



Jeremy Corbyn MP and Amnesty International

look forward to seeing you at an evening of discussion with **Mordechai Vanunu**

Wednesday, 18 June, 6pm – 7.15pm Committee Room 10, House of Commons, SW1A OAA

Also present:

Avigdor Feldman – (Human Rights) Lawyer for Mordechai Vanunu

House of Commons MAIN Entrance - Cromwell Green: Nearest tube: Westminster:

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Allow 30 minutes for security clearance and please bring this invitation with you.

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Background information:

Mordechai Vanunu is a former technician at Israel's nuclear plant near the southern town of Dimona. After revealing details of Israel's nuclear arsenal to the British newspaper, The Sunday Times, in 1986, he was abducted by Israeli secret service (Mossad) agents in Italy and secretly taken to Israel. He was tried and sentenced to 18 years' imprisonment, in conditions that Amnesty International at the time called cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment: spending 11 of those years in solitary confinement. Ten years after serving his full sentence he still faces severe restrictions that arbitrarily infringe on his freedom of movement, expression and association. Since his release in 2004, he has been subjected to various orders from the Israeli Government and Military which - among other things - bar him from leaving Israel, and participating in internet chats and require him to seek permission to communicate with any foreign nationals, including journalists.

Avigdor Feldman was born in 1948, the son of Holocaust survivors. He studied law at Tel Aviv University, and was admitted to practice law in 1974. In 1985, he later obtained his master's degree in civil rights. He has worked for the Israeli Association for Civil Rights (ACRI) and is one of the key founders of B'Tselem (The Israeli Information Centre for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories) and now serves on their board. He also founded the Litigation Center of the Association of Civil Rights, and in 1991 was one of the founders of the Public Committee Against torture in Israel (PCATI). In the same year Feldman received the Robert F Kennedy Human Rights Award.

Feldman has worked on many prominent criminal cases related to civil rights and of a political nature. He has petitioned the Israeli Supreme Court many times on behalf of human rights organisations, and among them, a case calling for a judicial inquiry into the Sabra and Shatila massacres in 1982.

Representation of Mordechai Vanunu: Feldman represented Mordechai Vanunu shortly after Vanunu was abducted and forcibly brought to Israel in 1986 for a trial in which he was charged for leaking facts and photos of the Dimona nuclear facility to the Sunday Times newspaper. Vanunu was convicted of treason which the Israeli law defined as granting of assistance to the enemy during a time of war and was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment. Vanunu's main defence at the trial was that he had no intention of harming state security, but acted out of genuine belief that the information dealing with Israel's military nuclear capability could not be kept secret in a democracy. Feldman continued to represent Vanunu during his incarceration especially in his prolonged struggle to get out of solitary confinement, which had a severe effect on his mental stability. Only after eleven years he was moved to a less restrictive cell.

Since Vanunu's release from prison, Feldman has represented him, mainly on matters related to the severe restrictions placed on him barring him from leaving the country, going to the occupied Palestinian territories and contacting non-citizens on any subject. After more than ten years of appeals to the Supreme Court, these prohibitions remain in force.



HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON SW1A 0AA

To Mordechai Vanunu

May 2014

Invitation to speak to members of the United Kingdom's Houses of Parliament in June 2014

To mark the tenth anniversary of Mr Mordechai Vanunu's release from prison and the imposition of restrictions on his freedom, it gives us great pleasure to invite Mr Vanunu to the UK to meet with Members of both Houses of Parliament.

The signatories of this letter are from all political parties, representing hundreds of thousands of British constituents, and would be honoured to receive Mr Vanunu to speak about his experience as an anti-nuclear whistle-blower.

On 5 October 1986 the Sunday Times published his report on nuclear weapons that he deemed to be harmful to humanity and as a result, Mr Vanunu was arrested and subsequently tried in Israel, where he served an 18 year sentence, 11 of those years being spent in solitary confinement.

The treatment of Mr Vanunu while in custody raised concerns which were voiced in both houses of the British parliament. Since his release, the restrictions placed on Mr Vanunu curtailing his freedom of movement, expression, and assembly have been the subject of Early Day Motions and Parliamentary Questions in the House of Commons.

We trust that Mr Vanunu will be able to accept this invitation and look forward to welcoming him as guest and speaker in June 2014.



Jeremy Corbyn MP

Sir Peter Bottomley MP

Jonathan Edwards MP

Grahame M Morris MP

Crispin Blunt MP

Lord Judd

Dr Sarah Wollaston MP

Chris Williamson MP

John McDonnell MP

Baroness Miller of Chilthorne Domer

Mike Wood MP

Kelvin Hopkins MP

Lord Steele of Aikwood

Linda Riordan MP

Baroness Stern

Sandra Osborne MP

Glenda Jackson MP

Lord Phillips of Sudbury

Nik Dakin MP

Lord Avebury

Baroness Jenny Tongue

Mark Durkin MP

Baroness Kinnock of Holyhead

lan Lavery MP

Dennis Skinner MP

Yasmin Qureshi MP

Paul Flynn MP

Martin Caton MP

Lord Campbell-Savours

Sarah Teather MP

Rt Hon Ann Clwyd MP

Diane Abbott MP

Caroline Lucas MP

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Martin Horwood MP

Elfyn Llwyd MP

Roger Godsiff MP

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Cathy Jamieson MP

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Mike Hancock MP