

KALA TARA

PAPER OF ASIAN YOUTH MOVEMENT BRADFORD. No. 1. 20p.



EDITORIAL

Why a Paper?

Asian Youth emerged as a political force from 1976 onwards. Today there are Asian Youth organisations all over the UK. We have lacked one thing however, and that is an instrument which could carry our views and feelings. This paper is an attempt to rectify that situation.

This paper is your paper. Although there is an editorial policy this will not preclude Asian youth in general from writing and getting printed their own articles.

The future success of the paper depends on the readership letting us know what they would like in the paper and suggestions for improvements.

Letters and articles for the next issue will be welcome.

IMMIGRATION LAWS

The Immigration Laws have come to the forefront in the consciousness of black people with the new Tory proposals. However we must not forget that the Tory proposals are not in themselves new laws to persecute and harass us. The whole basis for the present harassment of the black community lies in the 1971 Immigration Act. The new proposals are only additions to make the situation worse.

Immigration Laws are racist and we must campaign against them all and not just the Tory proposals.

We call on the black community to unite around the issue of Immigration Laws and campaign vigorously against them. The Asian Youth Movement has and will be in the forefront of these campaigns.

In the near future it will not be a question of fighting against Immigration Laws as such but fighting against repatriation.

If we don't unite as a community now we will have laid the basis for our own expulsion in the next 5 or 10 years. Our message is simple - Here to stay, Here to fight!

DEFEND SOUTHALL

In April this year 5,000 police invaded Southall and attacked the black community there in order ostensibly to defend the National Front. They smashed the right of the black community to demonstrate and live in peace.

The attack of the Immigration Laws on our rights cannot be seen in isolation; the state is moving on all fronts to break the black community. Southall has shown this quite clearly.

After the police attack hundreds lay injured and Blair Peach was murdered. Now the judiciary has moved in to slam home the message - **black people cannot live in peace here.**

In Barnett, 20 miles from Southall, a kangaroo court has been set up to punish the 342 people arrested on the day. The toll of jail sentences at the time of writing is 10 and mounting. We say quite clearly that the people of Southall are political prisoners and the show trials are political trials to intimidate and break the resistance of the black communities everywhere.

Southall must not be allowed to suffer in isolation. What the police did there will happen in every area where we dare to raise our voices.

The Southall Defence Committee needs your support and more importantly your money - send it!

Our hearts lie with the Southall people and their courage and resistance is a shining light for us all.

WHY ASIAN, WHY BLACK?

Racism is rampant and racists are on the rampage. The imminent economic slump will put our lives much more in jeopardy in this country. It is up to the black community as a whole to stand up and take the lead in the struggle against racism.

It is necessary that all black people should unite in an independent organisation, to ensure that there is the maximum fightback by our communities. The general unity of the black community must be led by specific struggles of black youth. For in the final analysis, it will be us that will suffer on the streets. It is our skin that the racists will attack - that is black.

WHY ASIAN YOUTH?

From Brick Lane to Southall to Bradford, Asian youth have shown, by their militancy, that we are not the sheep the establishment fables us. There is a voice of anger, disillusionment and frustration being raised by us, in our communities. We must transform our anger into political action. Aim that action at the real enemy, the **British state**, and smash this bloody monster, that has made us suffer so.

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Articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the Asian Youth Movement as a whole.

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RACISM Time to fight back.

By Nermal Singh.

Bradford, 1976, was the scene of violent resistance to the National Front (NF) and to the forces of the state (namely the police) for protecting these vile specimens of society.

This was the turning point of violent (often not intended) opposition on anti-fascist demonstrations (as seen at Lewisham 1977) the bias and ruthlessness of the police is self-evident. The media plays its part in attempting to brand anti-fascists as hooligans and thugs. The rise of militant black opposition to fascists has also seen the mightily and bloody blow that the state forces can thrust (Southall 79).

Violence on anti-fascist demonstrations is inevitable once all other channels of opposition are closed to anti-fascists and blacks. We must not be scared of using violence to destroy the very enemy which would (once in power) completely destroys fundamental human rights.

Summer 1977 Bradford, over 60 racists attacked a pub which West Indians frequented. A week later blacks and socialists were attacked. The police were mobilised in the event, and the victims of the racist attack were arrested and charged. A known fascist was recognised and he was, a few weeks later, to stab a member of the Socialist Workers Party through the heart.

The white left tell us only the working class as a whole will be able to smash racism by overthrowing capitalism and setting up a socialist state.

This maybe so, but in the meantime are we, as one of the most oppressed sections of the working class, to sit by idly in the face of mounting attacks. No! We must fight

back against the cancerous growth of racism.

After the events of Lewisham the Anti Nazi League (ANL) emerged as an organisation consisting of various political and social forces. The ANL aimed to expose the NF as a Nazi Party. In the local elections, May '79, the NF vote fell dramatically. This was due to the activities of the ANL and other anti-racist organisations. However, exposure alone does not stop fascism and racist attacks.

The ANL nationally has been the focal point of struggle against racism and fascism. However, in September 1978 they had a massive carnival



National Front march, Bradford 1976.



Anti-racists vs. police, Manningham 1976.



'Defenders of democracy' move in.

in South London whilst fascists triumphantly marched through the streets of East London. Where were they?

The votes of the NF have fallen, but racist attacks have increased. In Bradford recently, an Asian woman was hit over the head with a wooden club. The police as usual took no action. In the same area a member of the Indian Workers Association was attacked by white youths. There are many other examples.

These attacks took place in the former election stronghold of the NF - Bradford Moor.

We must organise ourselves so that any racist attack can be dealt with effectively. We cannot rely on the police. We must defend ourselves. Black self-defence is no offence.

SOUTHALL ON TRIAL

On Monday April 23rd five thousand policemen came into Southall and brutally attacked its black community. Over a thousand people were injured, more than 700 arrested and 342 people from our community are facing criminal charges. Blair Peach was killed and his murderer has still not been identified.

This is an entire transcript of the OPEN DOOR programme 'Southall on Trial' sent to us by the Southall Defence Committee. A video of 'Southall on Trial' can be obtained from the Asian Youth Movement.

SURESH

This programme has been made by the Southall Campaign Committee to show you exactly what happened on the day and what the implications have been for the people of Southall where 50% of us are black and for black people up and down the country. Therefore for the National Front to hold their apparently legitimate election meeting in an area like Southall was a well-calculated assault. Our initial reaction of disbelief and amazement quickly turned into anger. Our priority lay in not allowing the meeting to take place. Over 80 representatives of the local community organizations, religious organisations, trade unions and political parties met to discuss ways of stopping it.

