library, Stockport Rd  
(TUBE)
- Tue 13 SOCIAL SECURITY? WHAT NEXT!  
Public Meeting Longsight Library  
7.00pm (Gtr. Mcr. Campaign against  
Social Security Cuts)
- Wed 14 SOCIETY AND POLITICS IN PAKISTAN  
(4th of 5) - speaker Hamza Alavi  
7.30pm Longsight Library (TUBE)
- Wed 14 NHS CHARGES Public Meeting 7.30pm  
Conference Room, St. Mary's Hospital,  
Hathursage Rd. (NUPE + ASTMS)
- Fri 16 BLACK WORKERS AND TRADE UNIONS (3)  
Look back at Grunwicks(film)  
1.30-3.30 Abasindi Co-op, St.  
Mary's St, Moss Side, M16. (TUBE)
- Sat 17 STOP NASREEN AKHTAR'S DEPORTATION  
DEMONSTRATION ROCHDALE see page 1
- Sun 19 ROLE PLAY TECHNIQUES (3) see above  
(TUBE)
- Wed 21 BLACK PEOPLE AND TRADE UNIONS (not to  
be confused with "Black Workers and...")  
Racism in Britain - past and present -  
Gus John. Community Education Centre,  
Moss Side Precinct. (TUBE)
- Wed 21 SOCIETY AND POLITICS IN PAKISTAN (5)  
see above (TUBE)
- Wed 23 BLACK WORKERS AND TRADE UNIONS (4) -  
Kun Kuan Bhavnani see above (TUBE)
- Wed 24 ASIAN YOUTH & COMMUNITY WORKERS ASSOC  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - all welcome  
10.30am onwards 12.30 lunch  
1.30pm Srilekha Kazi Memorial Lecture  
Rudy Naryan  
Longsight Library, Stockport Rd
- Wed 26 ROLE PLAY TECHNIQUES (4) see above  
(TUBE)
- Wed 28 BLACK PEOPLE AND TRADE UNIONS (2)  
Racism and the Law - Gus John  
see above (TUBE)
- Wed 30 BLACK WORKERS AND TRADE UNIONS (5)  
Racism + the Labour Mvt, see above  
(TUBE)

### STOP PRESS

WEDNESDAY 28th OCTOBER  
MOSS SIDE DEFENCE COMMITTEE  
PUBLIC MEETING  
Watch out for details.

## NOVEMBER

- Mon 2 ROLE PLAY TECHNIQUES (5) see above  
(TUBE)
- Wed 4 BLACK PEOPLE AND TRADE UNIONS (3)  
Dick Pickering TGWU see above (TUBE)
- Fri 6 BLACK WORKERS AND TRADE UNIONS (6)  
Here to Stay, Here to Fight  
see above (TUBE)
- Sat 7 DEFEND THE BRADFORD 12 - Public  
Meeting in Manchester -

For more details of meetings marked TUBE  
contact Trade Union & Basic Education  
Project (WEA) 769 Stockport Rd M 19  
Tel 224 7014.

For more details of other meetings contact  
us.

We welcome details of any meetings,  
socials, demonstrations etc to go in this  
diary. Please get them to us by about  
the 25th of the month.

NORTH HULME CENTRE, Jackson Crescent, Hulme  
have courses on Tues 'Understanding  
Unemployment' and Weds 'Black Studies'  
contact Barbara Jones on 226 2293.

ASIAN YOUTH CLUB, Longsight Youth Centre,  
(Old Library) Stockport Rd. Free admission.  
Weds 7-9pm Karate, Badminton, Table Tennis,  
Pool and Music.  
Suns 1-8pm Kung Fu, Badminton, Table Tennis,  
Pool and Music

Future Articles planned for 'Araf':

NHS CHARGES - full details of how the  
govt.'s proposals will affect  
black people.

NEW NATIONALITY BILL - full details of  
the bill when its gone through  
Parliament.

AN INTERVIEW WITH NASIRA BEGUM plus  
summing up of the recent successful  
campaigns against the Immigration  
Laws.

RACIST ATTACKS ON COUNCIL ESTATES - the  
reaction of the Housing Dept and  
the police.

THE HYTNER AND SCARMAN ENQUIRIES - we'll  
take a look at both reports when they  
are published.

RACISM AND SPORT - from local cricket to  
1st Div football.

SATURDAY 31st OCTOBER  
OPPOSE BRITISH MOVEMENT MARCH  
IN OLDHAM. Assemble 12 noon  
Waterloo St (opp. St Marks Church)