

Kala Sho-or

BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS

April 1986

MOHAMMED IQBAL DEFENCE CAMPAIGN

Sheffield has a long and bloody history of racist attacks on Asian Taxi Drivers. There are countless cases of racial abuse and harrasment, leading to spontaneous physical attacks. At other times these attacks are premeditated and well organised.

Mohammed Akram's case illustrated the viciousness of such an attack. Mohammed Akram was attacked in the Manor Top area, where, unknown to him, a gang of racists were waiting with bricks and bars. What followed was a brutal and caculated racist attack. The Taxi was surrounded and a barrage of bricks hurled through the windows. Shattered glass went into Akrams face and as a result he lost sight in one eye. He had to sell the Taxi and is no longer able to drive.

In yet another incident, an Asian Taxi Driver was attacked by his passenger, he managed to avoid serious injuries by defending himself with a cricket bat and consequently he was fined '500 and the City Council collaborated with the racist Police to terminate his License plate.

MASS PICKET
TUES 22 ND
APRIL 1986 10am.
CROWN COURT castle st



And now, Mohammed Iqbal faces charges of Actual Bodily Harm (ABH) for defending himself from a racist attack by his white passenger. It was the night of June 17th, 1985 when Iqbal picked up a fare from outside a night club in city centre and took him to Fox Hill Estate. Once there the White man refused to pay and started shouting racial abuses and eventually attacked with a stick on Iqbal's head. Blood started flowing from Iqbal's head, but he managed to defend himself from further attacks with a hammer from the tool box.

So, like other Black Taxi Drivers who have defended themselves from racist attacks, Mohammed Iqbal is being criminalised by the racist state Police. Mohammed Iqbal is due appear in the Crown Court from Tuesday 22nd April 1986.

The Asian Youth Movement are organising pickets at the Crown Court to defend Iqbal's innocence and his basic right to self-defence against a racist attack.

The Asian Youth Movement supports the right of Black People to defend themselves against racist attacks by whatever means necessary. This is a basic right that the racist State is trying to deny the Black Community.

SELF DEFENCE IS NO OFFENCE

THE LAW CENTRE : WHO FOR ?

The Sheffield Law centre has finally started operating, with temporary premises at St Paul's Parade, and has recently been appointing staff. However the post for a Solicitor specialising in Immigration and Nationality Law is still vacant, and out of the other workers none can speak any Asian Languages. So it seems that they have abandoned one of their original priorities, ie the racist Immigration and Nationality Laws itself.

This is the legal issue that directly affects almost every Asian family and is the most overtly racist legal area. It is also very complex and proper advice is very crucial. Countless people are falling prey to incompetent and parasitic legal practitioners, who work mostly through equally ignorant and greedy 'community leaders'. They have a knack of turning simple cases into misery and nightmares for their clients, making the job of the racist Immigration authorities much easier, just to line their own pockets.

It is impossible for those not affected by these Laws to appreciate their impact. The purpose of these Laws is to keep the dependants of the Black people settled in this country from joining them, ie to divide Black families. The horrific and inhuman extent to which they are likely to go is evident from the fact that they are considering introducing blood tests in Bangladesh, the cost of which will have to be borne by the families.

Why did we expect anything at all from the White (and Black coconuts) dominated management of the Law Centre ? Because it was set up for the benefit of the poorest sections of Sheffield's populace who have difficulty in fighting cases for which legal Aid is not available, especially civil rights issues. The majority of Asians in Sheffield are extremely poor, and legal Aid is not available for Immigration and Nationality cases, and the whole issue is also one of civil rights.

Initially the Management of the Law Centre did seem genuinely interested in tackling this difficult area and made it its priority. But perhaps they now think that it is more than they can chew. Or perhaps they have merely used the Asian's suffering and problem as a fund-obtaining ploy so that they could have a Law Centre, like so many other projects that the Asian Community never gets to know about.

The Asian Youth Movement is opposed to all racist Immigration Laws and to all deportations. We have a right to stay in this country, and so do our families and dependants ! We have a right to defend ourselves against all forms of racist attacks, including racist Immigration and Nationality Laws. The Law Centre has clearly aligned itself with the racists, and is a collaborator.

NO COMPROMISE! NO SELL-OUT!

Racist Monitoring In Job Centres

The Manpower Services Commission carried out an "Ethnic Origin Traffic Survey" in 150 Jobcentres around Britain from 10th March 1986 for a duration of two weeks. What it means basically is that the Staff were instructed to look at Jobseekers and put them into one of the five pre-determined categories according to the colour of their skins. These categories are: Black, Asian, White, Unclassified and Refusal to take part. The Commission for Racial Equality (CRE), wagged its tail in full support of the racist survey. We in The Asian Youth Movement object to this callous and racist exercise.