PARITA

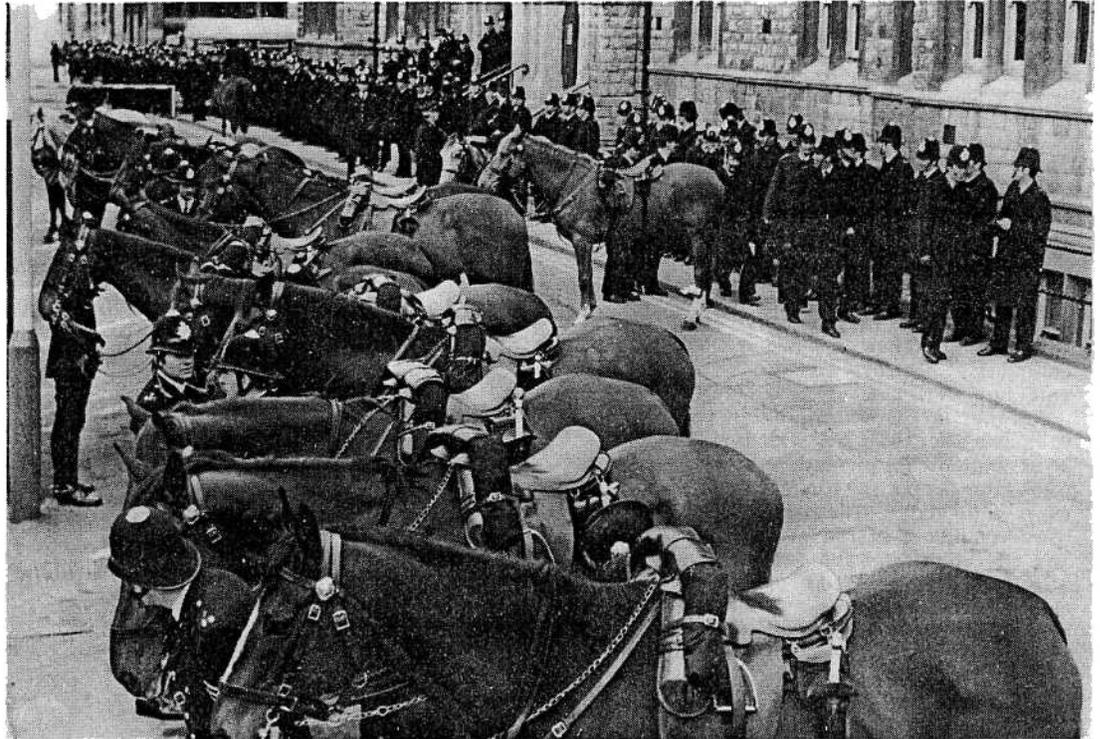
The police had soon established a "no go" area in the very heart of Southall. They had set up road-blocks along each of the four roads leading to the Town Hall. North of the town hall, along High Street, east of the town hall effectively cordoning off the legal rights centre, effectively preventing anyone from joining the protest. Southall rights, our legal centre, was cordoned off. The right of the black community to demonstrate against racism was totally smashed.

SURESH

The calling in of the Special Patrol Group, (a mobile tactical unit equipped with riot shields, rifles, smoke grenades and other weapons) into Southall on April 23rd put a totally new dimension to the level of police brutality on that day. It was not the first time that the SPG had earned mistrust and hatred of the black community.

PARITA

It was their day. The police abused us, called us 'black bastards, black whores, wogs and niggers'. Their racist abuse was accompanied by racist attacks. These physical attacks led to many severe injuries. One man had his kidney damaged by the kick of a horse. One youth was so badly kicked



that his testicles had to be removed. Another person woke up in an intensive care unit with a blood clot on his brain, and Blair Peach was killed.

SURESH

Comparisons have since been made of what Southall looked like and what happened there with scenes in Belfast. The police actions throughout the day were not accidental. A deliberate and well organised attempt was made by the whole of the police force to smash the strength of the black community.

Not content with savage attacks on our lives, the police also totally wrecked 6 Park View, a black arts and community centre run by People Unite. These premises, acquired from the local council, were seen as a stepping stone for a permanent project. One of the people closely involved was Clarence Baker.

PARITA

Blair Peach was killed during what the police called 'mopping up operations'. Whilst the National Front were holding their meeting at the Town Hall, mobile squads of the Special Patrol Group were clearing the streets, chasing people and viciously attacking and arresting them.

To escape this onslaught, people fled into gardens, garages and down side streets. It was a period of gross brutality.

SURESH

Five months have passed since the nightmarish April events. On that day, hundreds were beaten up and arrested for daring to demonstrate against racism. Yet this intimidation did not stop on the 23rd. It still continues. But this time in the courts.

The 342 charged are branded as criminals. On the evening of the arrests, defendants found

on arrival at the police station that type-written charge sheets were ready, waiting for any random name to be put on them. The court which hears these defendants is in Barnet - 20 miles away from Southall, limiting support from the local community. Police statements in court make it obvious that they do not consider black defendants as humans. Instead we are referred to as of 'Asian stock', of 'Asian type' or, more sinister, C121, a code name used in the police force for blacks.

Two people (*now 10 - Ed.*) have already been sentenced to jail, and at the discretion of a single magistrate the majority of the remaining defendants can end up behind bars.

PARITA

One was murdered, over a thousand were deliberately assaulted. The police used everything against us - from riot shields to alsatians, from helicopters to truncheons.



Sunhil Sisha, Southall AYM.

The object was to defeat us, break the backbone of our community. This attack continues with the possibility of 70 brothers and sisters ending up behind bars.

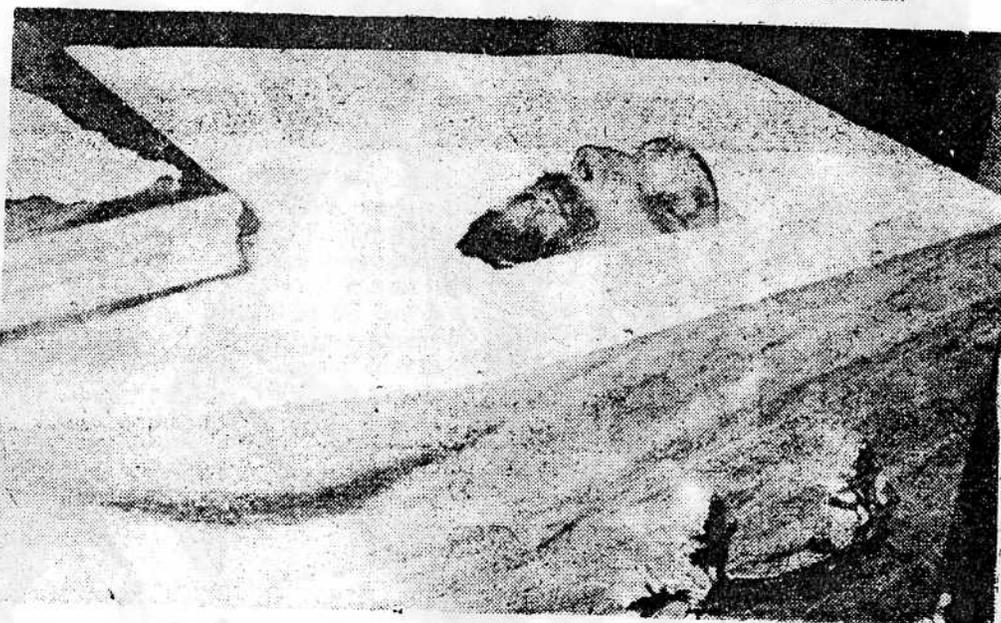
SURESH

The Trades Union Congress passed a resolution last month urging that the Special Patrol Group be disbanded. This call needs to be strengthened. And if there is no protest against the 342 arrested from Southall (the highest number of single arrests since the war) - if the trials are not stopped and 70 people do get sent to jail - this will mean a major catastrophe for all of us. It will mean that the police and the courts will be able to get away with their actions. It will also mean that jail sentences, assault on the lives and rights of black people living in this country will take place again and again. Already heavy fines, running into thousands of pounds is crippling the work of defending those charged.

The video film is available from Bradford Asian Youth Movement — 266 Lumb Lane.



Suresh Grover, speaking at a rally to defend Southall.



Blair Peach — murdered by the state.

HERE TO STAY — HERE TO FIGHT!

Britain after the war, with the subsequent economic boom, like most other Western countries was faced with a chronic shortage of labour.

