

**Resist  
Home Office  
Racism**

**PICKET!**

**Re-unite  
Divided Families**

**picket: the home office  
queen anne's gate  
london sw1**

**monday march 7th, 2pm onwards**

Called by **BANGLADESH DIVIDED FAMILIES CAMPAIGN**

For details of transport, contact: (Oldham) 061-678-4743  
(Rochdale) 0706-31491  
(Tameside) 061-336-3359

Bangladeshi women and children are fighting to realise their basic right to join their husbands or parents who have settled legally in Britain. After years of bureaucratic delays, intimidating interviews at the British High Commission in Dacca, immigration appeals and tribunals in Britain . . . . there are now literally hundreds of Bangladeshi "Divided Families" fighting to be re-united. Over the last year, the Bangladeshi communities in Oldham, Rochdale, Tameside, Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield and East London have been meeting and organising to turn the suffering of individual families into a national campaign against the racist procedures of the Home Office.

The Bangladesh Divided Families Campaign, based in Oldham, was set up by a group of 18 Bangladeshi men whose families were visited last February by a team of independent investigators sent by the Manchester Law Centre. The village visits - including interviews with villagers, teachers, religious leaders, and the families themselves - confirmed the relationships. The investigators also witnessed the racist behaviour of the British High Commission in Dacca, which used completely irrelevant questions to deny entry clearance to families who they themselves admitted were genuine.

The evidence has been put before adjudicators and tribunals, and in 4 of the 5 cases heard so far, the decisions have gone in favour of the families. (The 5th case was the only one in which not all the independent evidence was actually presented). In other words, the Home Office view - that these were not genuine families - was a tissue of lies. But many of the families have exhausted the legal procedure and now have no right of appeal. They must begin again and face at least 2 years of delays. These delays can disqualify children who outgrow the age limit just because of Home Office errors.

### DELEGATION & PICKET

On March 7th, a delegation of divided families, BDFC activists, and MPs will be meeting Waddington, the Home Office Minister for Immigration and Nationality. At the same time, outside the Home Office, the BDFC is calling for a mass picket to demonstrate the anger of divided families and the depth of public support for their struggle. Without the pressure of pickets, demonstrations, publicity, etc., the Home Office will find it all too easy to ignore our demands for basic human rights. JOIN US ON MARCH 7th AND SUPPORT OUR 5 DEMANDS :

1. That all independently investigated cases be allowed at once on the basis of village reports.
2. That all other cases be allowed now, because it has been shown that the suffering caused to families is unjustified.
3. That the burden of proof should be lifted from the applicants and placed on the Home Office
4. That appellants should be present at their own appeals.
5. That children should not be disqualified from entry as a result of Home Office delays.