



# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL UK JULY 2021

## NEWS from WARRINGTON GROUP

ACTION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

HOPE FOR HUMANITY

**No GROUP MEETINGS until further notice**

**PLANT SALE - Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June**



The plant sale in Gill's driveway raised £345.60 for funds – this was an amazing amount, more than was expected as for various reasons Gill and Evelyn didn't think they had as many

plants as previously. Well done Gill and Evelyn! Special thanks to Gill and Bryan for hosting the event and for all the work involved.

**REPORT - FORGOTTEN BEHIND BARS: COVID-19 & PRISONS**



The spread of COVID-19 in prisons and other detention facilities has thrown into stark relief

systemic threats to health in detention such as overcrowding and poor sanitary conditions and laid bare years of underinvestment and neglect of health services in prisons. Against this backdrop, this report summarizes a review of 69 governments' response to COVID-19 in detention facilities. It concludes that the measures governments have introduced to prevent the spread of COVID-19 have often been inadequate and, in some cases, have themselves led to human rights violations.

**PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM**



**Migrants cross English Channel by sea © Luke Dray**

Responding to RECENT reports that the Home Secretary is seeking powers to send people seeking asylum in the UK to be processed in an offshore hub,

Tom Davies, Refugees Campaign Manager at Amnesty International UK, said:

"It appears yet again, the Home Office plans to make unworkable laws, spend huge amounts of taxpayers' money and take a shockingly cruel approach to people seeking asylum.

"The UK receives very few people seeking asylum and yet the government continues this utterly reckless discussion about finding another country to carry out its responsibilities.

"If true, this move would be extremely damaging and will give a green light to other countries to also shirk their responsibility.

The UK has an international obligation to provide a safe haven for those fleeing conflict and persecution.

**THE FUTURE OF AFGHAN WOMEN & GIRLS**

Two decades of hard-won progress by Afghanistan's women and girls is at serious risk of being unravelled, Amnesty highlighted the limited involvement of women in the peace talks and the major strides on women's rights that are now under threat.

website:



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## ISRAELI POLICE USED 'RUTHLESS EXCESSIVE FORCE' AGAINST PALESTINIAN PROTESTERS



Israeli police committed a catalogue of violations against Palestinians in Israel and occupied East

Jerusalem - including using unlawful force against peaceful protesters, sweeping mass arrests, and subjecting detainees to torture and other ill-treatment - during and after recent armed hostilities in Israel and Gaza, Amnesty International said today.

Amnesty researchers spoke to numerous witnesses and Amnesty's Crisis Evidence Lab verified 45 videos and other forms of digital media to document more than 20 cases of Israeli police violations between 9 May and 12 June. Hundreds of Palestinians were injured and a 17-year-old boy was shot dead.

### SECRET DOCUMENTS

The government has been hiding document from Parliament for the last seven years. They outline the UK's policy for lethal targeting of people overseas - including armed drones.



Adel al Manthari narrowly escaped with his life when his car was hit by a drone strike in 2018 in Yemen. But four members of his family were killed that day - and he's now permanently disabled. He thinks the UK government is involved in the strike that forever changed his life. **He's publishing an open letter asking the UK government if they're part of the drone strike that destroyed his family.**

Survivors are rare. Adel al-Mandhari recounted how his car was thrown through the air by the blast of a drone's missile. He lost his legs and an arm and was burned all over his body. To this day, he doesn't know why he and his family were targeted.

## GOOD NEWS

RELEASED

**Nassima al-Sada and Samar Badawi were detained in 2018 for their peaceful activism for women's rights in Saudi Arabia**



Nassima bravely campaigned for an end to the male guardianship system and the driving ban on women. For this, she was sentenced to five years in prison and five years travel ban, backdating to when she was first arrested in July 2018. With two years suspension, Nassima was finally released earlier this month. The travel ban still stands, and we will continue to call on the Saudi government to lift it with immediate effect.

Nassima's release is promising news and a huge relief for her family and thousands of supporters, but her sentence shows the cruelty of the Saudi authorities. Nassima has dedicated her life to campaigning for human rights. She should never have been imprisoned in the first place.

### Another reunion in El Salvador



After waiting for 40 years, Raul Orellana has been reunited with his maternal family. He was forcibly separated from his biological family when he was just four years old, following an operation conducted in 1981 by the Guardia Nacional, during which his mother was killed. His sister, aged 2, was also disappeared. "To me it means to live again", said Raul Orellana, who still holds the hope of being reunited with his sister: "I know my sister lives, I have faith that someday I will find her. I always carry it inside me. We were just two. I always carry her in my mind and heart..."

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