Two hundred years of colonization had already underdeveloped our countries. British colonialism had perverted our economies to its own ends, robbed us of our wealth and independence, left us with a large labour force, and no capital with which to make the labour productive. It was to this army of labour that she turned to when she was faced with a shortage.

During the following period of full employment the indigenous workers moved upwards, into better paid, skilled apprenticeship, training programmes etc., leaving the low paid, hard, dirty and dangerous jobs to immigrant labour.

The jobs that 'coloured immigrants' found themselves in were largely unskilled and low status ones, for which white labour was either not available or unwilling to fill - in the textile mills, foundries, transport, porters in hospitals and hotels etc..

Now the British media convinces us that Britain did us a favour by letting us

come into this country to improve our lot. Everyone made money on immigrant labour - from big time capitalists to the slum landlord. By exploiting their labour, their colour and their culture. The immigrant worker had cost this country nothing. He had been paid for by the country of his origin - reared and raised, as history has shown, for the labour markets of Europe.

For Britain the labours represented a net saving: "The import of 'ready made' workers amounts to a saving, for the country of immigration, of between £8,000 and £16,000 per migrant worker..." (Andre Gorz *The Role of Immigrant Labour in New Left Review* No. 16, May/June 70.)

The '70s have witnessed a general decline in world capitalism. Britain too has been feeling the symptoms of the imminent economic slump, with nearly two million unemployed. No signs of the

recession easing - so the 'come to Britain the streets are paved with gold' changes to "The British people are really rather scared of being swamped by people of a different culture." (Thatcher, May 79).

FIRST GENERATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE TO GROW UP

The first generation of young people from the Asian sub-continent found ourselves in a very peculiar dilemma. One day we were wondering around in our villages, the next we found ourselves becoming 'wogs'.

The pressures of school, the strangeness of a new land, the oppression of our own cultures, the poverty of our own communities, was to instill into the generation of Asian youth, who for the first time suffered directly at the hands of white rulers (and white ruled) in Britain, a sense of militancy, that is now proving to be a turning point for the black struggle in this country. It is that very mechanism that tried so hard to oppress and divide us, that has given us birth.

THE BIRTH OF THE AYMs

Following the murder of Altab Ali in May 1978 there was a justifiable feeling of anger, disgust and frustration. The

Brick Lane, 1978.



The birth of the A.Y.M.

first ad-hoc committee that got formed, got dominated by the leaders of the community. Their reactions were more those of trying to 'cool it down'. They basically saw the fight-back in terms of a mass demonstration, that being the sum total of their political activity.

Racism, in particular racist attacks, do not go away as a result of a demonstration. Racism has to be put in its particular historical context, and an organisation born that can at least deal with some aspects of this monster, in the case of Brick Lane, overt organised **bloody** racist attacks. It was in relation to the 'cool it, pray and it might go away' attitudes of the Dadas and Pardadas of the East End that the Youth began to organise themselves.

SOUTHALL

As in Brick Lane, in 1976 Southall witnessed the murder of Gurdip Singh Caggur. The reactions of the Elders were much the same as those outlined above. The consequent riots were another form of expression of the frustration, anger and disgust of our youth at the death of one of their brothers. All in all, wherever and whenever, youth movements were formed as a result of racist attacks (be they from the state or 'ordinary' white racists) on our community.

1976 was the year when racism erupted to the surface, like a dormant volcano bursting into life scattering its hot ash over a very wide radius. The racism experienced in 1976 was particularly overt and venomous providing a tremendous shock for black people in general, Asians in particular and Asian youth in the specific. Asian youth had not experienced racism on this level before, although older black people had in Notting Hill in 1958, in Smethwick in 1964 to name only two of the earlier examples.

Why did racism erupt in 1976 like it did? Was it just an accident? No! The racism that erupted that year quite clearly had its roots in the general economic decline which had been going on since the bubble burst in Heath's mini 'boom' in 1972.

The economic background to the early seventies with the exception of the mini-boom was rising unemployment, rising inflation, the oil crisis and inevitably falling living standards. The British Treasury came to such a state that we saw the humiliating spectacle of Dennis Healey the Chancellor of the Exchequer grovelling before the financiers of the International Monetary Fund.

It was against this general background and the growing resistance of the working class to these falling living standards (which exploded in the winter of 1978/9) and struggles such as Grunwicks that the British state sought a diversion from the real issues. That diversion as in many times past was racism. The spark to



"Welcome to the land where the streets are paved with gold."

the fire and the consequent fuelling of the fire was provided by the racist mass media.

Before May 1976 we saw a trickle of stories and headlines: *Asians jump housing queues* (Mail, 5.4.76), *Power warning of erosion of Britain's by Alien Wedges* (Times, 10.4.76) to give just two examples.

And then on May 4th 1976 the real story broke, a story ideal for the racist mass media, one in which they combined the issue of immigration with heavy social costs. This was the Malawi Asian story and was a clear manoeuvre to label all blacks as scroungers and to lay the blame for the economic deficiencies of this country on blacks. It was The Sun that broke the story - *Scandal of £600 a week immigrants*. The rest of the media jumped in feet first to exploit the story. It is not necessary to go into the details of the story and the inaccuracies of the mass media that has been well documented elsewhere. Sufficient to say that racism was on the boil and racist stories mushroomed with headlines like *More on the Way, Asian Flood, Asian Invasion*, etc.

The direct result of these racist stories was inevitably violence and murder. East End, May 7th 1976: Mr. Sarimon Molder stabbed by a gang of thugs in Toynbee Street. They made no attempt to rob him. He suffered a punctured lung.

East End, May 12th 1976: Idris Ullah, residing in Casson Street, chased by three youths. Hit on the head and stabbed in the side. No attempt at robbery. The list is endless and quite well documented in many journals, e.g. *Race Today*, June '76, and at the Institute of Race Relations.

The attacks eventually resulted in murders in London culminating in the murder of Gurdip Singh Chaggur in Southall. (By saying culminated, it is not intended to mean that this was the last murder or most horrific but to signify that this was the beginning of mass action

by Asian Youth. The beginning of the organised fight back of Asian youth.

Thousands of Southall youth demonstrated their militancy on the streets of Southall in July 1976 and one time they even surrounded the police station, forcing the release of some of their brothers from the cells.

The shock waves of that fight back travelled all over the U.K. and hit us in Bradford, leading to the formation of the first political Asian Youth organisation in Bradford - the Indian Progressive Youth (IPYA).

The IPYA launched itself by means of a number of large meetings but quickly degenerated into a passive organisation. This happened because it became internally immobilised through an ideological dispute between two factions, between those who saw it as a purely Indian Organisation and those who saw it in terms of the general Indian sub-continent. A year later this immobilisation was removed when at the Annual General Meeting the constitution was amended and the organisation was born anew into the Asian Youth Movement.

It was born and immediately thrust into one of the most difficult struggles, the struggle against the Immigration Laws.

That particular struggle against the deportation of Saieed Rahmon was successful. A series of public meetings, resolutions, work in and with other organisations, pickets etc. culminated in our first demonstration. The demonstrations against Immigration Laws in 1978.

The period that followed involved many public meetings, demonstrations elsewhere, consolidation and contact with other Asian youth groups.

By Tariq Mahmood Ali.



END ALL RACIST LAWS! ALL IMMIGR.

The black community is under a vicious and well orchestrated attack. By that is not just meant the National Front and racist thugs.

They at the moment are the small fry. There is a much bigger enemy, presenting a much more frightening threat. That enemy is the British State, and the weapons they are using against us are the Immigration Laws. Hundreds of people are being thrown into prison and deported. The police are making daily raids on our homes and the situation will get worse with the new Tory proposals.

