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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

WHAT? WHO?

HOW? WHY?

WHERE? WHEN?

WHAT?

Amnesty International is a world wide Human Rights movement, independent of any government, political faction, ideology or religious creed.

It works for the release of men and women imprisoned for their non-violent beliefs, colour, ethnic origin or religion. Or even friends and relatives whose only 'crime' was to know them.

Amnesty International also opposes torture, capital punishment and unfair and unrecognised trial.

WHO?

The men and women throughout the world who are members of Amnesty International work voluntarily.

They are MPs, housewives, working people, teachers, students etc. In other words, anyone who believes in freedom of belief, expression, political views and religion.

These are backed up by a paid International Secretariat which forms the nucleus of Amnesty International, responsible for overall research and administration.

HOW?

The starting point for the entire Amnesty International process is the Research Department of the International Secretariat.

Its workers are commissioned to monitor arrests, wherever in the world they might occur. In many cases they visit the country involved and personally investigate the circumstances and the reasons for the persecution and find out the nature of the 'crime'. Be it religious, ethnic, political or colour based. Then Amnesty International's streamlined and efficient system of National Sections takes over.

The prisoner is 'adopted' by an Amnesty International Group. (To ensure the Group's activities are unbiased, prisoners are adopted in three's. One from the East, one from the West, and one from a non-aligned country).



Kim Chi Ha
South Korean poet and writer. Outspoken criticism of authoritarian government has meant regular imprisonment during past 14 years. 35 years old, suffers from tuberculosis. Faces possible death sentence. Writings include "Cry of the People".



Viktor Fainberg
Soviet academic. Arrested 1968 on a demonstration in Red Square, Moscow, in protest against invasion of Czechoslovakia. Resisted attempts to force him to admit mental illness and to inject him with drugs. Four hunger strikes. Imprisoned for 5 1/2 years, mainly in prison mental hospitals. Released after international campaigns. Now resident in London, actively campaigning for freedom of other Soviet prisoners of conscience.



Noureddine Ben Khader
Tunisian research student. Arrested in 1968 for "subversive activities". Amnestied in 1970 but re-arrested two years later and sentenced to serve remainder of original 16 year term. Severely tortured on both occasions. In Bizerta jail where cells are effectively dungeons. Suffers from tuberculosis - one lung removed.



Elsa "Coca" Rudolphy
Chilean actress. Arrested in Santiago one month after September 1973 military coup. "Crime" thought to have been involvement with actors' union. Electrical torture and beatings left permanent damage to hearing. One year three months in prison before trial. Wide publicity abroad lead to her acquittal. Left for UK ten months after release, where she joined fellow Chilean actors to form theatre company. Featured in the "Adopted" section of the predecessor of this leaflet.



Vladimir Yurievich Makarov
Retired Bulgarian researcher, arrested 1973. Accused of "ideological subversion". Said to have been planning destruction of socialist order presumably because of involvement in discussions on human rights and political dissent. 61 years old, sentenced to five years' imprisonment.



Tobias Manyonga
Detained in Rhodesia in 1967 under Emergency Powers and held without trial or formal charge. Wrote in 1969 to Amnesty from Guelo prison. Adopted by two groups who sent help to his wife and four children and financed legal aid for his appeal to review tribunal. Released August 1972 to take up place found for him by Amnesty group at university in USA.

Then letters are sent to governments, embassies, leading newspapers and the prisoner's family and friends. Public protests are organised and wide support mobilized. When the occasion demands, money is sent to pay for defence lawyers and to help the prisoner's family. As an Amnesty International member, you will support and help these activities; as an Amnesty International *Group* member, you will participate directly in these activities. It's a long and tedious process, but it works.

WHY?

It is difficult to imagine just how futile and hopeless your belief, your tenacity, and your future can seem when you are persecuted, imprisoned, even tortured for something you believe is right by an authority that believes you're wrong.

Knowing that there is someone who will find out, see your point of view and take up your fight *effectively*, must lessen that futility and hopelessness. That's why!

WHERE?

Amnesty International has adopted prisoners in over 90 countries. It has 33 National Sections, 97,000 members and 1,660 Adoption Groups.

In Britain there are over 130 Adoption Groups and over 4,000 individual members.

Not enough by far. Hence this leaflet.

Countries with National Sections and/or Groups

Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Britain, Canada, Curacao, Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Ghana, Greece, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Sri Lanka, Sweden, South Korea, Switzerland, U.S.A., U.S.S.R., Venezuela.



WHEN?

Amnesty International began in Britain in 1961 as a 1 year campaign. Since then, it has grown into the largest international voluntary organisation dealing with human rights in the world.

Its headquarters are still in Britain, at Theobald's Road in London.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Become a member. As an individual member (£4 per annum) you support the organisation, receive its monthly newspaper and other literature and add your voice to those concerned with the preservation of basic human rights.

Join an Adoption Group. Support the work for the release of 3 prisoners and for the relief of their families.

Join the 'Campaign for the Prisoners of the Month'. Send 3 special letters or cards each month for 3 urgent cases. Letters and cards are sent to government authorities from members all over the world, as evidence of the weight of public opinion. The cost is the annual subscription plus 50p.

Send a donation. Amnesty International works. Its members are volunteers. But its success, its continued existence and its expansion require funds as well. Urgently.

Post to: Amnesty International, British Section, 55 Theobald's Road, London WC1X 8SP.

- I wish to become a member and enclose £4 for my first annual subscription. (OAPs and Students £2.00).
- I wish to become a member and also join the 'Campaign for the Prisoners of the Month' and enclose £4.50 for my first annual subscription and contribution to the campaign.
- I wish to join an Adoption Group. Please send the address of my nearest Group.
- I enclose £_____ as a donation.

Name _____

Address _____

Tel: _____