

MS 2141 Papers of the Indian Workers Association, 1959-1998

Administrative History

The first Indian Workers Association was probably first formed in Coventry in 1938 as an organisation primarily concerned with campaigning for Indian Independence. It appears that activities were less organised after 1947, but local groups revived during the 1950s as Punjabi migrants began to settle in British towns and cities. A co-ordinating committee was formed so that local branches established in London, Southall, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Leamington Spa would not function separately, and a constitution was adopted at a conference of these groups in 1958. The organisation was centralised in 1959 at an inaugural meeting held in a library on Holborn High Street, London, during a two day conference. At this meeting the programme of the Indian Workers Association was adopted, and the name formalised as the Indian Workers Association Great Britain, with a centralised body rather than a federal body. The local Indian Workers Associations were transformed into local branches, and branch committees and a central committee established.

A report by Jagmohan Joshi states that the Indian Workers Association was 'founded to cater for the special needs of Indian people who had come to live and work in the West Midlands area, and the constitution states that the Indian Workers Association was concerned to organise Indians to improve their conditions of life and work. Its aims and objectives initially focused on welfare activities, and emphasised the need to promote co-operation, unity and friendship with the British Labour and Trade Union movements, and with other organisations with similar aims. The Association was also concerned with maintaining and strengthening interest in the history of the Indian peoples; their languages, social, scientific and cultural achievements. Later amendments to the constitution placed greater emphasis on political campaigns, particularly in opposing racism and fascism in Britain, uniting with other black organisations and any group with similar aims, supporting national liberation and anti-imperialist struggles in other countries - particularly in India - and participating in the struggles of the British working class.

The Indian Workers Association was a voluntary organisation and all its activities were financed by members' subscriptions and donations. Membership was originally open to all Indians over the age of eighteen. The age limit was later lowered to sixteen, and membership extended to all immigrants of Indian origin and their descendants. All members of the association were also members of their local branch. One third of each year's subscription fees were used by the national association, and the remainder was kept by local branches. Larger collections of funds were organised by activists and branch committee members as the need arose. For example, in 1991, there was a fire at the organisation's premises, the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, and funds were raised to cover the cost of building repairs through an appeal to Indian Workers Association members and the Trade Union movement.

The majority of the membership was Punjabi, mainly from two districts - Hoshiapur and Jalandher, known as Dwaba - and most of these members came to Britain during the 1950s. Later on a small number of Gujarati members also joined the Association. Members of the Executive Committee of the Association were all Punjabi, but the Indian Workers Association aimed to represent the viewpoint of not only the whole Indian community, but the whole of the black community, and the socialist principles of the working class in Britain. Membership was open to both men and women, although in practice few women served on

either branch or national committees. In 1992, there were proposals for an autonomous women's organisation, the Indian Women Workers Association, formally affiliated to the Indian Workers Association, to try to improve the situation and prevent any feelings of intimidation. The structure of the Indian Workers Association initially consisted of a General Council of all the Executive Committee members of local Indian Workers Associations. This group formulated the policy and programme of the organisation. A General Meeting was held every two years. Executive Committee members of local Indian Workers Associations were automatically members of the General Council. By 1970, the functions of the General Council had been overtaken by the National Conference, which was held every two years to elect the Central Committee and to make changes to the Constitution.

The Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association was originally elected by the General Council from among its members, and later elected at the National Conference of the organisation. It was elected on an annual basis, and was responsible for carrying out the general policy and the administrative and organisational day to day business of the association, and for the interpretation of the constitution. It also presided over disputes with local Indian Workers Associations. All decisions at all levels of the organisation were taken by a majority vote by members or office bearers.

Offices within the Indian Workers Association initially consisted of the posts of President; Senior Vice President; Vice President; three General Secretaries; Financial Secretary; Propaganda Secretary; Education Secretary; Welfare Secretary; and Cultural Secretary. Individuals who had been members of the association for at least one year were eligible to stand for election to these offices. The offices of Education and Cultural Secretary were later amalgamated. By 1961 there was also only one General Secretary. By 1970 the office bearers of the Central Executive Committee, also known as the Central Committee included President; Vice-President; General Secretary; Assistant Secretary; Treasurer; Organiser; Cultural Secretary; and Welfare and Education Secretary. During the 1970s the posts of Sports and Youth; and Women's Organisers were added.

Local Indian Workers Associations had a local Executive Committee, and held regular meetings. They were also expected to hold Biennial General Meetings, at which officers of the local Executive Committee were elected. Officers of local associations had the power to pass by-laws, provided they conformed with both the Constitution and the directives of the Central Executive Committee and General Council. By 1970, the local Indian Workers Associations were known as branches, and their committees were branch committees.

Members, branch committee members and office bearers who did not fulfil their responsibilities or worked against the policy and programme of the Association faced disciplinary action from the branch committee or Central Committee as appropriate, and could be expelled from the organisation. All members had the right of appeal to a higher body, including the National Conference

Avtar Jouhl states in his Birmingham Black Oral History Project interview that the South Staffordshire branch was the first Indian Workers Association to be formed in Britain in the 1950s. It had an office in Wolverhampton, and Jagmohan Joshi and Avtar Jouhl contacted the Indian Workers Association London office about organising a branch in the Smethwick area of Birmingham, which became the Birmingham branch. A. S. Rai was General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association in 1961, and the national organisation seems to have been firmly based in London and Southall during this period. Avtar Jouhl took over as General Secretary in 1961, and the focus of national organisation probably move to Birmingham at this point. Avtar Jouhl was succeeded as General Secretary by Jagmohan Joshi in 1964, who held this

position until his death in 1979, and during this period, the national organisation was probably at its most active and radical in terms of its campaigning activities. The work of the national organisation during this period seems to have been closely bound up with the aims and campaigning activities of the Birmingham branch; indeed, the same personnel appear at the highest levels of these two groups.

Headed paper from the early 1960s gives the address of the 'Head Office' in London and the Birmingham branch, suggesting that the power of the organisation centres around these two areas. Printed paper throughout the collection which was used in correspondence written by members of the Central Executive Committee includes the names of office-bearers and Central Executive Committee members, enabling researchers to trace changes in personnel.

The Indian Workers Association led by Joshi campaigned against discrimination and social exclusion facing Indian and other black and Asian migrants in Britain through poor housing conditions, employment inequalities such as the segregation of facilities in factories where its members worked; the operation of a 'colour bar' in employment and education, as well as in shops, public houses, and other leisure facilities; and the restrictions of immigration legislation introduced during the 1960s and 1970s. It supported industrial disputes involving black and Asian workers at a number of workplaces in the Midlands and expressed broad solidarity with the Trade Union movement - attending May Day rallies, encouraging members to join trade unions and supporting the miners strikes of the early 1970s and 1984-1985 - although it also campaigned against racial discrimination within trade unions. The organisation aimed to support all black and Asian workers and general working class struggles.

The Indian Workers Association worked in co-ordination with the Pakistani Workers Association, Kashmiri Workers Association, and later Bangladeshi Workers Association, from the early 1960s onwards, since the organisations had similar programmes, the same progressive outlook and support for the anti-imperialist struggle throughout the world, and the struggle against racism in Britain. These organisations, particularly in Birmingham, also participated in the campaigns of the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination, formed in Birmingham by Victor Yates, MP for Ladywood, who was the first president. Maurice Ludmer of the Jewish Ex Servicemen's Association played a significant role, together with Jagmohan Joshi and Shirley Fossick, who later became Shirley Joshi.

The Indian Workers Association remained concerned with political and social developments in India and campaigned in particular against the repression of political opponents, particularly trade union members and communist supporters, by Indira Gandhi's government during the 1960s and 1970s and the imposition of a State of Emergency between 1975 and 1977. Many of the leadership and activist members of the Indian Workers Association were communist sympathisers or members of the Communist Party of India, and through the fraternal relations between the Communist Party of India and the Communist Party of Great Britain, links were formed between the two organisations. Many of the leaders of the Indian Workers Association became officers in the Association of Indian Communists which was formed in Britain after Indian members became disaffected with the policies and attitudes of the Communist Party of Great Britain, but the majority of the membership of the Indian Workers Association was not communist.

Through the organisation's existence, the Indian Workers Association was heavily involved with welfare work as well as campaigning. Initial welfare activities included helping members, many of whom were illiterate, with completing income tax and social security forms. A major

part of the welfare work concerned passport applications, and the Indian Workers Association was involved in long running campaigns to provide a service for people applying for a passport valid for the UK from the Indian High Commission, to expose forgeries and corruption in the passport system where agents were paid for passports. The Association was able to purchase premises for a permanent welfare centre, and the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, 346 Soho Road, Birmingham, opened in May 1978 and continues to function as a welfare and advice centre in 2007.

Campaign work during the 1980s, 1990s and early 21st century continued to focus on anti-racism, the need to oppose legislation on immigration control, and related campaigns to oppose the deportation of individuals and families from Britain under this legislation. The Association was also involved in a long-running campaign for people of Indian origin who had taken British citizenship to be awarded Dual Nationality status to enable them to travel to India without facing difficulties, and continued to support industrial disputes in the Midlands area, particularly those involving black and Asian workers. The Indian Workers Association was heavily involved in campaigning against the activities of far right political groups like the National Front during the late 1970s and early 1980s, and the British National Party in the late 1980s and 1990s, and the associated rise in racist attacks on black and Asian people. The Indian Workers Association continued to support international campaigns, including opposition to the repression of political opponents of the Indian government and the oppression of 'Dalits' or 'untouchables'. The Association also took a stance against violence enacted by Sikh separatists during this period, and became involved in discussions about the relationship between Indian and Pakistan, and British government policy on the disputed territory of Kashmir. Other international campaigns centred around opposing US imperialism, particularly in Cuba and in the Persian Gulf during 1990-1991 and in the period leading up to the Iraq war in 2003.

The Indian Workers Association in Southall split from the rest of the organisation in the early 1960s and became known as the Indian Workers Association (Southall). There are conflicting opinions over whether the Southall group was ever part of the centralised Association. The Indian Workers Association (Southall) claims that it did not affiliate; the Indian Workers Association (GB) claims that it affiliated and later withdrew. There are suggestions that Vishnu Sharma and the leadership of the Southall group considered that the Indian Workers Association (GB) was too influenced by Communist politics, and felt that they wanted the Southall organisation to bring together Indians with different political views in an Indian Association. The Indian Workers Association (GB) was seen more as an organisation of Indian workers, concerned with the class interests of that specific group. In addition, the Indian Workers Association (Southall) was more committed to welfare and social work than campaigning, and were able to make money through showing Indian films at the Dominion cinema which they were eventually able to buy. The Indian Workers Association (Southall) and the Indian Workers Association (GB) also had different perspectives on race relations in Britain. The Indian Workers Association (GB) appears to have considered that the Indian Workers Association (Southall) had an assimilationist philosophy and saw their role in educating Indians to make themselves acceptable to the British. This was in contrast to the Indian Workers Association (GB) which considered the problem to be racism, and saw their role as one of fighting racism and not of changing Indians. After the passing of race relations legislation in the mid 1960s these differences became more pronounced. The Indian Workers Association (Southall) worked with government bodies and with the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination whereas the Indian Workers Association (GB) refused to become involved with state-sponsored groups because they considered the state to be racist.

The Indian Workers Association (GB) was also affected by splits. Rajmal Singh, the president of the Coventry branch of the Indian Workers Association accused the Central Committee of the organisation of being influenced by Communists, and this branch broke away from the Association in 1964 to form a non-political organisation. The major split, however, took place in 1967 and was related to political disagreements within the Association. Members had differing views on Indian politics and in particular the Naxalbari uprising in West Bengal, which was supported by Jagmohan Joshi and other members but opposed by followers of the Communist Party of India-Marxist. The analysis of Joshi on this issue was seen as a Marxist Leninist one, linked with Chinese communism. It is likely, however, that the split was as much to do with issues relating to politics in Britain. Joshi's supporters thought that black workers needed to lead struggles against imperialism and exploitation in their countries of origin and in Britain, and would then be joined by white workers. Other members of the Indian Workers Association did not think that black workers had a special role to play. As a result of this, the Indian Workers Association (GB) led by Jagmohan Joshi formed alliances with other black groups, and was involved in the formation of the Black People's Alliance in 1968.

Because the split was of the centralised body of the Indian Workers Association (GB), it affected all the branches, and resulted in two local Indian Workers Association existing in most areas. One Indian Workers Association (GB) continued to be led by Jagmohan Joshi, while the other Indian Workers Association (GB) was led by Prem Singh. The two groups continued to do similar work, and in some cases even campaigned together in some trade union struggles, for example, against immigration control in groups such as the Campaign Against Racist Laws [CARL] and the Campaign Against Racism and Fascism [CARF], and against the State of Emergency introduced by Indira Gandhi's government during the 1970s. It seems, though, that both groups struggled for recognition as the 'real' Indian Workers Association during this period.

A further split took place within the Indian Workers Association (GB) led by Prem Singh in the early 1980s and resulted in Naranjan Noor, president at the time, creating his own organisation. Noor was a teacher in Wolverhampton, and issued a statement calling the Wolverhampton headmaster who refused to allow children to wear turbans to school, a racist. Indian Workers Association branch members criticised this statement, and Noor's championing of the turban case. It was felt that the Indian Workers Association as a secular organisation should not take on the turban case.

The Indian Workers Front (Southall) was the local branch of the Indian Workers Association (GB) following the split of the Indian Workers Association (Southall) from the centralised organisation. By 1979 there were two factions of the Indian Workers Front (Southall). One organisation known as the Indian Workers Front (Southall) was led by Harpal Brar, who also served as National Organiser of the Indian Workers Association (GB).

Both Indian Workers Associations (GB) came into conflict with Akali party supporters during the 1980s who began to recruit through Gurdwaras. The Indian Workers Associations were opposed to this because they considered political campaigning should not take place where people came to pray or meet socially. Both Indian Workers Associations (GB) were attached by Khalistanis, who supported the creation of a separate Sikh state. As more joint campaigning work took place during the 1980s, a Co-ordinating Committee was formed in 1989, and the two Indian Workers Associations (GB) merged in 1991, with the merger conference taking place 16-17 February 1991. Avtar Jouhl, who had become General

Secretary of the Indian Workers Association (GB) led by Jagmohan Joshi after his death in 1979, became General Secretary of the merged Indian Workers Association (GB) and Prem Singh, General Secretary of the other Indian Workers Association, became the President. In 1992 the Indian Workers Association had fourteen branches and the membership was about 20,000.

The focus of campaigns in the 1950s and 1960s on welfare services, particularly interpretation resources was not as necessary by the 1980s, even though there was still a need to tackle racism and campaign for social justice. The Indian Workers Association (GB) is still active today in welfare and campaigning work, although its membership and profile has declined since the 1960s and 1970s.

Arrangement:

Papers have been arranged into three sections:

A Records of the Indian Workers Association

- A/1 Minutes and meeting papers
- A/2 Financial records
- A/3 Policy papers
- A/4 Correspondence and campaign files
- A/5 Publications
- A/6 Membership records
- A/7 Press cuttings
- A/8 Branch records
- A/9 Writings
- A/10 Photographs

B Records of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre

- B/1 Grant applications and associated papers
- B/2 Financial papers
- B/3 Case work papers

C Papers of other campaigning organisations

- C/1 Anti-Nazi League
- C/2 Association of Indian Communists, Britain
- C/3 British Peace Committee
- C/4 Black Peoples Alliance
- C/5 British Soviet Friendship Society
- C/6 Campaign Against Racist Laws
- C/7 Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination
- C/8 Communist Party of Great Britain
- C/9 Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist)
- C/10 Joint Committee Against Racism
- C/11 National Association of Asian Youth
- C/12 Indian Peoples Association of North America
- C/13 Constitutions of other organisations
- C/14 Writings and campaign material of other organisations
- C/15 Publications of other organisations

This system of arrangement is loosely based on the scheme of arrangement and classification of organisational records developed by the Modern Records Centre, University of Warwick. Original order has been preserved where possible, and some of the file names are those given by the creators. For other material in the collection, papers have had to be sorted and an arrangement imposed. As a result, overlaps occur extensively within the collection, where related material appears in different sections of the catalogue. Cross references indicate obvious instances.

Description

Papers of the Indian Workers Association (GB) and of local branches of the organisation, primarily the Birmingham branch, consisting of minutes; agendas; reports; constitutions; circulars; press statements; financial papers; correspondence; campaign and casework material; publications; membership records; press cuttings; printed ephemera; and photographs, predominantly digital copies of originals retained by the depositor. The collection also includes papers of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, set up by the Indian Workers Association. Other material consists of organisational and campaign papers of other groups connected with the Association, either through individual members, or through joint campaign work.

Content of the papers is influenced by the fact that the post of general secretary of the national association was held by Avtar Jouhl between 1961 and 1964 and Jagmohan Joshi between 1964 and 1979. Both men lived and worked in the Birmingham area, and had been instrumental both in establishing the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association, and in formalising the setting up of the centralised body of the organisation. As a result, the papers contain records of the national association, gathered through Jouhl and Joshi's work as officers of the national association, and records of the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association, gathered through both men's involvement in the local group. The collection also contains records of other branches, but these largely consist of correspondence to and from the national association, and a small amount of promotional material for events organised by local branches.

Published: DeWitt John Jr, 'Indian Workers Associations in Britain', published for the Institute of Race Relations, London, 1969;
Sasha Josephides, 'Towards a History of the Indian Workers' Association' CRER Research Paper in Ethnic Relations, no.18 1991;
John King, Three Asian Associations in Britain, Monographs in Ethnic Relations no.8 ESRC, CRER, January 1994

Related Material: MS 2142: Papers of Avtar Jouhl and the Indian Workers Association, held at Birmingham City Archives.

MS 4000/6/1/78: Charles Parker Archive contains recorded interviews with Jagmohan Joshi made in 1976/1977 for a project called 'The Great Divide'

GB 0144 PA2600: Papers of Mr Virk relating to his work as a printer in Coventry and his involvement with various organisations including the Indian Workers Association, held at Coventry Archives.

Notes: Translations of Punjabi material in this collection have been made by Bharat Bhushan Singh of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, Birmingham. Translations of Urdu material have been made by Mr Dar.

Quotations in inverted commas express the views of the representatives of organisations whose records are included in this collection. Language used by the cataloguer about the political views expressed in archive material aims to be neutral, but also aims to document the beliefs and attitudes held by the creators of material in the archive collection.

Access: Partially closed. Some files, and some items within files, have been closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 because they contain personal information about individuals. 'Closed' files are indicated as such in the catalogue.

Copyright: With depositor, and with individuals where specified.

Creator of the material: This is specified where known.

Condition: Good unless otherwise specified.

MS 2141/A Records of the Indian Workers Association (GB) , 1959-1998

Organisational records of the Indian Workers Association and papers relating to several local branches, including some organisational records of the Birmingham branch of the Association. The bulk of these records date from the 1960s and 1970s, but there are some publications and campaign material that date from the 1980s and one or two items dating from the 1990s. Papers of the national organisation consist of minutes; reports and conference papers; financial records; press statements; circulars; correspondence; campaign material; publications; press cuttings; writings and photographs.

Although the other records provide a valuable, though incomplete, resource to study the organisation, administration, and functions of the Indian Workers Association, it is the correspondence and campaign files, described at MS 2141/A/4, that in some ways can be considered to form the core of the collection. They are a rich source for the study of political and social attitudes towards black and Asian migrants to Britain, and particularly the Birmingham area during this period in the context of the activities of a radical Asian campaigning group providing organised opposition to all forms of racism and racist laws, and to the oppression of working people, particularly in the West Midlands region, but also nationally and internationally. Taken together with the press cuttings, described at MS 2141/A/7, they give an indication of the wide-ranging nature of campaigns in which not only the Indian Workers Association, but other black, Asian and 'progressive' white led groups played an active role during the 1960s and 1970s.

Campaign material dating from the 1980s and 1990s can be found in the papers of Avtar Jouhl and the Indian Workers Association and is described at MS 2142/A/1/4 and MS 2142/A/1/7

MS 2141/A/1 Minutes and related papers, 1959-1983

This series comprises an incomplete set of records of meetings and conferences held by the Indian Workers Association. It consists of a sequence of minutes and agendas of meetings of the Central Executive Committee; records of the proceedings of National Conferences of the Association held in 1967 and 1978, including copies of resolutions and policy statements agreed at these events; and copies of reports issued by the Central Executive Committee and presented by the General Secretary in 1967, 1970 and 1982, which can be viewed as annual reports of the Association, containing information about its activities and campaigns.

MS
2141/A/1/1Minutes and agendas of Central Executive Committee meetings

1959-1983

This file primarily contains agendas for meetings of the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association in the form of circular letters sent out to local branches by the General Secretary of the association, and typescript and handwritten minutes of Central Executive Committee meetings, many of which are compiled in the form of circular letters to members of the organisation. Many meetings appear to have been held in the homes of committee members around the country, although some were held in venues hired for the purpose, or at the Shaheed Udham Singh welfare centre opened by the association in Handsworth in the late 1970s.

There are agendas for the following meetings:

21 January 1961, held at Princelet Street, off Brick Lane, London

2 April 1961, Great Taj Mahal Restaurant, New Road, London. This was an emergency meeting

27 August 1961, 27 Grantham Road, Smethwick, Birmingham

9 August 1964, Leonard Street, Derby. Decisions made at this meeting are attached.

25 October 1964, Hartopp Road, Leicester

10 January 1965, Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham. This was an emergency meeting

30 September 1965, Birch Croft, Erdington, Birmingham. This was an emergency meeting

23 April [1967] Widdrington Road, Coventry

16 July [1967], Leicester Street, Wolverhampton

proposals for a Central Executive Committee meeting held sometime in 1967, before the national conference

18 April [1970-1971], Rochester Street, Bradford

10 February 1974, Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham

2 July 1978, Shaheed Udham Singh Centre, Birmingham

10 September 1978, Labour Party Rooms, St Mary Street, Bedford

5 May 1979, Rowley Green Lane, Longford, Coventry

11 August 1979 at Shaheed Udham Singh Centre, Birmingham

17 April 1983, Shaheed Udham Singh Centre, Birmingham
emergency meeting, 18 July, Goldsmith Road, Acton, London, undated

Minutes exist for the following meetings:

12 July, 26 July, 15 November 1959, including minutes of Birmingham branch meeting 6 September 1959, in Punjabi

21 January 1961, London
19 March 1961, including details of the Programme of Indian Workers Association activities for 1961
2 April 1961, London
27 August 1961, Birmingham
resolutions of the Central Executive Committee made at an unidentified meeting probably held sometime in 1961, including statements on the political situation in Berlin, Angola and British Guiana, and information about the establishment by the Birmingham branch of the association of a monthly journal in Punjabi, to be called 'Mazdoor'
9 December, held in London, possibly in 1964. Matters discussed centre around elections recently held by the Coventry branch of the Indian Workers Association which were ruled to have violated the constitution
6 June 1965, Coventry
14 November 1965, Leamington Spa
21 October 1973, Smethwick
23 June 1974, Birmingham
28 May 1978, Coventry, including handwritten draft resolutions, and a typed list of members of the National Executive Committee elected at the Indian Workers Association conference that year
2 July 1978, Birmingham, including details of a discussion about the opening of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre and its possible uses. Minutes for this meeting consist of a draft written by Deepak Mathur, Assistant Secretary, and typed copies.
11 August 1979, Shaheed Udham Singh Centre, Birmingham
minutes in note form for a meeting probably held sometime in 1979, after the death of Jagmohan Joshi
11 November 1979, Bedford
10 May 1980, Leamington Spa. Matters discussed include arrangements for the Jagmohan Joshi memorial meeting to be held in June 1980, and the Biennial Conference, to be held in August 1980 in Derby

Some of the documents include the names, branches and signatures of members attending the Central Committee meetings

The file also contains some draft minutes, notes and attendance lists from unidentified and undated meetings, likely to be those of the Central Executive Committee.

Extent: 1 File

2141/A/1/2

Conference 1967

This file contains a variety of typescript and handwritten material consisting of: conference agenda; circulars to Indian Workers Association branches giving details about the conference; press statements released after the conference containing information about issues discussed and resolutions passed; draft resolutions passed at the conference setting out Indian Workers Association policy on the political situation in Vietnam, and India, and on Afro-American struggles; typescript draft of the Central Executive Committee conference report, together with notes in Joshi's handwriting (see MS 2141/A/1/4 for the published version of the report).

One of the circulars containing information about the conference also contains details about a meeting arranged by the Indian Workers Association with Home Office minister David Ennals in Birmingham in October 1967, to discuss some of the problems faced by Indian migrants to Britain. This circular includes a list of the names of members of the organisation attending this meeting, and the branches they represented.

The file also contains a number of letters and telegrams from individuals and organisations invited to the conference, including the Caribbean Socialist Union, L'Union des Vietnamiens de France, Youth Forces National Liberation, Standing Conference of West Indian Organisations, Aston University Guild of Students, Aston University Asia Society, Birmingham University Arab Students Society, Partai Rakyat Malaya [The Peoples Party of Malaya], Pemuda Sosialis Malaya [Young Malayan Socialists], Aston University Socialist Society, Black Power activists and Mozambique. This correspondence conveys greetings and messages of support to the conference, and some letters contain information about the liberation struggles that some of these groups are engaged in.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/1/3Papers relating to the Indian Workers Association National Conference 1978 1978

This file largely consists of handwritten notes on the reports of local branches of the Indian Workers Association, presumably made at the 1978 conference in Coventry, together with handwritten attendance lists containing the names and addresses of individual members from local branches attending the conference. Branches represented are Leamington, Coventry,

Wolverhampton, Indian Workers Front Southall, Leicester, Central London, Stoke-on-Trent, Nottingham, Derby, Bedford, Nuneaton, East London and Essex, Birmingham and Plumstead in London.

The file also contains copies of an outline report to the conference by East London and Essex branch, summarising their local activities between 1974 and 1978; handwritten and typescript copies of the press statement issued by the Indian Workers Association following the conference, giving details about the organisation's resolutions on the struggle against racism and fascism in Britain, support for the workers and peasants in India, and the need to organise younger people, women and oppressed castes - so-called 'Untouchables'. There is also a letter to Joshi from Harjinder Sandhu, secretary of an East London branch of the Indian Workers Association, sending congratulations on the 1978 conference, and giving the names and addresses of the members of his branch committee.

Access: Partially closed until 01/01/2029. Part of this file is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2029 because it contains personal information about individuals. The remainder of the file is available for consultation.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/1/4

Reports

1967-1982

These papers consist of General Secretary's reports presented by Jagmohan Joshi at National Conferences of the Indian Workers Association in 1967 and 1970, produced by the Central Executive Committee of the organisation, a report of the work of the Central Committee of the Indian Workers Association, since the national conference in 1980, and an undated draft report written by Avtar Jouhl in Punjabi.

The 1967 report contains a summary of the current political situation in India, and highlights the activities of the Indian Workers Association in exposing the anti-democratic policies of the Indian government, and supporting the struggles of liberation movements in Vietnam, South Africa, African Americans in the USA, amongst others. The report also contains details about Indian Workers Association campaigns against racism in Britain since the previous National Conference in 1964, including their work against immigration legislation, the election campaign of Peter Griffiths in Smethwick, and

their involvement with race relations groups. There is also a section setting out the future programme of the Indian Workers Association, and a report on disciplinary measures taken against members of several branches who acted against the constitution and policy of the organisation.

The 1970 report contains an article on the Indian Workers Association's support of Indian peasants and workers against the Indian government, led by Indira Gandhi and a review of the organisation's activities in relation to this issue. It also contains details about the association's support of Indian and Pakistani workers involved in industrial disputes at Coneygre Foundry in Tipton, Newby Foundry in West Bromwich, and Dartmouth Auto-Castings, as well as its involvement in the case of an Indian employee at MMC Roebuck Lane Works who was a victim of racial discrimination. This section is followed by a detailed report on the Indian Workers Association's work to oppose racism in Britain, including its role in establishing the Black Peoples Alliance, and the organisation's campaign against the racist speeches made by Enoch Powell in 1968.

The 1982 report contains brief statements giving details of campaigns and conferences organised by the association since 1980, including a conference on Dual Nationality, demonstrations against racism and fascism, and demonstrations in support of the Bradford 12. The report also gives details about the publication of Lalkar; memorial meetings organised in honour of Jagmohan Joshi; and some of the trade union and welfare work carried out by the organisation. There is also a section on the international liberation and anti-imperialist struggles supported by the Indian Workers Association, particularly in India, but also in Northern Ireland, Vietnam, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Nicaragua and El Salvador.

The undated report in Punjabi is handwritten in an exercise book

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/1/5

Resolutions

1964-1967

/1 typescript resolutions proposed at the Biennial General Council meeting of the Indian Workers Association, held at Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham, 19 April 1964

/2 typescript resolution 'on the racial question' issued by the Indian Workers Association, expressing condemnation

of the government's White Paper on Commonwealth immigration, introduced in 1965, and urging that the Race Relations Act, passed in 1965, be strengthened.

/3 typescript statement of resolutions passed at a mass rally held in Birmingham, 2 July 1967, covering race relations and immigration legislation, and liberation struggles in Vietnam, South Africa, Rhodesia and the Middle East.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/A/2 Financial records, 1961-1986

These papers comprise records representing some of the aspects of the financial business of the Indian Workers Association, but because of the date range of the surviving accounts, are likely to provide only a partial view of the financial situation of the group since its establishment. Most of the financial papers date from the 1960s, with a small number from the 1970s and 1980s. Other fragmentary financial records dating from the 1980s and early 1990s are described at MS 2142/A/1/1/2: Papers of Avtar Jouhl and the Indian Workers Association

The papers consist of statements of the accounts kept by the national Indian Workers Association; details of income and expenditure kept by both the national Indian Workers Association and by the secretary of the Birmingham branch; statements of accounts of the Birmingham branch of the organisation; invoices and receipts relating to specific expenses incurred by the national association and the Birmingham branch; and partial accounts of Lalkar, the newspaper of the Indian Workers Association

MS
2141/A/2/1

Draft accounts

1966-1974

These papers consist of statements of accounts; bank statements; cheques; and invoices and receipts relating to the national Indian Workers Association, and to the Birmingham branch of the organisation. Most of the records date from 1966 and 1967, but there are also accounts dating from 1970, 1971 and 1974.

/1 typescript statement of the accounts of the Indian Workers Association, presented at the 1970 National Conference in Nottingham, containing details of income, expenditure and balance of funds of the organisation, and also a statement showing the affiliation fees received from local branches. These accounts show that the bulk of the expenses of the organisation were incurred through the organisation's involvement in specific campaigns and events during 1968 and 1969

/2 handwritten notes containing details of miscellaneous income and expenses, undated. It is not clear whether these are the accounts of the national organisation or the

Birmingham branch

/3 invoices and receipts issued by various businesses in the Birmingham and Smethwick area, largely for the purchase of stationery and printing services by the national Indian Workers Association and the Birmingham branch, but including invoices and receipts for the hire of premises and coaches for events, 1969-1971

4/ bank statements for two loan accounts with Barclays Bank, Oldbury, Birmingham in Avtar Jouhl's name, 1966-1967

/5 bank statement for the balance of an account held at Lloyds Bank, Cape Hill in the name of the secretary of the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association 1974

/6 cheques signed by Avtar Jouhl and made out to various businesses and individuals. The majority of these cheques are dated February and March 1967, but there is also a cheque dated September 1971. All cheques have been stamped to show that they had been cashed.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/2/2

Invoices and Receipts

1966-1986

These papers largely consist of invoices and receipts for the payment of ground rent, building repairs and utility bills for 54 Montague Road, Smethwick 1966-1967, and for furnishing the property. This house was owned by Avtar Jouhl, and is likely to have been used as a base for activities of the Indian Workers Association during this period. There is also an invoice for the purchase of information booklets produced by the National Council for Civil Liberties, 1971.

The file also contains copy letters in English and Punjabi from Avtar Jouhl, concerning meetings of the Accounts sub-committee of the Indian Workers Association 1966, and details of letting charges for Holyhead Community Centre, Handsworth, Birmingham, dated 1986

Other papers in the file consist of photocopies of statements of accounts of the Handsworth 28 Defence Committee to 1 June 1977, together with a covering letter to Avtar Jouhl from John Plummer.

The Handsworth 28 Defence Committee was formed in 1976 to help organise the legal defence and pay the costs

of people arrested during a demonstration against the National Front in Winson Green and Handsworth that took place in May that year. Funds raised by the Committee were also used to help other people arrested while attending demonstrations against the National Front in Birmingham, and to assist individuals on their release from detention. The Committee was made up of representatives of many black and left-wing organisations, possibly including the Indian Workers Association. [Source: Birmingham Broadside, October 1977]

The accounts comprise records of the income, expenditure and balance of funds of the committee fund, including an analysis of the income received from named groups and individuals, and the amount donated, and an analysis of the expenditure of the Committee, with details of the verdicts returned on individuals arrested at the demonstration, and the fines and costs involved.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/2/3

'Secretary's Expenses and Receipts'

1966-1976

Invoices and receipts issued by businesses in Smethwick and Birmingham for stationery and printing supplies, the hire of coaches, and for a lunch at the Grosvenor House Hotel, Hagley Road, Birmingham. There is also an invoice from a solicitors firm in Smethwick for advice about legal problems relating to the Indian Workers Association, and two cheques signed by Avtar Jouhl, with stamps to show they had been cashed. These papers all date from 1966-1967. The file also contains two invoices dating from the mid 1970s.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/2/4

Income and Expenses accounts

1966-1975

The majority of the papers in this file consist of invoices and expenditure accounts for events organised by the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association in 1966 and 1967. One event was the Independence Day celebrations in August 1966 which included a sponsored continuous cycling performance by Nawab Syed Mohammed. The other event was a rally and demonstration held in Birmingham on 2 July 1967.

Other papers consist of typescript and handwritten copies of the financial statement for the Indian Workers Association Birmingham branch from April 1966 to July 1967, recording itemised details of income, expenditure and the balance of funds of the group, and a handwritten

financial statement and balance sheet for the Birmingham branch covering the years 1966 to 1969.

The file also includes bank statements for accounts held by Avtar Jouhl and the Indian Workers Association Birmingham dated 1975, together with two cheques signed by Avtar Jouhl and stamped to show that they had been cashed.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/2/5

Birmingham branch accounts

1961-1966

Financial statements and balance sheets for 26 February-19 August 1961; 26 February-31 August 1961; 19 February 1961-12 April 1963; and 13 April 1963- 31 March 1966.

The file also includes statements of accounts for the India Flood Relief Committee, London, 1 September 1961-18 October 1961; the Indian Republic Day celebration 1961; and the Tagore Centenary Celebration Committee, Birmingham, 1961

Other papers consist of handwritten miscellaneous expenses; invoices for stationery supplies; copy letters from the Indian Workers Association Birmingham branch to the Socialist Society and COMSOC at Birmingham University, asking for payment for printing services supplied to these groups, 1962; and handwritten lists containing the names, addresses and membership numbers of individual members of the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association during the early 1960s, together with notes about the payment of membership subscriptions.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/2/6

Lalkar accounts

1979

typescript statement of accounts for the publication of 'Lalkar' April-July 1979, and for the publication of memorial leaflets and portraits of Jagmohan Joshi.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/A/3 Policy and administrative papers, 1959-1986

These papers comprise several versions of the Indian Workers Association Constitution, together with incomplete sequences of circulars, press releases and statements providing information about the policy of the organisation and explaining its stance on political developments both in Britain and in other countries.

Much of this material is concerned with Indian Workers Association campaigns against immigration legislation introduced by successive British governments during the 1960s and 1970s, and against racism in Britain throughout the period from the 1960s to the 1980s, but there are also statements of support for black liberation struggles in the United States of America and in South Africa, and for anti-imperialist struggles in Vietnam and India. As well as providing evidence of the Indian Workers Association's position on these issues, through the articles of the Constitution and the statements issued by the organisation, these papers also indicate the active involvement of the Association in tackling situations, through demonstrations, public events and lobbying.

