



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
WARRINGTON GROUP
NEWS SHEET JANUARY 2018

Happy New Year & Best Wishes for 2018

DATES

GROUP MEETING

Next Meeting

Thurs. 18th Jan. 7.30 – 9.30 pm

Nora St. Community House, Howley, WA1 2JG

Sat. 3rd February - 9.00 to 17.00

Collection in Tesco store – Winwick Road

CULCHETH WRITE FOR RIGHTS – Dec. 9th



We were happy with the general support we received for our Write4Rights 2017 in Culcheth. There was a fairly steady number of visitors during the day so that we all felt very satisfied with the support.

65 cards were sent - (more than 2016) and 8 appeal letters were signed on behalf of the individuals at risk. We received £84.50 in donations (£99.60 in 2016) which covered the cost of posting the cards & letters totalling £75.34 giving a balance of £9.16. We also raised £27.10 from the book sale. The unsold books were donated to local charity shops. Our thanks to everyone who helped on the day and/or donated books. We felt that it was a rewarding and satisfying team effort. We are grateful to Warrington North MP for supporting this event

Collection in Tesco Winwick Rd Store

Sat. 3rd February - 9.00 to 18.00

Offers of help would be much appreciated. As usual one hour slots with another volunteer. This collection is Indoors!
 e-mail: benkin64@talktalk.net

Newchurch Parish - Christmas Tree Event

We entered a tree in this event which was the same weekend as the write for rights.



Our tree featured photos of the Individuals at risk in the Write for Rights booklet.

TEODORA DEL CARMEN VASQUEZ



A court in El Salvador rejected the appeal and upheld the 30-year prison sentence of Teodora del Carmen Vasquez who was charged with homicide under the country's strict abortion law after she says she suffered a stillbirth.

Teodora was seeking to have her conviction overturned after spending nearly a decade in jail after the birth of her stillborn daughter in 2007.

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INDIVIDUALS AT RISK – January 2018

Dumdaw Nawng Latt and Langjaw Gam Seng
- MYANMAR



In North East Burma the military have been bombing villages and killing civilians. The UN is investigating them for possible war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Two ethnic Kachin Baptist leaders, Dumdaw Nawng Latt and Langjaw Gam Seng had been helping journalists report on military abuses in that area. They were arrested on 24th Dec. 2016 and for months their whereabouts was unknown causing an international outcry. They have been charged with unlawful association and using a motorbike without a license. *Langjaw's prison sentence is 2 years 3 months & Dumdaw's is 4 years 3 months – an additional 2 years for criminal defamation (communicating with foreign journalists).* Dumdaw is suffering ill health and Langjaw's family is suffering severe financial hardship.



If you have time send this letter to embassy in London appealing for the release of these two Baptist pastors.

NEWS - ISRAEL & PALESTINE

HASAN GHASSAN GHALEB SAFADI



On 7 Dec., Palestinian human rights defender and NGO worker **Hasan Safadi** was released from prison after spending 586 days in administrative detention without charge or trial. He is back home with his family in Beit Hanina, in occupied East Jerusalem.

Hasan Safadi's message: "Thank you all so much for your support and for believing in the work of Palestinian human rights defenders. Our strength is in our solidarity in standing up for each other's rights."

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PROTESTS IN NABI SALEH



Palestinian activist Ahed with her mother Nariman [Al Jazeera]

The village of Nabi Saleh remains an AI campaign case, because of the excessive violence used regularly by Israeli security forces to suppress the Friday demonstrations against privations resulting from a local illegal colony.

Ahed Tamimi, a well-known member of the activist family, was arrested in a night raid by security forces on 19th December, following a video of her slapping a soldier during a military incursion went viral.

On Tuesday, 14-year-old Muhammad Fadel Tamimi, Ahed's cousin, remained in a medically induced coma after being shot in the head on Friday in Nabi Saleh with a rubber-coated steel bullet. Ahed and Nariman Tamimi remain in detention at the time of writing.

BEDOUIN COMMUNITY at RISK of EXPULSION



On 16 November, the Israeli army issued a military order that would displace the entire Jabal al-Baba Bedouin community (*picture*), belonging to the Jahalin tribe, from their current location in Area C of the West Bank, east of Jerusalem. Jabal al Baba is one of 46 Bedouin communities at risk of forcible transfer. The community consists of 58 families - approximately 290 people.