



# NEWS from WARRINGTON GROUP

ACTION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

HOPE FOR HUMANITY

**DATES****Thurs. 21st MARCH 7.30 – 9.30 pm**

GROUP MEETING - Nora Street Community House, Howley. WA1 2JG

**FINANCES**

We raised a total of £1329.58 during 2018, around £400 more than 2017. We sent £1000 plus the £72 group affiliation fee to AIUK. We currently have a balance of £402.19.

**INDIVIDUAL @ RISK –SALIMA MEMCHA-INDIA**

Salima Memcha's husband was killed allegedly by security forces in 2010. Salima has been supporting her family

whilst seeking justice for her husband. Hundreds of people in Manipur have lost family members in alleged extrajudicial killings. Together, these families have formed a collective EEVFAM documenting over 1500 executions by security forces since 1978. In July 2017, the Supreme Court ordered an investigation into 90 of the executions. Now EEVFAM members are being targeted in an effort to silence them while the investigation is underway. Salima's house was vandalised by police and paramilitaries and she was threatened & warned that they were keeping a close eye on her. Others have also been intimidated, harassed or attacked in 2018.

**Please send the attached letter to the Indian High Commissioner in London.**

**AIUK Campaign Plans for 2019**

- human rights defenders
- 'I welcome' (refugees).
- UK human rights- protection after Brexit
- online violence against women,
- The Human Rights Act, Domestic Violence Bill & Gender Recognition Act.
- Syria, Yemen and Israel / Palestine

**LETTERS SENT**

1. Families Together: asking MP to facilitate refugee family reunions in a number of ways.
2. Check Out Campaign, letters to trip Advisor & Airbnb urging them to pull out of illegal Israeli Settlements.
3. On behalf of Bedouin leader Sheikh Sayyah Abu Mdeighim al-Turi, serving a 10-month sentence for building structures in his village.
4. To the Palestinian Prime Minister on behalf of Suha Jbara, who says she was tortured in detention.

**STOCKTON HEATH COLLECTION****Sat. 13<sup>th</sup> April**

This is a plea for help with the collection. It is getting increasingly difficult to find 14 helpers to fill all the slots from 9 am to 4pm with 2 collectors per hour. If you think you may be able to offer an hour of your time would you let me know suggesting a convenient time:

E-mail: [benkin64@taltalk.net](mailto:benkin64@taltalk.net)  
Tel: **268871** (you can leave a message)  
text **07890 565 846**

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY****Women Making a Difference in their Communities**

Copies of a leaflet featuring the 15 women were distributed at a couple of Women's World Day of Prayer services and a copy was put on the group's website.

**Twitter & Facebook**

Starting before International Women's Day and continuing after, one of the women will be featured each day.

**12 of the women are on page 2 of this newsletter.**

website:

**CONTACT:** Evelyn Kinsella, 39 Beechways, Appleton, WA4 5ER. Tel: 268871[www.amnesty.org.uk/warrington](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/warrington)

@AmnestyWarrngtn

[www.facebook.com/AmnestyWarrington](http://www.facebook.com/AmnestyWarrington)

# IN CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

## Women making a difference in their communities

### ZAMBIA – Natasha Kampengele



Natasha has worked as a biomedical trainee technician for the last ten years and is currently on a course for biomedical engineering technologists. "Sometimes people do not have confidence in you to do the job because you are a woman - so we have to prove them wrong. The course has really boosted my confidence."

### THAILAND-MYANMAR BORDER-Dr Cynthia Maung,



Nearly thirty years ago, Cynthia founded the Mae Tao Clinic which now provides free healthcare and family planning services to 150,000 displaced patients every year. We started with 5 beds—and the floor, of course. Today, 3,000 babies a year are born at the clinic to refugees and migrants who travel great distances to receive treatment here. It is a safe space for them."

### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - Ana Maria Belique



Sociologist & activist Ana Maria has been advising people on how to have their rights recognised after a court ruling stripped citizenship from thousands born to undocumented migrants. "If they don't understand they are not going to fight for their rights"



### UGANDA - Agnes Namuganza

Agnes works as an agricultural extension worker after acquiring a diploma in animal husbandry. "In the first week of my placement, watched by most of the village I helped deliver a calf that was breached. The farmer thought I would not manage. I was carried shoulder high."



### BANGLADESH – Sabina Yasmin

Sabina has been disabled since she was six months old. After being visited by disability activists, she too became an activist, helped form a local Women's Council and was awarded a prize last year by the Ministry of Women's Affairs.



### ETHIOPIA - Assegedech Asfaw

Assegedech is the founder of the Assegedech Asfaw Aged Persons' Association. She built living quarters on her land for a number of older people and a further 20 come each day to be fed. I believe that hard work can change people's lives."



### ETHIOPIA-Munaja

Munaja is part of a coffee collective and is passionate about recruiting other women to the group. "Life is not easy, and it's harder in rural areas. As women, we never used to be involved in these activities, so it's good to have this opportunity now. I hope more and more women come and join these activities."



### UGANDA - Rehema Namarome

Rehema set up the United Deaf Women's Organisation in 2002 which now empowers 3,000 deaf women and girls. "As an educated and successful deaf woman, I enjoy meeting parents and challenging the stereotype that all deaf women are stupid. I'm living proof that deaf women can go to school and achieve."



### INDIA - Sister Veena Jacob

Sister Veena has been working with Dalit women for the last 11 years. "I love to see women and children growing in courage, taking bold steps and fighting for their rights in both family and society."



### KENYA - Esther Nyaga

Esther is working with community groups in her area to coordinate the planting and care of hundreds of thousands of tree seedlings. She is helping the community to improve biodiversity, protect vital sources of water and improve livelihoods.



### LEBANON Amani Damerji

Amani helps Syrian refugee children to process their emotions through games, theatre and the arts. She has been helping them to learn that violence is not normal and develop the skills needed to cope with their experiences.



### JORDAN Duaa Al-Daraweesh,

"Being a female humanitarian worker can be challenging. I've had to overcome a lot of prejudice. I remotely manage people working in Syria, & it can be tough to assert myself as a woman. Many men think they shouldn't be led & managed by a woman. I had to prove myself & what I'm capable of, before they changed their attitudes."

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." - Martin Luther King, Jr.