Policy papers largely dating from the 1980s and 1990s are described at MS 2142/A/1/3

MS 2141/A/3/1	<u>Constitution and rules</u> /1 copy of the Constitution of the Indian Workers Association, as passed and adopted at the conference held in September 1958, and modified by the General Council in February 1959 /2 Annotated typescript document setting out proposed changes to the Constitution, decided by a steering sub-committee appointed by the Central Executive Committee. Handwritten annotations state that Avtar Jouhl was a member of this sub-committee. Amendments were to be discussed at a biennial general meeting held in Coventry in October 1961. 2 copies. /3 Typescript list of the aims and objects of the Indian Workers Association, issued by the Coventry branch, together with a membership card of the Indian Workers Association, including list of the aims and objects of the organisation /4 Copies of the Constitution of the Indian Workers Association, amended at the National Conference held at Nottingham, November 1970, in English and Punjabi /5 Draft amendments likely to have been proposed some time after the 1970 National Conference of the Indian Workers Association. /6 Copies of the Constitution of the Indian Workers Association re-adopted at the National Conference held at Coventry, May 1978. /7 Printed list of the aims and objects of the Indian Workers Association, in English and Punjabi, issued by the Birmingham branch, undated	1959-1978
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This file also contains a membership card of the Indian

Workers Association in Punjabi

Extent: 8 Items

MS
2141/A/3/2Information circulars to members

1964-1983

Circular letters issued by the Central Executive Committee containing details about events and activities organised or supported by the association, and asking for action by local branches in mobilising support. Many of the circulars urge members to attend demonstrations and rallies; hold public meetings and celebrations; send delegates to conferences; and pass resolutions. The majority of these circulars date from the mid 1960s, but there are also a smaller number issued during the 1970s.

/1 asks branch secretaries to prepare for elections of branch executive committee by the end of August 1963 and to send membership subscription dues

/2 refers to the need to distribute copies of 'Mazdoor', October 1964

/3 requires branch executive committees to arrange meetings with the Central Executive Committee, October 1964

/4 discusses the need to support Republic Day Celebrations and striking workers at Woolf's Rubber Co. in Southall, as well as drawing attention to reports of famine in some areas of India. This circular is undated, but is likely to have been issued in 1965

/5 gives information about the forthcoming Indian Workers Association lobby of parliament on the subject of the White Paper on immigration in December 1965

/6 provides a clarification that the association does not advocate a policy of abstention in the forthcoming General Election of 1966, but recommends that members abstain from voting only in two Birmingham constituencies where the Labour candidates have made statements exploiting the issue of immigration

/7 provides information to executive committee members and office bearers about a demonstration and rally to be held in Birmingham 2 July 1967, and emphasises the need to hold social programmes to publicise this event

/8 consists of an invitation to the general body meeting of

the revitalised Wolverhampton branch, issued by the Central Executive Committee, June 1967

/9 requests members to protest against the participation of the Indian 'Miss World' winner in a youth festival in London, sponsored by the Punjabi newspaper 'Des Pardes'. It also asks members to attend a demonstration against racism to be held in Birmingham 2 July 1967, and to support the national liberation struggle in Vietnam by attending an exhibition against American aggression in Birmingham and Smethwick, and a folk concert held in Birmingham Town Hall

/10 provides information about the 1967 national conference and a forthcoming rally of Indian Workers to be held in Leicester, asking branches to mobilise members for these events

/11 contains information about the postponement of the national conference from September to mid October 1967, and includes an agenda for a Central Executive Committee meeting to be held 10 September 1967 in Birmingham

/12 gives details about the national conference to be held in Leicester in November 1967

/13 asks members to participate in the campaign against imperialism by joining demonstration at the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference in London in January 1969. One of these demonstrations was organised by the Indian Workers Association; the other was organised by the Black Peoples Alliance.

/14 asks members to take part in a protest in Birmingham against the racist policies of the Government, 24 February 1969, written in Punjabi

/15 calls on all branches to mobilise support for a demonstration against racism in Britain and the rise of racist attacks, to be held in London 11 July, and gives instructions about the preparations that branches should make for the event. This circular is undated, but it is likely to date from the late 1960s or early 1970s

/16 requests branches to mobilise support for a demonstration in London 7 April 1974 in solidarity with the struggle of peasants and workers in India, particularly those in the state of Gujarat, against the Indian government.

/17 contains information for members attending a picket against the state of emergency in India, to be held outside the Indian High Commission office in Birmingham, 21 July 1975

/18 asks members to attend a conference to be held at Birmingham University 17-18 July 1976 in order to prevent attempts by 'so-called black leaders, such as Dilbagh Chana' to form a black committee, the National Organisation of Afro/Asian/Caribbean Peoples. The Central Executive Committee's opinion was that the leaders of this group compromised with racism

/19 requests branch committees to participate in the forthcoming Shaheed Udham Singh Day, held to celebrate the opening of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre 19 August 1978. The circular also refers to the printing of a leaflet on women's rights

/20 contains instructions to branches mobilising support for a national demonstration on racism and immigration to be held in London 25 November 1979, including a version written in Punjabi

/21 contains information about a conference on Sikh separatism in Punjab, and its effects on the working class movement in India and Britain, organised by the Central Committee at the Students Union, Wolverhampton Polytechnic, 27 November 1983

/22 is undated, and contains information about a demonstration in London 10 December against the persecution of students in Punjab by Indira Gandhi's government

/23 is undated and requests all members to attend the elections and general body meeting of the Birmingham branch, 8 May. Members of the Central Executive Committee were also requested to remain behind after the meeting to discuss attempts by elements in the organisation to violate the constitution

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/3/3

Press releases and policy statements

1964-1986

Statements issued by the Central Executive Committee, largely consisting of press releases, but also including open letters and memoranda to government officials, outlining the policy of the Indian Workers Association, mainly in relation to British government policy on

immigration expressed through restrictive legislation. There are also press releases outlining the organisation's stance on political developments in India, and relating to other Indian Workers Association campaigns opposing domestic violence.

/1 expressing concern about events in the state of Punjab and the abuse of government powers by people holding office there. The statement is undated, but the names and addresses of the Central Executive Committee members given on the document place the likely date in the early 1960s

/2 announcing the opening of an Indian Workers Association welfare office at 119 Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham 26 March 1961 to assist Indian nationals with passport applications and benefit forms

/3 opposing false allegations against migrants in the name of Immigration Control, particularly statements made by the Immigration Control Committee associating migrants with unemployment and poor housing, and giving details about a public meeting to be held at St Stephen's Church Hall 8 July 1961 to discuss these issues

/4 asking newspaper editors to publish extracts from the Indian Workers Association publication 'The Victims Speak' following the lobby of parliament by the organisation 1 December 1965, and announcing a press conference in Birmingham 30 November 1965

/5 explaining the stance of the Indian Workers Association, the Pakistani Welfare Association, and the West Indian Standing Conference in urging members of these groups to abstain from voting in the 1966 General Election in the Birmingham constituencies of All Saints and Sparkbrook

/6 informing newspaper editors of a conference called in Birmingham by the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination, the Indian Workers Association, the Pakistani Welfare Association and the West Indian Standing Conference in March 1966

/7 reporting on a mass demonstration against racist policies of the British government held in Birmingham 2 July 1967

/8 expressing condemnation of proposed immigration legislation against migrants from East Africa, and announcing a mass lobby of parliament organised by the Indian Workers Association, 28 February 1968

/9 expressing the position of the organisation on the Race Relations Bill 1968

/10 condemning Enoch Powell's latest speech on behalf of the organisation as a whole, and particularly on behalf of Indian Workers in Wolverhampton. This statement is issued in English and Punjabi

/11 issued for distribution in Wolverhampton opposing racism in the town, as expressed in speeches by national politicians like Enoch Powell, attitudes by the local council, and racist attacks on migrants living in the area, 1968

/12 condemning racist policies by both the Conservative and Labour parties in Britain, following a speech by Edward Heath in York, 20 September 1968

/13 giving information about a demonstration organised by the Indian Workers Association at the conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers in London, probably in January 1969. The statement sets out the demands of the demonstration

/14 informing newspaper editors of the proceedings of the National Conference of the Indian Workers Association at Nottingham, November 1970

/15 appealing to voters to defeat the Conservative government and intensify the class struggle, early 1970s

/16 giving information about a demonstration in London to protest against the racist nature of the 1971 Immigration Bill which would significantly limit the entry of black and Asian migrants to Britain

/17 memorandum presented to Home Office minister Alex Lyon at a meeting of Asian organisations called by the Indian Workers Association 21 February 1975 concerning the effects on migrants of the Immigrants Act 1971, and urging the government to make concessions over the treatment of migrants entering Britain, and the entry of husbands and fiancés of women already living in Britain

/18 announcing decisions made at the last quarterly meeting of the Central Committee, with information about the association's current campaigns, 20 August 1979

/19 condemning the racist policies of the Conservative government, particularly its White Paper on immigration,

and demanding the repeal of the Immigrants Act 1971, the withdrawal of the White Paper on immigration, and the release of Southall prisoners. The statement refers to a demonstration held 25 November 1979 in which the Indian Workers Association took part

/20 disseminating proceedings of the National Conference of the Indian Workers Association at Derby, August 1980

/21 disseminating proceedings of a conference on dual nationality called by the Indian Workers Association, 19 October at Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham. This statement is issued in English and Punjabi

/22 condemning the proposals in the White Paper on Nationality and giving details about the Indian Workers Association's campaign against this legislation together with the Campaign Against Racist Laws, 10 January 1981

/23 condemning the sponsorship of the Festival of India, and the choice of Indira Gandhi and Margaret Thatcher as patrons of the event. This statement is undated, but probably refers to the Festival of India that took place in 1982

/24 presenting demands put to the Home Secretary Douglas Hurd on his visit to Birmingham 28 February 1986 by the Indian Workers Association and other local organisations, following the disturbances in Lozells and Handsworth the previous year. The intention of the demands was to alleviate unemployment and social deprivation in the local area.

/25 condemning the proposals of the Conservative government to impose visas for visitors coming to Britain from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nigeria and Ghana and announcing a meeting of black and anti-racist organisations in Birmingham to take place 20 September 1986. The statement was issued by the Bangladesh Workers Association, the Indian Workers Association and the Kashmiri Workers Association

/26 stating the policy of the Indian Workers Association on domestic violence against women and children, issued following a ruling at Stafford Law Courts, October 1986, by the Indian Workers Association and Women Today. See also MS 2141/A/8/2/2/18 for a press statement on this issue released by the Indian Workers Association Birmingham branch women's section

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/A/4 Correspondence and campaign files, 1960-1993

This series comprises sequences of incoming and outgoing correspondence of the Indian Workers Association, together with material relating to campaigns with which the organisation was involved. This consists of reports; information leaflets and flyers; printed pamphlets; typescript and printed articles; press statements; and press cuttings, and includes material issued by other groups with similar political views to those of the Indian Workers Association, particularly other black and Asian organisations, and white anti-racist groups.

The subject matter of much of the correspondence and campaign material focuses on the struggles of the Indian Workers Association and other groups against racism and racial discrimination in Britain. Much material concerns the passing of successive legislation to control immigration into Britain from Commonwealth countries during the 1960s and 1970s, and the concurrent introduction of Race Relations legislation. Other papers focus on racial discrimination in employment, housing and social life, and racist attacks suffered by members of black and Asian communities in Britain, and the ways in which some politicians exploited the immigration issue, particularly Peter Griffiths in Smethwick in 1964, and Enoch Powell in his speeches in Birmingham in 1968.

Other correspondence and campaign files focus on campaigns against international racism and imperialism, seen for example in the conflicts in Vietnam; the civil rights campaign in the United States of America; and opposition to the apartheid regime in South Africa. There is also a substantial amount of material relating to Indian politics and the reaction of the Indian Workers Association and other groups to the State of Emergency imposed on the country by Indira Gandhi's Congress government during the 1960s and 1970s, and the treatment of political opponents during this period.

There is also some general correspondence concerning the administration of the Indian Workers Association. Correspondents include individuals; members of political and campaigning organisations in Britain, India and elsewhere; British Members of Parliament; Indian diplomats and politicians; officers of the Race Relations Board; and government officials.

Taken together, the papers in this series reflect the wide-ranging activities and political impact of the Indian Workers Association during the 1960s and 1970s, when Jagmohan Joshi was General Secretary of the organisation. Many of the files were probably kept by Joshi, and the original order has been maintained. Files have been arranged within the series to list correspondence first, from MS 2141/A/4/1 to MS 2141/A/4/9, followed by the campaign files from MS 2141/A/4/10 to MS 2141/A/4/21. There may well be some overlap between files as a result of preserving original order. Some campaign files include correspondence, and there is a small amount of printed material within some correspondence files. Files may also overlap in subject matter, partly due to the fact that the Indian Workers Association was often involved in more than one campaign at the same time, and because much general correspondence discusses current campaigning activities.

MS	<u>Letters to the Indian Workers Association</u>	1960-1987
2141/A/4/1	This file largely comprises correspondence, but also includes some printed leaflets and flyers. It consists of general correspondence sent to the Indian Workers	

Association, mostly to Jagmohan Joshi as General Secretary, but also to Avtar Jouhl, on a wide range of administrative and political matters. Many letters are from representatives of organisations which the Indian Workers Association worked or campaigned with during the 1960s and 1970s. Because of the diverse thematic nature of the correspondence in this file, it can be difficult to gain an immediate overview of the work the Association was involved with during this period, but the list of correspondence gives some idea of the broad range of organisations the Indian Workers Association was in contact with, and the different issues that it campaigned on.

The majority of letters in this file date from the 1960s, but there are also a number from the 1970s, and some which are undated. Letters are arranged in chronological order, with undated correspondence placed at the end of the sequence.

/1 from A. S. Rai, Indian Workers Association, London to Avtar Jouhl, making arrangements to meet at the Royal Albert Hall in Kensington, dated 1960

/2 from Geoffrey Ayre, Welfare Liaison Officer, Commonwealth Welfare Council for the West Midlands concerning his availability for interviews at the Health and Welfare department in West Bromwich, early 1960s

/3 from the High Commission of India, Consular Department, to All Indian Associations in the United Kingdom, concerning the need for gurdwaras and other places of worship to be registered for marriages according to the English Marriages Act 1949, dated 24 July 1961

/4-/5 from Ojagar Singh Randhawa to Avtar Jouhl, written in Urdu, discussing matters relating to decisions made by the Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association, and to membership of the Association, February-March 1962

/6 from F. A. Freeman, Convenor of the Afro-Asian Caribbean Association Midland Section, to the Secretary of the Indian Workers Association asking for delegates to attend the next meeting of the Association at Stratford Road, Birmingham, dated 30 July 1962

/7 from West European Conference for Amnesty for Portuguese Political Prisoners and Exiles to Avtar Jouhl, enclosing copies of the organisation's material and a copy of Portuguese and Colonial bulletin, 18 August 1962

/8 from V. S. K. Nair on behalf of F. A. Freeman of the Afro-Asian Caribbean Association, inviting Avtar Jouhl to join a working group to discuss the organisation of the Association, intended to cater for the needs of all

- immigrant groups, 27 October 1962
- /9 from Charles Dickens, Secretary and Agent of the Smethwick Conservative and Unionist Association, to Avtar Jouhl, arranging a meeting with members of the Indian Workers Association, dated 17 November 1962
- /10 from Vic Watson, Secretary and Agent of the Smethwick Constituency Labour Party inviting Avtar Jouhl to attend a meeting with Patrick Gordon Walker, Member of Parliament for Smethwick, dated 3 January 1963
- /11 from Dulap Roy enquiring about the activities of the Indian Workers Association, with a view to joining, 15 February 1963
- /12 from W. Panton, Agent of the Smethwick Constituency Labour Party to Avtar Jouhl suggesting that they hold a meeting to discuss 'matters of mutual concern' and that they arrange a meeting at a later date with Patrick Gordon Walker, Member of Parliament for Smethwick, 5 April 1963
- /13 from J. S. Gosal to Avtar Jouhl discussing events at a conference on Imperialism, possibly held by an unidentified political party, 15 July 1963
- /14 from councillor Ernest Bond to Jagmohan Joshi, making arrangement to meet Indian Workers Association members, 8 June 1964
- /15 from Milos Stepanek of the Embassy of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, to Jagmohan Joshi, making contacts for cultural exchanges between Czechoslovakia and India, 17 June 1964
- /16 from the cultural attaché, Embassy of Hungarian People's Republic, to Jagmohan Joshi, enclosing contact details for the institute of cultural relations in Budapest, 3 July 1964
- /17 from the secretary of the Soviet Embassy in London, to Jagmohan Joshi, giving contact details for Committee of Youth Organisations of the USSR, 14 July, 1964
- /18 from M. C. Khullar to Jagmohan Joshi, asking for a copy of the latest Indian Workers Association bulletin and for future issues, 29 July 1964
- /19 from Friends of China in London to Jagmohan Joshi, inviting him to attend a reception organised in honour of the fifteenth anniversary of Peoples Republic of China, enclosing an invitation card, 5 September 1964
- /20 invitation for Jagmohan Joshi to attend a reception to meet the Prime Minister of India at India House, 4 December 1964
- /21 from the Superintendent of Police, Smethwick, to Jagmohan Joshi, acknowledging a letter, and making arrangements to meet, 12 December 1964
- /22 from the Readers' Letters Department of the Daily Express to Jagmohan Joshi informing him that his 'open letter' will not be published in the newspaper, 18

December 1964

/23 from the secretary of the Mayor of Smethwick to Jagmohan Joshi, discussing arrangements for a rescheduled meeting, 15 December 1964

/24 from a member of the Indian Association at Leeds University asking Jagmohan Joshi for help to contact dancers, instrumentalists and other performers in the Indian community in Birmingham, 17 January 1965, with a covering letter to Joshi from D. R. Irani

/25 from L. Russell, Chief Education Officer at the City of Birmingham Education Department to Avtar Jouhl, concerning 'reception centres' to meet the needs of immigrant children within schools, 17 November 1965

/26 correspondence and associated material from Publishing and Distributing Co Ltd enclosing a copy of Pubdisco News which includes a review of 'A Parliamentary Leper: A History of Colour Prejudice in Britain' 1965, together with a delivery note and invoice, 27 November 1965

/27-/29 correspondence from the National Council for Civil Liberties and the Centre for Urban Studies, University College London asking for copies of the Indian Workers Association publication 'The Victims Speak', December 1965

/30 from Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament to Jagmohan Joshi concerning the organisation of a three day march planned for Easter 1966 and giving details of a meeting to discuss this, 17 December 1965

/31 from Lionel King, prospective Liberal candidate for Erdington to Jagmohan Joshi with condolences on the death of Indian prime minister Shastri, 12 January 1966

/32 from West Midlands Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament to Jagmohan Joshi with details of campaigning activities for a three day Easter march, and asking Joshi to send delegates to a meeting 14 January 1966

/33 from the newsletter assistant, Institute of Race Relations, concerning copies of 'The Victims Speak', February 1966

/34 from a writer for 'Tribune', and 'Anti-Apartheid News', chairman of the Anti-Apartheid movement in Wales and a member of the Movement for Colonial Freedom and the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination, offering to review 'The Victims Speak' and requesting information about the Indian Workers Association, 20 February 1966

/35 from an employee in the Department of Sociological Studies, University of Sheffield, giving his views on pamphlets Jagmohan Joshi had given him on politics in India, 23 February 1966

/36 from A. Haffner, Birmingham University Guild of

Undergraduates Political Committee [POLCOM] confirming Jagmohan Joshi's presence at an 'Integration in Birmingham' 'teach-in' to speak on employment and trade unionism amongst immigrant groups in Britain, dated 26 February 1966

/37 from a supporter who cannot let his wife get involved in 'your dramatic party' and explaining all the other commitments she and her husband have in the Walsall area March 1966

/38 from Roy Parkinson, discussing an application for entry to UK by the dependents of an individual, Mr Singh, 16 March 1966. This item is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2047 because it contains personal information about an individual

/39 circular letter from West Midlands Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament with details of recent resolutions and action to be taken on Vietnam, 27 April 1966

/40 from the Public Relations Officer, City of Birmingham Information Department, discussing the amendment of details for listing the contact details for the Indian Workers Association, 13 May 1966

/41 from L. Russell, Chief Education Officer, City of Birmingham Education Department, to Jagmohan Joshi, in reply to a letter about classes in English for immigrants, and referring to points made about the teaching of Punjabi, Hindi, Bengali and Urdu to immigrant children, 18 May 1966

/42 from L. Russell, Chief Education Officer, City of Birmingham Education Department, arranging a meeting with Jagmohan Joshi, dated 6 June 1966

/43 from Brian Priestley, 'The Times', concerning the misrepresentation of Jagmohan Joshi's views in an article published on racism, dated 6 June 1966

/44 from Joan M. Ralling, Assistant Secretary of the Race Relations Committee of the Religious Society of Friends, containing contact details of Friends in Birmingham, including the secretary of the Sparkbrook Association, Albrecht Turk, 8 June 1966

/45 circular letter from West Midlands Committee of 100 with details of recent activities including a demonstration against Vietnam war at a USAF base, mentioning 'Peace News', June 1966

/46 from an individual working on a dissertation at Sussex University on 'colour and immigration in British politics', with special reference to pressure groups, and asking for information and literature from the Indian Workers Association, including a copy of 'The Victims Speak', 12 June 1966

/47 from L. Russell, Chief Education Officer, City of Birmingham Education Department, apologising for

missing a meeting, 16 June 1966

/48-/49 from the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants, enclosing a copy of the report 'The First Six Months', June 1966

/50 copy letter to Fazlul Huq signed by Barbara Haq, John Eber and others, refuting claims made about the two mentioned, and threatening legal action, June 1966. This item is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2047 because it contains sensitive personal information about individuals

/51-/53 correspondence relating to the situation in Birmingham schools concerning the education of immigrant children, including a copy letter sent by Jagmohan Joshi to teachers, and a reply from Dev Prinja, a teacher with experience of some of the problems faced by immigrant children, together with a circular letter sent by the Birmingham Association for Education and the National Council for Civil Liberties giving details about a meeting to discuss the 'crisis in the education of immigrants'. This correspondence is dated October 1966

/54 from Roy Parkinson, appending the minutes of a meeting held in the Friends Meeting House, 14 November, which discussed the forthcoming meeting on 'The Crisis in the Education of Immigrant Children'; the action of doctors in Coventry in removing 'coloured' patients from their lists; the West Midlands Conciliation Committee; and the troubles of the Sikh community in Leamington. The letter is dated 22 November 1966

/55 from the Town Clerk, Council House, Birmingham in reply to Jagmohan Joshi's letter to the Mayor of Birmingham, assuring him that the contents will be brought to the notice of the Chairman of the Birmingham Liaison Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants, 12 October 1966

/56 from the Home Office to Jagmohan Joshi acknowledging his letter, 12 December 1966

/57 from M. A. Habib, Secretary of the Urdu Library, Nottingham to Jagmohan Joshi, written in Urdu, giving details about the opening ceremony of the library, and including information about the speakers at this event, 14 December 1966

/58 from Rev Brian Shackleton to Jagmohan Joshi, with contact details of the Methodist minister in Rowley Regis, 15 December 1966

/59 from John Whitfield, for the Young Socialists, Keele University research unit in statistical sociology, offering to distribute Indian Workers Association or Pakistani Workers Association leaflets in community languages, 15 December 1966

/60 from the treasurer of Stoke-on-Trent Young Socialists,

enclosing a cheque for Joshi's lecture at a meeting of the group, 17 December 1966

/61-/64 correspondence and other material of the United Nations Association, including statement about activities of the Racial Preservation Society in Erdington and an agenda for the inaugural meeting of United Kingdom Committee, International Year for Human Rights, with a list of co-operating organisations, 1966-1967

/65 from J. V. S. Jones, Secretary of the Socialist Union, University of Birmingham Guild of Undergraduates, inviting Jagmohan Joshi to speak at a forum on 'The Economic Advantage of the Indian Sub-continent in the Sixties', at which the Member of Parliament Sidney Bidwell would also speak, on the 'difficulties of immigrants from the Indian sub-continent living in his constituency', 6 January 1967

/66 from Udi Eichler of the BBC 'Panorama' programme to Jagmohan Joshi, asking him to make arrangements for him to meet ordinary families from Indian community in Birmingham to be interviewed about discrimination in housing, education and employment 30 January 1967

/67-/69 correspondence between the Presidents of the University of Birmingham Guild of Undergraduates and the University of Aston Guild of Students and Jagmohan Joshi, discussing student action against the decision to increase fees for overseas students, thanking Joshi and the Indian Workers Association for their support, and giving information about further action planned against this decision, February 1967

/70 from Paul James, West Midlands Committee of 100, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, giving details of new address, 18 February 1967

/71 from S. Allen, senior lecturer in Sociology, University of Bradford to Jagmohan Joshi about the issue of liaison between groups fighting racism, 27 February 1967

/72 from a member of 'Project 84', Birmingham University, giving details of a symposium on Housing problems in Birmingham and inviting Joshi to attend, 2 March 1967

/73 from Colin McGlashan, a writer on the 'Observer' thanking Jagmohan Joshi for his statement supporting an inquiry on an unidentified issue, 3 May 1967

/74 from Alfred Sohn-Rethel, enquiring about the possibility of bringing an exhibition on Vietnam to Birmingham, and asking for the support of other organisations in the area. It had previously been shown in London by the British Vietnam Committee at the Friends House on Euston Road, 4 May 1967

/75-/76 correspondence relating to the application of an individual to stay in Britain as a permanent resident, including a letter from the applicant giving details about his

case, June-July 1967. These items are closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2048 because they contain personal information about an individual /77 from Geoffrey Pugh, Westminster Theatre, inviting Joshi to attend a performance of the Indian musical 'India Arise', and asking him to promote the musical among members of the Indian Workers Association, 19 June 1967 /78 from Johnny E. James, Caribbean October Congress, discussing alliances with other 'militant oppressed peoples organisations struggling against the common enemy - imperialism', and giving details about a public meeting entitled 'Solidarity in the Struggle for Freedom', with speakers including Stokely Carmichael, and other speakers from Azania (South Africa) and Zimbabwe (Rhodesia), sponsored by the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination; the Pan Africanist Congress; Zimbabwean African National Union; and Caribbean October Congress, 20 July 1967

/79 from the Liaison Office for Commonwealth People, Birmingham, thanking Joshi for typing the gastric diet sheets in Punjabi for hospital patients, 28 July 1967

/80 from an Indian Workers Association member to Teja Sahota discussing financial matters, 6 August 1967

/81 from the Society for Anglo-Chinese Understanding, giving details of a celebration to mark the National Day of the Peoples Republic of China and asking for Indian Workers Association participation, 20 August 1967

/82 from an Indian student at Birmingham University asking for advice relating to unfair treatment in examinations, 6 August 1967. This item is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2048 because it contains personal information about an individual

/83 from the Arden Hotel, Birmingham, to Jagmohan Joshi confirming the reservation of a room for a meeting between the Home Office Minister David Ennals and members of the Indian Workers Association, 21 September 1967

/84 from Molapo Q. Molapo, a B.C.P representative in London to the editor of Lalkar, with good wishes for the first edition of the publication, 27 September 1967

/85 from an Indian Workers Association member to Avtar Jouhl with apologies for not completing work for him due to his wife's illness, 28 September 1967

/86 from 'Jill' at Mason Hall, University of Birmingham, to Jagmohan Joshi, giving the names of contact details of progressive and/or national societies, presumably at Birmingham university 19 October 1967

/87 from P.K.Nayar for the High Commission of India requesting contact details for the new office bearers of the

Indian Workers Association, 6 November 1967
/88 from a supporter, discussing arrangements to meet Jagmohan Joshi in the future, 30 November 1967
/89 from Julius Silverman, House of Commons, making arrangements to meet Joshi, 26 February 1968
/90 from G.H. Bunn, Secretary of Leamington/Warwick B.L asking Joshi for a delegation of Indian Workers Association members to attend their monthly meeting, 15 March 1968
/91 from Roy Sawh, Universal Coloured Peoples and Arab Association, thanking Joshi and Shirley Joshi for their hospitality, and discussing possibilities for organising immigrant communities in Birmingham, 27 March 1968
/92 from the Executive Officer for Equal Rights, concerning the establishment of this organisation, and asking Joshi to discuss the statement of policy of the group at the next Indian Workers Association and to pass a resolution of expressing support for it, 3 April 1968
/93 from the secretary of the International Club, Guild of Undergraduates Union, Birmingham, to Jagmohan Joshi, secretary of the Co-ordinating Campaign Against Racial Discrimination, asking for Joshi to speak at discussion entitled 'Immigrant problems after the passing of the Race Relations bill', 24 April 1968
/94 from Roy Ronnie, Chief News Assistant BBC, thanking Shirley Joshi for appearing on Midlands Today to discuss problems of immigrants, 26 April 1968
/95 from George Bunn, Leamington Spa, enclosing leaflets for a meeting, May 1968
/96 to Shirley Joshi from R. Gregory in Nottingham with thanks for the loan of cuttings and booklet, 16 May 1968
/97 from the news editor of the 'Birmingham Post' to Joshi relating to request for corrections to a report about internal disputes in the Indian Workers Association, 16 May 1968
/98 from the United Nations Association Central Regional Council discussing arrangements for a conference on the race relations bill at which Joshi is to be on the panel, 21 May 1968
/99 from Archie Wenbaum thanking Joshi for the hospitality shown to himself and Mr Wise, and inviting him to Hall Green library where Mr Dennison will report on his visit to India, 9 June 1968
/100 to Jagmohan Joshi and Shirley Joshi enclosing a copy of 'The Black Man in Search of Power', from 'The Times', 10 June 1968
/101 from Gordon Wise thanking Joshi for his hospitality and giving details about a recent address by Rajmohan Gandhi, 11 June 1968
/102 from Margaret Gardner, asking Joshi about his availability to speak to members of the 'Anti-Colour Ban'

campaign in Nottingham, 21 July 1968
/103 from Bauta Singh Dulay in Leamington, thanking Joshi for his support, 30 July 1968
/104 from R. D. Pendlebury, Head of Secretariat, BBC, concerning the corporation's decision not to show a programme entitled 'Cause for Concern' on 26 July 1968, and informing Joshi that the programme is to be shown on 9 August, 1968
/105 Home Office acknowledgement of a letter from the Petition committee 21 August 1968
/106 from Dr Sen, enclosing a letter from Stephen Chalke, and mentioning a 'teach-in', 9 September 1968
/107-/108 from Richard Morris concerning arrangements for Joshi to address the Liverpool University Guild of Undergraduates Labour Society meeting, October 1968
/109 from Kesar Singh Johal, Nottingham, written in Urdu, discussing arrangements for Jagmohan Joshi to meet Dr Mirza before he leaves Nottingham for London, 21 November 1968
/110 from Paul Gerhardt, Socialist Society, Hull University, inviting Joshi to speak about Enoch Powell, 22 November 1968
/111 circular letter issued by the Committee for Anglo-Caribbean Co-operation and Community Relations advertising a public conference on 'Race Relations and Enoch Powell' and asking for principal speakers, December 1968
/112 from an individual asking for information about the activities of the Indian Workers Association, December 1968
/113 from Godfrey Harrison, offering Joshi a place to stay when he comes to speak at Hull University, 6 January 1969
/114 from Kirishin Sharma, 'Paras' Urdu weekly, written in Urdu, inviting Joshi to visit him to discuss ideas and views next time he is in Delhi, 20 January 1969
/115 flyer issued by West Midlands Humanist Council with details of a regional meeting to be held to discuss a campaign for social and moral education, January 1969
/116 letter from Essex University Festival of Revolution organisers, including a manifesto and framework of events for the festival, and asking Joshi whether anyone from the Black Power movement would be prepared to speak at the event, February 1969
/117 from the Sutton Coldfield Young Liberal Movement asking Joshi to address the organisation on problems faced by immigrants and his work for the Indian Workers Association, 21 February 1969
/118 circular letter from Shree Geeta Bhawa Mandir giving information about a campaign to fund a temple in

Handsworth February 1969

/119 typewritten certificate issued by the employer of an individual visiting Britain from India for an extended holiday, March 1969. This item is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2050 because it contains personal information about an individual

/120 from the Student Christian Movement Midlands Secretary with details of a forthcoming conference on International Community in Birmingham for technical college and further education students from Birmingham and Teeside, asking Joshi or another representative from Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination to talk about legislation and local council action, 7 March 1969

/121 from I.M.Burns about a deputation to the Home Office to receive a petition 11 March 1969

/122 circular letter from V. D. Sharma, Hon. Secretary of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, asking affiliated organisations to support an Indian Workers Association demonstration against racism in immigration legislation, to be held in Birmingham in March 1969

/123 from a Birmingham ad hoc civil rights movement concerned with the situation in Ireland, inviting an Indian Workers Association representative to attend a meeting, 9 April 1969

/124-/125 from the Town Clerks, of Warley and West Bromwich to Avtar Jouhl, concerning an application to use premises for a welfare office for the Indian Workers Association, April 1969

/126 from Philip Braithwaite, of a left wing group in Birmingham, giving details about a sponsored walk for medical aid for Vietnam, and mentioning banners produced for the Indian Workers Association, 27 April 1969

/127 from secretary of the Social Science Society, London School of Economics, asking Jagmohan Joshi to attend a 'Race to Crisis' weekend school for students and social workers to assess present work of organisations in the field of race relations, 30 April 1969

/128 from Peter Archer MP to Avtar Jouhl making arrangements to meet a delegation, 30 April 1969

/129 from the Town Clerk of Birmingham to Avtar Jouhl turning down his application for council assistance in the provision of premises for an Indian Workers Association welfare centre because the council already funds the welfare work of the Liaison Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants, 16 May 1969

/130 from unidentified sender to Jagmohan Joshi, written in Urdu, discussing a forthcoming demonstration and mentioning events in Leamington Spa, 17 May 1969

- /131-/132 correspondence from Sandra Faulkner discussing arrangements for Joshi to speak on racism and black power at a meeting of an unidentified political group, having been put in touch by Charles Parker May-June 1969
- /133 from a member of an ad hoc Birmingham civil rights group asking Joshi to speak at meeting on 'what Enoch Powell has to offer Irish emigrants'. A map of the venue is drawn on the back of the letter, 2 June 1969
- /134 from Mohan Lal about arrangements for an unidentified demonstration, 18 June 1969
- /135 from Malcolm Southan, 'The Sun' about an article yet to be printed by the paper, 23 June 1969
- /136 from the Town Clerk of West Bromwich to Avtar Jouhl declining permission to use the Town Hall for a General Meeting of the members of the Indian Workers Association, 24 June 1969
- /137 from the City Estates Officer, Birmingham about an Indian Workers Association application to use Digbeth Civic Hall, enquiring about the nature of the Indian Independence Celebration, 25 June 1969
- /138 from David Head of the Student Christian Movement with details of a conference event in which Joshi was to take part, taking the form of a 'teach in', forming part of the Movement's General Council 15 July 1969
- /139 from Archie Wenbaum discussing political news from Delhi and enclosing articles from a publication, 17 July 1969
- /140 from Charles Parker to Jagmohan Joshi and Shirley Joshi, inviting them to meeting to discuss travellers in the West Midlands and ways of improving liaison between bodies and individuals concerned with their welfare, 29 July 1969
- /141 copy of an open letter to Tasadduq Ahmed, also for the attention of the Communist Party of Great Britain, the Movement for Colonial Freedom, and Tariq Ali from A.H.Khan, with accusations of corruption, 1 August 1969. This item is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2050 because it contains personal information about an individual
- /142 from Malcolm Southan from Granada Television about the lack of interest by the 'Sun' in printing an article on events in Birmingham, 11 August 1969
- /143 from Clerk of the Council, National Health Service, Warley Executive Council, in response to a letter from Jagmohan Joshi investigating a complaint of a dentist's attitude to non-English speaking patients, 29 August 1969
- /144 from Peter Burns, Promotion Secretary of National Council for Civil Liberties, regarding Indian Workers Association affiliation to the organisation, 17 September

1969

/145 correspondence from the Town Clerk, Warley to Avtar Jouhl about Indian Workers Association use of Langley institute in Warley, September-October 1969

/146 from Social Science Secretary of London School of Economics discussing arrangements for the 'Race to Crisis' weekend school now to be held in Margate, 6 October 1969. See also /118

/147 from Peter Evans, Race Relations correspondent on 'The Times', to the Indian Workers Association in Leamington Spa, asking for information about immigrant affairs in Britain, 7 November 1969

/148 from the South London West Indian Association mentioning a weekly legal advice centre for members of the Indian Workers Association (Southall) and suggesting a visit to the Indian Workers Association in Birmingham to discuss ideas about 'black immigrants in a white society', 13 January 1970