What are these Laws?

The immigration laws are racist. They have been introduced not only to keep those already here as a meek and submissive colonial work force. The Immigration Officers and the police are the new colonial administrators as the British were in our countries. These laws degrade us and abuse us. They are used to harass and exploit us. They take away our human dignity and treat us like animals, a hundred times worse than their cherished friends, dogs.

We quite firmly state our opposition to all immigration laws, as such laws must by logic be used to oppress one section of people or other. They are used to keep the rich nations rich and the poor ones poor.

We have a right to be here and our



The beginning of the fightback — Abdul Azad Defence Committee, Oldham 1979.

IMMIGRATION

ATION LAWS ARE RACIST!

brothers and sisters have a right to come here. That right doesn't come out of laws but consists of the right to claim back the wealth they robbed from us. They exploited our countries for hundreds of years and left them poor and bleeding. On our backs the white nations have been built into industrial and wealthy giants. They are still exploiting black people and black nations even though they lie bleeding. The independence they gave wasn't much. They still have the economic power, the power that matters.

We have a right to taste the fruits of the wealth they stole from us. We have the right to take it back. Until that wealth has been returned to black people and black nations, until we can stand up as economic equals, no longer as the poor they turned us into, until then the fight for our independence and our liberation must go on.

The 1971 Immigration Act

This Act has been responsible for gross abuse of our rights. It has institutionalised one law for the whites and one law for the blacks. It has institutionalised racism. Since this act came into effect on 1st January 1973 over 6,000 blacks have been imprisoned under its powers. On any one day at least 200 blacks are held in prisons under the act.

Under this act any black person can be picked up and thrown into prison as an alleged illegal immigrant on the orders of an immigration officer.

There is no right to trial, appeal or bail. Technically you could be imprisoned indefinitely.

The police can enter any black person's home, without warrant on suspicion that an illegal immigrant lives there.

This act gives civil servants massive powers over our lives. It gives them powers to: throw us into prison, separate our families, carry out virginity tests on our mothers, sisters and daughters, give X-rays which would not be allowed here and which can cause cancer to pregnant women and children.

This act teaches us what British justice is. Instead of the state having to prove its allegations, we have to prove that we are innocent. The situation is bad already but getting worse and about to become horrific with the new Tory proposals. The British notion of innocent until proved guilty is only for the British. This Act makes black people guilty with virtually no chance of being proven innocent.

The New Tory Proposals:—

The new proposals to be introduced this autumn will increase the vicious harassment of our people. They propose:—

1. A compulsory register of dependents of black people. This will destroy existing rights and make it more difficult for wives and children to join their husbands and fathers.
2. Our children will not be allowed to join their families.
3. Parents and grandparents will not be allowed to join their sons and daughters already here.
4. Husbands and male fiances will be completely barred. This not only affects our people as blacks but affects the rights of women drastically.
5. People admitted on a temporary basis will not be allowed to settle here.
6. Work permits will be impossible to get.
7. A quota system will be introduced which means that it will take even longer to get here.
8. The government intends to intensify counter-measures against 'illegal' entrants and over-stayers. The police will be given more powers to harass our people.
9. They intend to introduce a new Nationality Bill which will make many British passport holders stateless and in general make blacks into second class citizens.
10. Proposals for the E.E.C.

The E.E.C. commission has circulated a draft directive which may soon become law in this country. This directive would introduce criminal sanctions against employers who employ so called "illegal immigrants."

In actual fact to introduce this the government will have to issue identity cards to blacks or require us to carry our passports around with us all the time. Where are we living? South Africa?

The Immigration Debate

Under what reasoning does the State persecute and harass us? Why does it introduce these new laws and proposals?

The British State says that too many people are coming into this country and that it is getting over-populated. This is a lie!

Since 1964 more people have left the U.K. each year than entered.

In 1976 100,000 people came to live here but 210,000 left.

Since 1974 the population of Britain has been falling. Since 1975 the number of deaths has exceeded the number of births.

That is the first part of the lie. The second part of the lie is that whilst increasing controls on blacks, there have been virtually no controls on whites. As many whites can come here as they want. In fact the government has been helping white Rhodesians to come and get houses



here. And to compound this situation by joining the E.E.C. 100 million E.E.C. citizens have the right to come and settle here.

Quite obviously the real reason for immigration controls is not to stop people from coming here, but to stop blacks coming here.

The Immigration debate is nothing but a gain to win the votes of the white electorate in which we are the toys. It is time we asserted the right of our dependents to come and live with us — that right is the wealth they stole from us for centuries. It is time we asserted that right to live here without fear of being stabbed, without fear of being arrested and deported — that right is the wealth they are still continuing to rob from us.

Continued overleaf

IMMIGRATI

The Fight Back

THE FIGHT BACK

The black community, every man, every woman and every child must now stand up and fight back. We have been pushed around and degraded too long.

We say:

End Racist Immigration Laws. All Immigration Laws are racist!
No to the Tory proposals!
No to Identity Cards and passport checks!
No to second class citizenship!

STATE ATTACKS ON BLACK PEOPLE

Sarah Kusah

Mrs Sarah Kusah came to Britain from Sierra Leone in 1955. She married and her two children were born in this country. After marital difficulties the two children went back to Sierra Leone in 1964. The children returned to Britain in 1973, and Mrs Kusah followed them in 1974. She was told by a Home Office representative in Sierra Leone that she could return quicker if she came as a visitor and changed her status on arrival. On arrival the Home Office refused to change her status, and then ordered her deportation.

In February 1979 Labour Minister Brynmor John said that he was not prepared to defer execution of the deportation order even though the case was being considered by the European Court of Human Rights. The police were sent in.

'A Scotland Yard spokesman said last night that police had gone to Mrs Kusah's home at 6.30am yesterday to enforce the deportation order. The children had been taken to the police station... Damage to the property would be repaired.' (Guardian 14.2.79).



Gias Uddin

Gias Uddin is an 18 year old from Liverpool who is imprisoned in Harmondsworth Detention Centre, threatened with deportation. Together with his mother, sister and four brothers Gias was accepted for entry in December 1975. They joined Gias's father Mr Badshah Miah who has been legally resident since 1963. Last year immigration officials raided the restaurant where Gias was working. In another search, this time of his home, immigration officials found a letter bearing the name Salik Miah. Salik Miah is the name that Gias is known by in his village in Bangladesh. The Home Office claim that the letter casts doubt on Gias's identity, and that this is grounds for deportation.

Gias spent 4 weeks in Risley Remand Centre

before being released 'pending further investigations'. In July he was detained again and arrangements made for his deportation. The Gias Uddin Action Committee states:

'At the moment Gias is being held in Harmondsworth while the Home Secretary reconsiders his case. So far Gias has spent almost 12 weeks in detention—8 of them in Risley. NO EVIDENCE HAS BEEN LAID BEFORE A COURT OF LAW, HE HAS NOT BEEN CHARGED WITH ANY CRIMINAL OFFENCE, HE HAS NO RIGHT OF APPEAL BEFORE HE IS RETURNED TO BANGLADESH.'



The Patel Family

Mrs Manju Patel is a railway worker in Kent. She brought her three sons, Sanjesh (16 years old), Jayesh (13) and Diptesh (10) to Britain in March 1979. Since 1975 Mrs Patel had been supporting her children, who stayed with their grandparents in India. But the grandparents grew too old to look after the boys and Diptesh was seriously ill. Mrs Patel brought her children to Britain without the official entry certificates. According to immigration rules the proper certificates must be obtained by application to the British High Commission in the country of origin. The boys were due to be deported on

VICTORY

for Leeds Blacks as Rasta is allowed into school

A West Indian schoolboy has been allowed back into Stainbeck High School, after being suspended for refusing to cut his hair on religious grounds.

