

NATIONAL COALITION OF ANTI-DEPORTATION CAMPAIGNS

ANNUAL REPORT 1998-99

A lot has happened since the last AGM, which was held on Saturday 11 July 1998 in Conway Hall, London.

16 campaigns have been successful.

Alieu Nying, removed to Gambia, is back in the UK with his Wife Helen, who never stopped fighting the Home Office for 15 months.

Kwabena Ampofo, deported to Ghana in August 1996, is back with his wife, who had to leave the UK to find work in Ireland for 6 months and then use her new rights as an EU citizen to be re-united with her spouse in the British Isles.

Our first campaign in Leicester, Shirin & Farida, turned out to be one of our most

spectacular. Their first public meeting was attended by over 120 people who immediately organised a demonstration outside British Airways, (who were to remove Shirin & Farida) in Birmingham. Over 200 people (photo at bottom of page) brought crowds to a standstill in Birmingham city centre. The campaign from start to victory lasted two months.

Nanga and Lemba families won after a magnificent campaign which was supported by Haggerston school.

Javid Iqbal & family were able to take advantage of the new



Michelle Ricablanca and brother John

concession on minors who had been in the UK seven years.

Michelle Ricablanca has won the right to stay in the UK but her mother is still stranded in the Philippines and the Home Office have refused to let the family be re-united

Gillian Achu and her children, who were briefly held in detention in Tynsley House in December 1997, have won.

No campaigns have lost since the last AGM.

Details of all these Campaigns have been published in our Newsletters throughout the year, therefore I am not going to say anymore about them, except to remind you that 4 Newsletters were produced during the year, 1,000

copies of each. Back copies of all 14 Newsletters can be viewed. If you want to browse through them contact John O.

NCADC, supported by other organisations, organised a picket of the Belgian Embassy on Friday 2 October, to protest against the death by forced deportation of Semira Adamu. The Embassy kept their doors closed for 2 hours while the protest lasted. Marcus Omofuma, suffered the same fate at the hands of Austrian police on Saturday 1 May. Both Semira and Marcus were from Nigeria and had sought asylum in Europe.





NCADC, with NAAR (National Assembly Against Racism) set up the Coalition for Asylum and Immigration Rights (CAIR). A demonstration organised by CAIR in February 1999 attracted over 3,000 people with numerous trade unionists from all over the country. Next a vigil was held outside St Martins in the Fields, then a lobby of Parliament on the 25th May. CAIR will continue to campaign against the Government's Asylum and Immigration Bill.

An application for Lottery Funding to enable the organisation to expand and build on the successes achieved over the past few years by helping those facing deportation to organise campaigns was successful.

NCADC have now upgraded the 2 existing coordinators posts in London and Birmingham to full-time status and 2 further offices in South London and Manchester have been located and will open shortly.

We must admit that we were not too optimistic about succeeding with the application and we were therefore pleasantly surprised when the National Lottery Charities Board accepted our application, recognising the injustices of the Immigration Laws and how deportation laws, in particular, affect families and individuals from mainly black and ethnic minority communities.

The total amount awarded was £191,516 which will provide funding over three years and enable the NCADC to carry out plans for expanding the services we provide to a greater number of threatened deportees.

Barrow Cadbury Trust, Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and Lord Ashdown Charitable Settlement have also agreed to continue funding over the next three years

Immigration and Asylum Bill

"I'll be judge I'll be jury, said cunning old Jack, I'll make my own rules and send them all back."*

403 years of immigration rules:

In 1596, Queen Elizabeth I, issued a decree that "divers blackamoors (Africans) then in the country, should be sent forth from the land"

We suspect that Jack Straw read the above before drafting the Immigration and Asylum bill and the whole bill can be summed up in much the same words "divers persons now in

the country who are non-British shall and will be sent forth from the land".

The clear intention of this Bill is that from the moment anyone arrives in the UK and asks for "Asylum" they will be punished. Not only they but anyone who advises them can also be punished.