/149 from Nick Stanley, faculty of Commerce and Social Science at Birmingham University, asking Joshi for information to help his postgraduate research on 'cultural effects of British cultures on youth of Indian origin and upon the changes of political orientation of the IWA' 20 January 1970

/150 from the Indian Republican Group Great Britain, based in Handsworth, Birmingham, discussing mobilising support for a demonstration in solidarity with the civil rights struggles of African Americans, 10 March 1970

/151 from Hilary Arnott, information officer of Institute of Race Relations, asking Joshi for a list of religious holidays celebrated by immigrants, 13 March 1970

/152 from Bob Gregory mentioning a recent meeting in Nottingham that Joshi attended, 12 May 1970

/153 from Mahendra Kaul at the BBC, inviting Joshi to attend a dance and sitar recital by the dancer and film star Vyjayanthimala and the sitarist Nikhil Banerjee recorded by the 'Make Yourself at Home' unit at BBC Gosta Green studios in Birmingham, 14 May 1970

/154 from Saleem Shahed, inviting Joshi to a Mushaira organised by the 'Nai Zindagi-Naya Jeevan' unit, 18 May 1970

/155 from Mahendra Kaul at the BBC, inviting Joshi to attend a concert with Mahesh Kumar and party recorded by the 'Nai Zindagi-Naya Jeevan' unit at BBC Gosta Green Studios in Birmingham, dated 26 August 1970

/156 from a supporter asking to be put in contact with members of the Indian Workers Association London branch and expressing support for the Black Power movement, 16 October 1970

/157 from Balbir Dutt, Secretary of the Young Indians

Association, Bedford, inviting Joshi to participate in a function to celebrate Republic Day of India, January 1971

/158 from the assistant to the editor of the 'Sunday Times', thanking Joshi for his letter, which arrived too late for the letters page, 27 February 1971

/159 from a Community Relations Officer in Birmingham interested in finding out more about the Indian Workers Association, 23 March 1971

/160 thanking Joshi for his support in the Soledad Brothers campaign, and enclosing a transcript of his speech at Central Hall, 11 May 1971

/161 from a members of the Indian Workers Association resigning from the Central Executive Committee and from presidency of the Leeds branch, 15 August 1971

/162 from the news editor of 'Midlands Today', BBC, thanking Joshi for taking part in an interview, 16 September 1971

/163 from the Chairman of the Education Committee, City of Birmingham Education Department, to Avtar Jouhl, discussing a possible meeting to talk about education problems faced by Indian immigrants, 17 October 1973

/164 from the sales division of the Post Office for Birmingham telephone area to Avtar Jouhl about the installation of telephone line for an Indian Workers Association member, 22 November 1973. This item is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2054 because it contains personal information about an individual

/165 from the Director of Housing, Birmingham Housing Department, to Avtar Jouhl, about the policy of the Housing Committee in relation to tenants, 25 January 1974

/166 from Ajaib Singh, Assistant High Commission of India, asking for details about the aims and organisation of the Indian Workers Association, 21 February 1974

/167 from Andrew Faulds MP, House of Commons, to Avtar Jouhl, acknowledging his letter about immigration problems, 2 April 1974

/168 from Roy Hattersley MP, House of Commons, to Avtar Jouhl asking him to telephone to arrange a meeting, 3 April 1974

/169 from Denis Howell MP, House of Commons, to Avtar Jouhl in relation to a welfare centre for Indian community and answering criticism of Immigration Acts, 10 April 1974

/170 from the Chaplaincy for Community Relations, Diocese of Birmingham, about printing services, 30 September 1974

/171 from the principal liaison officer of the Community Relations Commission to Avtar Jouhl enclosing a questionnaire about the activities of his organisation, 11 July 1975

- /172 from John Ennals, United Kingdom Immigrants Advisory Service, giving details about their annual conference, 3 March 1976
- /173 from the sponsors of the Midland Regional Trade Union Conference to Combat Racial Discrimination enclosing a copy of the declaration adopted on race relations, 6 March 1976
- /174 from Deepak [Mathur] to Jagmohan Joshi clarifying arrangements for a demonstration planned for 11 July 1976
- /175 from G. R. Hart of the Royal Parks Division, Department of the Environment, concerning a fine for leaflets dropped by people attending an Indian Workers Association rally at the Speakers Corner area of Hyde Park on 11 July 1976
- /176 from C. C. Aronsfeld, Senior Research Officer of the Institute of Jewish Affairs, asking whether Joshi had replied to a letter from the Defence and Group Relations Committee of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, 14 September 1976
- /177-/178 correspondence from Colin Farrington of the Home Office concerning the contents of a police report into police action during an Indian Workers Association demonstration on 11 July 1976. Letters dated November 1976-February 1977
- /179-/180 from Tony Huq, Feb 26th Committee Against Racism and Fascism with details of a demonstration to take place in Saltley, together with a copy letter asking permission to use Adderley Park as a rally point for the procession, February 1977
- /181 from a Community Worker, St James Group Advice Centre Sub-group asking about Indian Workers Association plans to set up an advice centre, since the St James Group wishes to set up an advice centre on Soho Road staffed by local people, 12 April 1978
- /182 from the Chairman of the Sparkbrook Movement for Racial Harmony, Moseley Road, Sparkhill and Billesley Methodist Churches, in support of Indian Workers Association plans to form a broad-based national body to campaign on issues relating to proposed changes in the Immigration and Nationality Act, 5 September 1979
- /183 from Colin V. Rice, Senior Field Officer of the Commission for Racial Equality, discussing organisations campaigning on the issues of the proposed Nationality and Immigration Acts, 11 September 1979
- /184 from the Joint Secretaries of the Leamington Anti-Racist Anti-Fascist Committee suggesting a meeting with members of the Indian Workers Association to discuss the need to fight against immigration laws, 17 September 1979
- /185 from the Revolutionary Communist Tendency

regarding an invitation to the Indian Workers Association to attend an emergency meeting to campaign against the proposed Nationality Act, 26 September 1979
/186-/187 correspondence from representatives of the 'Morning Star' with details of a national 'Beat Those Tory Blues' festival at Alexandra Palace, requesting Avtar Jouhl to act as a sponsor for the event, January 1980
/188 from Delawar Hosain, General Secretary of the Bangladesh Workers Association to Teja Sahota expressing regret that members cannot attend the Indian Workers Association anniversary meeting to remember Jagmohan Joshi, 5 June 1980
/189 from the branch secretary of the General and Municipal Workers Union, Slough, to Avtar Jouhl discussing an unidentified industrial dispute involving mainly Asian women, 20 June 1980
/190 from the West Midlands Police to Avtar Jouhl concerning a proposed National Front March and Rally, 31 July 1980
/191 from the Institute of Race Relations asking if 'Lalkar' can be sent on a complimentary basis, 13 August 1980
/192 from Paramjit Defence Campaign, based at the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, discussing affiliation to the Rajwinder Singh Defence Campaign against racist immigration laws and the harassment of black people, 24 July 1987

Undated letters consist of:

/193 statement issued by The Patients Association about privacy in hospital wards
/194 circular letter issued by West Midlands Regional Young Socialists about policies of Labour government and the betrayal of working people, undated
/195 from Henry Saltiel, Coventry College of Education with arrangements for Joshi to speak to teaching students about issues surrounding teaching immigrant communities, undated
/196 from Handsworth Technical College to Jagmohan Joshi aiming to recruit students for courses from the Indian community, undated
/197 from the University of Birmingham Guild of Undergraduates Socialist Union asking Joshi to advertise the Russell Peace Exhibition in the Indian Workers Association, undated
/198 acknowledgement from 'The Birmingham Post', undated
/199 leaflet issued by the Birmingham Claimants Union with details of the organisation's aims, and contact information for those wishing to be involved

- /200 invitation for a Birmingham Reception in honour of Tony and Betty Ambatielos, organised by the League for Democracy in Greece, undated
- /201 from an Indian Workers Association member to Avtar Jouhl, asking for an apology from the president of the executive committee over a misunderstanding
- /202 from Daphne Bates, Bexley Branch Young Communist League, asking Joshi or another member of the Indian Workers Association to speak at a public meeting on the dangers of organised racism as part of a campaign to oppose the increasing activity of the National Front in the area
- /203 from a member of the Socialist Society at Birmingham University asking Joshi to speak at a session on racism in Birmingham and the position of the black community during the 'Freshers Conference', undated
- /204 from Stoke Young Socialists enclosing a programme of events, including one at which Joshi was to speak, undated
- /205 from a member of an unidentified group about a meeting, undated
- /206 flyer issued by Southern African Solidarity Committee with details of demonstration to be held during South African Freedom Week, undated
- /207 from Dilip Hiro, asking to visit Joshi to discuss a book he is writing on race relations, undated
- /208 from the treasurer of the Young Communist League, Birmingham, giving details about a film to be shown at the Birmingham Arms pub about China, undated
- /209 from Naseem Khan mentioning an article, possibly written by Joshi, about the Indian political system, undated
- /210 from Ed Emery about a pamphlet entitled 'The Position of Black People Today' and asking Joshi for help with further research into the position of black people in employment, undated
- /211 from Peter Cartwright of Kingston Polytechnic asking for details of the Black Peoples Alliance for a series of lectures on race relations, undated
- /212 circular letter from the Revolutionary Youths Association with details of aims and objects, undated
- /213 from John Russell about a demonstration relating to the black power movement, undated
- /214 about matters relating to the Black Peoples Alliance, undated
- /215 concerning the problems faced by a migrant child in being placed in a school in Birmingham, following rejection from the Golden Hillock school in Small Heath, undated. This item is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2081 because it contains sensitive personal information about an individual

- /216 anonymous racist letter to Joshi, undated
- /217 photocopy of a racist poem entitled 'England, My England'
- /218 note from Busi Chaane to Shirley Joshi, undated
- /219 note from Tarseem Nayer, written in Urdu, mentioning a recent article in Punjab Weekly and stating that he is offering an article in reply, undated
- /220 set of revolutionary lyrics written down by Tarseem Nayer, in Urdu, consisting of a call for action, asking members [of the Indian Workers Association] to rise against injustice and colonial rule
- /221 from sender identified as 'Arif' written in Urdu, discussing criticism of people from India and Pakistan in newspaper articles, and discussing ways to show solidarity and a lack of political rivalry between people from the two countries, undated
- /222 from the secretary of the Manchester Peoples Council for Social Justice, asking for details of any Indian Workers Association in the Manchester area, in order for the groups to work together, undated
- /223 from Stuart Bowes, attaching a flyer about his forthcoming book entitled 'The Police and Civil Liberties', undated
- /224 from D. S. Judge, discussing Indian Workers Association leaflets, undated
- /225 from Reg Birch, asking to be excused [from a meeting] in order to return to London

Access: Partially closed Part of this file is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 because some items contain personal information about individuals. The remainder of the file is available for consultation. See description field for dates when material will be available. Remove marked 'closed' files before serving.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/2

Letters from the Indian Workers Association

1961-1993

This file comprises copy letters sent by Jagmohan Joshi as General Secretary and Avtar Jouhl as General Secretary, National Organiser, and Branch Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, to individuals and organisations, many consisting of brief replies to letters described at MS 2141/A/4/1, or elsewhere in this section, confirming arrangements to meet, or asking for information. Letters are arranged in chronological order, with undated correspondence placed at the end of the sequence.

More detailed or substantial correspondence includes:

/8 letter sent to the Bulgarian Legation; Czechoslovak Embassy; Hungarian Legation; Polish Embassy; Romanian Legation; and Russian Embassy enquiring about schemes operating in socialist countries under which people have opportunities to gather cultural knowledge, in order for the Indian Workers Association to expand its cultural activities June 1964

/10 letter sent to the Chairman of Birmingham Education Committee expressing concern at the proposals for 'reception centres for immigrant children' being considered by the committee, and giving the views of the Indian Workers Association, 10 November 1965

/20 letter to the District Postmaster, London, concerning the launch of Lalkar in the first week of October 1967

/27 letter discussing a forthcoming lobby at the House of Commons to protest against restrictions to be imposed on Kenyan Asians and dependents of migrants entering Britain, February 1968

/29 letter to T. Smythe, General Secretary of the National Council for Civil Liberties, criticising the race relations industry for neglecting the interests and views of immigrant communities, but suggesting a meeting including representatives from the West Indian Standing Conference and the National Federation of Pakistani Associations rather than relying on representatives of Government sponsored bodies, March 1968

/31 letter to the Director General of the BBC protesting against the corporation's decision not to show the programme 'Cause for Concern', which appears to have been on the subject of police discrimination against black people. The letter refers to the arrest of members of the Indian Workers Association at a demonstration in Birmingham in May 1968. The letter is dated 1 August 1968

/59 letter to Albert Bore, Secretary of the District Labour Party in Birmingham, concerning a demonstration to protest against a National Front march and rally at Saltley Gates to be held on 26 February 1977, and discussing plans for a united demonstration between the Trades Council and black organisations including the Indian Workers Association; Bangladesh Workers Association; Afro-Caribbean Association; Harambee; Pakistani Workers Association and the Kashmiri Workers Association, 12 February 1977

/61 letter from Avtar Jouhl to Deepak [Mathur], setting out points to include in a leaflet on racism and fascism in Britain, 8 August 1978

There are also a small number of letters sent within the

organisation during the early 1960s, including /2 a letter from A. S. Rai, General Secretary in 1961, asking executive committee members to attend a meeting of the General Council of the Indian Workers Association in Birmingham in October 1961, and /3-/5 letters from the Finance Secretary, Mohan Singh Bassa, discussing the accounts, and potential irregularities in the functioning of the Central Committee, also dated 1961.

The file also contains some undated notes, mainly handwritten by Avtar Jouhl, consisting of the names of some committee members and records of sums of money paid by local branches of the Indian Workers Association, and a letter from Avtar Jouhl printed in 'Des Pardes' weekly discussing the Industrial Relations Act, working class unity, and the need to repeal the 1971 Immigration Act

Access: Partially closed until 01/01/2048. Part of this file is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2048 because some items contains personal information about individuals. The remainder of the file is available for consultation. Remove marked 'closed' items before serving.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/3

'Letters and documents sent to the Indian Workers Association on the issue of immigration control'

1965-1980

This file primarily contains correspondence from Home Office officials, Members of Parliament and political activists concerning immigration legislation introduced during the 1960s and 1970s, and Indian Workers Association campaigns against this legislation. It also includes some printed material, largely consisting of flyers and leaflets giving information about demonstrations and other events organised to protest against racism expressed through immigration legislation introduced later in the 1970s.

/1 printed notice issued by the Home Office to Commonwealth citizens admitted to Britain subject to conditions of 1962 Immigration Act

/2-/5 letters to Jagmohan Joshi from Joan Ralling, Assistant Secretary of the Race Relations Committee of the Religious Society of Friends concerning the support of this organisation for the Indian Workers Association, their distribution of copies of the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination's publication 'The Victims Speak', and the production of a poster on the contribution

of workers from Commonwealth citizens to British society, to be displayed at Quaker Meetings, December 1965-January 1966

/6-/9 papers relating to restrictions imposed by the Labour government in 1968 on the entry of Kenyan Asians to Britain, including a letter to Jagmohan Joshi from David Steel MP, concerning the proposed legislation, dated 26 February 1968 and a circular letter sent by Surjit S. Mann, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association to members, enclosing a press statement on the restriction of immigration to Kenyan Asians and including details about a forthcoming meeting of the Central Executive Committee on 31 March 1968 in Leicester. There is also a statement issued by the Provisional Committee for the founding of the Marxist-Leninist Party of Britain on the emergency legislation to curb immigration, 1968

/10 letter from I. M. Burns, Home Office, acknowledging receipt of a petition about immigration matters, 26 March 1969

/11 letter from Bill Coppock of North Staffordshire Action Council, asking for a speaker to attend a meeting called by this group against the 1971 Immigration Bill, 5 April 1971

/12-/14 correspondence and associated material relating to illegal immigration and the position of male fiances, sent by Andrew Faulds, Member of Parliament for Smethwick, following points raised on the issue by Avtar Jouhl. These papers consist of a letter to Andrew Faulds from Alex Lyon at the Home Office, attaching a photocopy of a statement made by the Home Secretary, Roy Jenkins, to the House of Commons on illegal immigration, and stating the view of the Home Secretary on the question of male fiances.

There is also a covering letter from Andrew Faulds' private secretary to Avtar Jouhl, enclosing the correspondence, May-June 1974

/15 letter from Alex Lyon, Home Office, to Jagmohan Joshi discussing improvements in the processing of entry certificate applications in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh with the introduction of simplified procedures for dependents to join their family in Britain, 8 August 1975

/16 postcard from Dennis Howell to Jagmohan Joshi, acknowledging receipt of a letter concerning Balbit Singh, postmarked 1 August 1978

/17 letter from Clare Short, Action Group on Immigration and Nationality [AGIN], to Jagmohan Joshi, enquiring whether the Indian Workers Association would reconsider a previous decision, and be prepared to support AGIN's campaign for non-racist immigration control and to take part in a rally called by the organisation. This letter is undated, but is likely to have been written during the 1970s, before the election of Margaret Thatcher's

Conservative government in 1979

/18 letter from Franco Capino, Secretary of the Campaign to Repeal the Immigration Act, discussing the racial bias of the Immigration Act introduced by the Conservative government in 1973 and setting out its main points. The letter asks for other organisations to support the group's campaign to repeal this Act. The letter is undated, but is likely to have been written during the 1970s

/19 photocopy of a leaflet issued by a group calling itself Indian Workers Association, London denouncing organisations who work with government bodies, including IWA (GB) and IWA (Southall), and anyone who works with the Coordinating Committee against the Racist Immigration Bill or Joint Council for Welfare of Immigrants. The leaflet is undated, but is likely to have been issued during the 1970s

/20 incomplete press release issued by Awaz - Asian Women's Movement, giving details about a protest demonstration against immigration procedures at Heathrow airport, particularly the practice of 'virginity tests', 9 February 1979

/21 flyer issued by Campaign Against Racism and Fascism giving information about a meeting organised by the group to protest against the detention of people judged to have entered Britain illegally under the terms of the 1971 Immigration Act. The flyer states that the meeting is to be held at Carrs Lane Church Centre, 18 June 1979, and also refers to a National Day of Action, featuring a picket outside Winson Green Prison, 7 July 1979, where many of the detainees were being held. Speakers at the meeting included Maurice Ludmer, President of Birmingham Trades Council; Ranjit Sondhi, Asian Resource Centre; John Plummer, Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants; and a speaker from the Indian Workers Association

/22 circular letter issued by the Indian Workers Association (Southall) giving information about a convention against new immigration rules to be held 6 January 1980

/23 circular letter issued by Campaign Against Racist Laws, giving information about a Mobilising Committee Meeting to co-ordinate opposition to immigration legislation introduced by Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government, 19 January 1980

/24 flyer issued by Campaign Against the Immigration Laws giving information about a picket outside the Home Office to protest against the refusal of officials to allow Anwar Ditta to bring her three children from Pakistan to Britain, 1 February 1980

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/4

Correspondence to and from the Indian Workers
Association on race relations legislation

1966-1968

This file primarily contains correspondence between Jagmohan Joshi, on behalf of the Indian Workers Association, and members of the Race Relations Board, but also includes letters written by members of the West Midlands Conciliation Committee - the local body appointed by the Race Relations Board to investigate complaints of racial discrimination and find solutions, through conciliation in the first instance.

The correspondence concerns initial meetings arranged between Joshi and Mark Bonham Carter following the establishment of the Race Relations Board in compliance with the 1965 Race Relations Act, and discussions between the two men about matters relating to the Act, specifically a case of racial discrimination experienced by members of the Indian Workers Association when attempting to buy drinks at public houses in West Bromwich in November 1966.

The bulk of the correspondence in the file relates to the appointment of Oscar Hahn as chairman of the West Midlands Conciliation Committee, and his connections with a trade delegation to South Africa. Letters between Joshi and members of both the Race Relations Board and West Midlands Conciliation Committee contain discussions about the views held by the Indian Workers Association about the formation of the Committee, and the organisation's disappointment at the appointment of Oscar Hahn, as well as the response to Indian Workers Association concerns expressed by Committee members and by Mark Bonham Carter and John Lyttle of the Race Relations Board, and arrangements for meetings between representatives of the different organisations 1966-1967.

Included in this correspondence is a set of minutes of a meeting held at Colmore Row in Birmingham, called by the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination and the Indian Workers Association for organisations which had protested against the appointment of Mr Hahn to meet John Lyttle, Secretary of the Race Relations Board, in December 1966. These minutes include a list of those who attended the meeting, giving details of their names, addresses, and the organisations they represented.

One of the letters sent by John Lyttle to Joshi was written immediately after this meeting, and attempts to explain the

reasons why the Race Relations Board agreed the appointment of Oscar Hahn.

Letters dating from the early months of 1967 contain discussions about the possibility of meeting a representative from the Home Office, David Ennals, to exchange views on race relations, and the possibility that the Indian Workers Association might be represented on the West Midlands Conciliation Committee.

Also included in this file is correspondence between Joshi and Mark Bonham Carter about the provision of Indian language editions explaining the Race Relations Act, dated January 1968, and a letter to Joshi from David Ennals at the Home Office concerning a particular prosecution under the Race Relations Act, dated May 1968.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/5

Letters from Members of Parliament relating to the White Paper on Immigration

1965

Letters from various Members of Parliament from different political parties in response to the publication of the Indian Workers Association pamphlet 'The Victims Speak' and a lobby of parliament led by the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination that took place 6 December 1965 in response to the government White Paper on Immigration. Several MPs had met Joshi during this lobby, and others mention receiving a copy of 'The Victims Speak'. Some give their own views about the White Paper, and state whether they support it or not. Some also comment on Joshi's views, and those of the Indian Workers Association.

James Bennett, MP for Bridgeton

Hugh D. Brown

Robert Carr, MP for Mitcham

G. Craddock, MP for Bradford South

J. J. Dunnett, Nottingham Central

Ioan Evans MP for Yardley

Ted Fletcher, MP for Darlington

Reg Freeson, MP for Brent East, enclosing a copy of 'Searchlight', and promising to pass on feelings of immigrant organisations to the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigration

Roy Hattersley, MP for Sparkbrook, Birmingham

Terence Higgins, MP for Worthing

John Hunt, MP for Ravensbourne

Anne Kerr, MP for Rochester

David Kerr, MP for Central Wandsworth

Geoffrey Lloyd, MP for Sutton Coldfield
Richard Marsh, MP for Greenwich
Maurice Miller, MP for Glasgow Kelvingrove
Edward Milne, MP for Blyth
Eric Ogden, MP for Liverpool West Derby
Rafton Pounder, MP for Belfast South
John Tilney, MP for Liverpool Wavertree
William Shepherd, MP for Cheadle
Tom Steele, MP for Dumbartonshire West
Irene Ward, MP for Tynemouth

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/6

Correspondence from race relations organisations

1966-1976

This file comprises correspondence to the Indian Workers Association from various national race relations bodies, including the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants; the National Council for Civil Liberties; the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants; Campaign Against Racial Discrimination; and The Board of Deputies of British Jews. It also contains correspondence from more local race relations organisations, such as Towards Racial Justice, based in London; Hammersmith Council for Community Relations; and Handsworth Community Venture.

The main theme of the correspondence is cooperation between organisations, and letters from several different groups appeal to the Indian Workers Association for support and exchange of ideas. It is also clear from much of the correspondence, that there was a tension between the aims and attitudes of many race relations organisations, particularly those which were government supported, and those of the Indian Workers Association.

Letters from the National Council for Civil Liberties refer to matters discussed at committee meetings held at the Friends Meeting House in Birmingham, and mention the Birmingham Liaison Group, set up by the National Council on Civil Liberties. One of the letters contains an agenda for a committee meeting to be held 9 January 1967, including matters arising from a previous meeting, concerning racial discrimination issues in housing and education; Coventry doctors and the difficulty some patients experience in getting on the list; the West Midlands Conciliation Committee; and the Sikh community in Leamington.

This correspondence includes two letters dating from March and April 1968 which discuss the need to formulate a united, co-ordinated response to protest against racism

in the aftermath of restrictions on immigration imposed by the government earlier that year. The reverse of the letter dated 4 March 1968 contains a handwritten draft response by Jagmohan Joshi. There is also a letter from Roy Parkinson, Chairman of the Midland Group of the National Council for Civil Liberties, discussing new bye-laws published by Birmingham City Council which prevent people from holding meetings, demonstrations and exhibitions in the Bull Ring, August 1968

Material relating to the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants includes a copy of the agenda for the Annual Meeting, held 14 December 1969, and the Annual Report 1968-1969. The Annual Report contains a list of the member organisations which include several branches of the Indian Workers Association. There are also several letters from either Michael Dummett, Chairman of the organisation, or Vishnu. D. Sharma, Honorary Secretary, and also an office bearer of Indian Workers Association (Southall). Most of these letters contain information about matters discussed and decisions taken by the Executive Committee of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, and include a lengthy appeal to the Indian Workers Association (GB) to affiliate to the organisation, setting out the benefits of doing so, and emphasising the achievements of the organisation since its establishment in 1967.

Other letters discuss the establishment of an Immigrants Welfare Trust by the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants in 1969, including a Draft Constitution; the situation for British Asians in Uganda in 1970; and a detailed letter expressing the disappointment of Michael Dummett at the behaviour of representatives of some of the black organisations attending a meeting to discuss the formation of an alliance of black and white radical groups to fight the Immigration Bill, 29 March 1971

Correspondence from the Hammersmith Council for Community Relations is sent by Rev. Wilfred Wood, and consists of a letter giving information about an emergency conference of immigrant organisations to be held 21 April 1968 to discuss and vote on resolutions on the response of immigrant organisations to government proposals to re-constitute the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants; and a set of 'The Wood Proposals' for a Community Relations Grants Commission and a National Council for Racial Equality, 6 June 1968 with a covering letter explaining that the 'Wood Proposals' form amendments agreed by immigrant organisations to Part III

of the Race Relations Bill

The file also includes single letters from other organisations, consisting of:

/22 from Sheila Wright, Chairman, and Melvin Parchment, Secretary of Handsworth Community Venture, inviting Jagmohan Joshi to the organisation's inaugural public meeting to discuss ideas for people living in Handsworth to work together on cultural, educational and recreational projects. This letter is undated

/23 from Martin Ennals, Information Officer of the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants, arranging a meeting between Jagmohan Joshi and other, unidentified, Birmingham organisations, 29 September 1966

/24 from Campaign Against Racial Discrimination to Shirley Joshi asking for the co-operation of other organisations involved in making representations on behalf of Commonwealth citizens refused entry to Britain, to jointly appoint a full-time immigration worker, 14 June 1967

/25 from 'Towards Racial Justice' asking for information about local organisations geared towards black and Indian people in Britain, in preparation for an article in a forthcoming issue 'Race Today', 11 September 1973

/26 from Martin Savitt, Chairman of the Defence and Group Relations Committee, The Board of Deputies of British Jews, to Jagmohan Joshi, Anti-Racial National Demonstration Committee, discussing a recent march to Downing Street to protest against the rise of racism and fascism in Britain, which members of the Jewish community attended, and expressing concern about comments made at this demonstration by Tariq Ali about Israel, 12 July 1976

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/7

Communications with India House

1964-1969

This file consists of correspondence between members of the Indian Workers Association and officials working at the High Commission of India and India House in London discussing policies of the Indian Workers Association, and arranging meetings between members of the organisation and visiting Indian politicians during the 1960s.

Correspondence consists of:

/1-/9 letters relating to a meeting between representatives from the Indian Workers Association and the Indian Workers Association (Southall) and T. T. Krishnamachari and Indira Gandhi, ministers from the Indian government attending the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference

in London in July 1964. These papers include a copy of a memorandum presented by Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary, and Rattan Singh, President of the Indian Workers Association to Mr Krishnamachari and Mrs Indira Gandhi, giving details about the organisation's activities in showing Indian films and attempting to set up an Indian welfare centre, and setting out the Indian Workers Association's position on the political issues of the day

/10-/16 letters discussing the possibility of members of the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association meeting the Indian Prime Minister [Lal Bahadur] Shastri in December 1964, including a copy of a memorandum presented by the Indian Workers Association to Mr Shastri on his first visit to London, giving details about several issues concerning the welfare of the Indian community in Britain.

/17 letter from K. C. Sen Gupta, High Commission of India to P. S. Rai, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, Leicester, concerning an Indian Republic Day meeting, 14 January 1965

/18 memorandum presented by the Indian Workers Association to Lal Bahadur Shastri, Prime Minister of India, on his visit to London during the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference, June 1965, concerning the ongoing Emergency Laws and Defence of India Rules under which political prisoners are detained without trial

/19 letter from P. N. Haksar, Acting High Commissioner, India House, thanking Jagmohan Joshi for the Indian Workers Association message of condolence on the death of Prime Minister Shastri, 18 January 1966

/20-/22 letters discussing arrangements for the Acting High Commissioner at India House to receive a deputation from the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association, August 1967

/23-/26 letters relating to a possible meeting between members of the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association and the Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, during her visit to Britain for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference in January 1969, including a memorandum presented to Mrs Gandhi, submitted by the Indian Workers Association, discussing the negative effects of British imperialism on Indian workers and peasants, and the recent actions and policies of the Indian government

/27 press statement issued by an unidentified organisation, possibly the High Commission of India, on the appointment

of Shanti Sarup Dhawan, High Commissioner for India in the UK, containing a biography of Dhawan's career, undated.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/8

Relationships with the press

1965-1968

This file contains correspondence; draft and typed press releases; press cuttings; and photocopies of press cuttings relating to the reporting of stories about Indian Workers Association policies and campaigns against racism in local newspapers, particularly the 'The Birmingham Post'.

/1 newspaper reports about a protest meeting and demonstration ending at 'The Birmingham Post & Mail Ltd' offices in Birmingham against the death of Patrice Lumumba, Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Congo, in 1961, led by black and Asian organisations, with support from members of the Birmingham Communist Party. There are also details about a protest outside the Ministry of Defence in London, in which students and lecturers from the University of Birmingham, and other Midlands universities, took part to protest against the visit to London of [Hendrik] Verwoerd, Prime Minister of South Africa

/2-/3 annotated press release issued by the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association and signed by Avtar Jouhl about a report in 'The Birmingham Post' that alleged that the Indian Workers Association was attempting to influence the affairs and elections of the Sikh temple in Smethwick, following a statement by Sohan Singh Sandhu of the Immigrant Welfare Association, March 1965

/4-/7 newspaper cutting containing an article about the Indian Workers Association's commitment to confront racist violence following reports of Ku Klux Klan activities in Leamington Spa and racist attacks on the Indian community there, including a quote by Jagmohan Joshi, together with correspondence between Joshi and D. H. Hopkinson, editor of 'The Birmingham Post' concerning the alleged misreporting by the newspaper of comments made by Joshi on the response of the Indian Workers Association to racist attacks on immigrants, June 1965. There is also a handwritten draft statement on this issue by Joshi.

/8 handwritten statement by the Indian Workers Association protesting against inaccurate reporting by 'The

Birmingham Post' of decisions taken after a meeting between representatives of several organisations concerned with race relations and Oscar Hahn,, controversial chairman of the West Midlands Conciliation Committee, 1966-1967. See also MS 2141/A/4/4 for correspondence relating to this meeting.

/9-/15 photocopies of letters from Charles Parker to 'The Birmingham Post' protesting about the inaccurate presentation of a readers poll on attitudes towards immigrants, together with a covering letter to Shirley Joshi which mentions the Aston University performance of 'Of One Blood' which was not held, 11 June 1968

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/9

Campaign mailing lists

1970s-1980s

Contact details for individuals and organisations connected with Indian Workers Association activities and campaigns

/1 preliminary list of organisations, containing details of the names and addresses of black, African and African Caribbean organisations based in several cities and towns in Britain, undated

/2 list of Indian political, religious and cultural organisations in Birmingham, undated

/3 mailing list of for individual members of the 'Police Liaison Committee', together with minutes of a meeting of the Parkfield Road Police Liaison Committee August 1979, held in Washwood Heath, Birmingham

The purpose of the first two mailing lists is not clear, but it is possible that they were collated for the purposes of campaigns by black and Asian organisations against government proposals to introduce new immigration legislation during the 1970s or early 1980s.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/10

Documents, statements and letters by the Indian Workers Association on the fight against racism

1966-1977

This file contains copy letters; press releases; flyers and information leaflets; and handwritten drafts of statements and speeches composed by Jagmohan Joshi and Avtar Jouhl. These papers all relate to Indian Workers Association campaigns against racial discrimination and immigration legislation in Britain during the 1960s and 1970s, and contain details about the organisation's views and policies on ways to tackle racism in British society.

/1 statement issued by the Indian Workers Association on an unidentified demonstration for the introduction of legislation against Racial Discrimination, placing this struggle in the context of struggles for human rights, and national liberation and civil rights struggles in South Africa and the southern states of the USA. The statement is undated, but is likely to have been issued during the early 1960s

/2 draft statement written in pencil by Jagmohan Joshi condemning the proposal by Smethwick councillor [Don] Finney to establish an all white committee, apparently to cater for the needs of the white community in Smethwick in the same way as the Indian Workers Association caters for the needs of immigrant communities in the area. This statement is undated, but is likely to have been issued in the atmosphere of racial tension that existed in Smethwick around the time of the 1964 General Election

/3 draft speech in Avtar Jouhl's handwriting with some annotations, addressing discrimination suffered by immigrants working in Britain, including instances of discrimination within the Trade Union movement, and emphasising the contribution made by these workers to the British economy. It is possible that the speech was written to be given at a communist meeting. This draft is undated, but the content of the speech suggests that it was written during the early 1960s, possibly around the time that the Labour government introduced a White Paper on immigration in 1965

/4 statement issued to mark a demonstration demanding the strengthening of the Race Relations Act to cover housing and employment, and the repeal of the [1962] Commonwealth Immigrants Act. The statement also calls for the Race Relations Board to restore confidence in the West Midlands Race Conciliation Committee by removing its chairman, Oscar Hahn, from office, and for the withdrawal of the White Paper on immigration. The statement was probably issued by the Indian Workers Association, and is likely to date from the mid 1960s

/5 draft statement handwritten by Jagmohan Joshi concerning a story in the 'Birmingham Mail' concerning racial discrimination in the letting of school halls in the city. The statement is undated, but is likely to have been issued during the mid 1960s.

/6 copy letter enclosing a press release to be issued at a

conference called by the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination; the Indian Workers Association; the Pakistani Welfare Association; and the West Indian Standing Conference, at Dr Johnson House, Colmore Circus, Birmingham, 24 March 1966

/7-/10 information circulars to Indian Workers Association members and a draft statement handwritten by Jagmohan Joshi concerning a mass demonstration and rally at Birmingham Town Hall against the government's race policy, 2 July 1967. The handwritten statement includes the names of speakers at the rally.

/11 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi to Dr Miller at the House of Commons, with thanks for help provided at the lobby of parliament by the Indian Workers Association [28 February 1968], and for consistently fighting against racism, 9 March 1968

/12-/15 flyer; memorandum; petition; and draft statement handwritten by Jagmohan Joshi concerning the visit of the Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, to Birmingham 5 May 1968. The flyer urges people to join an Indian Workers Association demonstration to protest against the growth of fascism and the use of racism by British political parties, while the memorandum explains to Harold Wilson the reasons for the demonstration by the Indian Workers Association and other black and Asian groups. The petition is written in English, Punjabi and Urdu, and sets out a list of six demands for the reform of immigration legislation so that husbands and fiancés of women living in Britain are allowed to settle in the country. It contains the signatures and addresses of several people.