The 15 year old boy is a Rastafarian, and wears his hair in plaits — 'dreadlocks'. He was suspended in February by the headmaster, Mr Michael Franklin, and told that he wouldn't be allowed back without a haircut.

His suspension led to an appearance in Leeds Juvenile Court in July, for non-attendance at school. He was ordered by the court to cut his hair, and was placed under a supervision order for a year. He was also sentenced to 3 years in care if he missed a week of school this term.

BABYLON MAKE WAR

The boy has consistently

refused to change his hairstyle, as dreadlocks are an essential part of the Rastafarian religion. And in any case, why should haircuts be forced on people?

When he turned up at Stainbeck High School on the first day of this term, 4th September, about 25 people picketed the school to demand that he be allowed in.

The picketers included other Leeds blacks, members of the Bradford Asian Youth Movement, and white supporters. They used a powerful megaphone to talk to people inside the school building, demanding equal rights for blacks and whites, and saying that "Babylon is making war".



The headmaster said that he would not see the boy and his mother until 10 o'clock, after assembly. When 10 o'clock came and they went in, the rest of the picket moved inside the school gates to stand in front of the school doors.

Right on cue, Inspector Tate of Chapeltown police station emerged from the building and warned them to leave the premises or his officers would remove them.

HEAD BACKS DOWN

He was ignored, and walked up the road to discuss the issue with his men in the patrol car that had been parked there menacingly for the previous 15 minutes. Sensibly, he took no further action.

Then came the good news, as the boy, his mother, and two friends emerged from the school to say that he will be allowed back providing he covers his locks with a hat (a suede one; not a woolly one). The headmaster had told them that he had been offended by one of the placards which read: "Franklin is a Racist".

So the boy is back at school without getting his hair cut or his hairstyle changed. This is seen as a clear victory by the Chapeltown Rasta Defence

ON

Continued.

August 7. The deportation was delayed, and delayed again for a few days. An Asian women's group raised funds to allow Mrs Patel to accompany her children. Mrs Patel was only persuaded to return to India after the Home Office led her to understand that re-entry procedures would be speeded up for her children. The normal waiting period in Bombay is 8 months or more. The Patel family is now in Bombay, where immigration officials are deliberating over the case. They have sent a letter to the grandparents asking them to come to Bombay for an interview. Mrs Patel says:

'The parents of my ex-husband are very old. My father-in-law doesn't have very good health, and it is very far for them to come here. The village is about 500 miles away. They have very little money — enough for just eating, and very simple eating only.' (*Guardian* 7.9. 79)

Mrs Patel is paying £6 a night to lodge her family and her money is running out. Having lured Mrs Patel out of the country with promises of a rapid return with her sons, the Home Office is now stating that Mrs Patel's divorce is a 'divorce of convenience' in order to gain illegal entrance for the Patel children. They are using this as the excuse to keep the family out of Britain. Once again the British state is trying to brand blacks as cheats and liars with its accusations of false fiancées, false sons, false fathers, marriages of convenience, and now divorces of convenience. The only falseness and the only convenience is in the British imperialist state's excuses for its racist behaviour.

THE CASE OF ABDUL AZAD



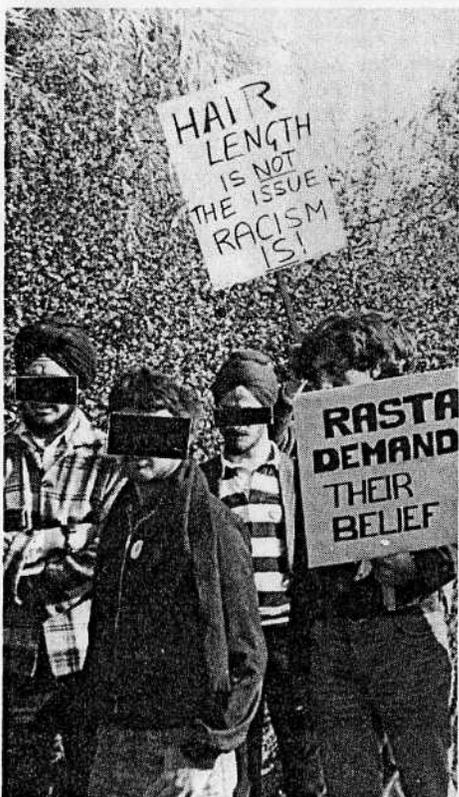
Abdul Azad

Abdul Azad was 12 when his mother and father brought him to England. He lived with them in Oldham. When he left school he got a job as a textile worker. In October 1978 the police came to the factory where he worked and told him that his mother had been found dead. Although it was obvious that Abdul was innocent of murder the police kept him imprisoned for ten days until they had made him sign a statement that he was an illegal immigrant. Only then did they let him meet his father and see a solicitor. Abdul was held for 12½ weeks in Risley Remand Centre. A strong defence campaign has forced the state to back down and withdraw the immediate threat of

deportation for Abdul. The state used the case to widen its attack. The Abdul Azad Defence Committee states:

'During the course of the investigation, the police have demanded to see the passports of hundreds of Bengalis and many Bengalis have complained of harassment, intimidation and police violence. The police have also hunted through official employment records only taking out those relating to Bengalis.'

The Committee forced the Home Office to back down. Abdul Azad is now here to stay.



Committee, which was set up to defend Rastas from such harassment.

From Leeds Other Paper.



JAGTOR SINGH SAHOTA, SECRETARY OF THE IWA, INTERVIEWED BY YOGESH PATEL.

PATEL: Congratulations Mr. Sahota on winning the election the first time around and then increasing your vote during the re-election. Could you tell us why the re-ballot was necessary?

SAHOTA: The re-ballot was held because a candidate made an objection. This objection that his name was incorrect on the ballot paper was upheld by the Regional Secretary of the TGWU. My own impression is that a re-ballot was held due to the fact that they don't want a black person in this job who has political convictions.

PATEL: Was it not an Asian who made the complaint and asked for a re-election?

SAHOTA: It was an Asian who made the complaint but we have to remember that the same Asian made similar objections in the past and always on the same point, but there was no re-ballot at those times.

This convinces me that they don't want a political black person in this job.

PATEL: Why do you think you were elected?

SAHOTA: The decision by bus workers to vote for me was taken on the fact that I am an active anti racist campaigner and they know my convictions.

PATEL: What issues will you be taking up when you start your job? (It started on 2nd Jan.)

SAHOTA: As a Secretary of the T & G I will be taking up the interests of my members. I especially want to give full attention to fight racist attitudes inside the organisation and remove the discrimination that is so prevalent.

I got my votes as an anti racist and I would like to carry that work on.

PATEL: Why did you receive more votes on the 2nd ballot?

SAHOTA: Firstly, in the 1st ballot I did not campaign. However, in the 2nd ballot I campaigned actively.

Also the issue was clear to people and they wanted to uphold the result of the 1st ballot.

PATEL: What is the composition of the Committee now?

SAHOTA: At the moment there are 7 Asians and 4 whites, but this will be equalised because 4 white workers will come onto the Committee from the inside grades and one from the canteen.

PATEL: Do you foresee any problems from the white work force?

SAHOTA: It is possible. The issue of black vs. white may arise. I would like to avoid it. I will use all channels to fight racism but if it comes to a point I will stand firmly against racism.