The Bill if it goes through Parliament, will bar asylum seekers access to any form of Social Security or National Assistance. Disperse them throughout the country to where ever the Home Office likes (no choice of location will be offered), make them live in accommodation chosen by officials. Any asylum seeker refusing what the Home Office decides will be made homeless and destitute.

If they lose their claim for asylum and appeal the Appellate Authority will be empowered to impose a fine on the asylum seeker and the asylum seeker's representative (Immigration adviser/lawyer etc), if they proceed with the appeal and lose, but the Appellate Authority feels the appeal is without merit.

Any asylum seeker who is detained will have an automatic right to a bail hearing, but this hearing will not require the presence of the detainee in the same room as the magistrate. A clause in the bill will treat the detainee as being present in court if he is able (whether by means of live television link or otherwise) to see and hear the court.

In the wider field of immigration, there will be more controls and only one appeal against any Home Office intention to remove. This will be a one stop appeal in which all grounds to remain must be made, including any claim for asylum.

Visitors to the UK (for weddings, to see relatives, holidays) may be required to make financial bonds (speculation on the amount is between £5,000 to £10,000) before they can obtain entry clearance.

Immigration officers will have the power to arrest without a warrant and to use force to detain anyone subject to immigration control (the presence of the police will not be required).

Marriage registrars will be required to report any persons they suspect of being involved in a "sham" marriage and will have the power to refuse to marry them.

All in all the Immigration and Asylum Bill is "bad, sad and dangerous to human rights"



Deportations Shame our Nation

Provisional figures for deportations and persons refused and removed for 1998, show the true horror of UK immigration laws.

National media always concentrate on the numbers coming in but never about the numbers going out.

A total of 34,775 persons were kicked out of the UK in 1998 - 668 persons per week - 4 persons per hour.

Over all enforcements for 1998 are up 13.5% on 1997 but an alarming acceleration is seen in the last 6 months of 1998 the percentage increase has risen by 21% - definitely firmer and definitely faster.

Statistics are numbers and don't reveal the heart ache of the

families and individuals or the hypocrisy of the present government.

Over the last few years, thousands of people have fled Kosovo to England, very few of them were successful in getting leave to remain in the UK.

Up till NATO started bombing Serbia, Jack Straw had done everything in his power to prevent these refugees entering the UK.

Now that NATO is bombing Serbia, . . . the government (after much hesitation) is bringing Kosovan refugees in by the thousands and quite rightly so.

Yet as Jack Straw is allowing the Kosovan refugees post NATO bombing into the UK, those Kosovans who arrived before the bombing are facing deportation.

Deportations in 1st 6 months of 1998: 3,295 - 126 per week.
2nd half of 1998: 3,890 - 149 per week (up 18% on 1st 6 months)
Refused & removed 1st 6 months of 1998: 12,400 - 476 per week.
2nd half of 1998: 15,190 - 584 per week (up 22.5% on 1st 6 months)
Total enforcements in 1st 6 months of 1998: 15,695 - 602 per week.
2nd half of 1998: 19,080 - 733 per week(up 21.5% on 1st 6 months)



Trafalgar Square: CAIR demonstration February 1999

From small beginnings

Change of Constitution: when NCADC was formed in May 1995, we had no funding for the first 6 months, we were dependent on other organisations allowing us to use their equipment.

A grant of £11,000 from the CCRJ, allowed us to employ a part time worker and get the first edition of the Newsletter started.

Successful applications for Funding were made to Barrow Cadburys Trust, Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and Lord Ashdown Charitable Settlement, which allowed us to expand.

Funding over the next three years 98/99 to 2001 will amount to over a quarter of a million pounds. We now have two full time workers and two part time workers in four offices.

These are heavy responsibilities and can not be taken lightly. The other officers and myself have produced a new constitution, which will be presented today. We hope you will consider it and adopt it.

I would like to end this years annual report on a very personal note. I came to this country in 1976, by 1980 I was facing deportation.