/16 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi to recipient addressed as Miss Bates discussing action taken by progressive groups to oppose racism in Britain, 20 June 1969

/17-/44 draft statements handwritten by Jagmohan Joshi on various instances of racial discrimination, and on campaigns and demonstrations against racism led by the Indian Workers Association or the Black Peoples Alliance during the late 1960s and 1970

/45 copy letter from K. S. Sanghera, Acting Secretary of the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association asking colleagues to attend a meeting organised by Aston University students to discuss ways of preventing Colin Jordan, the far right wing leader, from holding a meeting at Digbeth Civic Hall in Birmingham. This letter is undated,

but was probably written during the late 1960s or the 1970s

/46 draft statement handwritten by Avtar Jouhl to be issued on behalf of the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association condemning implicit racial discrimination in some questions asked in the forthcoming [1971] census

/47 letter in English and Punjabi sent by Jagmohan Joshi to immigrant organisations inviting them to a meeting organised by the Indian Workers Association which the Home Office minister Alex Lyon will attend, giving people the opportunity to discuss problems faced by immigrant communities, particularly since the 1971 Immigrants Act. The meeting was to be held 21 February 1975 at Conway Road School, Sparkbrook, Birmingham. The letter is dated 3 February 1975

/48 single page of an information leaflet or pamphlet issued by Avtar Jouhl, President, and Teja Singh Sahota, General Secretary, of the Indian Workers Association on immigration legislation, and in particular the Green Paper on Nationality issued by the Labour government in 1977

/49 leaflet in Punjabi issued by the Indian Workers Association setting out the immigration policy announced by Home Office Minister James Callaghan, undated

/50 miscellaneous handwritten notes on racial discrimination

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/11

Documents and letters to the Indian Workers Association concerning the fight against racism

1962-1980

This file contains a variety of correspondence; press statements; printed articles; publications; flyers; and press cuttings relating to immigration legislation; cases of racial discrimination and racist attacks on black and Asian people in Britain; and the rise of extreme right wing and fascist groups in Britain during the 1960s and 1970s, in a climate where mainstream political parties were formulating policies aimed at controlling immigration. Letters are arranged in chronological order, with undated correspondence placed at the end of the sequence.

/1 letter from Town Clerk, County Borough of Smethwick, to Avtar Jouhl, making arrangements for receiving a deputation from residents of Vicarage Road in Smethwick, 6 November 1962

/2 printed copy of the Commonwealth Immigrants Act,

1962

/3 letter from the Home Office to Jagmohan Joshi acknowledging a request to receive a deputation from the Indian Workers Association, 25 February 1965

/4-7 correspondence between Jagmohan Joshi and the Mayor of Smethwick, and the Chief Superintendent of Warwickshire Constabulary concerning a racist attack in Leamington Spa in which a fiery cross was nailed to the door of an Indian house, June 1965

/8 statement issued by the West Indian Standing Conference, the Indian Workers Association, Pakistani Workers Association, Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination, and the Pakistani Welfare Association stating the reasons for the refusal of these organisations to participate in the formation of the Birmingham Advisory Council for Commonwealth Immigrants. This statement is undated, but is likely to have been issued around 1965

/9 letter from J. E. Crawford, Secretary of the Standing Conference of West Indian Organisations to Jagmohan Joshi discussing arrangements for his visit to Birmingham to discuss a planned lobby [of parliament] and to meet the leaders of 'West Indian', Indian and Pakistani movements to discuss ways of working together, 15 November 1965

/10 election flyer for the Conservative party candidate for Birmingham Perry Barr in the 1966 General Election, W. R. Davies. The flyer emphasises Davies' support for restricted immigration and the re-introduction of capital punishment

/11 copy letter, presumably from Jagmohan Joshi, objecting to remarks made by a member of an unidentified sports club about the participation of immigrants in the field of sports, 18 June 1966

/12-24 correspondence concerning the arrangement of a meeting between members of the Indian Workers Association and David Ennals, Parliamentary Under-secretary of State at the Home Office, to discuss race relations and issues of racial discrimination faced by Asian migrants in Britain, April-September 1967

/25 file copy of an incomplete typescript notice issued by the 'New Britain Association for the Preservation of Britain' to the electors of Warley on the need to limit immigration, and referring to apparent attempts by Avtar Jouhl and the Indian Workers Association to discredit this right-wing group, March 1967

/26-/29 leaflets and photocopies of press cuttings relating to extreme right-wing political groups, including the British Movement and the National Anti-Immigration Society, 1968

/30-/32 correspondence between Jagmohan Joshi and Patricia de Joux, feature writer on 'The Times' newspaper, concerning an article on the question of integration which Joshi was concerned to note did not acknowledge the contribution made by Asian women to integration, February 1968

/33 press statement issued by Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary, Central Executive Committee, on behalf of the Indian Workers Association (GB) condemning the racist speech made by Enoch Powell at a dinner in Walsall 9 February 1968 which included an attack on the Sikh community in the context of the struggle by Sikh bus conductors in Wolverhampton to retain their right to wear turbans at work, 15 February 1968

/34 parish newsletter of St George's church in Wolverhampton, including comments on Enoch Powell's speech, and explaining the benefits of living as part of an extended family, as is more common in Indian communities, 1968

/35 letter from the Legal Secretary of the Law Officers Department, Royal Courts of Justice, to Jagmohan Joshi concerning the case for taking criminal proceedings against Enoch Powell under the Race Relations Act 1965 over the speech made by Powell in Birmingham on 20 April 1968. The letter is dated 14 May 1968

/36-/38 letters and statements issued by the Socialist Union at the Guild of Undergraduates, University of Birmingham, to mobilise support for their campaign to prevent Enoch Powell from speaking at the University as a guest of the Politics department in June 1968

/39 printed pamphlet prepared by members of the Cultural Committee of the Birmingham Communist Party entitled 'Who is Enoch Powell', October 1968

/40-58 correspondence and associated material relating to the Prime Minister Harold Wilson's visit to Birmingham on 5 May 1968, and the arrest of several members of the Indian Workers Association at a demonstration organised to protest against Wilson's support for American aggression in Vietnam and his willingness to tolerate racism. These papers include:

/40 flyers issued by Aston Socialist Society to mobilise

support for the demonstration at Birmingham Town Hall
/41 press statement issued by the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) condemning the actions of the police in arresting the leaders of the Indian Workers Association and others after the demonstration
/42-/43 letters of support from the President of the University of Birmingham Guild of Undergraduates and Jack Shapiro prior to court action taken by the police against Jagmohan Joshi and other members of the Indian Workers Association
/44-/47 copy letters to witnesses asking them to attend the Victoria Law Courts to give evidence
/48 letter from David Ennals, Home Office Minister, to Donald Chapman, MP [for Birmingham Northfield], discussing police actions at the demonstration at Birmingham Town Hall during Harold Wilson's visit on 5 May 1968 and refuting criticisms made by Jagmohan Joshi of police aggression towards black and Asian demonstrators. The letter is dated 22 July 1968
/49 open letter from Jagmohan Joshi explaining the sequence of events at the 5 May 1968 demonstration, from the point of view of the Indian Workers Association
/50 letter to the Home Secretary expressing concern about the rejection of the representation made by the Indian Workers Association through Donald Chapman, MP to hold an enquiry into alleged police brutalities against some of its members during a demonstration at the time of Harold Wilson's visit to Birmingham on 5 May 1968. The letter is signed by representatives of a number of black and Asian organisations
/51 letter from the Home Office to the Petition Committee led by Jagmohan Joshi giving reasons for the rejection of the request of the Indian Workers Association for an enquiry to be held into police behaviour during the Prime Minister's visit to Birmingham on 5 May, 1968. The letter is dated 16 September 1968
/52 letter from the Chief Constable of Birmingham City Police to the Petition Committee led by Jagmohan Joshi, concerning allegations of police brutality at the 5 May demonstration, 23 September 1968
/53 detailed witness statements by some of the protestors who attended the demonstration, including members of the Indian Workers Association and other protestors and bystanders

/54-/55 correspondence from Tony Smythe, National Council for Civil Liberties, to Jagmohan Joshi, discussing the need for black and Asian organisations to build up case histories of instances of police brutality in order to expose the inadequacies of the current police complaints

procedures, October 1968

/56 letter from Reg Birch to Jagmohan Joshi enclosing a donation towards Joshi's legal costs, 3 October 1968

/57-/58 letters from Tony Smythe, National Council for Civil Liberties, to Jagmohan Joshi and K. S. Sanghera, Secretary of the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association enclosing copies of a letter from the Chief Constable of Birmingham City Police concerning the police investigation regarding complaints against officers behaviour on 5 May 1968, and referring to evidence from citizens, December 1968

/59 letter from the Private Secretary to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to Jagmohan Joshi in reply to a letter concerning the refusal of applications from black and Asian workers for tax relief, 24 October 1968

/60-/62 correspondence between Jagmohan Joshi and a Pakistani man living in Nottingham who had written a letter to Enoch Powell, extracts from which had been printed in the 'Nottingham Evening Post' to imply that he supported Powell. A copy of this letter is included in the correspondence, December 1968. These items have been closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2049 because they contain sensitive information about the views of individuals

/63 from a graduate from Birmingham University who is finding it difficult to gain employment, enquiring about the possibility of putting his case to the Race Relations Board, 2 December 1968.

/64-/77 letters sent to Joanne Pinto, an African Caribbean nurse who threw coffee over Enoch Powell during his visit to Nottingham, and to Jagmohan Joshi in the aftermath of Enoch Powell's speeches in Birmingham and elsewhere. The majority of these letters contain racist abuse, but there are also a small number of letters of support. This correspondence is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2049 because they contain sensitive personal information about the political views of individuals

/78 letter from the Home Office to Jagmohan Joshi concerning arrangements for the delivery of a petition, 4 March 1969

/79 briefing leaflet issued by the Socialist Unity Movement for a Black and White Unity Mobilisation demonstration to

be held in Wolverhampton, including details about the route of the march and the slogans to be used. This leaflet is undated, but it refers to the actions of Enoch Powell over the previous year, suggesting a date of around 1969 /80 composite report compiled by Surjit Singh Mann, Sarwan Singh Sahota and Narinder Dusanj, members of a section of the Indian Workers Association opposed to the views and policies of the group led by Jagmohan Joshi and Avtar Jouhl, giving an account of events at a unity demonstration held in Birmingham 23 March 1969 to protest against government restrictions on male fiances of women living in Britain entering the country. The report gives details about the groups participating in the demonstration and some of the slogans used. It also refutes connections with the Black Peoples' Alliance

/81-/82 correspondence between Jim Murray, 'Man Alive Unit' at the BBC, and Jagmohan Joshi, discussing the attendance of representatives from the Indian Workers Association at an outside broadcast to discuss the relationship between Indians and the police in Britain, at which they were not given the opportunity to speak, May 1970

/83 leaflet issued by the Pakistani Workers Union, Alum Rock branch, giving information about a protest meeting held in B.C.S Assembly room, Alum Rock, Birmingham, 3 May 1970 to discuss the increasing racial violence against Pakistanis living in Britain, and the need to organise self defence groups in the absence of police action to protect members of Pakistani communities

/84 leaflet issued by the Pakistani Workers Union giving information about a demonstration to be held in London, 3 May [1970] against racist violence against Indian and Pakistani people in Britain

/85 programme for an anti-fascist exhibition entitled 'The Faces of Fascism', organised by the Birmingham Anti-Fascist Committee to show the historical development of fascism from the 1930s to 1970. The programme includes the names of speakers and music performers at the exhibition, including the Clarion Singers and other folk groups

/86 leaflet issued on behalf of the Indian Workers Association; Pakistani Workers Union; Afro-Caribbean organisations; Black Peoples Alliance and its affiliated organisations, giving information about a demonstration against the Immigration Bill, held in London 21 March 1971

/87 typescript copy of a protest note handed to 10 Downing Street and the Home Office on behalf of the Indian Workers Association; Pakistani Workers Union;

Afro-Caribbean organisations; Black Peoples Alliance and its affiliated organisations. The note condemns the Immigration Bill and demands its immediate withdrawal /88 leaflet issued by Asia Society, Aston University, supported by Arab Society, Islamic Society and R. S. Society giving information about an open meeting at Aston University to support the fight against the Immigration Bill, 8 March 1971 with speakers including Jagmohan Joshi, Tony Huq, President of the Pakistani Workers Association, and others, ahead of the national demonstration to protest against the Bill in March

/89 open letter to working class and revolutionary youth groups issued by the Schools Action Union discussing reasons for the rise in fascism in capitalist societies and inviting delegates to a preliminary meeting to organise an Anti-Fascist Youth Conference, November 1971

/90 leaflet issued by the All Nationals Workers Committee setting out reasons to oppose the Immigration Act 1971

/91 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to the Home Secretary concerning the arrest of an Indian worker under the Immigrants Act 1971, October 1973. This item is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2054 because it contains sensitive personal information about an individual

/92-/93 correspondence between Avtar Jouhl and Mitchells & Butlers Limited brewery concerning a case of racial discrimination towards a group of Indian customers at a public house in Smethwick, October 1975

/94 typescript protest letter handed to 10 Downing Street on behalf of people demonstrating against racism in Britain, 11 July 1976, written by Jagmohan Joshi, Convenor of the Anti-Racism National Demonstration Committee. Threatening slogans against Joshi have been written on this letter in an anonymous hand

/95 typescript article probably written by a member of a Christian organisation about the rise of the National Front in Britain, and the need for Churches to condemn the racism of extreme right-wing groups and to speak out about the anti-Christian character of these groups

/96 photocopied pages from 'Economic and Political Weekly' containing articles by Farrukh Dhondy on racist violence against black and Asian people living in Britain, 21 August 1976

/97 statement issued by the Anti-Imperialist Society on the need to fight racial discrimination against overseas students at Birmingham Polytechnic, 1978

/98 flyer issued by the Steering Committee of Asian Organisations Against Racism to defend the right of

Asian people to defend themselves, and to gather support for members of the Virk family who were imprisoned in 1978 for defending themselves against a group of white attackers

/99 Minutes of the Steering Committee meeting of the Newham Anti-Nazi League held 15 June 1978

/100 election flyer for the Conservative party candidate for Birmingham Ladywood in the 1979 General Election, expressing support for tighter immigration controls

/101 flyer issued by the Anti-Nazi League urging people to donate to the organisation following an arson attack on their offices, and the continuing activities of the National Front, circa 1979

/102 letter from the Steering Committee of Asian Organisations Against Racism to the General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association asking the organisation to attend a demonstration in front of the Royal Courts of Justice 7 June 1979 to protest against the discriminatory treatment of black people by the police, in the context of the court case against members of the Virk family following their actions to prevent a racist attack on their lives, 12 May 1979

/103 letter from the Abdul Azad Defence Committee concerning the detention of Abdul Azad following the murder of his mother, and his likely deportation on the grounds that he was an 'illegal immigrant', June 1979

/104-/106 letters and statements issued by the Revolutionary Communist Tendency, 21 July Organising Committee, relating to a national demonstration to be held to picket Harmondsworth Detention Centre, Heathrow on 21 July 1979. These papers include a motion for Trade Union branches and other Labour Movement organisations resolving to campaign against immigration controls and the increased repression of ethnic minorities and the working class

/107 flyer for a demonstration against immigration controls held at Harmondsworth Detention Centre, Heathrow, 21 July 1979, organised by the Revolutionary Communist Tendency and supported by the Bengali Youth Front; Newham Defence Committee; Indian Workers Progressive Forum and Trade Unions

/108 copy of 'CAIL News', newsletter of the Campaign Against the Immigration Laws, number 3, Autumn 1979, containing news stories about cases of attempts to deport black and Asian people under the terms of the 1971 Immigrants Act. The newsletter includes an item about the dropping of charges against Abdul Azad

/109 letter from Leamington Anti-Racist Anti-Fascist

Committee making arrangements to discuss unidentified matters, 2 September 1979

/110 newspaper cutting from 'The Times of India' 26 November 1979 consisting of a photograph of a demonstration against Britain's 'increasingly racist' immigration policy by the Peoples Union for Civil Liberties and Democratic Rights outside the British High Commission in New Delhi

/111 pamphlet entitled 'Passport to Racism: A Critique of the Conservative Government's White Paper on British Nationality Law' by Rudy Narayan, 1 September 1980

Undated material consists of:

/112 letter from Maureen Baker, Movement for Colonial Freedom, to Jagmohan Joshi asking for a representative from the Indian Workers Association to attend a meeting of a standing committee on racial discrimination organised by the Movement for Colonial Freedom

/113 leaflet issued by the Socialist Unity Movement, Wolverhampton entitled 'The Truth about the 'Ash Tree' Affair', containing information about a case of racial discrimination at a public house in Wolverhampton and the campaign of the Indian Workers Association for the boycott of these premises

/114 open letter from 'Vigil' addressed to Members of Parliament, inviting them to St Margaret's Church, Westminster for a presentation of the personal histories of immigrants and a speech by Ann Dummett of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants

/115 letter from Walsall Council for Community Relations to Avtar Jouhl inviting members of the Indian Workers Association to a conference on Third World Workers in the NHS

/116 statement issued by the Indian Workers Association about the activities of some Indian Workers Association members in confronting National Front activists in West Bromwich

Access: Partially closed until 01/01/2050. Part of this file is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2050 because it contains personal information about an individual. The remainder of the file is available for consultation. Remove marked 'closed' items before serving.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/12

Documents on race relations

1967-1975

This file largely consists of copies of reports on racial discrimination, but also includes statements by the Indian Workers Association in response to one of these reports.

/1-/2 copies of the Street Report on racial discrimination, sponsored by the Race Relations Board and the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants and published by Political and Economic Planning in November 1967
 /3 press release issued by the Race Relations Board on the publication of the Street Report
 /4 statement issued by the Indian Workers Association welcoming the P.E.P [Street] Report and urging a strengthening of the Race Relations Act on the basis of the Street Report's findings of extensive racial discrimination across British society
 /5 Comments of the Community Relations Commission on the White Paper on Racial Discrimination, October 1975
 /6 summary of the Community Relations Commission, National Association of Community Relations Councils, Community Relations Group of ASTMS Joint Consultative Committee Observations on the White Paper on Racial Discrimination following discussions at the National Conference for Community Relations Councils at Keele University in September 1975
 /7 Supplementary submission of Observations on the White Paper on Racial Discrimination by the ASTMS Community Relations Group

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/13

Anti-racist campaigns in Smethwick and Birmingham

1961-1968

This file primarily contains papers relating to the Indian Workers Association's campaign against the policies and actions of some Smethwick Conservatives, including the parliamentary candidate, Peter Griffiths, in agitating against immigration and increasing racial tension in the area. There are also papers relating to Indian Workers Association protests against the operation of 'colour bars' and racial discrimination in public houses and other businesses, and particularly in the allocation of housing. Papers comprise correspondence; statements; and draft articles, some of which do not directly relate to conditions in Smethwick.

/1 copy letter from A. S. Rai, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association to the High Commissioner of India, London, expressing concern at reports he has received from the secretary of the Birmingham branch of the Association about racial problems in Birmingham, particularly in Smethwick, and the danger of racist attacks on black and Asian people living in the area, 26 July 1961. Copies were also sent to the Home Ministry, the Mayor of Smethwick, and the Birmingham branch of the Indian

Workers Association

/2 copy letter from A. S. Rai, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association to the High Commissioner of India, India House, London, discussing reports from the Birmingham branch of the organisation about the risk of racial violence in Smethwick, in the context of threats made by 'racialist elements in the area', and stating that although the local authorities of Smethwick are aware of the danger, the High Commissioner should bring this issue to the notice of the Home Secretary, 31 July 1961. Copies were also sent to the Home Secretary, the Mayor of Smethwick and the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association

/3 partial statement issued by the Indian Workers Association condemning the attitude of the Birmingham Immigration Control Association and its Smethwick branch

/4 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, to Peter Griffiths, Leader of the Conservative Party on Smethwick Council, challenging his views on the causes of unemployment in Smethwick, and accusing him and his party of trying to make immigrants a scapegoat by stirring up racial discrimination in the area. The letter challenges Griffiths to a public debate on the issue, 11 April 1963

/5-7 correspondence between Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, Denis Howell, MP for Birmingham Small Heath, and E. H. Bennitt, Controller, Eastern Division of Mitchell & Butlers Ltd brewery, concerning an incident of racial discrimination experienced by Joshi and other Indian Workers Association members at a public house in Small Heath June-July 1964

/8 draft statement handwritten by Jagmohan Joshi opposing the moves of the Smethwick Conservatives to increase racial tension by blaming black and Asian people for the shortage of housing and the continued existence of slums in the Smethwick area and by circulating a petition relating to these issues, 25 June 1964

/9 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi to the editor of an unidentified newspaper asking for an appeal to be published on behalf of the Indian Workers Association asking for people to protest against race being used as a political weapon by the Conservative party, particularly in Smethwick and Birmingham, 1964

/10 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi to the editor of 'The Birmingham Post' protesting at the omission of the Indian Workers Association statement made in reply to allegations made by Peter Griffiths on 'the racial question', 25 September 1964

/11 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi to the High Commissioner [of India] discussing a statement issued by Peter Griffiths which Joshi considers to be inflammatory and likely to increase the risk of violence against black and Asian people living in Smethwick. Joshi urges the High Commissioner to protest to the British Government regarding the protection of Indian people living in British cities, 25 September 1964

/12 typescript article written for the 'Smethwick Telephone' weekly newspaper, in reply to three articles written on behalf of the Labour, Conservative and Liberal parties before the 1964 General Election. The article gives the immigrants point of view on immigration, and is likely to have been written by Jagmohan Joshi

/13 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi to the Chief Constable, Smethwick Police Station, asking for an interview to discuss incidents involving violence against the Indian community, 7 December 1964

/14-/16 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi to the editor of an unidentified newspaper, enclosing a copy of an open letter addressed to all residents of Marshall Street in Smethwick, and asking for it to be published in the newspaper. The open letter urges the residents to reject the plan of the Smethwick Conservatives to acquire houses in Marshall Street to prevent them being occupied by black and Asian people, 16 December 1964. Attached to this correspondence are a set of notes in Joshi's handwriting on matters relating to Marshall Street

/17 leaflet issued by Smethwick Young Socialists containing a resolution to the General Management Committee of Smethwick Constituency Labour Party pledging to remove 'the temporary MP' [Peter Griffiths] from office and supporting the Labour party candidate Andrew Faulds. Andrew Faulds contested Smethwick at the 1966 General Election, so this leaflet is likely to date from between 1964 and 1966

/18 copy letter from C. E. Karunakarn to Jagmohan Joshi enclosing a statement giving details of an incident of racial

discrimination experienced by the writer and Kulvir Singh and Sohan Singh, fellow members of the Indian Workers Association, at a public house in West Bromwich. Karunakarn expresses his reluctance to take the matter to the Race Relations Board, as it will mean approaching the West Midlands Conciliation Committee, chaired by Oscar Hahn, November 1966

/19-21 correspondence between John Lyttle, Chief Conciliation Officer, Race Relations Board, and Avtar Jouhl, concerning an incident of racial discrimination experienced by Jouhl and A. S. Azad at a public house in Smethwick, May-June 1967

/22 undated typescript statement signed by a group of Asian men living in Handsworth, protesting against racial discrimination and abuse experienced by them while using a public house in Handsworth, and requesting the Indian Workers Association and other local organisations to take this matter up with the breweries, police, local MPs and the print and broadcast media

/23 report by the Indian Workers Association on racial discrimination and the Race Relations Act, setting out details of some of the eleven complaints against unlawful racial discrimination brought by the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association to the Race Relations Board. The majority of these complaints concern discrimination in public houses in the Smethwick and Birmingham area in 1966

/24 loose notes handwritten by Jagmohan Joshi protesting against the comments of Councillor Franklin, blaming black and Asian immigrants for poor standards of housing and health in Birmingham

/25 draft statement handwritten by Jagmohan Joshi concerning the amendment of the 1961 Housing Act regarding the right of Birmingham corporation to refuse to register a house, believing that the wording allows the authorities to prevent immigrant families from moving into different areas of the city and reinforce the impression that immigrant communities live in ghettos

/26 typescript article by an unidentified writer on the 1966 General Election and the use of the issue of immigration in the campaign compared with that of the 1964 General Election

/27-/29 correspondence between Jagmohan Joshi and the

Mayor of Birmingham and the Town Clerk, relating to the Birmingham Liaison Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants and the Indian Workers Association's refusal to be represented on a committee that is not independent of the national committee, November 1966

/30 annotated typescript notes including statistics on immigration in Birmingham, probably written after Enoch Powell's speeches on immigration in April 1968

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/14

Industrial disputes and discrimination in employment

1960s-1986

This file consists of correspondence; statements; leaflets and flyers; press cuttings; and draft writings on themes relating to trade union activities and industrial disputes at various businesses in the West Midlands and Southall. Most of the material dates from the 1960s, but there are also some papers which relate to later disputes.

Much of this material is connected with the issue of racial discrimination. Many of the strikes in which Indian workers were involved had their origins in cases of discrimination at work, and several strikes called by Indian workers were not supported by their trade union. Other papers contain information about the segregation of black and Asian workers, and Indian Workers Association campaign work against racial discrimination in the workplace. These issues were often bound up with industrial disputes during the 1960s.

Papers relating to trade unions consist of:

/1-2 flyers in Punjabi and Urdu issued by the Amalgamated Union of Foundry Workers setting out the benefits to workers of joining the union, and in Punjabi issued by the Amalgamated Engineering Union Shop Steward Committee at Midland Motor Cylinder Co. The flyers are undated, but are likely to have been issued during the unions recruitment drive for Asian members in the West Midlands during the early 1960s

/3 letter from the Joint Managing Director, Midland Motor Cylinder Company to the Indian Workers Association Birmingham branch concerning the provision of amenities at the Middlemore Road Foundry, 4 June 1965

/4-/12 correspondence between Avtar Jouhl and district organisers of the Amalgamated Union of Foundry Workers concerning segregation of toilet and shower facilities for white and Asian workers at the North Works of Midland

Motor Cylinder Company in Smethwick, June-October 1966. One piece of correspondence also contains details about a meeting in West Bromwich to discuss the union recruitment drive in the Midlands which Avtar Jouhl was asked to attend.

/13 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi on behalf of the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association to the President of the Amalgamated Engineering and Foundry Workers Union expressing disappointment about the activities of the union in Smethwick, Tipton and West Bromwich in failing to support black and Asian members

Papers relating to industrial disputes consist of:

/14-/17 correspondence and statements concerning the dispute at Woolf's Rubber Company Ltd in Southall December 1965-January 1966, including a letter from the strike convenor asking for support and explaining the background to the strike; general circular to all Indian Workers Association branches including a request to pass resolutions of support and solidarity to Indian workers striking at Woolf's Rubber Company under the leadership of the Transport and General Workers Union; letter from the shop stewards committee at R. Woolf & Co. (Rubber) Ltd setting out reasons for the dispute and asking for donations to the strike fund; letter to Jagmohan Joshi from a representative of the Youth Forces for National Liberation: Jamaica, discussing the dispute at Woolf & Co (Rubber) Ltd

/18-/24 correspondence and statements concerning the dispute at Coneygre Foundry in Tipton, May 1967 including a statement of support issued by the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association to the strikers at Coneygre; letter to Joshi from Freedom Press announcing that the strike appeal of the Coneygre Foundry dispute will be included in the publication; and correspondence to Jagmohan Joshi from the United West Indian Association, Sheffield, written after the successful conclusion of the strike, which includes a draft assessment of the strike.

/25-/26 correspondence and statements concerning the dispute at Austin works at Longbridge involving labourers at the East Works, November 1967, including a statement issued by the Longbridge East Works Labourers Committee which sets out the reasons for the dispute which began in November 1966 following the dismissal of workers and allegations of racial discrimination at the

works, together with a letter to the Indian Workers Association with thanks for the organisation's continued support and requesting their attendance at a protest meeting in the centre of Birmingham 19 November 1967

/27-/28 statements issued by the Support the Miners Committee, West Midlands, asking for support for the strike by members of the National Union of Mineworkers and donations to the strike fund, and by the Indian Workers Association Birmingham branch, in English and Punjabi, asking members to support the strike and to attend a demonstration against racism in Bradford, 1974
/29 copy of the Black Workers Action Committee weekly review, no 7, containing articles about the dispute at Standard Telephone Cables, New Southgate, London, early 1970s

/30 statement issued by the Grunwick Strike Committee (Apex B TGWU) giving information about a national conference called by the strike committee at the Wembley Conference Centre 14 May. This statement is undated, but it is likely to have been issued towards the end of the strike in 1978

/31-/33 statements relating to the dispute at Raindi Textiles and Supreme Quilting, Smethwick, including a statement in English and Punjabi issued by the Strike Committee (P. S. Raindi and Supreme Quilting) urging striking members not to be swayed by 'deceptive propaganda' issued by the management of these companies. There is also a typescript statement issued by members of the Indian Workers Association; the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre; the Progressive Writers Association; Indian Arts Centre (Birmingham) and the Immigration Aid Unit in support of the strikers, which includes information about the reasons for the dispute, and an appeal in Punjabi by the management at Raindi requesting workers to go back to work and find a way to reach agreement. This strike took place during the early 1980s

/34 statement issued by the Air-India Strike Committee giving details about the background to the strike, including a summary time-line of the dispute, and asking for moral, financial and active support, September 1982

/35 statement in English and Punjabi issued by the Indian Workers Association Birmingham branch in support of the dispute at Joseph Fray, Smethwick, setting out the reasons for the strike and ways in which people in the local area can offer practical support to the strikers, November

1986

/36 undated statement issued by the Strikers Committee in connection with the strike at Newby Foundry Ltd, West Bromwich asking for support from other workers to defeat the anti-trade union attitude of this firm

/37 undated leaflet in Punjabi issued by workers of Firth Wickers Stainless Steel Ltd, Black Heath, Birmingham. The leaflet explains that the strike has been called because of impending redundancies.

Papers relating to cases of racial discrimination in employment consist of:

/38 statement issued by the Indian Workers Association Birmingham branch giving information about the case of an Indian employee of Midland Motor Cylinder Company who reported the discriminatory practice of his employers to the Race Relations Board and calling on the employee's trade union and the Race Relations Board to support him. This item is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2050 because it contains sensitive personal information about an individual

/39 letter from the General Secretary of the National Council for Civil Liberties to Jagmohan Joshi discussing arrangements for his participation in a forum on 'Segregation or Integration' which will focus on discriminatory practices in employment, 15 December 1965

/40 circular letter issued by the Action Committee against victimisation of the Transport and General Workers Union shop steward at Walkers Crisps factory in Leicester, dismissed in relation to his union activities, 28 December 1965

/41 letter to Jagmohan Joshi from an individual refused employment as a conductor at Birmingham City Transport 1967

/42 notes written in pencil by Jagmohan Joshi consisting of a list of companies in the Birmingham area who employ black and Asian workers only in unskilled jobs

/43-/44 letter from John Lyttle, Chief Conciliation Officer, Race Relations Board, to Jagmohan Joshi enclosing transcripts of speeches made by Mark Bonham Carter [Chairman of the Race Relations Board] and Oscar Hahn

[Chairman of the West Midlands Conciliation Committee]
at a conference on racial equality in employment
organised by the National Committee for Commonwealth
Immigrants and held February 1967

/45 appeal issued by Sharomani Akali Dal, Great Britain
urging organisations to join a march to 10 Downing Street
to deliver a protest to the Prime Minister in connection with
Wolverhampton Council's discrimination of turbaned and
bearded Sikhs employed as bus crew, May 1968

/46-/48 rejection letters from engineering companies in
Birmingham and Stockton-on-Tees to a graduate of
Birmingham University following his applications for jobs
with these companies, February 1976. These letters were
presumably sent to the Indian Workers Association by the
candidate in connection with the issue of racial
discrimination in employment

This file also contains flyers; handwritten notes; and press
cuttings on various issues connected with the Labour and
Trade Union movements, particularly relating to racial
discrimination.

These consist of:

/49 May Day statement issued by the Indian Workers
Association Birmingham branch expressing solidarity with
all workers and those fighting imperialism, particularly in
Laos, India, China and Angola. The statement also
condemns H-Bomb tests and the proposed Immigration
Act. This statement is likely to have been issued in the
early 1960s

/50 appeal issued by the Indian Workers Association
(Birmingham branch) to all Trades Council delegates,
urging them to support a resolution on the agenda of
Birmingham Trades Council calling for action against
racism and fascism, and particularly against the
Immigration Control Association in Birmingham. This
statement is likely to date from the early 1960s

/51 flyer giving details about a National Conference of
Apprentices and Young Workers to be held at Houldsworth
Hall, Manchester, 13 March 1965 to discuss a national
strike of apprentices to be called 29 March 1965

/52 circular letter from Jagmohan Joshi asking colleagues
to hold public meetings to mark May Day and to express
solidarity with the international working class

/53 booking form for a Midland Regional Trade Union

Conference to Combat Racial Discrimination, to be attended by representatives from a number of trade unions opposed to discrimination in employment and in the labour movement

/54-/60 handwritten draft notes by Jagmohan Joshi on the employment of Indian graduates in semi-skilled jobs; industrial disputes at Birmid Qualcast, Shotton Brothers and Midland Motor Cylinder Company in 1969 and 1970; and the attitude of members of the Indian Workers Association towards trade unions

/61-/70 press cuttings from national and local newspapers on the relationship between trade union officials and black and Asian workers; and the exploitation of these workers by companies and 'intermediaries' working on the shop floor, 1965-1970

Access: Partially closed until 01/01/2050. Part of this file is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2050 because it contains personal information about an individual. The remainder of the file is available for consultation. Remove marked 'closed' files before serving.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/15

Anti-imperialism campaigns

1961-1979

This file consists of correspondence; statements; printed pamphlets and flyers and articles on various anti-imperialism and national liberation campaigns which the Indian Workers Association supported during the 1960s and 1970s. There are papers on a number of anti-imperialism campaigns, but there is substantial material on the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa, and campaigns against American aggression in Vietnam.

There are also a number of papers on Pakistani politics and American imperialism in South Asia; Palestinian Solidarity campaigns; and struggles in Cambodia or Kampuchea following the invasion of the country by Vietnam and the fall of the Khmer Rouge regime.

The file also contains papers relating to the Movement for Colonial Freedom, including minutes; reports and correspondence to the Indian Workers Association, which was affiliated with this group.

Papers on general campaigns are arranged chronologically, as follows:

/1-/4 copies of Indian Workers Association resolutions expressing concern about the imprisonment and death of Patrice Lumumba, Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Congo, together with handwritten and typescript copies of an Indian Workers Association press release issued following the Biennial General meeting of the Birmingham branch giving details of resolutions passed on the situation in Congo; racial discrimination in Britain; and the apartheid policies of the South African government, January-February 1961

/5 flyer published by Birmingham Peace Committee, Birmingham Indian Youth League and Birmingham West Indian Workers Association giving details about a 'Hands Off Cuba' protest meeting to be held at Digbeth Institute in Birmingham. This flyer is undated, but was probably issued during the early 1960s

/6 Indian Workers Association press release on the visit to Birmingham of Greek trade union leader Tony Ambatielos and his wife and their attendance at celebrations to mark Indian Independence Day, July 1964

/7 Indian Workers Association press release announcing a resolution taken at the Bi-Annual Conference concerning the admittance of China to the United Nations, 8 July 1964

/8-/9 letter to Jagmohan Joshi from activists based in Cairo, enclosing an appeal issued by the Indonesian Organisation for Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity in support of those fighting against the regime of general Suharto and Nasution, 10 November 1966

/10 flyer issued by Friends of China and other progressive groups giving details about a solidarity rally in support of the Peoples Republic of China and against British and US imperialism in Hong Kong, 3 September 1967

/11 circular letter issued by Jagmohan Joshi on behalf of the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association to organisations campaigning on behalf of oppressed peoples against international imperialism, 1967

/12 press cutting consisting of a letter from Jagmohan Joshi on Labour party policies on immigration and British imperialism.