I hope that many of the white bus workers will be with us on this issue.

PATEL: Will the union now take a stand against the bussing of Asian children?

SAHOTA: The Bradford branch has no policy on this at the moment. But I will fight against this in the T & G and I do hope that our branch will go against the bussing policy and possibly decide to take industrial action.

PATEL: Do you feel that the Asian workers are wholly united behind you?

SAHOTA: I think that the majority of Asian workers do support me, but there are some reactionary elements who try to divide the Asian community of religious and nationalist lines for their own gain. However on the buses those elements got badly defeated.

PATEL: Did you get many white votes?

SAHOTA: I did get some but as the majority of white workers are racist, as an anti racist I didn't expect to get the majority of white votes.

But through my anti racist work I hope to bring both communities closer together which will benefit all workers on the buses.

But whether anybody voted for me or not, I will be taking up issues of all workers irrespective of colour.

PATEL: As the T & G Secretary what do you intend to

do about the racist passport rule.

SAHOTA: I will put my ideas and principles first. My work will be geared towards the elimination of this practice once and for all.

PATEL: Why did so many blacks get elected onto the union? Did the work done by the Asian Youth Movement against the passport rule have any affect?

SAHOTA: The most important result of the work done by the AYM, around this issue, was in highlighting the practice. It united the various progressive elements on the buses.

The work done by the AYM on the buses had other effects. Not only did it unite the progressive elements, but made the workforce, particularly the blacks, more aware of what could be done.

On the buses - Racism Exposed

In August of this year the Asian Youth Movement exposed racist practices conducted by the West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (WYPTE). These racist practices are focused on one issue - the demand of passports by the WYPTE from prospective Asian employees.

Over 300 employees on the buses, mostly Asian, signed a petition demanding an end to this racist passport rule. The petition was presented to the Transport and General Workers Union in September 1979.

In a statement to the Telegraph and Argus the WYPTE said: "We completely deny the allegation that the demand of passports from prospective Asian employees is racist." It adds that it needs to see passports and birth certificates to establish employees' dates of birth.

The Asian Youth Movement believes that the management passes on information in the passports to the police to catch out so called 'illegal' immigrants. We also have evidence that some passports have been held for 3 days and over. Does it take 3 days or more for the management to find out the date of birth? One can only conclude from this that passport numbers have been taken down and passed on to the police, who in turn inform the Home Office. This is blatantly racist.

Mr. Kawsar Nawaz, who is a busworker and who organised the petition says: "The union officials, only from pressure by the Asian busmen, are currently under negotiations with the management about this racist passport rule.

"We the Asian busmen", he adds, "will keep up the pressure until this practice is terminated."

The Asian Youth Movement is prepared to take further action in support of the black busworkers' demands to stop this racist practice. This racist practice not only affects black workers on the buses but also affects black workers generally.

We demand that the management ends this racist practice immediately. We call on the TGWU branch to heed the petition signed by 300 of its members and put pressure on the management to end the passport rule.

We call upon black busworkers to use their union to this effect.

By Yogesh Patel.

A.Y.M.

ASIAN YOUTH MOVEMENT

AIMS AND OBJECTS

- (a) To promote the interests of young people from the countries of (or originating from) the Indian sub-continent, i.e. Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, in the areas of political, cultural, social and sports activities.
- (b) To oppose all forms of discrimination based on race, colour, sex, religion etc., and to promote the cause of equal rights, and social and economic opportunities.
- (c) To educate and show to youth the relationship between discrimination and inequality and the social system existing in Britain.
- (d) To recognise that the only real force in British society capable of fighting racialism and the growth of organised racism and fascism is the unity of the workers' movement — Black and White.
- (e) To encourage youth to integrate themselves into the organisations — trade unions and political parties — of the British working class.
- (f) To recognise that the same organisations (referred to in (e)) are not themselves free of racist influences, and that in encouraging our members and sympathisers to join these organisations, it would be necessary for them to fight racist elements and influences within these organisations.
- (g) To encourage youth to organise and fight against racialism, and further the interests of the working class — Black and White.
- (h) To support and express solidarity with national liberation movements.
- (i) To encourage co-operation between different nationalities of the Indian sub-continent.
- (j) To keep members and sympathisers in Bradford and Britain informed of political, economic and social developments in the Indian sub-continent: to encourage solidarity with and support for the struggles of the oppressed masses against the ruling classes in those states.
- (k) To encourage self-organisation and the formation of Youth Movements amongst other oppressed minorities — e.g. West Indians — and propose common activities on the basis of the above Aims and Objects.

PROPOSED A.Y.M. FOOTBALL CLUB'S CONSTITUTION

1. The club will be open to membership from all nationalities.
2. The age limit will be 35 years of age in conjunction with A.Y.M. as a whole.
3. The membership of the club will appoint annually:-
 - a. A club secretary
 - b. A club treasurer
 - c. A club captain
 - d. A club vice-captain
 This will be done by a democratic voting procedure which will include one vote for each member of the club.
4. The club will be run by Asians only, who in turn will provide the club executive and therefore the ruling body.
5. The treasurer will keep a log of all accounts which will be made accessible on demand.
6. There will be a formal procedure to follow in the case of complaints upon individual members or the club as a whole:-
 - a. The club secretary will be notified by the person or persons lodging the complaint in writing.
 - b. If the secretary feels that the matter can be resolved within the club, then the membership will be notified and the matter dealt with.
 - c. However, if the secretary feels that the complaint affects the management or running of the club then the A.Y.M. Executive will deal with the matter, therefore acting as the arbiter.
7. To avoid arguments or ill feeling the team selection will be made by the secretary and club captain only. No other persons shall interfere OR object to their final team selection once picked.

SPORTS AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Every Sunday between 10.00am — 6.00pm AYM runs Green Lane Youth Club (inside Green Lane school). Facilities include: swimming, table tennis, snooker, pool, television and video films etc..

Green Lane Youth Club has facilities for the formation of Pangra/Gharba dance troupe. For further information contact Anwar at the AYM.

SOCCER

Asian Youth Movement Football Club remains unbeaten (apart from a few unlucky defeats). They play every Sunday in the Sunday League. For further information contact Ebad at the AYM.

CRICKET

AYM cricket team is about to start playing in the next season. For further information contact Sajad.

ASIAN SPORTS ASSOCIATION

AYM has initiated the formation of an Asian Sports Association, which will look into the possibility of obtaining funds for a sports centre; funding local teams etc..

If you're interested contact Iqbal Ahmed, Sports Secretary, AYM.

SOCIALS

As we are always broke as an organisation, we have regular fund raising events. We organise Pangra parties, Asian discos, etc..

For future events, see or write to Anwar Qadir, Social Secretary, AYM.

A.Y.M. BADGE



25p each.

Plus 10p postage and packing.

From AYM, 266 Lumb Lane. Tel. 499310.



20,000 MARCH AGAINST IMMIGRATION LAWS

On Sunday the 25th of November over 20,000 people marched in opposition to the racist Immigration Laws.

This demonstration the biggest yet seen against these racist laws was organised by Campaign Against Racist Laws (CARE). Care was founded at a conference in London on October the 20th and a mobilising committee consisting of the 3 IWA'S, Asian Youth Movement Bradford, SCOPO, Kashmiri Workers Association, West Indian Standing Conference, the C.P., A.N.L. etc.

Seven coaches went down from Bradford mainly organised or instigated through the activity of the Asian Youth Movement.

Contingents came from all over the country and as far afield as Glasgow. An important factor on the demonstration was the large presence of Asian Women voicing their opposition to these racist and sexist laws.