There were posters displayed in the Church Street Jobcentre to tell about the survey, so that people could refuse to take part, but several people coming out told us that the Staff did not tell them about the survey hence they could not refuse !

The Government have not yet revealed the real reason for this survey, but have said that it will be used for the benefit of Jobseekers. We know for a fact about the State and the Media's past misuse of statistics, it is obvious that the results will be used to stir up mass racist hysteria.

A disproportionately high number of Black people are unemployed. Yet this is not reflected in the number of Blacks using the Jobcentres since because of the racism they come across in the Jobcentres (there are no Black Staff in Sheffield's Jobcentre and the White Staff do not follow any anti-racist policy) and in potential employers. The State will instead claim that the statistics show that Black people do not use the Jobcentre because they are just not interested in work.

It should also be quite obvious (except to the CRE which is blind to the grassroots Black opinion anyway) that even lesser numbers of Black people will use the Jobcentres once they find out that their colour is being actively monitored.

We believe that there are plenty of statistics to show the extent of unemployment amongst the Black Community, and that a better way of overcoming discrimination is not gathering more statistics but by ensuring that employers do not operate racist recruitment policies.

We have doubt that the information gathered will also be available for other Departments like the Home Office, the DHSS and The Police. We also know from experience that the Statistics would not be used to 'benefit' the Black Community. There are already sections of the Black Community who are afraid to use the DHSS offices and Jobcentres, for fear that any information would be used against them by the Home Office, thus reducing their lives to extreme poverty and degradation.

In keeping with their reputation, The CRE and such bodies had kept these plans quiet, no doubt to ensure that people would not have time to react. The Civil Service Union, keeping in line with other racist Trade Union Movement have said that it is against the surveys but have hypocritically refused to take a stand against the survey through industrial action.

AYM
commonground
87 the wicker
sheffield s3

the chamche & police liason panel

The racist Police are involved in a massive campaign of infiltration and information gathering of the Black Communities throughout Britain. This campaign is being enforced more urgently after last years uprisings and rebellions in Brixton, Tottenham and Handsworth by Black Youths.

In Sheffield, the campaign is taking the form of the so called "Police/Minorities Liason Panel" where the racist Police receive information of various magnitude from the sellouts of the Black Community; the self-appointed Leaders of the Community (Chamches).

The deception, racist attitudes, racist behaviour and inaction of Sheffield's Police is clearly evident from our past experiences and more recently with the racist attacks on the Titus Family and Mohammed Iqbal.

Instead of challenging and confronting the racist Police, the Chamches have opted to collaborate and give undue credibility to them. These Chamches, through their sheer selfish greed of opportunism have sold out the Black Community by passing on vital information about people and the activities in the Black Community. The Chamches have clearly forgotten our recent history of the Sub-continent or can they not witness the struggle for liberation in Azania (South Africa) where the collaborators of the Police are burnt to death

The Asian Youth Movement demand that all dialogue with racist Police be stopped and we call on the Chamches to disband the Liason Panel now!

Azania Explodes

We are now witnessing in the illegal, minority, Apartheid regime the last kicks of a sickly and dying horse. The twists and turns, the one step forward and five steps backwards.

Meanwhile, the Townships are burning. The Township infrastructure, manned by the puppet town councils and other related structures are in a state of virtual collapse.

Like demented sailors trying to re-arrange the furniture aboard the sinking Titanic, captains of industry and business suddenly have urgent appointments with the ANC to try to avenge the day. If only they knew!

The current revolutionary upsurge of resistance, in its ceaseless, seething march is not under remote control by any organisation outside Azania. What is happening inside the country now is nothing more and nothing less than the long buried rage of the people breaking loose their shackles.

AZANIA KE YA RONA !

fraud checks

THE NATIONAL FRAUD SQUAD FROM THE DHSS ARE GOING TO CARRY OUT FRAUD CHECKS IN APRIL 1986, THESE CHECKS ARE GOING TO BE CONCENTRATED ON THE BLACK COMMUNITIES, THE PITSMOOR AREA HAS BEEN TARGETED AS THE FIRST AREA UNDER SURVEILLANCE.

IF YOU ARE IN ANY WAY HARRASSED OR THREATENED BY THE FRAUD SQUAD. PLEASE CONTACT US ON SHEFFIELD 22991 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THE AYM BELIEVE THAT THE SO CALLED 'FRAUD CHECKS' ARE BEING INSTIGATED BY THE RACIST STATE TO CRIMINALISE AND CURB NUMBER OF BLACK PEOPLE FROM CLAIMING THEIR RIGHT FULL BENEFITS.

ASIAN YOUTH MOVEMENT