/13 Black Panther pamphlet containing a 'message to the black people of Britain by President Kwawme Nkrumah, July 1968

/14 information leaflet issued by the Republican Study Group on political representation in Northern Ireland and civil rights in London/Derry, October 1968

/15 invitation letter to marxist organisations and trade unions from Working People's Party of England; Caribbean October Congress; Pakistani Workers Union; and Universal Coloured People's Association giving details

about a discussion conference on imperialism and discussing international instances of imperialist aggression, December 1968

/16 constitution and minutes of the first meeting of Militant Action Group in Birmingham, attended by representatives from various organisations including the Indian Workers Association and Black Peoples Alliance, January 1969

/17 letter from a group of independent filmmakers based in London intending 'to make films relevant to the struggle against imperialism and capitalism' and enquiring whether the group can film at a Black Peoples Alliance meeting, 2 January 1969

/18 pamphlet issued by the Action Committee for Representation and Democratic Education protesting against British and American firms with 'imperialist connections' recruiting students from an unidentified polytechnic, possibly the University of Westminster, 9 January 1969

/19 programme for a weekend conference on black liberation held in Sheffield, including speeches by Jagmohan Joshi, convenor of the Black Peoples Alliance, and Dr. Sidhanta of the Indian Workers Association. This conference probably took place in 1969 or the early 1970s

/20 letter from the Council for Afro-Asian Peoples to the Secretary of the Black Peoples Alliance, enclosing a document discussing a proposed survey on black organisations in Britain, October 1969

/21 letter from the Committee for the Defense of National Minority People's Rights, Montreal, to the Jagmohan Joshi, convenor of the Black Peoples Alliance steering committee containing information about the formation of this Committee, 27 December 1970

/22 pamphlet published by Finsbury Communist Association entitled 'The Black Man's Burden' focusing on British imperialism in Africa, India and the Middle East. The pamphlet probably dates from the late 1960s or 1970

/23 papers relating to campaigns for the rights of migrant workers in Western Europe, including minutes of a meeting held in Zurich attended by the World Council of Churches Committee for Migrant Workers in Western Europe, March 1973

/24 letter sent on behalf of the Irish National Liberation Solidarity Front and the Communist Workers League of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) giving information about a protest picket of Downing Street opposing the exploitation of working people in Britain, supporting the rights of Irish people to self-determination, withdrawal of troops and release of Irish and British political prisoners, and expressing solidarity with peoples engaged in anti-imperialist struggles, October 1973

/25 letter from the Assistant General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association to the Chairman of the Confederation of Iranian Students, West Germany, sending greetings to delegates at the Congress of this Confederation and expressing support for uprisings in Iran, 20 December 1978

/26 joint press statement issued by the Indian Workers Association; Bangladesh Workers Association and Kashmiri Workers Association condemning Soviet aggression in Afghanistan and demanding the withdrawal of the Soviet occupation force, December 1979

/27 handwritten notes by Jagmohan Joshi on anti-imperialism, undated

/28 programme of events organised by the Africa Seminar Group at Fircroft College, Selly Oak, Birmingham, undated

/29 letter from activists hoping to organise meetings for people and groups working on anti-imperialist campaigns in South Asia and anti-racist campaigns in Britain to support national liberation struggles and black and Asian organisations in Britain, undated

Papers on Vietnam consist of:

/30 information leaflet produced on behalf of the Vietnam Exhibition Ad-hoc Committee in Birmingham explaining the background to the conflict in Vietnam, 1965

/31 information leaflet produced by the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign discussing the background to the conflict in Vietnam, emphasising US aggression and the role of the peace movement, c. 1966

/32 message of greetings adopted at the public celebration meeting organised by the Indian Workers Association and the Pakistani Workers Association, Birmingham, addressed to the people of Vietnam on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the founding of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation, 1966

/33-/34 correspondence between Pat Jordan of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation and Jagmohan Joshi concerning the Indian Workers Association's agreement to help the Foundation's campaign to promote solidarity between the people of Britain and Vietnam by acting as a sponsor, 1966

/35 letter from the Secretary of the University of Birmingham Guild of Undergraduates to Jagmohan Joshi asking whether he could provide a speaker on the Peace in Vietnam Campaign for a meeting to be held at the university 1 March 1966

/36 typescript of a speech by A. Manchanda of the Indian Delegation attending an Afro-Asian Writers' Emergency Meeting, held in support of the 'struggle of the heroic

people of Vietnam against US imperialist aggression' 4 July 1966

/37 printed pamphlet entitled 'The Truth about Vietnam', edited by the National Council of French Peace Movement, Paris, presenting information about the causes and possible consequences of the war in Vietnam and possibilities for a peaceful settlement to the conflict, 1966

/38-/39 correspondence between Jagmohan Joshi and members of Cun Quoc Weekly, Hanoi-Vietnam, making arrangements to meet to exchange opinions on the Vietnam conflict, October 1966

/40 anonymous typescript article criticising the politics of members of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation and organisers of a Vietnam Solidarity Conference, 1966

/41-/44 papers relating to events organised by the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation and Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, including an article containing a Peace News discussion on the International War Crime Tribunal held to investigate allegations of American atrocities in Vietnam; information about the Vietnam Solidarity Conference to be held in London following a series of meetings in other towns; the spring/summer programme 1967 of the Vietnam Solidarity campaign

/45 memorandum from Alan Bishop to Ioan Allen, Harvey Andrews, Alex Campbell, Ian Campbell, Dave Cliff, Karl Dallas, The Foc'sles, Brian Hamilton, Mick James, Ewan MacColl, Barbara Miller, Peggy Seeger, The Munstermen, Jane Stevens, John Swift, S. Joshi and Charles Parker setting out the programme for a Freedom for Vietnam concert at Birmingham Town Hall, 30 June. This memorandum is undated, but the event probably took place in 1967

/46 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi to members of the Indian Workers Association asking them to support the Vietnam Solidarity Committee Conference, 1967

/47 letter from Cu-Dinh-Ba, representative of Cuu Quoc Weekly, Hanoi-Vietnam, to Jagmohan Joshi apologising for not being able to meet him, 22 January 1967

/48-/50 correspondence between Deirdre Griswold, International War Crimes Tribunal, Paris, and Jagmohan Joshi, discussing the support of the Indian Workers Association for the Tribunal, February 1967

/51-/54 printed pamphlets issued by the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation concerning the International War Crimes Tribunal, including an 'Appeal to the American Conscience' by Bertrand Russell, with a typescript postscript, and a pamphlet explaining the aims and objectives of the International War Crimes Tribunal

/55 copy of 'Solidarity with Vietnam', the information bulletin of the 'Bureau of the International Conference for

Solidarity with the people of Vietnam against US Imperialist Aggression and for the Defence of Peace', April 1967, including President Ho Chi Minh's Reply to US President Lyndon B. Johnson

/56-/58 Indian Workers Association resolutions on Vietnam agreed at the National Conference of the organisation in November 1967, together with a circular letter to all Indian Workers Association branches from Jagmohan Joshi on the conference proceedings

/59 typescript statement of the President of the Central Committee of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation 'rejecting the distortions of facts about South Vietnam and the Paris conversations...', 10 June 1968

/60 timeline of events in Vietnam since 1858 when the country became a French colony, until 1968, entitled 'Vietnam - Why the War?', produced by the Vietnam Exhibition Committee, Birmingham

/61 information leaflet issued by the March Mobilisation Committee discussing arrangements to mark the attempt by representatives of the Vietnamese National Liberation Front to enter England, 1969

/62 poster for a series of films and workshops to be held at the RoundHouse, London entitled 'Poverty is Violence: Exploitation of the Third World', 13 April 1969

/63 statement by the representatives of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam on the death of President Ho Chi Minh, 3 September 1969

Papers on Cambodia/Kampuchea consist of:

/64 copy letter to the Ceremonial Department, Scotland Yard, from Jagmohan Joshi, with the information that the Indian Workers Association are to hold a picket of the Vietnamese Embassy in London 18 February 1979. The letter is dated 25 January 1979

/65 circular letter issued by the Workers' Party of Scotland (Marxist-Leninist) welcoming the calling of a demonstration against the Vietnamese and Soviet embassies in London by the Communist Workers' Movement, and suggesting that organisations supporting 'Democratic Kampuchea' co-ordinate their activities, 29 January 1979

/66 Indian Workers Association circular to all branches and Central Committee members condemning the imperialist aggression of the Vietnamese government in invading Kampuchea and asking members to express their solidarity with the Kampuchean people by mobilising for a demonstration outside the Vietnamese embassy 18 February 1979

/67 circular letter issued by the 'Hands Off Kampuchea Committee' organised by the Indian Workers Association

and headed by Jagmohan Joshi, asking for support from other organisations 1979

/68 statement issued by the Indian Workers Association entitled 'Vigorously Support the Kampuchean People in their Just War against Soviet-Backed Vietnamese Aggression', 18 February 1979

/69 letter from the press attache of the Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, London to the Indian Workers Association expressing disappointment at the stance of the organisation over Vietnam's occupation of Kampuchea, blaming Chinese expansionist policies for the regime of Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge, 18 February 1979

/70 incomplete typescript of an interview given to the Peking correspondent of the Kommunistische Volkszeitung and published in Kommunistische Volkszeitung, Frankfurt asking for support and medicines for the people of Kampuchea, and demanding the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops, 1979

/71 minutes of a preparatory meeting for a Kampuchea Support Campaign in Britain, 28 October 1979, including a list of attendees

Papers on South Africa consist of:

/72 press statement issued by the Indian Workers Association to the BBC, ATV, 'The Birmingham Post', 'Birmingham Mail', Caters News Agency, DW, expressing abhorrence of the system of apartheid in South Africa and the conviction of Nelson Mandela in the South African sabotage trial and issuing a general call to Indian Workers Association members to join protests against the conviction of Mandela and his associates, 12 June 1964

/73 letter from Vusumzi L. Make, Chief Representative of the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania (South Africa) to Jagmohan Joshi discussing the availability of a cinema for a film show on South Africa to raise money for the Congress, following discussions with 'Comrade Manchanda', 25 July 1967

/74 statement issued by the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania in support of the launch of the 'revolutionary weekly' 'Lalkar', September 1967

/75 letter from S. Abdul, Honorary Secretary of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, to Jagmohan Joshi discussing plans for a cricket team organised by a member of Warwickshire County Cricket Club playing a visiting 'all-coloured' team of cricketers organised with the support of the South African government, and asking Joshi to support the campaign to stop the tour taking place, 7 October 1968

/76-77 letter from Ethel de Keyser, Executive Secretary of

the Anti-Apartheid Movement to Jagmohan Joshi, Black Peoples Alliance, enclosing a programme for events to mark South Africa Freedom Day, including a conference entitled 'Liberation in Southern Africa & Guerrilla Warfare; film and music at the Round House with proceeds to the Anti-Apartheid Movement; and a demonstration organised by the Southern Africa Solidarity Committee, June-July 1969

/78 circular letter from the Anti-Apartheid Movement, Birmingham branch, giving details of a public meeting entitled 'Countdown on Rhodesia' to be held 3 November 1969 at Dr Johnson House, Colmore Circus, Birmingham

/79-/82 correspondence and flyers concerning the campaign to 'Stop the 70 Tour' of racially selected cricketers from South Africa and their visit to Trent Bridge, Nottingham, May 1970

Papers relating to Palestinian campaigns consist of:

/83-/84 correspondence between the convenor of the Palestine Solidarity Campaign and Jagmohan Joshi on behalf of the Central Executive Committee, Indian Workers Association, offering support and solidarity. Joshi wishes the organisation success for their forum and refers to the teachings of Chairman Mao, June 1969

/85 statement issued by the Indian Workers Association expressing support for the Palestinian peoples, 1969

/86-/88 copies of the manifesto of the Palestine Solidarity Campaign as accepted by members present at the first Annual Conference, together with a letter inviting delegates to attend the National Representative Council meeting, 29 November 1969

/89 flyer issued by Palestine Solidarity Campaign giving details of a rally to mark the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, 2 November 1969

/90 letter from the Executive Committee of the Palestine Solidarity Campaign giving details about a meeting held to mark the International Day for Solidarity with Arab Peoples, January 1970

/91 letter from the Executive Committee of the Palestine Solidarity Campaign giving information about events organised to mark the twenty-second anniversary of the establishment of the state of Israel, including exhibition and films; public meeting; and rally and march, April-May 1970

/92 leaflet published by the Free Arabia Committee containing a statement by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, November 1971

/93 letter from the General Union of Palestinian Students, Manchester, giving information about a demonstration

organised by this group and the Arab Students Association for the rights of the Palestinian people, May 1976
/94 undated flyer giving details of a 'Palestine-Vietnam Forum on People's War', organised by the Association of Friends of China and C.U.V.S.M

Papers relating to Pakistani politics consist of:

/95 resolution of the National Awami Party of Pakistan (London) on the political situation in Pakistan, with reference to American imperialism, 3 October 1965
/96-/97 Bulletins of the National Awami Party of Pakistan (London), February 1966 and March 1966
/98 open letter issued by three Pakistani students in London criticising the actions of the Chairman of the Overseas League of Pakistan and the Pakistan Democratic Front, 10 July 1968
/99 press statement issued by the National Awami Party of Pakistan (Great Britain) condemning political persecution following the arrests of political leaders in Pakistani, including Z. A. Bhutto, and the repression of students who protested against political persecution. The statement also urges all opposition political parties to unite against the 'oppressive regime of Ayub', 19 November 1968
/100-/103 notes and draft statements written by Jagmohan Joshi on the conflict between India and Pakistan, and the need for Indian and Pakistani workers in Britain not to involve themselves. There are also press cuttings from the 'Birmingham Post' and the 'Birmingham Evening Mail' quoting this statement
/104 leaflet giving details of a public meeting held at Grand Palace Hotel in Stepney to discuss ways for black people to unite and organised collective self-defence against racist attacks on Pakistani people in the East End, Euston and Kings Cross areas of London. The meeting was organised by the Pakistani Workers Union & Working Peoples Party of England, and supported by the Black Peoples Alliance, Universal Coloured Peoples Association and Black Panther Movement. The leaflet is undated, but was probably issued during the 1970s

Papers relating to the Movement for Colonial Freedom consist of:

/105 copy of Colonial Freedom News, December 1961
/106 letter to Barbara Haq, Movement for Colonial Freedom, from Jagmohan Joshi, confirming that the Indian Workers Association intends to affiliate to the organisation, 26 May 1964
/107 letter from Barbara Haq, Movement for Colonial

Freedom, to Jagmohan Joshi discussing arrangements for Joshi and Shirley Joshi to meet the national Trade Organiser of the Furniture Workers Union, B. Rubner, 28 May 1964

/108 letter from Jagmohan Joshi to Barbara Haq, Movement for Colonial Freedom, discussing campaign activities and contacts with trade union organisers. The letter also thanks Haq for giving Joshi the address of a lecturer at Glasgow University who might translate his poems, 7 June 1964

/109 copy of the draft amended constitution of the Movement for Colonial Freedom

/110-/113 correspondence from the Movement for Colonial Freedom to the Indian Workers Association concerning the renewal of affiliation fees, 1966

/114 Movement for Colonial Freedom Resolutions for the Annual Conference 1966

/115 Movement for Colonial Freedom Secretary's Report, January-February 1966

/116 Movement for Colonial Freedom Reading Area Council Secretary's Report on 1965 activities, including financial statement for 1965

/117 information leaflet giving details about an international book sale and fund-raising concert in honour of Africa Freedom Day organised by the Movement for Colonial Freedom

/118-/122 papers concerning the Movement for Colonial Freedom Annual National Delegate Conference 1967, including the agenda; resolutions submitted for the conference; and copy of the Annual Report 1966

/123-/124 minutes of the Movement for Colonial Freedom Racial Discrimination Committee meeting held at the House of Commons, 11 May 1967, together with a covering letter from Maureen Barker to Jagmohan Joshi

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/16

Campaigns relating to Indian politics

1961-1989

This file consists of press statements; information leaflets; flyers; articles; printed material; correspondence; and press cuttings relating to political developments in India during the 1960s and 1970s. There is also one item that relates to the campaign for justice following the disaster at the Union Carbide gas plant in Bhopal, which dates from the late 1980s.

Although the papers cover various topics, much of the material is connected with Indian Workers Association campaigns against the policies of Indira Gandhi's government during the period, particularly her repression

of opposition political parties and the imposition of a State of Emergency between 1975 and 1977. There are also papers on the activities of Naxalite communist groups in India and related peasant and workers organisations.

/1 letter from the India Flood Relief Committee, London providing statistics about heavy rainfall in the south of India, and asking for contributions to the fund, 28 August 1961

/2 open letter from the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association to Jawahar Lal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, welcoming him on his visit to Britain and drawing his attention to some of the issues facing Indian migrants to the country, particularly racial discrimination and the need for an Indian Welfare Centre, 18 September 1962

/3 press cutting containing an article about gatherings organised by the Indian Workers Association and other groups in the West Midlands to mourn the death of the Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, 29 May 1964

/4 letter from Avtar Jouhl, General Secretary of the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association, to Jagmohan Joshi, informing him of resolutions taken by the branch executive committee on the commemoration of Nehru's life, and current petitions to the Indian government, 24 June 1964. Attached to this letter is a handwritten document listing public houses and barbers shops in Smethwick that operate a 'colour bar', and companies that segregate toilet facilities for European and Asian workers

/5 memorandum presented by the Indian Workers Association to T. T. Krishnamachari, Finance Minister of India, and Indira Gandhi, Minister of Information and Broadcasting, during their visit to London during the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference, 11 July 1964. The memorandum concerns issues relating to Indian migrants in Britain, and the concerns of the Indian Workers Association about some of the current political problems in India

/6 letter from Avtar Jouhl, General Secretary of the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association, to Lal Bhadar Shastri, Prime Minister of India, condemning the arrests of Indian Communists and Trade Union leaders, and calling for an end to the Defence of India Rules and the State of Emergency, 1 January 1965

/7 Indian Workers Association circular to all branch secretaries asking for support in organising a demonstration in London for the restoration of civil rights in India, March 1965

/8 copy of a resolution passed by the Indian Workers

Association Birmingham branch condemning the arrests of all political prisoners under the Defence of India rules, 30 May 1965

/9 newspaper article about a meeting of Commonwealth leaders in London, 18 June 1965

/10 printed pamphlet entitled 'Punjabi Suba and Communist Party: Communist Party's view-point regarding the reorganisation of Punjab on the basis of language', issued by the Punjab State Committee, Communist Party of India, 1965

/11-/17 newspaper articles on food shortages in Kerala, 1966

/18-/21 tickets and programme, together with a letter from the Indian Workers Association, for a film show organised by the India Society, Indian Workers Association and the People's Defence Fund Against Famine in India, held at the College of Advanced Technology, Gosta Green, Aston, Birmingham. The letter asks Indian Workers Association members to sell tickets for this event. The programme provides a synopsis and cast list for one of the films to be shown, 'The World of Apu'. It is likely that this show was organised in 1966 in reaction to the food shortages in Kerala, but this is not certain

/22 typescript article by R. S. Sandhu entitled 'The Confession of a Communist', giving details of his life and political activities, probably dating from 1966

/23 Indian Workers Association statement condemning the actions of people who attacked Chinese diplomats and damaged the Chinese Embassy in Delhi, 18 June 1967

/24 set of notes in Jagmohan Joshi's handwriting on the 'US hold over India', giving statistics on imports and exports of goods and raw materials, probably dating from 1967

/25 handwritten draft article on communist politics in India, and particularly the activities of Naxalite groups, 27 July 1967

/26-/27 two typescript drafts of resolutions on India passed at the National Conference of the Indian Workers Association, November 1967

/28-/29 two versions of draft typescript reports of the General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association to be given at a meeting at Digbeth Civic Hall, 22 October 1967. The report focuses on conditions in India, and the work of the Indian Workers Association in other campaigns against racism and imperialism. It is likely that this report formed part of that given at the Indian Workers Association National Conference in November 1967

/30-/31 copy typescript articles entitled 'News From India' by Aparna Roy which discuss the effects of 'US imperialism', 'Soviet revisionism' and the actions of the

- Indian government on the Indian people, 1968
/32 typescript article entitled 'More about Naxalbari' by Kanu Sanyal, discussing the Naxalbari peasant uprising, late 1960s
/33-/34 annotated draft typescript articles by Aparajita Roy entitled 'The Sino-Indian Border Dispute'. The second of these articles carries numerous handwritten corrections and additions, late 1960s
/35 press release by the Indian Workers Association explaining the reasons for the organisation's protest against the arrest of political leaders in India and the continuation of Emergency Rules in the country, late 1960s
/36 letter from A. D. Katatia, President, and B. R. Jassal, General Secretary, of the Indian Republicans Group of Great Britain, inviting friends to attend the group's congress on 10 November 1968 at the Y.M.C.A Hall in Wolverhampton, and providing an agenda
/37 newspaper article quoting the comments of the Indian High Commissioner on the duties of Indians living in Britain, made at Baisakhi celebrations in Slough, attended by 'Minister for Immigrants' David Ennals and local dignitaries. The article also quotes comments by Balbir Singh, President of the Indian Welfare Society, on the Commonwealth Immigrants Act and new Race Relations Bill, 1968
/38 circular letter to members issued by Jagmohan Joshi on behalf of the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association asking branches to mobilise members to support demonstrations against the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference, January 1969
/39 memorandum from the Indian Workers Association to Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, condemning the influence of imperialism on the policies of the Indian government, and asking her to use the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference to force the British government to repeal racist immigration laws, 7 January 1969
/40-/42 open letters from the Indian Workers Association to the Home Secretary and the High Commissioner of India protesting against restrictions imposed on the entry of husbands and fiancés from the Commonwealth, March 1969
/43-/44 newspaper articles by Rajmohan Gandhi entitled 'Naxalites and Leftism' and 'Spectator Government', published in Himmat, June-July 1969
/45 anonymous annotated typescript article on the economy, culture and politics of Pakistan, undated. The article refers to East Pakistan, so must have been written

before 1971 and the independence of this province as Bangladesh

/46 press release issued by the Indian Republicans Group on various aspects of Indian politics, including proposals for a separate electorate for Harijans, so-called 'Untouchables', 26 January 1970

/47 photocopy of 'Naga Vigil Bulletin' no. 11 containing a news article from 'Peace News' 8 September 1972, other items. The bulletin was produced by R. Hutchinson who was carrying out a 'lone vigil' to 'draw attention to India's persecution of the Naga people'

/48 photocopied pages from a printed article entitled 'The Naxalite Movement', October 1972

/49 information leaflet issued by the Indian Workers Association explaining the organisation's reasons for demonstrating against the political, economic and social policies of Indira Gandhi's Indian government, 10 December 1972

/50 letter from an activist involved in the campaign to free Indian political prisoners to Jagmohan Joshi, expressing disappointment that he does not seem to have taken action after receiving papers on the campaign, 6 September 1973

/51-/52 open letter from the Convenor of a UK branch of the All India Dr. Kotnis Memorial Committee, asking for people to attend a meeting to discuss the possibility of publishing his life and works, 29 October 1973, together with an annotated typescript biography of Dr. Kotnis, by Danial Latifi, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court, published by the Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis Memorial Committee, Bombay

/53 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl, secretary of the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association to the Assistant Commissioner, High Commission of India, Birmingham, asking him to receive a deputation of members of the branch committee to discuss problems faced by Indians in Britain, 9 January 1974

/54 copy memorandum from the Indian Workers Association Birmingham branch to the Assistant Commissioner, High Commission of India, Birmingham branch discussing difficulties faced by people applying for passports and harassment of Indians by police under the terms of the Immigration Act 1971, 15 January 1974

/55 circular letter issued by the Birmingham branch committee of the Indian Workers Association in English and Punjabi giving information about arrangements for a demonstration in London against the killing of peasants and workers in the states of Gujarat and Bihar in India, 7 April 1974

/56 open letter from Teja Singh Sahota, President, and

Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary, of the Indian Workers Association to the High Commissioner of India recording the anger of the organisation at the killing of peasants and workers protesting against food shortages, 7 April 1974 /57 information leaflet entitled 'India Today: Myth and Reality: A Fact Sheet' produced by the Indian Workers Association. The leaflet analyses whether India can really be considered independent, and discusses US and Soviet influences on the government's political, economic and social policies, 1974

/58 photocopy of a letter from the Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association to the Executive Committee of the National Union of Railwaymen and ASLEF urging them to protest against the Indian government and express solidarity with the struggle of railwaymen in Delhi, 8 May 1974

/59 photocopy of 'Naga Vigil Bulletin' issued by R. Hutchinson, 31 July 1974, containing copies of newspaper articles about the detention of political prisoners including Mary Tyler, a British citizen identified with the Naxalite movement

/60 letter from G. D. Chaudhri, Assistant High Commissioner of India to an unidentified recipient, discussing matters raised at a meeting of Indian organisations in the West and East Midlands held to consider general problems faced by the Indian community, 22 November 1974. The letter asks the recipient to send representatives to attend a further meeting to be held 21 December 1974. An attached sheet gives the names and addresses of the organisations attending the meeting, which include political groups, representatives from Sikh and Hindu temples, and welfare and cultural groups.

/61 printed pamphlet entitled 'Apprehend the Counter-Revolutionary Character of Revisionism', consisting of 'an appeal to revolutionary people and cadres of revisionist parties, published by the Punjab State Committee, Central Organising Committee of the Communist Party of India (ML), around 1974

/62 leaflet written in English and Punjabi and issued by the Young Indians Association in Bedford containing details about recent massacres of peasants in India by Jagirdars or landlords, 1974

/63 pamphlet prepared by the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association entitled 'Emergency' Special', containing statements and documents by the Indian Workers Association; an article by Hari. P. Sharma entitled 'National Emergency' in India: An Analysis' and an article by Mary Tyler entitled 'India - Prisoners and the Emergency'. A statement on the back of this pamphlet indicates that it was prepared before the

- State of Emergency imposed in June 1975
- /64 newspaper article on Indira Gandhi and her imposition of a State of Emergency in India, 1975
- /65 anonymous typescript article entitled 'Focus on India' discussing the reasons for the proclamation of a State of Emergency by the Indian Government, 26 June 1975
- /66 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl, National Organiser of the Indian Workers Association to R. Sharma, Secretary of the Leicester branch, discussing the wording of a resolution on the emergency in India and the killing of peasant activists Kishta Gowd and Bhoomia, 5 January 1975
- /67 open letters from the Alliance Against Fascist Dictatorship in India to Harold Wilson, British Prime Minister, and B. K. Nehru, Indian High Commissioner condemning the Indian government's hanging of two peasant leaders Kishta Gowd and Jangam Bhoomiah
- /68 letter from the Friends of India Society, Birmingham branch inviting friends to participate in a meeting at Dr Johnson House, Colmore Circus on 22 January 1975 at which Professor Subramaniam Swamy, MP will speak on the subject 'Indian Emergency: The Facts and Situation'
- /69 copy letter from the secretary of the All India Railwaymen's Federation to Indira Gandhi refuting allegations made against him since the railway strike of May 1974. The letter probably dates from 1975
- /70 letter from Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association to B. K. Nehru, High Commissioner of India, explaining why the organisation, together with other groups representing Indian immigrants and progressive people in Britain, are protesting against the Indian government's oppression of political opponents and including a list of demands for the restoration of civil liberties in India, 23 June 1975
- /71 typescript appeal by the Indian Workers Association entitled 'Oppose Dictatorship in India' following the declaration of a State of Emergency in India, June 1975
- /72 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, to Peter Nicholas, Secretary of the Shop Steward Committee at the Rover Company in Tyseley, asking the British Trade Union Movement to support the struggle of the Indian People for democracy following the imposition of the State of Emergency in June 1975 under which political opponents and trade unionists have been arrested
- /73 leaflet issued by the Birmingham Communist Association giving information about a picket outside the Indian High Commission in Birmingham to protest against the recent actions of the Indian government during the State of Emergency, 21 July 1975
- /74 circular letter from Avtar Jouhl to Indian Workers

Association members discussing arrangements for a picket organised by the Birmingham branch against the state of emergency in India outside the Indian High Commission office in Birmingham, 21 July 1975

/75 letter from a member of the Communist Party of Germany living in England to members of the Indian Workers Association asking for assistance in producing a pamphlet on the current political situation in India, and asking whether anyone from the organisation who also has sympathies with the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) would be prepared to speak at a series of public meetings in German cities, 22 July 1975

/76 protest letter sent by representatives of Indian organisations in Britain, including the Indian Workers Association, to the BBC and the British press, after a protest march from Hyde Park to BBC Bush House and Fleet Street on 7 September 1975 to protest against 'biased and inaccurate reporting about the Emergency in India'

/77-/79 correspondence from Jagmohan Joshi on behalf of the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association to all branches, and to journalists, giving information about a conference to oppose the state of emergency in India to be held at the Working Mens College in London on 26 October 1975 and giving an overview of the current political situation in India, September-October 1975

/80-/81 correspondence between Peter Wengen, Liga Gegen Den Imperialismus, Cologne, and Jagmohan Joshi asking for the support of the Indian Workers Association in a series of activities and meetings to be organised in Germany to 'support the struggle of the Indian people against the recent increase of fascist dictatorship in India', and inviting members to take part in meetings and a discussion forum in Cologne to which Mary Tyler will also be invited.

/82 press release issued by the Indian Workers Association following a protest meeting organised by the organisation and held at Digbeth Institute for the release of political prisoners in India. The press release is not dated, but was probably issued in 1976

/83 open letter from the Alliance Against Fascist Dictatorship in India to Harold Wilson, British Prime Minister demanding that the British government issue a statement condemning the State of Emergency in India, withdraw its High Commissioner from Delhi and raise the question of Indira Gandhi's violation of the Declaration of Human Rights in the United Nations, 25 January 1976

/84 copy of resolutions passed at an unidentified meeting held under the auspices of the Indian Workers Association

to protest against the attacks on civil liberties in India and the detention of political prisoners, together with a press statement giving information about a protest march organised by the Indian Workers Association that took place 28 March, probably in 1976

/85 photocopy of a letter from S. N. Singh, General Secretary of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) to the Action Committee of Communist Revolutionaries discussing ideological and practical differences between the two groups, 25 April 1976

/86 letter to Jagmohan Joshi and the Indian Workers Association expressing disapproval at Indian migrants in Britain sending money to Punjab by illegal means and worsening the problem of inflation in India. The writer urges the Indian Workers Association to campaign against this practice

/87 copy letter from the convener of an unidentified group to the Secretary of the Committee for Civil Liberties in India raising points of contention concerning the organisation and running of a joint demonstration held on 27 June 1976

/88 pamphlet published by the Indian Workers Association and the Alliance Against Fascist Dictatorship in India entitled 'India's General Elections Are A Fraud', issued before the Indian General Elections announced for March 1977

/89 letter from V. Y. Tonpe, Private Secretary to the Prime Minister of India, to Jagmohan Joshi, discussing arrangements for a deputation of Indian Workers Association members to meet the Prime Minister during his visit to Britain, 27 May 1977

/90 memorandum from the Indian Workers Association and the Alliance for People's Democratic India to Morarji Desai, Prime Minister of India, hailing the defeat of the Congress party led by Indira Gandhi and the recent General Elections in India, and drawing his attention to matters concerning people in India on the issue of civil liberties, and to the problems of racial discrimination faced by Indians living in Britain, 12 June 1977

/91 statement by the Indian Workers Front written in English and Punjabi hailing the defeat of Indira Gandhi's Congress party but withholding support from the political and economic programme of the Janata party headed by Morarji Desai or the Congress for Democracy headed by Kaggivan Ram. The statement demands from the Janata party the fulfilment of the promises on civil liberties that they made during the election campaign, June 1977

/92 open letter from the Indian Workers Association, Shiromani Akali Dal UK and Committee for Civil Liberties in India to the Prime Minister of India summarising a list of

demands to restore civil liberties in India and oppose and condemn racism and immigration legislation in Britain, 12 June 1977

/93 photocopy of an incomplete and anonymous typescript account of 'An Interview with Morarji' which took place in London during Morarji's visit for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference

/94 memorandum submitted before the Justice Bhargave Commission of Enquiry by the Civil Rights (Tarkunde) Committee regarding Inter se Priority among the terms of reference. The Enquiry was set up to investigate 'alleged encounters during which several citizens said to be Naxalites were put to death by the police' between 1968 and 1977

/95 correspondence between Indian Airlines, Afghan Airlines and a solicitor employed by a passenger from London to Amritsar via Kabul who lost baggage at Kabul in August 1977

/96-/98 correspondence to the President of Bangladesh and the Indian High Commission in Bangladesh regarding the imprisonment on political grounds, of Indian citizens Subrate Ball and Ratan Chakrabarti in that country, appealing for their release, October 1977

/99 press statement issued by the Unity Committee of the Communist Party of India to draw attention to Indian political prisoners held outside India, including Subrata Ball (alias Ranjit Chakrabarti) and Manoranjan Chakrabarti (alias Ratan) who have been imprisoned in Bangladesh since 1973 on political charges. The press release also mentions the imprisonment in India of British citizen Mary Tyler on political grounds between 1970 and 1976, and Koirala of Nepal. The statement probably dates from 1977

/100 appeal to the citizens of Bombay, issued by the Bombay Committee, Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) urging them not to vote for the main political parties in municipal elections, claiming that none of them has succeeded in improving living conditions for ordinary people in the city. The statement probably dates from the mid 1970s

/101 anonymous typescript article entitled 'On the questions of participation in Parliamentary Elections in India' discussing communist involvement in election campaigns and the need to build support for the Communist Party of India amongst peasants and urban workers. This article was written after 1977

/102 press release issued by the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) Provisional Central Committee condemning the extension of the Disturbed Areas Act to Sircilla and Jagtial Taluks in Karimnagar district, October 1978

- /103 letter in Punjabi from Amanjit Chandar to Jagmohan Joshi, 2 August 1978
- /104 photocopy of a typescript report entitled 'Landlord Terror in Nanded District on Dailts under the Pretext of an Agitation to Protest the Renaming of Marathwara University after Dr Ambedkar, compiled by Raja Marathe, General Secretary of Kashtakari Sanghatna in Nanded District, 15 August 1978
- /105 letter from members of Nagarik Adhikar Morcha, an independent Marxist group based in India, to Jagmohan Joshi, giving him information about a periodical they publish in Hindi on the class struggle, 21 October 1978
- /106 letter from the manager of the Marxist-Leninist journal Third World Unity to Jagmohan Joshi asking whether he would be able to distribute copies to readers in the Birmingham area, 23 August 1978. This distribution would possibly have taken place through Joshi's shop 'Progressive Books and Asian Arts' on the Bristol Road, Birmingham
- /107 letter from Shurinder Nutt, Jullundur City, India to Jagmohan Joshi discussing his subscription to a publication called 'Jaikara', postmarked 7 November 1978
- /108 statement issued by A P State Civil Liberties Committee on the repression of peasants in the Telengana region of Andhra Pradesh, India, and the lack of press coverage of this, October 1978
- /109 copy of 'India Today' newsletter, November 1978, published by the Alliance for People's Democratic India. The newsletter contains articles criticising the policies of both Indira Gandhi and the Janata party led by Morarji Desai.
- /110 information leaflet issued by the Indian Workers Movement denouncing Indira Gandhi and her policies while Prime Minister of India during the 1960s and 1970s, and condemning the repression of Naxalites. The leaflet urges people to attend a public meeting on the current political situation in India and to denounce Indira Gandhi's visit to Britain, November 1978
- /111 circular letter issued by the Indian Workers Association to all branches asking members to mobilise support to oppose Indira Gandhi's visit to Britain, November 1978
- /112 circular letter issued by the Indian Workers Association calling on individuals and organisations to demonstrate against atrocities committed during Indira Gandhi's premiership at the Regal Cinema, Soho Road, Birmingham, 18 November 1978. The letter also gives details of a demonstration to be held in Southall at the Dominion Cinema, 14 November 1978
- /113 flyer issued by the London branch of the Indian

Workers Association giving details about a picket at the Royal Garden Hotel, Kensington, London to protest against Indira Gandhi's visit to Britain, 16 November 1978

/114 joint statement issued by Birmingham branches of the Indian Workers Association, Shiromani Akali Dal, Indian Republican Group, Friends of India Society, Indian Welfare Association protesting against an attack on the political activist Arjan Dass Kataria in Birmingham, December 1978 by members of the Overseas Indian Congress

/115 circular letter issued by the Indian Workers Association to all branches asking members to support a mass picket of the Indian High Commission in London organised by Bharati Dalit Mukti Alliance to campaign for the release of Dalits being held in Bhagalpur Central Jail in Bihar, India. The picket was to take place on 23 March 1979, and this letter is dated 6 March 1979

/116 typescript report entitled 'New Concessions for Non-Residents of Indian Origin: Time for Declaration of Immovable Properties Extended up to 31 December 1979' by S. Prem Singh Advocats, Jullundur, India. The article discusses the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act 1973 for non-residents of Indian origin studying abroad.

/117 open letter in English and Punjabi to the Prime Minister/Chief Justice of India, listing the demands of the Bhopal gas victims, following the review by the Supreme Court of the order on settlement between the Government of India and the Union Carbide company. This letter was probably written in or after 1989

/118 undated newspaper article on the acquittal of Naxalite leaders in Andhra Pradesh.