Although the demonstration was successful in terms of the numbers there are a number of serious criticisms to be made of it.

Firstly it was badly organised in terms of stewarding. Contingents were arriving in different parts of Hyde Park with no stewards directing them to their places in the main body of the march.

More importantly however because CARE is an organisation of such disparate elements no principled position against All Immigration Laws was taken up by the platform. The main rallying call of the demonstration was "Stop the Tory Racist Laws". This was totally inadequate missing out the 1971 Act and the role of the Labour Government in passing and implementing these laws. In fact there was a conspiracy on the platform to try and pervert any mention of the Labour Government's role in these laws.

Manjit Singh, chairman of the Bradford AYM, explained that these laws were just a continuation of the 200 years and more Colonial exploitation of Black People.

However, when he went on to explain the Labour Government's role attempts were made to stop him speaking. However pressure from the crowd "Let him speak" thwarted this attempt at censorship. He went on to say with regard to the Labour Government and Tony Benn who had spoken before him, "It is better



Tarlochan Gata-aura

to suffer under the real enemy, than to be conned by false friends."

Suresh Grover speaking on behalf of the Southall Defence Committee raised the issue of Southall explaining the vicious attack that the police had made on the Southall community.

He went on to explain that 'leaders' like Tony Benn had made no statement on Southall and yet were delighted to come on to the platform with their platitudes against racism. He went on, "People like Tony Benn come here today and tell us they support the campaign against racism. We don't want people coming here on platforms and telling us they support the fight against racism and then do nothing about it."

These two speeches led to verbal abuse on the platform between Suresh Grover and Manjit Singh, and Joan Lestor and Khabri, President of Southall I.W.A..

Every other speaker including those from the ANL, SWP and the IMG, because they made no mention of the Labour Government's role in these laws, sounded like Labour Party apologists.

However the role of the white left wasn't just bad on the platform.

There was no national mobilisation by any of the white left groups including the Labour Party. The white turn out on the demonstration was pathetic.

Furthermore the coverage of the demonstration with one exception in the white

left press was absolutely pathetic. One expects poor coverage in the bourgeois press but expects that the socialist press would have covered the demonstration properly. It appears that they cover



Tarlochan Gata-aura

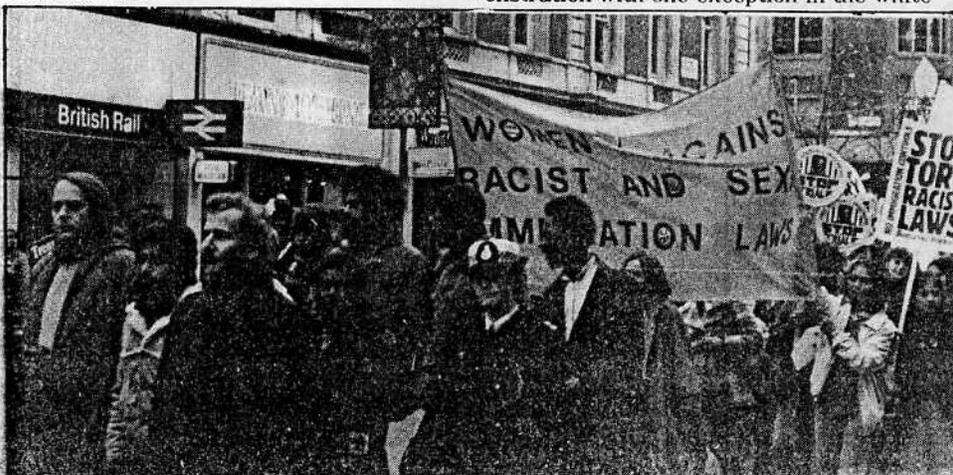
only events that they organise.

Their attitude to this demonstration proves once again that only black people will fight for issues around racism.

To do this we have to build our own independent political black organisations. We cannot rely on the white left any longer. The fight against the Immigration laws has not ended here. The Bradford AYM is organising a march from Bradford to London in the summer (more details next issue). We as black people have to continue the fight and organise it, nobody will do it for us. Brothers and sisters the fight has just begun.



Tarlochan Gata-aura



BRING ANWAR'S CHILDREN HOME

Anwar Ditta's family is being destroyed by Britain's immigration controls. Anwar was born in Birmingham and brought up in Rochdale. She married her husband Mr. Shuja Ud Din in Pakistan, where they had three children — Karen (9), Imran (7) and Saima (6).

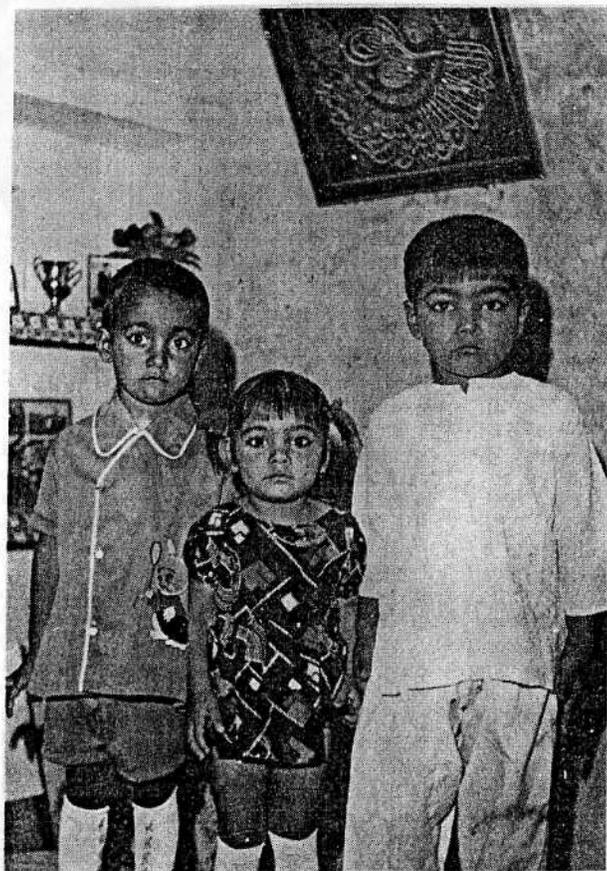
In 1975 Anwar and her husband returned to Rochdale, leaving the children with their grandparents while they found work and a home. They then sent for the children, but they were refused entry on the grounds that "the couple had not established that they were the parents of the three children."

So what is the evidence? Anwar has birth certificates, medical records, photographs which show conclusively that the children are her own. Solicitors say that the evidence is so conclusive that it

need only be presented at the appeal to prove the case.

But if the documents will satisfy the appeal, why was the original application rejected? The reason is simple: the Home Office has refused to admit Anwar's children because they are black.

Compare Anwar's case with that of Mrs. Shirley Webb, who was deserted by her husband in South Africa. She appealed to the Prime Minister and last July was allowed to enter Britain with her four children.



Anwar has also written to Mrs. Thatcher, but all she received was a curt reply: 'Your letter is receiving attention.' And the difference? Mrs. Webb is white, and Anwar is black.

As Anwar says: "There are plenty of people in Britain who could prove that they are my children, but no-one has asked them." She has offered to pay the expenses for an investigator to fly to Pakistan, but the Home Office refused.

Anwar suggested that a blood test would establish that she was the mother of the children, the Home Office replied: "There is no need to go that far. Yet the Home Office used blood tests in their attempts to deport Abdul Azad. When Anwar recently enquired about the progress of the appeal, she was told to come back in '1980 or 1981'. And that after a five hour interview by an abusive immigration officer at Manchester Airport.