A anti-deportation campaign was launched, that was my beginning of involvement in the anti-deportation movement. In 1986 I won my campaign, but never stopped being active in other anti-deportation cam-

paigns. Lately I am having difficulty in finding sufficient time to do all the work expected of the chair of the NCADC, because of my job at my own workplace. I have not attended all the meetings of the campaign, neither have I attended all the meetings of the officers of the Coalition. I therefore think that someone else with a lot more time should come forward to be the chair of the Coalition. It need not be an exhaustive job for one individual

For the next three years we have two full time and two part time employees, all of whom are in my opinion committed and hard working people. They will amongst themselves-organise run and manage the Coalition. With the help of the management committee.

On my part I will do everything possible whenever time permits. I will keep in close contact with John O the National co-ordinator. I will remain fully active in the activities of the West Midlands Anti-Deportation Campaigns in Birmingham, and will always be available at the end of a telephone to provide advice, support and encouragement to anyone facing or campaigning against deportation. I intend to take part in the national activities of the Coalition and campaigns to stop deportations.

I end by thanking everyone who has been involved with the coalition since its founding in June 1995.

Muhammad idrish

The following campaigns have won since last AGM

Amin & Faye Bekai	London	Lemba Family	London
Chander Gautham	London	Lepa Dzolic	Birmingham
Dandjiru Family	London	Mehmet Ali Altun	Norwich
Gillian Achu & Children	London	Michelle Ricablanca	Manchester
Helen Nying	Lancaster	Nanga Family	London
Iqbal Family	Bury	Shirin & Farida	Leicester
Kwabena Ampofo	London	Sylvie Magennis	London
		Waheed Family	Stoke

Campaigns that have won since June 1995

Ade Banjo	London	Mohammed Bashir	Birmingham
Adeel Akthar & Son	London	Morayo Scanlon	Glasgow
Adegboye Family	Edinburgh	Mohammed Saddique	Birmingham
Aladesenwa Family	Manchester	Mumtaz Begum	Bristol
Albert Tong	Cornwall	Naheed Firdus	Leeds
Aldebs Family	Cambridge	Nagat Tornish	Manchester
Antonio Kalukembi	London	Nnalue Family Campaign	London
Anwar Ul Haq	Manchester	Ogunfolami Family	London
Atia Idrees	Manchester	Ogunjinmi Family	London
Audrey Grant	Birmingham	Okolo Family	Manchester
Beatrice Osei	London	Ogunwobi Family	London
Bridget Tongo & Children	London	Onibiyo Family	London
Cheung Family	Manchester	Prakash & Prem	Birmingham
Christian Okeahalam	London	Rabah Laoufi	London
Ekrem Gokce	Barrow	Rabil-UI-Islam	London
Fatma Tahir & Family	London	Ragbhir Singh	Birmingham
Ganiat Lasoye	London	Rakosi Family	Bristol
Gemma Harries	Cardiff	Ram Family	Southall
Helen Samuel	London	Sabina Mbiri	Stockport
Hema Patel	Birmingham	Sarada Beerling	Somerset
Kamlawtee Wells	Cambridge	Shelia Agha	London
Karamjit Singh Chahal	Southall	Susan Zheng	Leeds
Lashley Family	Manchester	Tess & Kate	Leamington
Mamta Chopra	Bradford	Tony Milla	London
Mircea Ilin	London	Usman Family	Manchester
		Wale Croft	London

Still Here Still Fighting

Abdul Kadir	Middlesbrough	Firmin Gnali	Birmingham
Abdul Mahmoud	Bedford	Kay & Jennifer	Birmingham
Adriana Must Stay	East Grinstead	Jane Nalugya	London
Alfred Must Stay	Oxford	John Seegobin	Birmingham
Alphonse Kouassi	London	Latif Family	London
Abdullah Hussein	Sheffield	Lian Hu Su & Family	Manchester
Amjad Akthar	Birmingham	Luis Sanchez MSC	London
Amoaka-Atta	London	Mary Njuguna	London
Bayo Omoyiola	Liverpool	Matabo Matikani-Kabongo	London
Buba Barrow	Birmingham	Omoriegie Family	London
Capti Family	London	Ovienrioba Family Campaign	London
Chowdhury Family	Birmingham	Ozbay Family	London
Eboka Family	London	Romain & Marcel Must Stay	London
Samia Batool Shah	Leeds	Sengul Family	London

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