This file also contains substantial papers in Punjabi, comprising newspaper and magazine articles, statements, and flyers issued by various organisations during the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. Many focus on visits to Britain by Indira Gandhi and other members of the Indian government during the 1970s, and the demonstrations protesting her presence, while others are concerned with the detention and torture of political opponents and Communist leaders during the period, and campaigns to defend democracy in India during periods of political unrest and the 'State of Emergency' of the mid 1970s. These documents are filed at the end of the chronological sequence; English summaries are provided for the majority of material.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/17 Demonstration on Indian political prisoners 1965
Correspondence and printed material associated with a demonstration organised by the Indian Workers Association at Hammersmith Town Hall in March 1965 to protest against attacks on civil liberties in India, and to raise awareness about the imprisonment of political opponents to the government, including communists, trade union leaders and others seen as a threat to the government.

Papers are arranged in chronological order, and consist of:

/1 letter from Barbara Haq, Movement for Colonial Freedom, to Jagmohan Joshi discussing arrangements for a public meeting organised by the Indian Workers Association to be held in Birmingham 10 January 1965.

The letter includes the names and contact details of Members of Parliament who might be prepared to get involved with the campaign, and the name of a speaker for the meeting, 1 January 1965

/2-/4 copy letters from Jagmohan Joshi to Dr. H. Johnson; John Platts-Mills; and Bertrand Russell, concerning the public meeting on restoring civil liberties in India to be held in Birmingham on 10 January. The letters are dated 4 January 1965

/5 letter from Bertrand Russell, Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, to Jagmohan Joshi in reply to his letter of 4 January. He states his opposition to the mass arrests that have taken place in India and includes a statement to be read at the meeting, 7 January 1965

/6 telegram from Tony Ambatielos to Jagmohan Joshi sending greetings to Idris Cox, 7 January 1965

/7 letter from Tony Ambatielos to Jagmohan Joshi consisting of a message to be read out at the public meeting in Birmingham on 10 January 1965 which refers to his own imprisonment in Greece under the Karamanlis regime

/8 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi to supporters, quoting the statement by Bertrand Russell read at the public meeting organised by the Indian Workers Association in Birmingham on 10 January 1965, and asking for people to speak at a meeting following the demonstration to be held in London on 28 March 1965. This letter is dated 20 January 1965

/9 letter from Illyd Harrington, Greater London Council, to Jagmohan Joshi confirming that he will try to attend the meeting following the 28 March demonstration, 6 February 1965

/10 letter from the political attache, High Commission of India, to the Indian Workers Association acknowledging

- receipt of a petition regarding arrests of members of the Communist Party of India, 9 February 1965
- /11 letter from a sympathiser giving reasons for declining Joshi's invitation to speak at the meeting on 28 March, despite supporting the campaign for the restoration of civil liberties in India, 10 February 1965
- /12 letter from Alan Sillitoe declining Jagmohan Joshi's invitation to attend the meeting following the 28 March demonstration due to another engagement, 12 February 1965
- /13-/22 letters from various Members of Parliament in reply to Jagmohan Joshi's letter inviting them to attend or speak at the meeting following the 28 March demonstration. There are letters from John Horner, MP for Oldbury and Halesowen; Jeremy Thorpe, MP for North Devon; Bob Edwards, MP for Bilston; Hugh Jenkins, MP for Putney; William Warbey, MP for Ashfield; Eric Heffer, MP for Walton; Renee Short, MP for Wolverhampton; Julius Silverman, MP for Birmingham Aston; Will Griffiths, MP for Manchester Exchange; Anne Kerr, MP for Rochester and Chatham. Letters are dated February 1965
- /23-/24 letters from trade union leaders in reply to Jagmohan Joshi's letter inviting them to attend or speak at the meeting following the 28 March demonstration. There are letters from Ernie Roberts and Reg Birch, of the Amalgamated Engineering Union. Both men agree to speak in a personal capacity at the meeting. Letters are dated February 1965
- /25 letter from an unidentified writer stating agreement with Bertrand Russell's statement quoted in Jagmohan Joshi's letter of 20 January, but declining his invitation to speak at the meeting following the 28 March demonstration, 16 February 1965
- /26 letter from the editor of 'The Draughtsman', the organ of the Draughtsmen's and Allied Technicians Association, declining Jagmohan Joshi's invitation for him to speak at the meeting following the 28 March demonstration, 18 February 1965
- /27-/28 letters from Christopher Farley, Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, to Jagmohan Joshi offering possible speakers for the meeting to be held on 28 March, and apologising for not being able to offer help in organising the meeting, due to a lack of resources, February-March 1965
- /29 letter from Rev. David Head, Birmingham Central Mission, declining Jagmohan Joshi's invitation to speak at the meeting on 28 March, but expressing support for the campaign, 24 February 1965
- /30 letter from Ivor Montagu, expressing support for the campaign but declining the invitation to speak at the

meeting on 28 March, 25 February 1965
/31-/32 letters of support for the campaign against the imprisonment of Indian communists, from the Birmingham Branch Committee of the National Union of Sheet Metal Workers and Coppersmiths, and the Electrical Trade Union, March 1965
/33 letter from Reg Birch, Amalgamated Engineering Union, to Jagmohan Joshi asking for further details about the meeting on 28 March at which he has offered to speak, 17 March 1965
/34-/35 letters from the secretary to Christopher Farley, Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation to Jagmohan Joshi explaining that a misunderstanding about the timing of the meeting means that Farley will now not be able to speak, 18 March and 26 March 1965
/36 Indian Workers Association circular to all branch secretaries signed by Avtar Jouhl, giving information about the demonstration and meeting for the restoration of civil rights in India, and asking members to mobilise support for this event, 19 March 1965
/37-/38 letters of support from the Amalgamated Engineering Union, 23 March 1965, and the Young Communist League, 25 March 1965
/39 letter from R. Palme Dutt, Communist Party of Great Britain, to Jagmohan Joshi accepting his invitation to speak at the meeting for the release of Indian Communist prisoners on 28 March. the letter is dated 23 March 1965
/40 letter from Idris Cos to Jagmohan Joshi discussing possible trade union speakers for the meeting on 28 March. This letter is dated 23 March 1965
/41 letter from Dave Ashby, Young Socialists, discussing arrangements for the group to join the 28 March demonstration. The letter is dated 26 March 1965
/42 circular letter to trade unions in Birmingham from Jagmohan Joshi enclosing leaflets giving information about the 28 March demonstration and meeting to protest against the attack on civil liberties in India, and expressing the hope that trade union branches will send representatives on the demonstration
/43-/45 leaflets for the demonstration and rally organised by the Indian Workers Association in London, and the meeting at Hammersmith Town Hall on 28 March 1965 to protest against attacks on civil liberties in India and the imprisonment of political opponents of the government. The leaflets give the route of the march, the names of the speakers at the meeting, and information about the background to the current political situation in India
/46 circular letter addressed to 'colleagues' from Jagmohan Joshi asking for support at the rally on 28 March in connection with civil rights in India, and referring

to support the Indian Workers Association have received from political parties, youth movements, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament branches and others

/47 copy letter from Rattan Singh, President, and Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary, of the Indian Workers Association to the High Commissioner of India, enclosing copies of resolutions on civil rights in India passed by the association and supported by other named groups, to be conveyed to the Indian government, 28 March 1965

/48 typescript list of individuals and organisations receiving press statements following the 28 March demonstration to protest against attacks on civil liberties in India

/49 statement issued by the Indian Youth League, Birmingham 'Calling on all Progressives to protest at arrests of Indian Communists and discussing the disruption of elections in Kerala

/50 anonymous draft typescript speech given at the 28 March demonstration on behalf of someone unable to be present at the event. The speech gives details about the current political situation in India

/51 circular letter from Prem Singh, Assistant General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association thanking supporters for attending the event on 28 March. The letter is dated 2 April 1965

/52 circular letter to members of the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association giving details about the next meeting, to be held on 6 June 1965, and including an agenda. The meeting will discuss the demonstration on civil rights in India that was held on 28 March 1965.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/18

'Demonstrations and opposition to political events in India; campaigns on behalf of political prisoners in India' 1974-1977

This file contains correspondence; Indian Workers Association circulars; statements; reports; and leaflets relating largely to campaigns against the Indian government's oppression of political opponents, particularly 'Naxalite' communists, during the State of Emergency in India imposed by Indira Gandhi's government during the mid 1970s.

Papers consist of:

1/ letter from the Indian Workers Association to the High Commissioner of India protesting against the treatment of Indian people for demanding food, 7 April 1974

/2 circular letter issued by the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association with details

of a demonstration at India House on 23 June 1975 protesting against the detention of Naxalites without trial /3 leaflet published in English and Punjabi by the Indian Workers Association with details of a demonstration at India House against the planned execution of Indian peasant leaders Kiashta Gowd and Bhoomia 23 June 1975

/4 photocopy of a page from 'Time Out' entitled 'Seven Days/Artifact' consisting of an article on the activities of the Indian Workers Association and other left-wing groups in campaigning for the release of Indian political prisoners and the formation of abroad-based group called 'Alliance Against Dictatorship in India' 1975

/5 report on a one day conference in London to oppose dictatorship in India, organised by the Indian Workers Association, 26 October 1975

/6 article published by Ha Potoc Family International in Holland, based on material supplied by the Indian Workers Association and the Committee for Justice for Indian Political Prisoners. The article is entitled 'The Terrorist Dictatorship in India: An Open Challenge to all Freedom-loving People' and focuses on the treatment of political prisoners in India 1976

/7 leaflet published in English and Punjabi by the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association with details of a demonstration against Indira Gandhi's policies in India, 25 January 1976

/8 open letter issued by the Working Committee of the 'Alliance against Fascist Dictatorship in India' to Harold Wilson protesting against the state of emergency imposed by Indira Gandhi's government 25 January 1976

/9 leaflet published in English and Punjabi by the Indian Workers Association and the Alliance for People's Democratic India with details of a mass picket to take place in front of the Royal Albert Hall during the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference in London, calling for the release of Naxalite and other political prisoners in India

/10 letter to members of the Indian Workers Association sent by Jagmohan Joshi on behalf of the Central Executive Committee, giving details about a meeting to oppose interference from India House in the independent functioning of the Indian community in Britain and its organisation, undated.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/19

Campaign in support of 'Untouchables'

1969-1979

The majority of the papers in this file relate to a national conference organised by the Indian Workers Association

to discuss 'Atrocities against the 'Untouchables' in India' on 10th September 1978 in Bedford.

These papers consist of handwritten drafts and later typescript versions of notices and booking forms for the conference; handwritten drafts of the conference resolution on atrocities against 'untouchables'; typescript copy of a notice to branch committee members issued by the Indian Workers Association regarding the decision taken at the conference to participate in a demonstration called by the Indian Republican Group to protest against atrocities against 'untouchables' on 17th September 1978.

The file also contains a printed notice for a mass picket at India House in March 1979. The notice was issued by the Bharati Dalit Mukti Alliance, with support from the Indian Workers Association, and is printed in English and Punjabi. The picket was held to oppose the death sentences handed out to six 'Dalits' who resisted armed attacks by landlords in Bihar.

There are also three items relating to a demonstration in 1969, consisting of a typescript statement issued by the Indian Republicans Group of Great Britain, Handsworth on atrocities against untouchables which includes an appeal for people to join a demonstration organised with Balmik Sabha Wolverhampton at the offices of the High Commission of India in London; a leaflet about a public meeting on the issues of treatment of untouchables, organised by the Indian Republicans Group to be held in Wolverhampton; and a typescript notice issued by the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association to office bearers of the Executive Committee, giving details about the demonstration organised by the Indian Republicans Group, signed by Avtar Jouhl. The notice also contains details about the next meeting of the Birmingham branch.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/4/20

Nationality Bill

1977-1979

Loose notes written on index cards in Jagmohan Joshi's handwriting on the 1977 Green Paper on Nationality, introduced by the Labour government; typescript statement by the Indian Workers Association mobilising opposition to the White Paper on Nationality 1979 and approving affiliation of other organisations to the Campaign Against Racist Laws

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/A/4/21 Conference on Dual Nationality 1980

This file contains papers relating to a conference on Dual Nationality organised by the Indian Workers Association and held at Digbeth Civic Hall, 19 October 1980.

/1 delegate forms completed by individuals and organisations attending the conference. This item is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 because it contains personal information about individuals

/2 letter issued by the Indian Workers Association inviting delegates to the conference, and giving details about White Paper proposals affecting people with dual nationality, sent by Avtar Jouhl, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association (GB)

/3 pre-printed forms containing lists of the names of delegates attending the conference and the organisations they represented, including notes written on the reverse of one of the forms about the aims of the conference

/4 letter from Avtar Jouhl to the Assistant High Commissioner, High Commission of India, enclosing copies of the press release issued after the conference

/5 copies of the press release issued after the conference giving information about the proceedings

Access: Partially closed until 01/01/2031. Part of this file is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2031 because it contains personal information about individuals. The remainder of the file is available for consultation. Remove marked 'closed' items before serving.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/A/5 Publications , 1961-1998

This material comprises publications of the Indian Workers Association, either issued solely by the organisation or in collaboration with other campaign groups with which officials of the organisation were involved, such as the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD]; other black and Asian workers groups; or progressive political groups with which the Indian Workers Association took part in joint campaigns. The papers consist of incomplete sequences of newsletters and journals produced by the organisation; pamphlets, largely published on issues relating to immigration legislation; and leaflets and flyers giving details about protest marches and rallies but also social and cultural events organised by the Indian Workers Association.

MS 2141/A/5/1 Newsletters and journals,1964-1998

MS Lalkar 1979-1998

2141/A/5/1/1

The Indian Workers Association launched Lalkar in May 1979 as its official journal. The organisation had previously published a journal with the title 'Lalkar' earlier in its history; this publication was launched in 1967, and was sponsored by the Association of Indian Communists, but was also subscribed to by Indian Workers Association branches. See MS 2141/A/5/1/3 for papers relating to the 1967 launch of 'Lalkar' and issues of the magazine from the 1960s and 1970s; MS 2141/A/2/6 for accounts; MS 2141/A/1/4 and MS 2141/A/8/2/3 for information about the launch of Lalkar in 1967; and MS 2141/C/2/1 for correspondence about the involvement of the Association of Indian Communists in this publication.

The journal was published in Punjabi and was based in London for the first year of its existence. In 1968, it was transferred to Birmingham and in 1970 it moved to Leamington Spa and then to Coventry and Birmingham. For most of the 1970s it was published on an irregular basis until it was re-launched in 1979 in bilingual English and Punjabi forms.

The word 'lalkar' means 'challenge' in Punjabi, and the expression 'lal kar' means 'red work'. The Lalkar which was established by the Indian Workers Association in 1979 was published monthly until the end of 1987, when it began to be issued bi-monthly. It was edited from London by Harpal Brar, a member of the Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association who was based in Southall. Lalkar was primarily a political journal, and covered a wide range of political events in Britain and the rest of the world with a Marxist-Leninist analysis, as well as containing news about the activities of the Indian Workers Association.

Lalkar remains a bi-monthly journal, but is now an independent publication. The Indian Workers Association severed its links with the journal after disagreements with Harpal Brar, who dissolved the Association of Communist Workers in 1997 in order to join Arthur Scargill's Socialist Labour Party. He is now chair of the Communist Party of Great Britain (Marxist-Leninist). Issues of Lalkar from 1999-2006 are available online at:

<http://www.lalkar.org/index.php>

Sources: Wikipedia entries for Lalkar and Harpal Brar;
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lalkar>;
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harpal Brar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harpal_Brar) Accessed April 2006

Description:

Incomplete sequence of Lalkar newspaper, the monthly publication of the Indian Workers Association, printed in both English and Punjabi. Issues contain articles about anti-racist and progressive struggles in Britain in which the Indian Workers Association was involved from 1979, and includes coverage of the high levels of unemployment during the early 1980s; the miners strike of 1984-1985; and protests against the poll tax in 1990, amongst other campaigns. Other articles focus on the international struggle against racism and oppression, with coverage of Indian politics; the struggle against apartheid in South Africa; the conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians; the hunger strike by Republican prisoners in Northern Ireland; the 1991 Gulf War, and American imperialism in the country's relations with other states, including Grenada and Libya.

Issues comprise:

July 1979, vol.1 no.3;
1980: March; June
1981: February; March; May; June; August; September;
November; December
1982: January; March; April; June; August; September;
October; November; December
1983: February; March; April; May; July; August;
September; October; November (2 copies); December
1984: January (2 copies); February (2 copies); March;
April (2 copies); May; June; July; October (2 copies);
special supplement on the Battle of the Golden Temple,
1984
1985: January; February; March; April (2 copies); May;
June (2 copies); July (2 copies); August/September -
special issue (2 copies); October; November (2 copies);
December 1985/January 1986
1986: February (2 copies); March; April; May; June; July;
October; November (2 copies)
1987: June; November/December
1988: January/February; May/June (2 copies);
November/December (2 copies)
1989: August/September, marking the tenth anniversary of
the commencement of publication of the present Lalkar,
this issue announces that it will no longer be able to
publish in both English and Punjabi, mainly because few
members can still read Punjabi, but also because of
difficulties in attracting writers for the Punjabi section;
November/December (3 copies)

1990: January/February (3 copies); March/April (3 copies);
 June/July; August/September (2 copies);
 October/November (2 copies)
 1991: February/March (3 copies); May/June (2 copies);
 July/August; September/October
 March/April 1992
 January/February 1993; May/June 1993
 November/December 1995 (2 copies)
 May/June 1998 A copy of Lalkar issue 2, June 1979, is
 held with the Banner Theatre archive, reference number
 MS 1611

Extent: 107 Magazines

MS
 2141/A/5/1/2

Mazdoor

1961-1965

'Mazdoor' was a journal published monthly by the Indian Workers Association during the 1960s. The Programme of the Indian Workers Association for 1961 states that the organisation intended to publish a monthly magazine in Indian languages, and Birmingham Central Library holds copies of the first few issues of 'Mazdoor', starting in August 1961. It was published in Punjabi, with some articles in Urdu. There are scattered references to 'Mazdoor' in subsequent minutes, policy papers and correspondence of the Indian Workers Association, including a suggestion that the idea for the journal came from the Birmingham branch of the organisation. Other references suggest that the journal later became the mouthpiece of the Central Executive Committee.

Although produced in Birmingham, the journal was distributed to branches nationwide. By 1964, 'Mazdoor' was being published in English, though it is likely that there also continued to be a Punjabi version of each issue. By 1967, 'Lalkar' was established as the journal of the Indian Workers Association, and this publication may have replaced 'Mazdoor'.

This file comprises copies of Mazdoor in Punjabi and English.

The first few issues of the journal were published only in Punjabi. Copies comprise the first issue, published August 1961; second issue, published September/October 1961; the fourth issue; and the fifth issue, published in November 1962

Copies of Mazdoor in English consist of the 'civil liberties' issue of Mazdoor, published 28 March 1965, and a fragment of an issue of Mazdoor probably published in

August 1964, consisting of an editorial by Jagmohan Joshi on national struggles for independence from imperialism in Asia, Africa and Latin America

The 'civil liberties' issue of Mazdoor contains an editorial by Jagmohan Joshi on struggles against oppression in Vietnam; the civil rights struggle in America; the election of a communist majority in state elections in Kerala, India; civil rights struggles in Spain, and the Indian Workers Association's campaigns against immigration legislation in Britain.

The journal also contains articles on racial discrimination in Britain, written by Maurice Ludmer; on the arrest of political activists in India by Ranjana Ash and the failure of Congress Party government by Jagmohan Joshi. An article by Avtar Jouhl refutes accusations made by Sohan Sandhu of the Immigrant Welfare Association, and published in the 'Birmingham Post,' that the Indian Workers Association was attempting to further communist ideas through the Sikh temple in Smethwick, and describes the visit of the IWA Executive Committee to the temple to clarify their position before the congregation. The back pages of the journal contain news about recent IWA events, including Republic Day celebrations in Leamington, Coventry, Nottingham, Leicester, Derby and Bradford, and a meeting held at Digbeth Civic Hall in Birmingham to protest at the attack on civil liberties in India. The journal also gives information about recent elections at branches of the Indian Workers Association in Leamington, Coventry and Nottingham, and an update on the Indian Workers Association campaign for racial harmony in Marshall Street, Smethwick, in response to the divisive housing policy supported by Smethwick Conservatives.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/5/1/3

Papers relating to 'Lalkar'

1967-1975

This file consists of a small number of copies of the Punjabi version of 'Lalkar', launched in 1967 and edited by Avtar Jouhl; correspondence in Punjabi, mainly from readers of the magazine who were commenting on articles, but also from Avtar Jouhl arranging meetings of the editorial board; and some handwritten satirical notes made in response to newspaper headlines. English summaries of all the material in this file are provided.

Issues of 'Lalkar' comprise:

issue 1, 1967
 17 May 1970
 1 November 1970
 August 1972
 June or July 1975, including photographs and coverage of a demonstration at India House against the planned execution of Indian peasant leaders Kiashta Gowd and Bhoomia 23 June 1975

Letters to the editor from readers date from September to November 1967 and concern the tone and content of articles in the first few issues of 'Lalkar'. There are also some undated letters. Correspondence from Avtar Jouhl, editor of 'Lalkar', also dates from the autumn of 1967. The file also contains a handwritten article in Punjabi on the subject of revolution, written by Ajmer Singh, Coventry. This may have been written for publication in 'Lalkar'.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/A/5/2 Pamphlets ,1961-1982

MS 2141/A/5/2/1	<p><u>'Immigration: can a control be justified?'</u></p> <p>Three copies of a report published jointly by the Indian Workers Association, the Pakistani Workers Association and the West Indian Workers Association in Birmingham in November 1961. The report takes the form of a review of published facts, opinions and statistics relating to government proposals to introduce immigration controls, which were to become law in the Commonwealth Immigrants Act 1962, together with comment by the Indian, Pakistani and West Indian Workers Associations.</p> <p>The report includes statements made by MPs during debates on immigration control between 1958 and 1961, arguing both for and against restrictions to be imposed on the number of people from Commonwealth countries settling in Britain. Evidence is also provided to highlight the contributions made by immigrants to the British economy and society, through their employment in the health service and transport industry, as well as in foundries and the construction industry.</p> <p>Statements and statistics are also used to analyse allegations that immigration causes social problems, using statements by national and local politicians, reports by the Institute of Race Relations, newspapers, medical journals</p>	1961
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and census statistics.

The report was based on material compiled by the editorial board of Mazdoor, the monthly journal of the Indian Workers Association.

The cover pages of two copies of this report have been annotated in Joshi's handwriting. One page contains a list of what are possibly agenda items or action points relating to co-operation with other organisations; the other page is signed by Joshi in his capacity as a member of the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination.

Extent: 1 File

- | | | |
|--------------------|--|------|
| MS
2141/A/5/2/2 | <p><u>'The Victims Speak'</u></p> <p>Two copies of a report published by the Indian Workers Association in November 1965, commenting on the Labour government's 1965 White Paper on Immigration from the Commonwealth, which modified the 1962 Commonwealth Immigrants Act, tightening immigration controls. 'The Victims Speak' presented the arguments and justifications put forward by politicians for the controls outlined in the White Paper, using statements by politicians, newspaper and journal editorials, and government statistics on immigration. It also commented on social issues affecting both host and immigrant communities, such as the housing shortage, and the difficulties in teaching large numbers of immigrant children concentrated in some schools. The report states the needs for further race relations legislation, and puts forward proposals for achieving integration.</p> <p>Extent: 1 File</p> | 1965 |
| MS
2141/A/5/2/3 | <p><u>'Smash the Immigration Bill 1971'</u></p> <p>Twenty-eight copies of a report published by the Indian Workers Association explaining the terms of the 1971 Immigration Bill, denouncing it for making a distinction between white and black and Asian immigrants, discriminating against 'non-patrial' citizens of the Commonwealth, all of whom are black or Asian. The report also gives advice on ways for members of the Indian Workers Association and others to organise effective opposition to the Bill.</p> <p>Extent: 1 File</p> | 1971 |
| MS
2141/A/5/2/4 | <p><u>'Victory to the Working Class'</u></p> <p>Report in English and Punjabi published by the Indian Workers Association on the record of the 1970-1974</p> | 1974 |

Conservative government, written prior to the general election held in February 1974. The report is critical of Conservative policies which are judged to have been oppressive against the working class, and also criticises the Labour party for serving the capitalist system and failing to act against racism. The report calls on members of the Indian Workers Association to participate in the working class struggle to abolish the capitalist system and to support the strike by the National Union of Mineworkers. (3 copies)

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/5/2/5

'Smash Racialism and Fascism'

1976-c.1982

Copies of two versions of a report first published by the Indian Workers Association in July 1976 containing statements by the organisation on racism and fascism in Britain during this period, with detailed answers to specific allegations made by the National Front and other right-wing organisations that immigrants are responsible for bad housing conditions and unemployment. The report also includes explanations for the success of fascist and racist propaganda in a capitalist system, and the role played by the mainstream political parties, race relations bodies and the trade union movement in perpetuating racism. The report concludes with instructions for action to defeat racism and fascism.

There are eighteen copies of the original version of the report, and five copies of a revised version, published after 1981

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/5/2/6

'Arrest: know your rights'

c.1972

Master copy of a Indian Workers Association guide printed and published by Avtar Jouhl, secretary of the Birmingham branch of the organisation. It consists of typewritten text explaining the civil rights of the individual living in Britain, and printed text taken from the booklet 'Arrest' published by the National Council on Civil Liberties, giving information about the process of being arrested and charged for an offence and the rights of the arrested person.

Both the printed and typewritten text have been pasted to the reverse of a Kuwait Airways Corporation calendar for 1972; presumably it would then have been photocopied and distributed.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/5/2/7 Guidance notes on self certification for sickness absence 1982
Notes in English and Punjabi published by the Indian Workers Association, the Indian Youth League and the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre consisting of information and guidance to enable employees absent from work due to sickness to obtain benefits.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/5/2/8 Guidance notes on employment rights n.d [1980s]
Pamphlet in Punjabi published by the Indian Workers Association to help workers understand their contract of employment, legal rights, insurance, sickness benefits, entitlement to help with mortgage costs, redundancy, and weekly rates of social security benefits.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/A/5/3 Leaflets and flyers, 1965-1992

MS
2141/A/5/3/1 Lobby of Parliament flyer n.d [1965]
Flyer issued by the Indian Workers Association and the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination with details of a mass lobby of parliament to be held 6 December for the withdrawal of the [1965] White Paper on Immigration, the withdrawal of the 1962 Commonwealth Immigration Act, and the strengthening of the [1965] Race Relations Act. The flyer includes information about booking seats on coaches organised by the Indian Workers Association.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/5/3/2 'March against Racialism' flyer 1971
Flyer giving details of a march to Downing Street organised by the Indian Workers Association and the Action Committee Against Racialism for 21 March 1971 to protest against the Immigration Bill introduced by the Conservative Government, which eventually became the 1971 Immigration Act. The flyer gives details about the assembly point, the route of the march and the rally point.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/5/3/3 'Racist Cricket or Black Liberation' flyer n.d [c.1970]
Flyer in English, Punjabi, Urdu and other South Asian

languages giving details about demonstrations organised by the Indian Workers Association and the Pakistani Workers Association, supported by the Black People's Alliance; West Indian organisations; Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination and student groups from various organisations. The demonstrations were called to protest against planned cricket matches between British teams and the white South African cricket team, and the flyer gives information and statistics about the apartheid regime in South Africa.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/5/3/4

'Black People Against State Brutality' flyers

1979

Poster and four copies of a bilingual flyer in English and Punjabi giving details about a national demonstration and public rally in London organised by the Black People's Committee Against State Brutality, and supported by the Indian Workers Association and Awaz, Brixton Black Women's Group, against racism, fascism, racist immigration laws and police brutality and harassment. The demonstration was held on 3 June 1979.

The poster includes bullet points giving reasons for people to join the demonstration, while the flyer includes a statement reminding people of the racist policies adopted by successive Conservative and Labour governments of the 1960s and 1970s and warning that the new Conservative government, led by Margaret Thatcher, is likely to further restrict right of entry to the dependents of immigrant workers.

It was on this demonstration that Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, suffered a fatal heart attack.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/5/3/5

'Jagmohan Joshi' memorial rally flyers

1979-1989

Sequence of flyers in English and Punjabi giving details of memorial rallies and commemorations of the life of Jagmohan Joshi, organised by the Jagmohan Joshi Memorial Committee and the Indian Workers Association, held at various venues in Birmingham and the surrounding area. Many of the rallies included speeches and a 'cultural programme' consisting of songs, poetry and theatre performances.

The earliest flyer advertises a memorial meeting held at Birmingham Town Hall on 17 June 1979 in memory of Joshi, organised by the Indian Workers Association. It includes a brief biography of Joshi. There are also flyers

for later commemorations, including:

1980 commemoration held at Birmingham Town Hall on 7 June, including speeches by Teja Singh Sahota, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, Shirley Joshi of the Jagmohan Joshi Memorial Committee, Mohan Lal from the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association and a speaker from the Zanu (PF) movement of Zimbabwe, and songs, poetry and action songs by Tara Singh Tara, Banner Theatre, Shinder and Party, Bhujhangi Group, Sathi Group, Gurmukh and Party, and Surrinder Kochar

1981 commemoration held at Sparkhill Social Club, Sparkhill, Birmingham on 27 June, including speeches by Teja Singh Sahota, President of the Indian Workers Association and Shirley Joshi of the Joshi Memorial Committee, and songs, poetry and drama by Bharti Kala Kendar of the Indian Arts Centre, The Red Turbans, Bhuchangi Group, Gurmukh and Party, the Ajnabi Group from Coventry and Dr Charan Singh Sandhu

1983 memorial meeting held at the Royal Spa Centre, Leamington on 26 June, including speeches by Shirley Joshi of the Memorial Committee and Avtar Singh Jouhl, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, and a cultural programme by Bharati Kala Kendar, Surrinder Singh Fathepuri Group, Bhuchangi Group, Gurmukh Singh and Party and the Parwana Group from Coventry. Flyers for this event are clipped to pages from 'Class Struggle' which includes an article about the anniversary of the death of Joshi, and about the campaigning activities of the Indian Workers Association

1986 memorial held at Digbeth Civic Hall on 29 June, organised by the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association

1989 memorial rally against racism, fascism and imperialism, held at Summerfield Community Centre, Birmingham on 25 June, including speeches by Teja Singh Sahota, President of the Indian Workers Association, Shirley Joshi of the Jagmohan Joshi Memorial Committee, Shira Johal of the Indian Workers Association, Birmingham branch, and Beeny Brown of the Afro-Caribbean Self-help Organisation. The event also included the performance of 'Baba Boldai Hai' (The Old Man Speaks), about the situation in India by Birmingham Kala Kendar

Extent: 1 File

- MS 2141/A/5/3/6 'Protest March' flyer 1982
Flyer in English and Punjabi giving details about a march organised by the Indian Workers Association to protest against the decision by the Court of Appeal to support the refusal of a Birmingham headmaster to allow a Sikh boy, Gurminder Singh Mandla, to wear his turban, on the grounds that Sikhs are not a racial group under the terms of the Race Relations Act 1976. The march was to be held on 10 October 1982 in London. The flyer includes a detailed statement explaining the case, highlighting the extent of racial discrimination in the British judiciary, and opposing attempts by Sikh separatists in Britain to use the demonstration for their own purposes.

Extent: 1 File
- MS 2141/A/5/3/7 'Black History Focus' exhibition flyer n.d [1980s]
Flyer giving details about an exhibition of photographs of Indian Freedom Fighters, and a Jagmohan Joshi Memorial Exhibition looking at the major political issues affecting black people living in Britain during the 1960s and 1970s and focusing on the policies of the Indian Workers Association. Both exhibitions were shown at the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, Soho Road, Handsworth in Birmingham 10-17 October, and may have been organised with the support of the Birmingham City Council Race Relations Unit. As part of the same event, there is also a flyer giving details about a seminar on 'The Role of the Indian Workers Association in Trade Union Struggles' held at the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre on 11 October, organised by the Indian Workers Association and the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre.

Extent: 1 File
- MS 2141/A/5/3/8 'Violence against Asian Women' flyer 1986
Flyer issued by the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association; the Women's Section of the Indian Workers Association; and Women Today, amongst other organisations, giving information about a public meeting to be held at Summerfield Community Centre, Winson Green, Birmingham 16 March 1986 to discuss the issue of domestic violence against Asian women and the reasons for it. The flyer also lists demands an end to the dowry system and equal rights for women.

Extent: 1 File
- MS 'May Day' flyers 1988

- 2141/A/5/3/9 Two flyers for the 1988 May Day celebrations in Birmingham.
- /1: Flyer for the May Day march organised by the Birmingham Joint Labour Demonstration Committee, 7 Frederick Street, Hockley, Birmingham, giving arrangements for the march, and details of children's events and stalls in Chamberlain Square, a social evening at Moseley Dance Centre, featuring music of South Africa with a guest appearance from Steve Ajao, and a concert organised by the Albania Society featuring the Indian Revolutionary Choir, the Clarion Singers, and Indian folk music and Albanian piano and violin music, at Rich B*tch Studio, Selly Oak. The flyer was printed by TURC Print
- /2: Flyer in Punjabi for a May Day celebration, held at Summerfield Community Centre, Winson Green, Birmingham, organised by the Indian Workers Association.
- Extent: 1 File

- MS 2141/A/5/3/10 'International Social Evening' flyer 1989
- Flyer giving details of a social evening in honour of Nana Moabi and Moshitoana Molala, members of the National African Congress of Trade Unions. The evening was held at The Milestone Public House in Handsworth, Birmingham 2 March 1989, organised by the Indian Workers Association and the TUC [Trades Union Congress] Education Service
- Extent: 1 File

- MS 2141/A/5/3/11 'Poll Tax' flyers 1989-1990
- Various flyers giving details about a number of demonstrations and events held to organise opposition to the Poll Tax. These include:
- /1 several flyers giving details of a public meeting at Summerfield Community Centre, Winson Green, Birmingham, held by Black People Against the Poll Tax', consisting of the Afro-Caribbean Resource Centre, Harambee, African Self Help, ACAFESS, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Kashmiri Workers Associations, Asian Resource Centre, Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, Indian Youth League, PNP Birmingham (UK), Nalگو Black Workers Group. The speakers at this event were Avtar Jouhl of the Indian Workers Association, Steve Batchelor of the Afro-Caribbean Resources Centre, Laura Williams of NALGO Black Workers Group, Raghbir Ahsan, President of Birmingham Trade Union Council, Sohan Sandhu of the

Indian Workers Association and Paramjit Kaur of Women Today. The flyers are printed in English, Punjabi, Urdu and other South Asian languages

/2 flyer in English and Punjabi for a mass demonstration against the Poll Tax, organised by Birmingham Trades Union Council, to be held at Chamberlain Square, Birmingham 28 October 1989. The flyer includes details of arrangements for the event, and gives the names of the speakers who included Jeff Rooker MP, Christine Crawley MEP, Dave Nellist MP, Sid Platt, Chair of the Regional TUC, and Avtar Jouhl, Secretary of the Indian Workers Association.

/3 flyer for a march against the Poll Tax held at the May Day celebrations 1990, to be followed by a May Day Festival. The flyer was printed and published by Birmingham Joint Labour Demonstration Committee.

/4 flyer for a 'Birmingham Burn the Bills Demo' held during the May Day celebrations 1990, beginning in Chamberlain Square, Birmingham. The flyer includes information for people who have refused to pay the poll tax, giving details about the penalties for non-payment likely to be introduced by Birmingham City Council.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/5/3/12

'National Conference on Poll Tax, Racism, Peace and Socialism' flyer

1990

Flyer in English and Punjabi giving details of an event organised by the Co-ordination Committee, Indian Workers Association (Both), at West Park College, Holly Lane, Smethwick, Sandwell 9 June 1990. Speakers included Harkishan Singh Surjit, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), Teja Singh Sahota, President of the Indian Workers Association, Prem Singh, President of the Indian Workers Association, Surjit Kaur Hothi of the Anti-Dowry Campaign, and Joginder Kaur of the Womens Section of the Indian Workers Association. The event included performances by Punjabi poets and a cultural programme of songs and drama. It is likely that this event was organised as part of the process of merging the two sections of the Indian Workers Association (GB) which had split in 1967 due to ideological differences.

