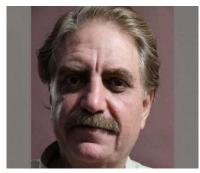
STOCKPORT Amnesty SPRING 2021





IDRIS KHATTAR – Our Individual at Risk (IAR)

Idris Khattar is a Human Rights researcher who worked to document cases of people who had disappeared in Pakistan. By a cruel twist of fate, he has now become one of the very cases that he would have worked to help.

Idris has been held at an unknown location by the military in Pakistan since he was forcibly abducted in November 2019. His detention was only revealed in June 2020 and his family still do not

know where he is or the charges against him, although his brave daughter Talia has been able to meet him at a secret location after campaigning tirelessly on his behalf.

We are one of a number of groups who write on behalf of Idris each month to different officials in Pakistan. There is currently a petition on the <u>Amnesty.org website here</u> which we would encourage you to sign and share on social media.

Stockport Amnesty 50th Anniversary Celebration Saturday 24th April 2021 8pm

We'd love you to join us for a streamed video celebrating 60 years of Amnesty International and 50 years of the Stockport Group. To be followed by a get together online to raise a toast and remember the people and campaigns we have worked for over the years.

Book your place at: https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BADQ

Anoosheh Ashoori's birthday – show your solidarity



British-Iranian dual national Anoosheh Ashoori has been arbitrarily imprisoned in Iran's notorious Evin prison for over three and half years. In that time, his family have campaigned behind the scenes and recently more publicly to get him safely home to them, where he belongs. With a number of underlying health concerns, they fear that if he contracts Covid in prison his life could be at grave risk.

Thursday 8th April **will be Anoosheh's 67th birthday** and the third birthday he spends in prison.

What can you do?

- AIUK will be launching a new petition aimed at the UK government on the 8th April keep an eye on our Twitter feed on the day. Please sign the petition and share it with friends, family and over social media.
- Please show Anoosheh, his wife Sherry and their two children, Elika and Aryan, birthday solidarity on his birthday on the 8th April write your messages of solidarity on Twitter, using the hashtag @FreeAnoosheh. You can do this from your group account and your personal account, we want them to get as many messages as possible so they know they haven't been forgotten!
- Please also send private messages of solidarity straight away to the email: Anooshehsolidarity@amesty.org.uk we will be compiling these to send over to Anoosheh and Sherry to show them how much support they have!

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

At this time of year we ask our members for a donation towards the cost of group affiliation to Amnesty UK and room hire. This is not obligatory, but we suggest a donation of £10 or what you can afford. This year for ease of collection we suggest donations are made to our justgiving page listed below, which will go directly to the Amnesty Charitable Trust. If you prefer to give by other means (BACS, cheque or cash) Jim, our treasurer will be giving details at our February zoom meeting, or can be contacted directly at Jimcobley@yahoo.co.uk

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stockport-amnesty

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Our google group is where all messages go to all our members.

To join our googlegroups for minutes and for general membership, send a message to: amnestystockport@gmail.com

URGENT ACTION – INDONESIA



Environmental human rights defenders in Indonesia who work to protect and promote environmental rights and those linked to access to land are increasingly harassed and criminalized when state and economic actors perceive their activities as a hindrance to the implementation of development policies.

Samsul Bahri and Samsir, father and son from a farmer community in North Sumatra province, have been detained since 10 February 2021 in what is feared to be spurious charges. Advocates have labelled their arrest

as a form of criminalization that specifically aims to stifle the farmers' work in rehabilitating a mangrove forest in the area and their work to claim their rights to land.

Follow <u>this link</u> to sign a petition asking for the Release Samsul Bahri and Samsir and to drop the charges against them unless there is sufficient credible and admissible evidence that they have committed an internationally recognized offence. Further information on this case.

OUR MEETINGS are currently held by conference call at 8pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

The meeting code is sent out monthly to our googlegroup members, or you can ask for details by emailing amnestystockport@gmail.com

Festival of Social Justice



Join the Central Region as they host a Festival of Social Justice. Taking place between April 16 and May 31, the festival sees 40 local Amnesty International groups creating an exciting online programme of speakers, music, poetry evenings, photography exhibitions, theatre and panel discussions. Plus there's the chance for local activists to 'stand' on a virtual soapbox and share what social justice means to you.

All events for the Festival of Social Justice are free but advance booking is recommended. Find a full programme and booking information here.

Follow the festival on Central Region groups' individual social media channels with the hashtags

#SocialJustice #SpeakOutForSocialJustice