Mr. Ud Din, Anwar's husband

has to work seven days a week to support the two parts of his family. As Anwar says: "Nobody works seven days a week for someone else's children."

How you can help build the campaign to re-unite this family:

1. Take petitions and collect signatures in support of Anwar
2. Ask your trade union or organisation to send a resolution supporting Anwar to the Home Secretary.
3. Ask your organisation to affiliate to the Defence Committee (suggested affiliation fee £5)
4. Write to your M.P. and get him to raise the case with the Home Office.
5. Send messages of support and donations to the 'Anwar Ditta Defence Committee'.
6. Support the activities organised by the Defence Committee. For further details, write to the address below: ANWAR DITTA DEFENCE COMMITTEE, c/o Champness Hall, Drake Street, Rochdale, Lancs. Tel. Rochdale 31491.



NORTH OF ENGLAND IRISH PRISONERS COMMITTEE



The North of England Irish Prisoners Committee was set up in October 1979. Bradford AYM sends two delegates.

British imperialism, over the centuries, has failed to crush the Irish people's fight for their liberation. So too will the concentration camps of H Blocks fail. Irish political prisoners have resisted all attempts to be classed as criminals.

British imperialism, having failed to portray the Republican prisoners as criminals, began a systematic policy of physical and mental torture in an effort to break the prisoners' protests, using methods as varied as beatings by the warders, the use of drugs, baths in boiling water and the noise machine. Other methods include the use of crushed glass in the food, disinfectant

in tea and drinking water. The British government was found guilty of those same methods in the European courts.

All these tactics have not weakened the protest but instead have strengthened the determination of the Irish Prisoners of War to destroy the H Block

and the 'criminalisation' policy of the British Government.

The North of England Irish Prisoners Committee demand:

- 1) Political status for all Irish Prisoners of War.
- 2) Repatriation of Irish Prisoners of War in

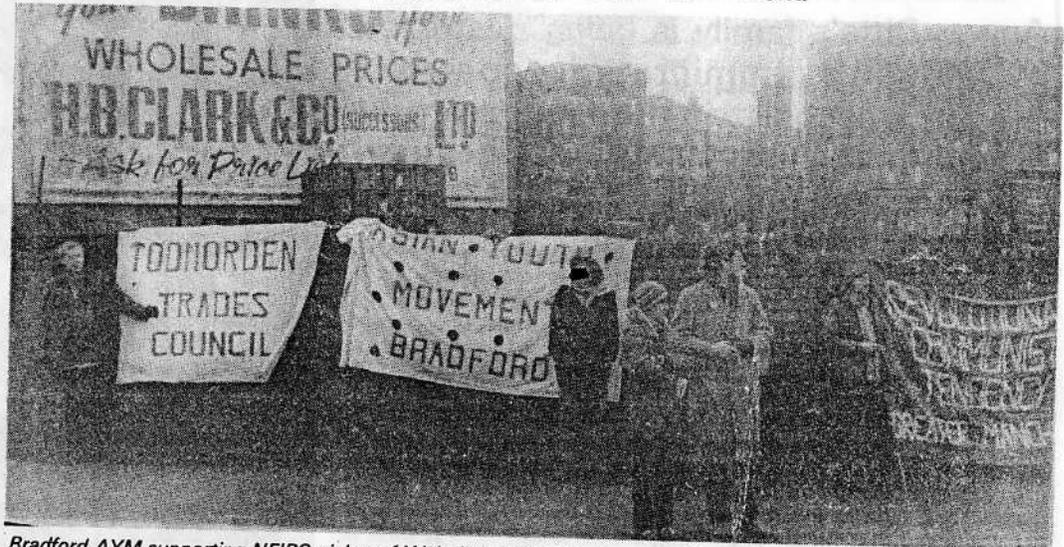
England.

3) An amnesty for Irish Prisoners of War.

4) Immediate withdrawal of British troops in Ireland.

5) Smash the Prevention of Terrorism Act. End all Immigration Controls.

6) Support for the Provisional Republican Movement.



Bradford AYM supporting NEIPC picket of Wakefield Prison in January 1980.

ANOTHER RACIST ACT

On Wednesday 26 December in the early hours of the morning 27 Irish people were arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. The arrests involved hundreds of police in co-ordinated raids in London, Manchester, Birmingham, Southampton and Liverpool. Among those arrested in London was Val Green — a supporter of 'Hands Off Ireland', an anti-imperialist journal about Ireland. These arrests were carried out under the guise of a pre-emptive strike to prevent an IRA pre-Christmas bombing campaign.

The truth is very different. These raids like all the raids that have gone before, were part of a systematic campaign to harass and intimidate the Irish community. The PTA is a central instrument of this campaign. Its purpose is to prevent Irish workers in Britain from campaigning against British rule in Ireland and for solidarity with the struggle of the Irish people against British imperialism. The arrest and treatment of Val Greene is clear evidence of this.

Val Greene was arrested because, as a supporter of 'Hands Off Ireland', she is part of a political movement committed to the defeat of British imperialism in Ireland. The police stated that she had been arrested because of her 'association'. This 'association' turns out to be the fact that she had given, in the words of the

police, 'food and shelter' to the relative of an Irish prisoner. This simple act of solidarity is an 'offence' in the eyes of the British state. An 'offence' for which Val Greene was not only arrested but also assaulted.

Val Greene was held from 4am on Wednesday to 4.30pm Saturday afternoon. She was held in a stuffy cell in which there was a stinking toilet. It was not possible to flush this because the toilet chain was outside the cell. For 24 hours she was held naked, having only two filthy blankets to cover herself with in the daytime and to sleep in at night. She was repeatedly refused basic requirements such as water to drink and use of washing facilities.

She was twice assaulted by Special Branch officers. The first assault occurred when she was forcibly photographed, her head held facing the camera. On the same occasion SHE WAS ALSO ASKED TO GIVE FINGERPRINTS: When she refused to co-operate she was lifted by 4 policemen on to a table, held face down with one arm behind her back. After this, she was slapped across the face by a policeman. The second assault occurred when the police, claiming that the first set of fingerprints were unsatisfactory, again used physical force to take a second set of fingerprints. This time she was forced on to a chair, both arms pulled back and her hands handcuffed behind her.

The result of these assaults is that Val Greene suffered widespread bruising over her shoulder, the front and back of her trunk, her arms and particularly bad bruising on her upper legs. She suffered numerous abrasions on her wrist

ankle, shoulder and elbow.

When released on Saturday afternoon she found that her flat had been left in a filthy state by the police. Not only had they burst down the door, ripping away part of the door frame, but they had also left cigarette ends all over the floor along with shredded plastic cups; they had dumped some of her belongings in the bath and had drunk all of her coffee and used her tea, sugar and milk. They left the electric heater on for the entire period.

Val Greene was assaulted because she refused to co-operate with the police in the implementation of the racist anti-Irish PTA. These assaults were simply the most extreme example of coercion and duress to which she was subjected throughout her period in detention. No evidence was presented against her. She was not charged with anything at all.

The arrests, the detentions and the assaults are designed to prevent Irish people such as Val Greene and organisations such as 'Hands Off Ireland' from building a movement of opposition to British imperialist rule in Ireland.

'Hands Off Ireland' will not be intimidated. We are well aware that many other Irish people are still being held subjected to the same, or worse, treatment as our comrade. We will fight the case of our comrade by every means open to us. This is not merely in order to defend 'Hands Off Ireland' but also to defend the basic right of Irish people in Britain to live free from police tyranny, and to engage in political activity in support of the struggle to end British rule in Ireland.