Extent: 1 File

MS

'International Rally' flyer

1991

2141/A/5/3/13 Flyer in English and Punjabi giving details about a rally organised by the Indian Workers Association at West Park College, Holly Lane, Smethwick, Sandwell, called largely to oppose the Gulf War. Speakers included Harkisham Singh Surjit, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), Bhagat Singh Bilga, secretary of Desh Bhagat Yadgar Jalandhar, Prem Singh, President of the Indian Workers Association, Teja Singh Sahota, President of the Indian Workers Association, Surjit Kaur Hothi and Joginder Kaur, of the Womens Section of the Indian Workers Association. P.L.O [Palestine Liberation Organisation], ANC [African National Congress] and Sinn Fein speakers were also invited. The event included a cultural programme included songs on the Gulf War by Banner Theatre, Birmingham, a one act play by Birmingham Kala Kendar entitled 'Long Live Revolution' and revolutionary poems by Panjabi and Urdu poets. Although the event was primarily concerned with opposition to the Gulf War, the flyer states that speakers from India would also address the issue of communalism and separatism in India.

Extent: 1 File

MS

2141/A/5/3/14

'Unite Against Racism' flyer

1995

Master versions and copies of a flyer in English and Punjabi issued by the Indian Workers Association, giving details of a Unite Against Racism rally held in Albert Square, Manchester 28 October 1995. The flyer gives information about the event and provides times and venues for the collection of protesters from Birmingham by coach.

The file also contains a flyer which mentions the Manchester demonstration, organised by the TUC [Trades Union Congress], but also gives information about a public meeting held in Birmingham Central Library Theatre 9 October 1995. Speakers included Avtar Jouhl, Sid Platt of West Midlands TUC, Councillor Mick Rice, Kumar Murshid of the National Assembly Against Racism, Councillor Theresa Stewart, leader of Birmingham City Council, Mohammed Idrish of West Midlands Anti-Deportation Campaign, Bill Duffus of the Justice Alliance Campaign, Bob Purkiss of the TGWU [Transport and General Workers Union] and Councillor Tarsem King of Sandwell Council. The meeting was supported by the Birmingham All Different All Equal Partnership.

Extent: 1 File

- MS
2141/A/5/3/15 Demonstration against the Immigration and Asylum Bill flyers 1992
- Flyers giving details of two demonstrations held in November 1992 to oppose the Immigration and Asylum Bill introduced by the Conservative government. One gives details about a national demonstration held in London 21 November 1992, and was issued by the Birmingham Ad-Hoc Mobilising Committee for the National Demonstration Against the Asylum Bill, sponsored by the Anti-Nazi League, Birmingham Campaign Against Racism and Fascism, Indian Workers Association, Birmingham NALGO, Socialist Outlook, Socialist Workers Party, West Midlands Anti-Deportation Campaign, Birmingham Anti-Fascist Action and Free Satpal Campaign. The flyer includes a statement about the rise of racism in Europe, and the restrictive immigration legislation introduced by successive Conservative and Labour governments in Britain since the 1950s.
- The other flyer gives details about a rally against the Racism, Fascism and Asylum bill called by the Birmingham and Sandwell branch of the Indian Workers Association. Speakers at this event included Bhagat Singh Bilga of the Desh Bhagat Yadgar committee, Prem Singh, President of the Indian Workers Association, Avtar Jouhl, Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, Surinder Virdi of the Birmingham Indian Workers Association and the Free Satpal Campaign, and Darshan Kaur of the Burnsall Strike Committee.
- Extent: 1 File
- MS
2141/A/5/3/16 Troops Out Movement and other Irish Republican support group flyers 1986-1988
- This file contains several flyers for rallies and events held in support of Irish Republican prisoners, including those who died on hunger strike in 1981. Most of these events were supported by the Indian Workers Association, though organised by other groups. The file includes:
- /1 flyers for a showing of the banned film 'To Die for Ireland' at Shaheed Udham Singh Centre, Handsworth, Birmingham; Zebedees Cafe, Alum Rock Road, Birmingham; Sparkhill Social and Cultural Centre, Stratford Road, Birmingham. The showing of the film was organised by the Troops Out Movement as part of the Action against the Broadcasting Ban on Sinn Fein campaign, October 1986
- /2 flyers for a march and rally held in Birmingham 9 May 1987, organised by the Irish Hunger Strike

Commemoration Committee

/3 flyer for a march in support of Irish Republican prisoners held in British prisons, and their families. The rally was held in Wakefield, Yorkshire and was organised by the Irish Republican POW Campaign Committee and the British Withdrawal Committee, Glasgow

/4 undated flyer for events held during the visit of Sinn Fein councillors Lily Fitzsimons and Caoim o Caolain to Birmingham, organised by Labour Committee on Ireland and supported by the Indian Workers Association, Troops Out Movement, Women and Ireland and Labour Women for Ireland. Events consisted of a public meeting at Shaheed Udham Singh Centre, Soho Road, Birmingham which Caoim o Caolain attended, with speakers from the Indian Workers Association, Labour Committee on Ireland, Handsworth Defence Campaign and Troops Out Movement, and a 'Women's Afternoon' with Lily Fitzsimons at the Centre for the Unemployed, Stratford Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/A/6 Membership records, 1960-1967

This series comprises partial membership records dating from the mid-1960s, consisting of completed membership forms and membership lists containing the names, addresses and membership numbers of individual members of the Indian Workers Association. The membership forms include additional information about members of the Birmingham branch of the Association, most of which are dated 1963

Access: Closed.

MS 2141/A/6/1	<u>Membership forms</u> Printed forms issued by the Indian Workers Association completed by individuals wishing to join or renew their membership of the organisation, containing personal details such as address, occupation, membership of Trade Unions, year of joining the Indian Workers Association, and the name of branch joined. The forms were completed by members of the Birmingham branch, and the majority are dated 1963. There are also a small number of completed forms for membership in 1964, and a single form dated 1960.	1960-1965
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Access: Closed until 01/01/2046. This file is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1988 until 2046 because it contains personal information about individuals. Remove marked 'closed' files before serving.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/6/2 Lists of members c.1967

Typescript and handwritten lists containing the names, addresses and membership numbers of individuals who were members of the Indian Workers Association in around 1967. The typescript list contains the names of members of the Birmingham branch of the organisation during the year 1966-1967; the handwritten lists are undated, but it is possible that they were drawn up at the time of the Indian Workers Association National Conference at Leicester in 1967. These handwritten lists contain details for members living in South East London, Wolverhampton, Bristol and Birmingham. The file also includes some handwritten notes giving the names of members and the subscription fees they had paid, and a set of blank membership subscription forms.

Access: Closed until 01/01/2048. This file is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1988 until 2048 because it contains personal information about individuals. Remove marked 'closed' files before serving.
Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/A/7 Press cuttings, 1961-1986

This series consists of a large number of press cuttings from local, national and international newspapers on a number of issues of relevance to the objectives and campaigning activities of the Indian Workers Association. The press cuttings are loose, but are stored in a mixture of chronological and subject files. Most cuttings date from the 1960s, but there are also a smaller number dating from the 1970s, and one file on the increase in Sikh militancy both in India and Britain, which dates from 1986.

Immigration legislation and its effects are well documented in these cuttings, and specifically the extent of racism in local and national government, and its effects on immigrant communities in many areas of their lives, including housing, education, health and employment, particularly in the West Midlands, but also in other areas of Britain with large Asian communities. Many of these newspaper articles focus on the experiences of individuals who had settled in Britain from commonwealth countries during the 1960s.

Other major topics covered in these press cutting files are the activities of anti-racist groups, including the Indian Workers Association, in campaigning against racial discrimination, and their attempts to fight the prejudices of right-wing and fascist groups opposed to immigration. The original order in which these press cuttings were filed by Jagmohan Joshi has been maintained. His titles for the press cutting files sorted by subject have also been retained.

Because many of both the chronological files and the subject files of press cuttings deal with related topics, there is some overlap between several of the files, and articles on the same topic may be spread across several different files.

MS
2141/A/7/1 'Newscuttings 1961-1967' 1961-1967

Many of the press cuttings in this file contain articles

relating to discrimination issues and the fight against racism in the West Midlands, and to the activities of various fascist groups in the area during the 1960s.

There are items from both local and national newspapers, several of which have been mounted on paper headed with the logo of the Co-ordinating Committee against Racial Discrimination [CCARD].

Press cuttings consist of:

articles about right-wing and fascist groups, including a feature on Oswald Mosley's pride in Max Mosley who was arrested for violence at a Union Movement rally and reports about violence at Union Movement meetings 1962; the activities of fascist groups in Britain including Colin Jordan's group, and the dispute over Max Mosley being invited to speak at a Birmingham University debate 1963; Nazi sympathisers banned from attending a conference organised by Colin Jordan 1962; Mosley coming to Birmingham to hold a meeting after being banned from Town Hall

articles on racist attitudes and policy in the West Midlands, including an item on a John Rex report on Sparkbrook which finds evidence of a housing colour bar 1965; the views of Birmingham Conservatives on immigration; the activities of the Birmingham Immigration Control Association and Councillor Finney; call for medical tests for everyone entering UK by Warwickshire Federation of Women's Institutes; Priory tennis club refused entry to Jewish schoolgirl and condemned by CCARD 1962; investigation into reports of deportation threats made by police; colour bar in public houses in West Midlands; focus on immigrants facing difficulties in gaining employment. articles on the experiences of immigrants, including a focus on Punjabis living in Coventry; focus on immigration to Southall and views of white residents c1964; employment of immigrants in Midlands; focus on immigrant communities in Black Country; focus on number of immigrant doctors working in NHS 1961; first black magistrate; article about racial segregation in Ireland 1962; dispute over ban on Sikh turbans on corporation transport; articles about the activities of anti-racist groups, including reports on a resolution condemning racial and religious discrimination passed by the National Council of Women 1962; the activities of CCARD in protesting against actions of Smethwick Conservatives; a report by Dilip Hiro on the convention of the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination 1967; Birmingham Trades Council supports CCARD

appeal for end to racial discrimination and anti-colour bar appeal, even though CCARD appeal also backed by Communist party; Walsall North constituency Labour party stops holding meetings at Walsall Labour Club because it operates colour bar; East Hertfordshire constituency Labour party condemns decision by Hoddesdon Urban Council to exclude non British and Commonwealth citizens from getting a mortgage; a Birmingham petition urging President Kennedy to implement full racial integration; Fenner Brockway's bill on racial discrimination; Floyd Patterson, heavyweight champion, joins demonstrations against colour bar in Birmingham, Alabama; proposed formation of Balsall Heath Heath Association; immigrants to lobby MPs against Commonwealth Immigration bill, led by IWA, ?1965; Methodist preachers in Birmingham protest against Immigration Bill; Movement for Colonial Freedom holds rally to support arrival of African Caribbean people, led by Fenner Brockway as chairman of movement; Labour party plans for immigrants appeal tribunal if Commonwealth Immigration controls are introduced; the Queen's speech on new immigration legislation; letters to newspapers on the White Paper on Commonwealth Immigration 1965;

articles on the work of government-funded groups against racial discrimination, including reports on the increase grant to Community Relations Commission 1969; cuts in grants for regional commissions; council withdraw support from Birmingham Advisory Council for Immigrants; community relations council to speed up integration in Warley has support withdrawn by Conservative group controlling council; Archbishop of Canterbury will not accept chairmanship of Race Relations Integration Committee set up under Race Relations Bill; National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants find that restrictions are not applied to persons from the 'Old Commonwealth' [i.e white immigrants]; Birmingham Area Civil Rights Campaign to attach racial prejudice and discrimination 1968; work of Middle East Africa League 1968; split in National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants; clash between Archbishop of Canterbury and chairman of Black Power party at World Council of Churches conference on racism; the resignation of member of the Coventry Indian Workers Association from National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants.

The file also contains a small amount of printed material, consisting of a leaflet produced by the Handsworth Good Neighbour Committee, giving advice to both white and West Indian people living next to each other; a copy of a

typescript report entitled 'Operation Integration: an enquiry into the experience of West Indians living in Birmingham, with particular reference to children and young people' by Fred Wilson of Westhill Training College, 1961; and a flyer for a demonstration against racism and fascism in Saltley, called to protest against a demonstration at Saltley Gates by the National Front, undated.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/2

'Newscuttings 1961-1969'

1961-1969

Press cuttings containing articles from local and national newspapers on various issues relating to immigration and racism. These consist of:

statement by the Indian Workers Association that the policies of both the Labour party and the Conservative party are racist, late 1960s; Labour MP Roy Hattersley puts forward the case for taking immigration out of party politics 1965; demonstration at South Africa House against the Rhodesian regime by the Black Peoples Alliance and the Zimbabwe Solidarity Action Committee 1969; left wing groups form vigilante patrols in Islington and Camden to stop attacks on Pakistanis; demonstration to be held by Black Peoples Alliance at the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference to protest against racial discrimination 1969; reports on demonstrations in Birmingham by the National Front and the activities of groups opposed to them, including the 'February 26 Committee' and the Birmingham Trades Council; undated Report on pseudo-scientific theories about racial superiority; the National Front try to disrupt a Co-operative conference on racism attended by Mark Bonham Carter, chairman of the Race Relations Board; the Pakistani Workers Union call for police protection against violence in East End of London; campaign to advise immigrants in Birmingham about birth control to be shown in Asian cinemas; 'Daily Mail' report that polygamy is legal among immigrants in UK; article on the operation of a 'colour bar' in a public house in London; Indian government protest against immigration restrictions 1961; report on slum areas of London and delays to opening of maternity hospital at Nuneaton; the imprisonment of African leaders by the Verwoerd regime in South Africa and the apartheid regime and violence there 1963; criticism by immigrants of a call to Maltese workers to come to Britain; the operation of a 'colour bar' in Walsall on the employment of bus crews; the boycott of a public house in Wolverhampton over its operation of a 'colour bar'; Tariq Ali to speak in Wolverhampton; the operation of a 'colour bar' in middle

class Southall; report on the politics of Colin Jordan and his suspension from his teaching position; the refusal of the Priory tennis club in Edgbaston to admit a Jewish girl; the cancellation of Max Mosley's visit to Birmingham University 1964; focus on housing problems in Birmingham 1961; letter to a newspaper about prejudice being aroused by black men but not black women; the Indian Workers Association call on Smethwick Council to withdraw Don Finney as representative on the Commonwealth Welfare Council for the West Midlands due to his views about 'vice' in Spon Lane, Smethwick; the Indian Workers Association denounce the exploitation of immigrant workers; article reporting Jagmohan Joshi's response to racial violence by Ku Klux Klan members in Leamington, that immigrants will defend themselves; article reporting the split in the Indian Workers Association in 1967; report on a Co-ordinating Committee against Racial Discrimination [CCARD] meeting discussing the advantages of a multi-racial society, and the bad feeling caused by the campaign for immigration control in Birmingham; several articles about immigration control and immigration legislation; report that one of the members of the Sparkbrook Association is considering emigrating to Australia, 1967.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/3

'Newscuttings 1964-1970'

1964-1970

Press cuttings containing articles from local and national newspapers about racism and discrimination in the West Midlands, including the operation of 'colour bars' and discrimination against black and Asian employees working in businesses and factories.

There are also a number of articles on industrial disputes at factories in the West Midlands and elsewhere, including coverage of the strike at Woolf's Rubber Co in Southall and at the Lucas factory in Sparkhill; the strike at the British Leyland factory at Adderley Park in 1968 over the promotion of immigrants who were apparently not members of the National Union of Vehicle Builders; the strike at the Smethwick plant of Midland Motor Cylinder Co Ltd 1968 and at Simplex Electric Co Ltd in Oldbury; Commission of Industrial Relations report 1974 into difficulties faced by Asian workers and mention of Imperial Typewriters strike in Leicester; the strike at Robinson and Peel in Bradford; the dispute at Seely's Road factory of Serck Radiators Ltd, Greet due to racial tension.

The file also contains a copy of 'Foundry Mirror', published by the Amalgamated Union of Foundry Workers, and

featuring a profile of Avtar Jouhl, aged 29 at the time, and working at the Midland Motor Cylinder company at Smethwick.

Other articles consist of: report on the recruitment of the first black policemen and women in Coventry; investigations into 'colour prejudice' in businesses and factories; focus on the number of Jamaican nurses working in UK and the shortage of nurses in Jamaica; prejudice against immigrants, who are accused of 'taking jobs' from white employees; black and Asian employees at the Cadbury factory in Bournville; several articles about the operation of a 'colour bar' in factories, and the employment of skilled immigrants in unskilled posts; the activities of race relations groups in Birmingham and elsewhere; the appointment of the first black Cub leader; immigrant doctors in Britain facing racial prejudice and doing menial jobs; poor working conditions and pay for immigrants; cases of discrimination brought to the Race Relations board; the involvement and boycott of trade unions in conference on race relations held in the context of the Political and Economic Planning [PEP] report on racial discrimination 1967; employers reactions to discrimination legislation; the contributions made by immigrant workers; views on immigration restriction in Birmingham 1962; reactions to Enoch Powell's speech 1968; the job prospects for immigrant school leavers; Sikh protests for the right to wear turbans at work on Wolverhampton and Manchester public transport; an Asian factory employer encourages Asian employees to wear skirts instead of trousers to work; report that the employment of immigrants is seen as biggest challenge to integration; report on a speech given by Shirley Joshi at a race relations lecture at West Ham College of Technology; copy of 'Peace News' 1964, containing several articles about the operation of a 'colour bar' in places of employment.

The file also contains a small amount of other material, consisting of a circular letter issued by Birmingham Trades Council for a conference entitled 'Action for Unity' to combat racism 1977; a letter of invitation to Jagmohan Joshi from the Birmingham liaison committee for Commonwealth Immigrants giving details about a Summer University to be held in Handsworth. The letter explains that an organisational meeting will be held at Winterbourne, Extramural studies, to discuss whether the plan would work 1968.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/4

'Newscuttings 1964-1971'

1964-1971

Press cuttings containing articles from local and national newspapers covering cases of racial discrimination in housing, employment and education, and the activities of the Indian Workers Association and other anti-racist groups in tackling racism.

These press cuttings consist of: reports on the activities of Black Peoples Alliance; opposition to immigration legislation by immigrant organisations; discrimination and violence against immigrants in the aftermath of Enoch Powell's speeches on immigration; education issues in Wolverhampton following Enoch Powell's speech, and other education issues relating to immigrant children, including languages and clothing; government policies on immigration; the arrival in Britain of Kenya Asians; reports of malpractice at IWA Southall elections and the group's split from the national association; the activities of Colin Jordan and other right wing figures; the dispute over the Dominion cinema in Southall; contacts between the Indian Workers Association and various race relations groups; local protests and campaigns in Birmingham by the Co-ordinating Committee against Racial Discrimination [CCARD] and other groups; investigations into bribery to enable Indian workers to get jobs in factories; coverage of industrial disputes led by immigrant workers; article in the 'Birmingham Sun', Aston University's student newspaper, about the difficulties faced by black and Asian school leavers when applying for jobs; coverage of the Marshall Street housing issue in Smethwick, and other housing issues in the West Midlands; the court appearance of Avtar Jouhl and others in relation to accusations of disorderly conduct during Harold Wilson's visit to Birmingham in 1968; the difficulties faced by Britain's first black policewoman 1968; South African sports boycott; coverage of the split in the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination [CARD] caused by political differences; the ill treatment of immigrants at airports; government grant awarded to the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants [NCCI]; Indian Workers Association attempts to calm the local situation during the war between India and Pakistan; reports about various disputes within the Indian Workers Association in Birmingham and Southall; the activities of the Indian Workers Association in Indian politics; articles about the activities of the Coventry branch of the Indian Workers Association; police harassment of the immigrant community.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/A/7/5	<u>'Miscellaneous cuttings 1961-1976'</u> Press cuttings containing articles from local and national newspapers, largely relating to demonstrations by anti-racist groups against discrimination and to race relations activities in the West Midlands during the 1960s. The file also includes a small amount of material dating from the 1970s.	1961-1976
	<p>Articles include: reports on the activities of right wing groups, including an item about Colin Jordan, who contested Ladywood, Birmingham, for the British Movement; the conviction of an anti-Semite with links to Colin Jordan; Ku Klux Klan attacks on the Indian community in Leamington and Jagmohan Joshi's statements in response to these attacks; march by the Socialist Unity Movement in Wolverhampton against racism to mark the first anniversary of Enoch Powell's speech; the operation of a 'colour bar' in Wolverhampton 1969; coverage of a Black Panther march 1970; the lack of an enquiry into police ill treatment of Indian Workers Association members at a demonstration in Birmingham for Harold Wilson's visit in May 1968; concern among immigrant leaders over the activities of a group in Wolverhampton called the Association of West Indian and Afro-Asian minorities; letters to the editor of the 'Birmingham Post' about the council decision to ban Colin Jordan from hiring Birmingham Town Hall, including a letter from Maurice Ludmer; report on the operation of a 'colour bar' on the hiring of school halls and similar premises for African Caribbean functions; the work of various race relations committees in the West Midlands; coverage of the strike at R. Woolf & Co Ltd rubber works in Southall 1964; several articles about the demonstration outside Rhodesia House in London 1969; relations between the British and Indian governments; the attempted prosecution of individuals and organisations under the Race Relations Act 1967; clash between police and black power movement during an anti-Vietnam war rally and reports of other demonstrations; relations between police and immigrant groups; the work of a Leeds housing director in Chapeltown with immigrant groups 1969; anti-apartheid protests against the South African Springboks visit 1970; report on Tory immigration policy; general articles about the Vietnam war in the 'Morning Star' 1967; the operation of a 'colour bar' in Leeds, and racial tension between the immigrant community and right wing groups; reactions to Enoch Powell's speech 1968; racial tension in the East End of London between the Pakistani community and the National Front during the</p>	

early 1970s; general articles on the operation of 'colour bars', and housing, education and health issues affecting immigrants; left-wing protests outside Winson Green prison 1976; anti-apartheid demonstrations in Grosvenor Square 1969; immigration procedures and immigration legislation during the early 1960s; proposals to disperse immigrant communities from Birmingham to Herefordshire 1968, together with a draft letter to Dr Mackenzie, Hereford's medical officer in support of his suggestions to prevent Herefordshire becoming a 'senile' county by 2000.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/6

'General cuttings on the race question'

1962-1969

Press cuttings containing articles from local and national newspapers on some general issues surrounding racism and immigration during the 1960s, including a number of items on discrimination against several groups, including black and Asian immigrants, Jewish communities and travellers.

Articles include: short profile of Shirley Joshi, and report on a speech she gave on Race Relations at West Ham College of Technology 1967; article focusing on the problems faced by people living in Smethwick in the context of the controversy over the election of Peter Griffiths as local MP, and his discriminatory attitudes against immigrant communities living there - interviewees for this article included Jagmohan Joshi and Shirley Fossick 1964; article about the Black Power movement and Maoist influences 1968; several articles about Enoch Powell; newspaper columnist opinion pieces on questions of integration the 'race problem/race question'; tensions in areas with a high concentration of immigrants; the economic and social impact of immigration; perceived cultural differences between immigrants and host communities; case studies about problems faced by individual immigrants; restrictive immigration legislation; demonstrations by Marxist groups in 1968; coverage of the procession to a new Sikh temple in Southall attended by ten thousand Sikhs; article about the situation for black people in South Africa 1969; several articles about Jewish communities and the persecution of Jewish groups in the US and elsewhere; articles about travellers, and about discrimination against a traveller community in Balsall Heath, Birmingham 1968; claims by Rajmal Singh, president of the Coventry branch of the Indian Workers Association, that control of the organisation was in the hands of communist supporters.

The file includes a typescript paper on 'Immigrant Organisations' by Michael Dummett of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants. This was a background paper for a talk to be given Sept 1968? at Queen Elizabeth College, London, possibly as part of the IRR/RAI/BSA third annual race relations conference 'Incipient Ghettos and the Concentration of Minorities'

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/7

'General articles on race'

1961-1977

Press cuttings, largely from national newspapers, containing articles relating to general race issues in Britain during the 1960s and 1970s. There is also a small amount of material relating to Indian politics, and to the campaign against nuclear weapons.

The file includes copies of 'Peace News' November 1963 containing articles about civil liberties, protests, and the nuclear disarmament struggle; a copy of 'Soviet News' August 1961 relating to the testing of nuclear weapons in response to the threat by NATO; and pages from 'The Current', March 1964, containing several articles about the political situation in the Indian sub-continent; series of articles in 'The Guardian' about the Chinese, Italian, Jamaican and Greek Cypriot communities in Britain 1977; focus in the 'Birmingham Post' on various organisations formed by immigrants or inspired by their arrival, 1965; article about the nationwide housing crisis and proposals for the dispersal of immigrants from decaying inner city areas with special reference to problems in Smethwick and the response of Birmingham City Council 1965; opinions in the 'Daily Express' on immigration, particularly focused on 'mixed marriages' and housing issues 1967; report Sikh business owners intend to buy firearms to protect themselves against supporters of National Socialist Movement in Warwick and Leamington; article in the 'Daily Worker' about Los Angeles riots 1965; articles in series in 'The Times' entitled 'The Dark Million' about the issues and challenges of immigration and integration, 1965.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/8

'General political' cuttings

1967-1970

Press cuttings from national and local newspapers, largely containing articles on anti-Vietnam war demonstrations, particularly the one which took place at the American Embassy in Grosvenor Square in 1968, but also including articles about violence at a demonstration at the Chinese Legation in London 1967, and pages from 'Challenge'

about demonstrations in Paris in 1968.

The file also contains articles about proposals for positive discrimination to favour primary schools in areas with children have difficult home conditions, suggested by the Plowden Report on primary schools by the Central Advisory Council for Education, 1967; and a profile of Birmingham and Midland Folk Centre and Charles Parker 1967.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/9

'Cuttings on the race bill'

1966-1969

Press cuttings from national and local newspapers containing articles focusing on race relations legislation, particularly the 1965 Race Relations Act, and the activities of the Race Relations Board.

These articles include: report on proposals for what eventually became Race Relations Act; the visit of Oscar Hahn, member of the Race Relations Board, to South Africa; the work of conciliation committees set up by the Race Relations Board, including the West Midlands Conciliation Committee; statements by Mark Bonham Carter, chairman of the Race Relations Board, on attitudes towards race in Britain; the reactions of politicians to the Race Relations bill; the prosecution of individuals and organisations under the new legislation; coverage of the intervention of the Race Relations Board in a dispute between the Indian Workers Association and a public house in Wolverhampton; Conservative attempts to limit the scope of the legislation and fears that it could create 'separate but equal' form of apartheid; explanations of the terms of the Bill; reports giving the opinions of those who opposed the Bill including the Conservative MP Jill Knight, apparently because of fears of positive discrimination, and right wing groups like the Racial Preservation Society; plans by Conservatives to limit the number of immigrants entering UK after a speech by Edward Heath autumn 1968 and the views of the Labour party conference on the Race Relations Act; politicians views on the attitudes of immigrants; discussion of whether a clause of the Race Relations Act covering racial discrimination should be added to the police disciplinary code; letters to newspaper editors about the Race Relations Act, coverage of the publication of the Political and Economic Planning [PEP] report demanding the extension of the 1965 Race Relations Act to cover employment, housing and insurance.

The file also contains articles on other topics relating to race relations, including a report about Shirley Fossick and her sister acting as hosts for two sisters from Yugoslavia, early 1960s; plans for the census to identify immigrants; an article from the Birmingham University student newspaper 'Redbrick' on Enoch Powell's forthcoming speech at the university June 1968 and the dispute between people supporting freedom of speech and those strongly opposed to Powell being invited; several other articles about protests against Powell including coverage of protests at Birmingham University by supporters of Black Peoples Alliance; report on a public debate on immigration held in Leicester as a result of Powell's speech; report on the extent of racial prejudice in Birmingham; articles on the actions of fascist and other far right groups, particularly the prosecution of Colin Jordan.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/10

'Smethwick 1961-1966'

1961-1966

Press cuttings in this file consist of articles printed in local and national newspapers relating to the situation in Smethwick during the early 1960s, including reports about the town as a focus of immigration, the shortage of housing, and other social problems affecting people living there, and the exploitation of these by the prospective parliamentary candidate Peter Griffiths during his election campaign in 1964, contributing to tension between the white community and the immigrant community, many of whom were members of the Indian Workers Association.

The file also contains coverage of the activities of the Indian Workers Association and the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD] in Smethwick.

Articles consist of: report about apparent problems with 'vice' in the Spon Lane area of Smethwick 1963; housing issues in Marshall Street; tension between immigrant groups and the Smethwick branch of the 'Birmingham Immigration Control Association' 1961; calls for a police inquiry into attacks on a member of the 'Afro-Caribbean Circle' in Wolverhampton; the operation of a 'colour bar' in a West Bromwich public house; the work of the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD] in Smethwick in the era of Peter Griffiths; letter to newspaper editor about the racist actions of Griffiths over the housing issue; the results of a 'colour bar' survey carried out by the Smethwick Young Socialists 1964; Smethwick council's rejection of a full time liaison officer to

work towards integration of immigrant population and protests from the Indian Workers Association about Don Finney representing the Commonwealth Welfare Council 1963; Peter Griffiths' wife invites the wives of Avtar Jouhl and other members of the Indian Workers Association to tea 1962; letters to the 'Smethwick Telephone' about Peter Griffiths and immigrants 1963; election campaign between Griffiths and Patrick Gordon Walker; the work of Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD] and the operation of a 'colour bar' in Birmingham; letters to a Smethwick newspaper both supporting and criticising immigrants; the activities of Peter Griffiths and Don Finney in Smethwick; focus on the tensions raised in Smethwick by council proposals for a Pakistani family to move into a council flat and the extent of prejudice by the white community 1961; letters to the 'Smethwick Telephone' protesting about immigrants and the views of the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD] 1963; article by Avtar Jouhl about the operation of a 'colour bar' in Smethwick 1963; Peter Griffiths election campaign; Indian Workers Association protest about a BBC programme dealing with the 'colour problem in Smethwick; Ku Klux Klan activities in the West Midlands 1965; opinion articles focusing on racial tension in Smethwick; the policies of the Smethwick Conservatives; the operation of a 'colour bar' in places of work; the difficulties faced by immigrant children in schools; article about the morals of Irish and Pakistani immigrants and their apparent involvement in prostitution in the 'News of the World' 1961; Fenner Brockway's report on attitudes towards immigrants in Birmingham; focus on immigrant staff at NHS hospitals; Indian Workers Association campaign to protect immigrants in Wolverhampton against racist violence.

The file also contains two later articles about Enoch Powell and government measures to deal with Commonwealth immigration.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/11

'Elections and the race issue'

1963-1968

Press cuttings in this file largely consist of articles printed in local newspapers covering restrictions on immigration and medical tests carried out on immigrants; the election campaign of Peter Griffiths in Smethwick; and local politics and social issues in Smethwick during the 1960s, including education and housing issues for immigrant communities.

Articles include: focus on how the immigration issue

affected the election campaign in Birmingham 1964; the operation of a 'colour bar' in hotels, shops, and school hall lettings, in Smethwick and elsewhere; racial discrimination and physical attacks on immigrants; black students evicted from lodgings; the campaign of the 'Racial Preservation Society' in the Birmingham area 1966; racist politics in general; statements by political parties on race, particularly immigration issues and policies; comments by individuals and organisations on 'colour bars', and racial discrimination.

Several cuttings contain quotes from members of the Indian Workers Association, particularly in relation to proposals to introduce separate classes in Smethwick for Indian children, denounced as a form of apartheid by Avtar Jouhl, and to demonstrations called or attended by the Indian Workers Association to fight successive immigration acts during the 1960s. Some cuttings are mounted on CCARD headed paper, suggesting that they may have been collected as part of the activities of that organisation. Some cuttings are grouped together and filed together under headings. There is also an article about elections at Indian Workers Association (Southall), and other articles about events held by Indian Workers Association branches.

The file includes a sequence of photocopied pages from 'The National Socialist' fascist newspaper 1963 containing articles about Colin Jordan and Hitler.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/12

'Cuttings on race relations'

1963-1968

The majority of press cuttings in this file contain articles from local and national newspapers relating to race relations, with particular reference to the situation in Smethwick during the 1960s, to elections in Smethwick, Birmingham and West Bromwich in 1966, and to the campaigning work against racism in politics done by the Indian Workers Association and other affiliated groups, including the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination.

Coverage includes: the operation of 'colour bars' in public houses 1965 and the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD] campaign to test the extent of this despite opposition from former Smethwick councillor Don Finney, chairman of the English Rights Association; discrimination against immigrants in council housing policy; the effect of various government policies on

immigration on the community in Smethwick; articles quoting the views of the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination and the English Rights Association; the strains in the health service apparently due to the increase in the number of immigrants; Tory plans for segregation in schools for children with a limited knowledge of English; the possible formation of a West Midlands police immigrant liaison squad; the views of local politicians on the situation in Smethwick; reports on some of the meetings and conferences of the Indian Workers Association; Peter Griffiths and the 1964 election campaign; petition circulated by Smethwick Conservatives calling for a five year ban on immigration 1964; appeals by the Indian Workers Association, the Pakistani Welfare Association and the West Indian Standing Conference urging supporters not to vote in the All Saints and Sparkbrook wards in Birmingham because of the attitudes of Labour MPs Walden and Hattersley towards immigration at the 1966 election when Andrew Faulds stood against Griffiths in Smethwick; the activities of the Birmingham Immigration Control Association 1966; the overcrowding of immigrants in deteriorating housing and a call for white couples to be given money towards deposit to buy homes in Smethwick 1963; protests over plans for a West Indian family's allocation of a flat in Wolverhampton; profile of Oswald Mosley's election campaign in Smethwick in 1926, dated 1966, shortly after Mosley lost his deposit at Shoreditch and Finsbury for the Union Movement; the operation of a 'colour bar' at the Gillott Lodge Hotel in Edgbaston 1966; Andrew Faulds' victory over Griffiths in Smethwick 1966, with details of other Midlands results and the apparent death of immigration as an election issue; invitation of Tariq Ali to speak at IWA Wolverhampton; Indian Workers Association members Jagmohan Joshi, National Secretary, Avtar Jouhl, Birmingham branch secretary, and Sahota, national president, walk out of a BBC recording session in Birmingham for 'Law and Order'; profile of All Saints ward, Birmingham at the time of the 1966 election; Edward Heath's views on immigration; Enoch Powell's views on immigration; the election campaign in Bradford; the views of the 'English Rights Association' and the 'Racial Preservation Society'; the work of the Birmingham University branch of the 'Student Campaign against Racial Discrimination' in questioning government immigration policy and Roy Hattersley's support of this; 1966 election campaign in Sparkbrook and the abandonment of Roy Hattersley by the Socialist group at Birmingham University and by immigrant organisations; the West Bromwich election campaign 1966 and the impact of immigration on

the campaign; focus on Smethwick and Southall before the 1966 election with a mention of IWA Southall and the IWA in Smethwick; several articles about Smethwick housewives protesting about immigrants in Marshall Street 1965; Joshi suggests the formation of a multi-racial residents association in Marshall Street; Joshi and Jouhl at meeting, together with representative from the Birmingham Indian Association, president Dr Dhani Prem 1965; the high level of immigrant children at Queensbridge school in Moseley, Birmingham in 1966; proposals by Birmingham Conservatives for the reorganisation of education 'just right for immigrant areas'; no black city councillors in Birmingham 1968; pregnancies of unmarried women, including Indian girls.

There is also an article about members of the Sikh community in Manchester being allowed to wear turbans at work as bus drivers and conductors.

The file also contains a copy of the newsletter of the 'Racial Preservation Society' entitled 'Midland News' 1965.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/13

Cuttings on race issues in the West Midlands

1963-1968

Press cuttings containing articles printed in local and national newspapers, largely concerning events in Smethwick during the 1960s relating to race relations, the 1964 and 1966 election campaigns in Smethwick, in which immigration and related issues were used by both the Conservative and Labour candidates, but particularly by the Conservative Peter Griffiths, and the difficulties faced by members of immigrant communities in Smethwick and Birmingham in getting housing, education and health care. There are also a number of articles on the activities of the Indian Workers Association, the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination, and other groups working for social justice.

Articles consist of: coverage of the dispute over allocation of housing in Marshall Street, Smethwick; threatening letters sent to Indian residents in Marshall Street 1967; the racist housing policy of the Smethwick Conservatives; the problem of racism in Britain in reported in the 'Daily Worker' 1965; the election manifestos of the main political parties in the 1966 election; proposals for extra money for facilities in areas with a high concentration of immigrant communities, undated; the need for funding for immigrant areas of the Black Country; the 1966 election campaign in Smethwick; report on complaints to the Race Relations

Board, including a quote from Maurice Ludmer of the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD]; investigation of cases of alleged racial discrimination in Birmingham; cases put by Avtar Jouhl to the Race Relations Board over segregation in pubs and factory 1966; the problems of interacting with tight-knit immigrant community in Smethwick who were from a small area of Punjab; feature on needlework completed by an Indian girl and an English girl at Handsworth Wood Girls school; Conservatives end a dispute on the Race Relations bill 1968; questions in Parliament about whether it was government policy to help immigrants to return home 1968; the operation of a 'colour bar' in a Smethwick public house, Shirley Fossick gives evidence; letter from the Indian Workers Association in a Smethwick newspaper 1963 expressing regret at decision of Smethwick Conservatives to refuse a loan for an Indian moulder to buy property in Smethwick; Indian Workers Association call for Smethwick Council to withdraw Don Finney as one of town's representatives on the Commonwealth Welfare Council for the West Midlands 1963; the Executive Committee of the Birmingham Trades Council endorses an appeal made by the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD] for an end to racial antagonism, though the appeal was also supported by the Communist party; protest by the National Council for Civil Liberties about a comment made by a Tottenham magistrate on 'mixed marriage'; 1964 Smethwick election campaign; the operation of a 'colour bar' at a Smethwick youth club by Ken Bunch; Peter Griffiths thinks neither immigrants nor white people in Smethwick want to mix 1963; call for a cross-party conference in Smethwick on immigrants, in order to formulate a united policy; Conservative plans to introduce a scheme for separate immigrant classes in Smethwick; anonymous threats to Jiwan Singh, cultural secretary of the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association 1965, apparently based on the assumption that Singh was a committee member of the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD]; accusations of the distortion of statistics about immigrants by the Conservative chairman of the Birmingham Health Committee 1968; the activities of the Ku Klux Klan in Birmingham c1965; the operation of a 'colour bar' on housing in Smethwick; housing and employment conditions in Sparkbrook, Birmingham and Southall; West Midlands Conciliation Committee criticised by Maurice Ludmer of the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination, the Pakistani Welfare Association, the Indian Workers Association and the Anti-Apartheid Movement for a visit by a member of the

organisation to apartheid South Africa; Manchester Sikh bus drivers not allowed to wear turbans at work; immigration used as an election issue 1964-1966; Joshi and Sohan Singh Sandhu accused of committing disorderly act after Harold Wilson's visit to Birmingham 1968; National Front demonstration in Wolverhampton; various issues surrounding forthcoming election 1963, including letters to newspapers about attitudes to immigrants and the employment of immigrants, including references to the activities of the Indian Workers Association and the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD]; general articles on race relations; immigrants setting up their own self-help organisations; activities of the Indian Workers Association and the Black Peoples Alliance; address given in Wolverhampton by members of the Black Panthers movement; Tariq Ali will not speak at Wolverhampton because of threats from white extremists 1970; Doojan Napal, an Indian lecturer at Wolverhampton Polytechnic has tea thrown at him by students; report on a march against the Immigration Bill 1971, including a quote from Joshi; the operation of a 'colour bar' on housing by Smethwick Conservatives c1965; report on a 'Hands-Off Cuba' march; high proportion of immigrant children in some Birmingham schools 1966.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/14

'Strikes, immigration, Powell etc'

1964-1970

Press cuttings containing articles from local and national newspapers largely covering various industrial disputes in the West Midlands and elsewhere. There are also a smaller number of articles about racial discrimination in employment, housing and education during the 1960s, and the political atmosphere in the aftermath of Enoch Powell's speeches on immigration. Several articles contain information about the activities of anti-racist and progressive groups to combat racism.

Articles include: coverage of issues surrounding the education of immigrant children; reactions to Enoch Powell and the actions of Black Peoples Alliance; reactions to the 1971 Immigration Bill; the publication of a report entitled 'Colour and Citizenship' by the Institute of Race Relations 1969; debates on immigrant statistics, particularly the birth rate, and repatriation after Enoch Powell's speeches; the numbers of Kenya Asians entering Britain; the illegal entry of immigrants and the problem of smuggling; support of Enoch Powell's doctrine by some trade unions; coverage of the strike at Imperial Typewriter in Leicester; Sikh

protests about the ban on Wolverhampton and Manchester bus employees wearing turbans; coverage of the strike at Dartmouth Auto Castings in Smethwick; Trade Union leaders boycott an international conference on race relations, coverage of the strike at R. Woolf Rubber Co; focus on bribery at factories in Leamington to enable Indian workers to get jobs; segregated toilet blocks at the Midland Motor Cylinder Company in Smethwick; black workers dismissed after a strike at Firth-Vickers Stainless Steels Ltd in Blackheath; the appointment of the first black headmaster in Britain; the 'brides for sale' scandal apparently instigated to beat immigration restrictions; demonstrations by the Black Peoples Alliance; speech on immigration made by the Home Secretary James Callaghan after Enoch Powell's speech; various reports on the Enoch Powell speeches and reactions them; reports on the intelligence of children ranked by social and ethnic grouping; the operation of a 'colour bar' in Smethwick public houses; report on racism in Smethwick including details of a pamphlet issued by Joshi, Shirley Fossick and Maurice Ludmer of the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination 1965 [likely to be 'The Victims Speak']

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/15

'Enoch Powell aftermath, and Black People's Alliance'

1968-1970

Press cuttings from national newspapers largely relating to Enoch Powell's speeches and their wider implications, including the question of repatriation, but also to protests both for and against his views, and other anti-racist demonstrations, particularly by the Black Peoples Alliance. There is also one unrelated cutting, dating from 1985 about the proposed eradication by the European Economic Community [EEC] of the tsetse fly from African countries to extend beef production.

Some cuttings had originally been mounted on the reverse of a list of quotations for building work made for firms in Birmingham and the Black Country in 1965, and part of an undated typescript questionnaire about employment with white workers.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/16

'Newspaper cuttings on the issue of immigration control'

1961-1971

Press cuttings from local and national newspapers, largely dating from the late 1960s and from 1970-1971, relating to the effects of government legislation controlling immigration during the 1960s, particularly concerning the

entry to Britain of Asians from East Africa. There are also a smaller number of articles about racial discrimination in Britain. The file includes two earlier items, consisting of a typescript paper on the Immigration Control Act, with several quotes from newspaper articles 1965, and a copy of 'Social Service News' 1961 which contains an article on immigration and the 'colour bar', taking the form of question and answers challenging myths about immigration.

Some of the cuttings have been pasted to the inside of the folder in which they are stored.

Coverage includes: government controls on immigrants dependents coming to Britain 1970s; Indian Workers Association to write to the Home Secretary protesting against the deportation of Asian immigrants deprived of representation because they cannot speak good English; Campaign Against Racial Discrimination [CARD] suggests temporary rights of entry for Commonwealth citizens refused entry as immigrants 1966; large Indian Workers Association march in Birmingham over legislation restricting foreign husbands; Kenyan Asians stranded in Europe; 1971 census to include statistics about immigrants; Conservative party plans to restrict immigration are quoted by Edward Heath; attack on Department of Health and Social Security statistics being used by Enoch Powell; Home Office claims Kenyan Asians are given false permit to enter Britain; James Callaghan tackles fears about uncontrolled immigration; Indian Workers Association petition to government protesting at its restrictions on the entry of immigrants husbands and fiancés, with a quote from Joshi 1960s; Edward Heath attacked on the immigration issue 1968; Immigration Bill will make Commonwealth citizens without British ancestors aliens 1971; separate centre to be built at Birmingham airport for immigrants to be detained; denial that Richard Crossman, Secretary of State for Social Services, withheld permission for local authorities to publish figures of children born to immigrant families; focus on immigrant smuggling and the bribery of immigration officers; Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants asks for Home Office money to set up advisory centres 1969; 'Birmingham Post' opinion piece on the Immigration Bill; intake quota set for Asians from East Africa; several reports on restrictions to immigration in the Immigration Bill 1971; police to get a central role in enforcing new immigration laws and concern about this expressed by Mark Bonham Carter, chairman of Community Relations Commission 1971; 'Guardian' opinion piece on the

Immigration Bill; pattern of immigrant settlement apparent from figures published by General Register Office; deportation of Swarn Singh and applications by Sikh bus drivers in Wolverhampton to wear turbans; suspicion of official race policy by Community Relations Commission; decrease in the number of immigrants coming to Britain 1969; the wife and children of a Sikh man in Smethwick are deported because they couldn't confirm identity; report on the economic impact of immigration by the Institute of Economic Affairs 1970; Race Relations Board upholds the right of immigrants not to assimilate; National Institute for Economic and Social Research report finds that immigrants boost Britain's economic wealth 1970; letter to newspaper from Dipak Nandy, Chairman of Leicester Campaign for Racial Equality; Indian Workers Association protest to the Home Office that some Asian immigrants are being deported because they cannot speak English well enough to reply to charges by immigration officials, including quotes on this issue by Avtar Jouhl; men jailed for involvement in a Coventry-based organisation to smuggle illegal immigrants into Britain; National Council for Civil Liberties accuses the Home Office of giving a raw deal to immigrants, including quotes on this issue by Joshi; report on an Indian Workers Association and Kashmiri United Plebiscite Front demonstration at a meeting of Commonwealth ministers, amidst Nazi Party protest.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/17

'Black People's organisations - Black Power etc'

1968-1976

File containing press cuttings from local, national and international newspapers, some of which are photocopies, together with a small amount of correspondence and printed material produced by various organisations involved in the Black Power movement. The press cuttings consist of articles about the some of the activities of black and Asian organisations in Britain, including coverage of campaigns by the Indian Workers Association, and about the visit to Birmingham of Roy Sawh, a leader of the British Black Power movement, and Tariq Ali, who spoke at Birmingham Town Hall. There is also coverage of the campaign to free Angela Davis, and the Soledad brothers, black American activists George Jackson, Fleeta Drumgo, and John Clutchette, accused of murder. There is also a profile of Sister Connie Matthews, of the Black Panthers. Other papers in this file comprise:

/1 press statement by the Black Panther movement statement on Obi Benedict Egbuna, distancing the movement from this person

/2 statement issued by Black Workers Defence League on the 1971 Immigrants Bill and the failure of black organisations to act against previous immigration legislation; asking for support in politicising the mass of black workers. The Indian Workers Association London branch is a member of this group.

/3 list giving contact details of individuals and black and Asian associations and groups invited to an unidentified event, undated

/4 typescript tribute to Martin Luther King, written by Anthony Goodman, dated 21st April 1968, following Enoch Powell's speech in Birmingham. Anthony Goodman was a member of the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination [CARD], and this tribute is likely to have been given as a speech, in this capacity

/5 letter to Joshi from Ron Phillips, expressing personal support for Black Peoples Alliance, undated

/6 letter to Joshi from I. Mutassa, of the Black Liberation Front, about a proposed collaboration between progressive organisations, 1976.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/18

'Articles on black power'

1967-1968

This file contains press cuttings from 'The Times' 1968 containing a series of articles about black liberation movements in southern Africa, and the Black Power movement in the United States of America, including details about the activities of the Black Power movement in Britain and some of the main figures in this movement.

The file also contains a number of press cuttings from a local newspaper in the West Ham area of London, consisting of articles about a series of talks on Race Relations given at West Ham College of Technology - one of which was given by Shirley Joshi - and several cuttings from the readers letters page of the newspaper, including readers correspondence written in response to the talks. The letters express differing views on the issue of immigration.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/19

Press cuttings on racial discrimination and immigration legislation

1961-1970

Press cuttings from national and local newspapers largely focusing on racism and the activities of campaign groups like the Indian Workers Association, the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD], and black power organisations, during the 1960s, including

campaigns against immigration legislation introduced during this period.

Coverage includes: Sammy Davis jnr's support for Britain's black power movement 1968; articles about demonstrations outside Rhodesia house and clashes between the National Front and the Black Peoples Alliance 1969; articles from 'The Dark Million' series in 'The Times'; racial tension in Tipton; profile of the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination [CARD]; Joshi's criticism of Bill on Immigration Control in Birmingham as part of his role in the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD]; copy of 'The Journal', the official publication of Birmingham Trades Council 1965 with an article on Labour's White Paper on Immigration; article about Indian Workers Association urging members in Smethwick to vote against Peter Griffiths and the condemnation of Griffiths' views by the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination 1963; article and photograph about the Indian Workers Association, the Pakistani Workers Association, the Movement for Colonial Freedom and the Irish Connolly Association visit to London for a meeting with MPs at Westminster to protest against proposed immigration laws; the operation of a 'colour bar' in Southall 1963; Joshi's support of a strike by Indian workers at a factory in Southall; problems in Birmingham schools caused by high levels of immigrant children with difficulties with English 1961; Indian and Pakistani workers in Wolverhampton threaten night shift strikes unless skinhead violence against their communities stops; focus on the Birmid Qualcast strike at Dartmouth Auto Castings foundry at Smethwick with quotes from Joshi and a picture 1970; members of the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants [NCCI] resign in protest at a Bill designed to restrict Asian immigrants from Kenya from entering Britain; meeting of the Indian Workers Association in Wolverhampton to discuss a plan of action to protest against the town transport committee ban on bus conductors and drivers wearing turbans at work 1969; failed attempt by Black Power block at the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination [CARD] to oust white people from the leadership and Indian Workers Associations in Birmingham and Southall protest about bogus delegates; grant to the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants [NCCI]; the Coventry branch of the Indian Workers Association breaks away from national body; plans for a protest march at the Commonwealth Prime Ministers conference led by the Black People's Alliance and convened by Joshi 1969; Sohan Singh Jolly's threat to burn himself to death in protest at the Wolverhampton ban

on bus employees wearing turbans; anti-racist demonstration in Wolverhampton organised by Socialist Unity Movement 1969; reaction to Enoch Powell's speech nationally and locally 1968; Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD] to test the operation of a 'colour bar' in Smethwick public houses 1965; Black Power party to establish free universities for 'black studies' 1969; Peter Griffiths and Don Finney's views are attacked by Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD]; Smethwick Conservatives housing plans discriminate against immigrants 1963; Conservative group on Birmingham City Council aim for a complete ban on immigrants to Birmingham; racial violence on the Low Hill housing estate in Wolverhampton and Shirley Fossick's plea for calm as the secretary of the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD] 1965; the operation of a 'colour bar' in Smethwick public houses 1961; Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD] campaign about restrictions on membership of Walsall Labour Club; strike of Indian workers at R. Woolf's rubber factory in Hayes, Middlesex, organised by Indian Workers Association Southall; Wolverhampton Sikhs march in London in protest at not being able to wear turbans at work on buses 1968; meeting of Universal Coloured People and Arab Association suggests that black people arm themselves in defence against racist violence; Sikh immigrants are allegedly falsifying details to enter Britain 1966; protest by Campaign Against Racial Discrimination about Asian immigrants being x-rayed to prove their age; an Indian woman deported with her children protests on the tarmac at Heathrow; Campaign Against Racial Discrimination [CARD] criticises checks on immigrants returning from holidays abroad; protests at Edward Heath's speech on immigration, including a quote by Joshi and a member of the West Indian Standing Conference; Indian Workers Association to gather evidence of Indians obtaining jobs by bribes, with quotes from Avtar Jouhl; Warwickshire Indian National Association to enquire into reasons for the deportation of a teenage boy living in Leamington; Rajmal Singh, president of the Coventry Indian Workers Association concludes that Enoch Powell is not racist; firms in Warley discriminate against immigrants, with quotes from Avtar Jouhl 1967; anti Enoch Powell march and reactions to his speech, with an article on the operation of a 'colour bar' at the North Wolverhampton Working Men's Club 1968; Edward Heath's proposals on immigration restrictions; meeting of Sikhs discussing ways to suppress the publication of future immigration speeches by Enoch Powell; report on Powell's speech and reaction

from D. Prem, deputy chairman of Birmingham Liaison Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants; reactions to Powell's speech by anti-fascist and Sikh groups; Edward Heath's condemnation of Powell and reaction from community leaders nationally and in West Midlands 1968; John Rex criticises the discriminatory housing policy in Birmingham after carrying out a survey in Sparkbrook; Pakistani Progressive People's League urges action against the operation of a 'colour bar' at Batley Trades and Friendly Club; Edward Heath's speech condemned by race workers who see it as Powellism c1968; Labour member of Wolverhampton transport committee urges Sikhs to compromise over the turban ban for bus employees; Black Peoples Alliance call off planned May day strike, with quote from Joshi; march by Black Peoples Alliance in London at the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference with quote from Joshi 1969; African Caribbean nurse Joanne Pinto throws coffee at Enoch Powell in Nottingham 1969; Trevor Huddleston asks Enoch Powell for a debate about immigration; Smethwick councillor Brian Rathbone supports Powell

The file also contains a copy of 'Grass Roots', a black community newspaper of the black power movement in Britain c. 1970

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/20

'Racism in the US'

1965-1969

File of press cuttings from national and local newspapers containing articles on racial discrimination in the United States of America, and the effects of segregation policies. There are also a number of articles about leaders of the Black Power movement, and the activities of civil rights movement.

Coverage includes: article on Stokely Carmichael and the Black Power movement 1967; Black Power protest demonstration by US athletes at the Mexico Olympics 1968; the disappearance of Black Panther leader Eldridge Cleaver while on parole; focus on racial tension and violence in Chicago 1968; article about the poverty of US Indians; black members of American Psychiatric Association consider racism the major mental health problem in the country; plea at Martin Luther King's funeral for calm and unity 1968; focus on the Ku Klux Klan in wake of the murder of Martin Luther King in 1968; focus on Muhammed Ali 1967; the hunt for the killer of Martin Luther King 1968; US city riots after the murder of Martin Luther King; US racial classification of children; statistics that

proportionally more black than white American servicemen died in Vietnam; US black leaders no longer want integration; black children arrested in a school demonstration in Georgia about poor conditions 1968; white youths kill a black youth in Boston; John Lewis - 'freedom fighter' - visits Britain; Mao praises the black uprisings in the US; picture in the 'Birmingham Post' of a Mississippi Highway Patrolmen firing tear gas at a civil rights protesters 1966; the admission of black students to all-white fraternity houses 1965; a full page advertisement in 'Ann Arbor News' 1965 criticising communist involvement in the civil rights movement; African American groups urging a boycott of the 1968 Olympics; troops sent to Chicago and other cities where violence was occurring 1968; profile of riots in Detroit and the spread of riots to other US cities 1967; severe poverty and unemployment in black areas of US cities 1967; dispute over the case of the heart of a black patient being removed without the permission of his family in Richmond, Virginia 1968; US black athletes and a picture of the black power salute at the Mexico Olympics 1968; profile of Eldridge Cleaver 1969.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/21

'China'

1966-1975

File containing press cuttings and printed material relating to Chinese politics during the 1960s and 1970s. Papers consist of:

- /1 typescript press release issued by the Press Department of the Office of the Charge D'Affaires of the People's Republic of China 1969 reporting on the ninth national congress of the Communist Party of China
- /2 typescript paper entitled 'A critical analysis of some aspects of cultural life and working methods in the arts, in the Peoples Republic of China; based on experience and conversations during the three week S.A.C.U educationalists tour from 3rd April to 25th April 1972' by Charles Parker
- /3 typescript press release issued by the Press Department of the Embassy of the Peoples Republic of China 1975 comprising a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China about the end of Portuguese colonial rule in Angola
- /4 copies of Peking Review printed in China 1974-1975, consisting of issues 17.32, 17.47, 18.12, 18.16, and 18.30
- /5 typescript copy of 'news from Hsinhua News Agency, China', special issue 1: New Leap in China's National Economy January 1972

various press cuttings about events in China, and Britain (especially London) - particularly disturbances by pro-Maoists; focus on China and the Cultural Revolution; the domestic and foreign policies of Mao; advertisement in the 'New York Times International' edition 1965 issued by Overseas Chinese, opposing the admission of the Peiping regime into the United Nations; the Chinese population expansion; interview with Mao; Russian apprehension about Chinese missiles.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/22

'Indian politics'

1964-1968

File of press cuttings containing a large number of articles relating to politics and elections in India, and to the economic situation in the country; student and other disturbances by left-wing groups; strikes; religious demonstrations; famines in Bihar and Mysore, and food riots; the delivery of food aid from the international community and Indian rejection of Israeli aid; Indian proposals to develop nuclear weapons and coverage of the Delhi-Moscow entente; social policies and the planned sterilisation programme to limit the population; the Kashmir issue, and tension in Punjab; monsoon floods; relations between India and China, and India and Burma; earthquake in Gujarat; splits in the Indian Communist Party 1968; demonstrations against Russia's decision to give Pakistan military aid; Maoist terrorism in south India; articles on Naxalites; coverage of threats to the life of Indira Gandhi; focus on life in India taken from the impressions of western journalists; special report on India in 'The Times'.

Some of these cuttings are attached to circulars and statements issued by the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association (GB). These consist of a circular giving information about a forthcoming meeting of militant immigrant organisations in Leamington to discuss unity in combating racialism 1968, and a statement issued by J. Joshi on the Race Relations Bill.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/23

'Sikh militancy and immigration'

1986

This file contains a small number of press cuttings from national newspapers, covering various issues relating to immigration and racism, including articles on immigration legislation and statistics; the involvement of MPs making representations in immigration cases; the statutory sick pay scheme 1986; the imprisonment of an Asian burglar in

Dudley.

The file also contains articles on the increased militancy in Punjab, surrounding the issue of Sikh independence, and the effects of this in Sikh communities in Britain. Articles consist of: coverage of a knife fight between Sikh militants and other Indians at an Indian Workers Association poetry reading at the Summerfield Community Centre in Winson Green, Birmingham; the activities of the Akali Dal party and events involving Sikh militants in India; coverage of a march by Sikhs in Smethwick and Handsworth, Birmingham, to celebrate the founding of the Sikh religion and express defiance of the Indian government by wearing orange turbans; two newspaper pictures of Sikh leaders.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/24

'Kenyan Asians'

1968-1969

File containing press cuttings from national newspapers focusing on government policy on immigration, the arrival in Britain of Asians living in Kenya due to restrictions imposed on 'foreign' workers in that country, and the government reaction to their arrival, leading to the 1968 Commonwealth Immigrants Act, which restricted entry to this group. Articles cover the opposition to this legislation, and its effects on Asian communities already living in Britain.

Coverage consists of: protests against the new immigration legislation; the fears of Kenyan Asians of attack; opposition to readings of Immigration bill, the increase in the numbers of Kenyan Asians coming to Britain before the restrictions came into effect; emergency action taken to stem the flow of immigrants from Kenya February 1968; the passing of the Commonwealth Immigrants Bill by the House of Lords; James Callaghan's statements on the immigrants bill; opinion pieces on the immigration controls imposed on Kenyan Asians; the Commonwealth conference of Prime Ministers in January 1969, to discuss migration problems, boycotted by Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Zambia; the information officer of the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants [NCCI] resigns in protest at the new immigration laws, riots at Nairobi airport as people struggle to get on flights to Britain; immigrants in Birmingham and the West Midlands support a temporary ban on immigration; legal challenges to new immigration legislation; some Kenyan Asians try to enter India instead of Britain; Liberal and some Labour MPs to vote against the Commonwealth Immigrants bill; hardship tests introduced for potential entrants; British

attempts to get Kenya to soften its policies towards the Asian community there and the Indian Workers Association response in Birmingham to the possibility of the government putting up legal barriers to slow immigrants; Indian multi-millionaires plan to airlift Kenya Asians to Britain to beat the government deadline; the issue of work vouchers to entrants to Britain; the Kenya African National Union calls for the deportation of Kenya Asians; passport loophole could make it impossible for the Commonwealth Immigrants bill to be enforced without the co-operation of Kenyan government; test case appeal to the European Commission on Human Rights over the Commonwealth Immigrants bill; letters to newspaper editors about curbs on the entry of Asian immigrants from Kenya; protest marches against the Immigration bill; advisory panels working for the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants [NCCI] oppose the Commonwealth Immigrants bill; Kenya Asian traders ask Britain to pay compensation; Commonwealth talks on immigration near failure; individual case studies about Kenya Asians trying to enter Britain; the Commonwealth sets up a working party on migrants 1969; penalties for ships and aircraft taking illegal immigrants from Kenya and the policy of Africanisation in Kenya; Birmingham plan to keep the door open to Kenya Asians formulated by D. R. Prem, Deputy Chairman of the Birmingham Advisory Council for Immigrants; Indian leaders in Britain say that reports of a mass exodus of Asians from Kenya are distorted and likely to fuel racial prejudice - with individual case studies 1968; the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants [NCCI] condemns the Commonwealth Immigrants Bill as racist; international companies in Kenya fear the loss of skilled manpower with the exodus of Kenya Asians; Australia eases restrictions on immigrants; D. R. Prem as the vice chairman of the Liaison Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants criticises comments by Councillor Franklin on the health of immigrants in Birmingham 1968.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/25

'Racism abroad - South Africa etc'

1964-1969

File of press cuttings from national and international newspapers containing articles relating to racism and anti-racist protests in the United States of America, Paris, South Africa, Denmark and Germany during the 1960s. The file includes a copy of 'Challenge - the revolutionary newspaper', published in the United States of America, 1968, and containing articles on student action and strikes in Paris, and Black Power activism in the US after the

death of Malcolm X. Other articles cover black education and workers struggles. The publication is printed in both English and Spanish, with some different articles in the Spanish version.

Other articles cover: the boycott of South African sports fixtures; protests in Birmingham against visiting South African politicians; accusations that Britain is selling out its African territories to the white regime in South Africa 1966; South Africa allowing mixed heritage sports teams to tour there; an 'opinion' column written by Nelson Mandela in the 'Observer' 1964; report on the assassination of Hendrik Verwoerd, the South African prime minister; racial tension in Denmark between 'skinheads' and foreign workers 1969; prejudice against dark-skinned people in India and several African countries; the activities of neo-Nazis in Germany; American attitudes towards Jewish people. The file also includes an article containing an account of life in and after Buchenwald by a prisoner who had been a member of the French Resistance.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/26

'Education and immigrants'

1965-1969

Press cuttings from local and national newspapers containing articles relating to the education of children from migrant communities, mainly in Birmingham and the West Midlands, but also in other areas of Britain. Articles discuss some of the difficulties faced by children and their parents in gaining an education within the British system, the lack of resources devoted to the needs of migrant groups, and the incidence of racial discrimination within the education system. Other reports give information about initiatives by local education authorities, and efforts by groups such as the Indian Workers Association and other activist and community groups to address some of the problems faced in schools by children from Asian and African Caribbean backgrounds.

Coverage includes: a study of migrant teenagers in Birmingham; Punjabi lessons being offered to public service employees at Warley College; teacher-counsellors in Birmingham to help immigrant children adjust to new environments; a school set up for Sikh children by the Birmingham branch of the 'International Sikh Brotherhood'; Campaign Against Racial Discrimination [CARD] opposition to National Union of Teachers [NUT] executive acceptance of proposals that immigrant children have health checks before starting school; research project at the University of Birmingham to help teachers educating

immigrant children 1967; Asian parents send their children to private schools rather than attend an 'all-coloured' council school; teachers at Handsworth Technical College work overtime to teach immigrant children; National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants [NCCI] working on proposals for laws against racial discrimination to help school leavers; immigrant children not speaking English at home and not mixing with other groups; children learning English at an induction centre for immigrant children in Walsall; integration is easier at multi-racial playgroups 1968; immigrant classes held in huts in Ealing because the borough can't provide accommodation; Anderton Park Church of England school in Moseley is accused of being run for selected white children 1968; mothers of white children attending a primary school in Wolverhampton want segregation; 'Daily Express' focus on the absorption of immigrant children in schools, 1965; children show racial preferences in the school playground according to a survey by Wolverhampton Remedial Teaching Service; white working class parents boycott the David Gretton Nursery school in Edgbaston, Birmingham because of the numbers of immigrant children while middle class parents from university area have fewer problems with this 1967; priorities in the education of immigrant children put forward by Sir Edward Boyle at a lecture to the Institute of Race Relations in London; high educational standards of immigrant children in West Bromwich school; City Liaison Officer for the immigrant communities in Birmingham to visit parents in a survey to find out what they want for their children; visit by Hamilton Yiba from South Africa to Belgrave Junior & Infants school in Balsall Heath, Birmingham to see mixed race classes; Indian Workers Association campaign to get schools in Birmingham to offer Indian languages as optional subjects 1966; self-help scheme in Southall by the Community Relations Council to get volunteers to go into immigrant homes to teach English 1969; immigrant 'problem' in Brent schools 1969; National Association of Schoolmasters report on 'Education and the Immigrant' focusing on Wolverhampton; white parents in Wolverhampton consider a plan to educate their children at home in areas where the schools have high numbers of immigrant children; Jill Knight claims that the situation is tense in areas with high immigrant populations; Lord Snow's racist remarks on 'genetic inheritance', claiming that black children are intellectually inferior; Nation Union of Teachers [NUT] calls for separate reception centres for immigrant children; Smethwick conservatives plan for separate classes for immigrants rejected; school in Sparkhill, Birmingham has to refuse admission to immigrant children without English skills due to a staff

shortage; reception centres for immigrant children without English skills proposed for Birmingham; Bingo to be taught to non-English speaking children to help them to learn; adult learners English course introduced in Dudley; Sparkbrook Association teach families English at home; Dudley headmaster praises Indian boys for passing CSEs; report finds that African Caribbeans speak purer English than English people; Bangor students who want to teach English abroad do teaching practice in Birmingham with immigrant children; African Caribbean homes are often happier according to Birmingham social workers and marriage counsellors; debate about whether Irish children should be classed as immigrants; focus on a girl from Pakistan, and others, being taught at special classes for immigrant children in Birmingham; Sikh children to be taught about Christianity in Smethwick, organised by a Sikh temple; African Caribbean children get poor results at school according to a Birmingham headmaster in Small Heath; dispute over white children being segregated in Wolverhampton; dispute in Haringey over the dispersal of immigrant children throughout schools and the definition of 'immigrant' 1969; Department of Education report that immigrant children are at a disadvantage because of cultural traditions; Haringey council officials disagree with a report alleging that African Caribbean children have lower intelligence than English children; Andrew Faulds, Labour MP for Smethwick, urges firms employing Asian workers to teach English and Indian languages to workers to prevent race disputes; criticism of suggestions by Roy Hattersley to disperse immigrant children throughout schools in Birmingham; National Union of Teachers [NUT] rejects a statement by John Rex of Durham University that dispersal is racist; focus on the dispersal campaign in Birmingham; National Committee of Commonwealth Immigrants expresses concerns about the interpretation of the dispersal policy by local authorities; Parents want to remove their children from Grove Lane primary school in Handsworth because of the high proportion of immigrants; calls for a report on the standard of education at Grove Lane; Headmaster of Westminster Road Junior school in Handsworth wants Birmingham education authorities to act to stop more schools becoming dominated by immigrant children; Lord Mayor to be asked to call conference of education officials, parents, teachers and leaders of immigrant organisations to solve problems facing schools dominated by immigrant pupils by D. R. Prem, vice-chairman of the Commonwealth Welfare Council; Headmaster of Westminster Road Junior school in Handsworth accuses Birmingham education authority of not doing enough to solve problems; success of a 'friendly

persuasion' scheme to get parents to spread their children around schools; parents hold an impromptu meeting at Grove Lane school to protest about low standards; Birmingham Head Teachers Association discusses problems of immigrant children; Midland Counties Young Teacher Section of the National Union of Teachers [NUT] discusses the problems of dealing with immigrant children; Head of Grove Lane school calls for patience to avoid prejudice 1965; pressure on Edward Short, Secretary of State for Education, to intervene more effectively on behalf of areas where schools have a high proportion of immigrants; Roy Hattersley's comments about dispersal, and his hurried visit to Golden Hillock school in Sparkhill; voluntary helping out by teachers has eased the situation in Birmingham according to a report to Birmingham Education Committee; Birmingham borough Labour party is not in favour of dispersal in either education or housing; National Union of Teachers [NUT] sanctions over salaries, supervising school meals and working with unqualified teachers; awareness of racial differences starts at 7, according to a survey by Rowley of Wolverhampton Remedial Teaching Service; courses run for Commonwealth immigrant teachers at Leicester University; new teachers go on a course to learn about requirements for teaching immigrant children; proposal for higher salaries for teachers in schools with high levels of immigrant children; focus on the shortage of teachers and initiatives that need to be implemented to combat this; Birmingham to provide special arrangements for teaching English to immigrant children in schools; meeting organised by African Caribbean Happy Link club in Balsall Heath to talk about the problems of teaching immigrant children; provision of reception centres for immigrant children in Birmingham; schools in Bradford should get more money to cope with problems of helping immigrant children; 'no teaching' strike at Birmingham schools by members of the Birmingham Association of Schoolmasters.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/7/27

'Immigrants and crime'

1967

File containing a small number of press cuttings from national and local newspapers, all relating to members of immigrant communities being accused of crimes, including allegations printed in 'The People' newspaper that Rajmal Singh, president of IWA Coventry, was involved in a scheme to enable an Indian to enter UK to marry a white woman.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/A/8 Branch records, 1960-1997

This series largely contains correspondence between individual branches of the Indian Workers Association and the General Secretary, or other members of the Central Committee, but also includes information circulars and promotional material such as flyers which were produced by individual branches to publicise events and campaigns they were involved with. Correspondence is concerned with the administration of branch affairs, and a common theme running through letters from several branches is of disputes between rival alliances of members formed to contest branch elections, which resulted in allegations that the elections had not been held fairly, and might also lead to splits within the branch which sometimes became permanent. Correspondence from the General Secretary is often concerned with resolving these disputes.

The majority of the papers in this series were originally stored in files labelled 'branch letters and activities' by Jagmohan Joshi, with the exception of the papers of the Birmingham branch. These papers are more substantial, presumably because office bearers of the national organisation, such as Jagmohan Joshi and particularly Avtar Jouhl, were also active in the local branch, with Avtar Jouhl taking the role of Secretary during most of the 1960s and the 1970s. They consist not only of correspondence and promotional material, but also include minutes and agendas; policy papers; partial membership records; and some press cuttings. These papers give a good indication of the activities and campaigns that the Birmingham branch was involved in, and also provide evidence of the administration of the branch, but do not comprise a full record. There is a fairly large amount of material dating from the early 1960s, and another concentration of material from the mid 1970s, but other papers are scattered across a fairly wide date range.

Branch records described at MS 2142/A/1/6: Papers of Avtar Jouhl and the Indian Workers Association provide evidence for the activities of several local branches during the 1980s and 1990s, including many of those represented in this section.

MS 2141/A/8/1	<u>Bedford branch</u> This file contains a letter from the General Secretary Jagmohan Joshi to the Bedford branch, enquiring about the situation there and offering help from the Central Executive Committee, together with a reply, written in Urdu, from Baldev, making arrangements for Joshi's visit to Bedford and promising to explain what has been happening at the branch when they meet, October 1964. There is also a poster in Punjabi and English for an anti-racist rally and cultural programme, including an anti-racist play 'Divide and Rule Britannia' performed by the Broadside Mobile Workers' Theatre, 11 November 1979; and a flyer in English and Punjabi for a cultural programme to honour the martyrs of the Indian Independence struggle, at Horne Lane, Bedford, 18 August 1985. The programme includes drama, poetry and singing, and features speakers from the Indian Workers Association, the National Union of	1964-1988
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Mineworkers, and Des Bhagat Yadgar Committee, Jallandhar. The flyer also refers to the Bedford branch committee election, which will be held on the same day.

The file also contains a statement issued by the Bedford branch giving details about a public meeting in memory of Pash and Jaimal Padda, victims of Khalistani terrorists, 23 April 1988

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/A/8/2 Birmingham branch, 1960-1997

MS 2141/A/8/2/1 Minutes and meeting papers 1961-1978

These papers primarily comprise agendas for meetings of the Birmingham branch, but there are also some minutes. Both agendas and minutes are compiled in the form of circular letters to members of the organisation. Most of this material dates from the early 1960s, but there are also some agendas and minutes for the late 1960s and for meetings in 1974 and 1975.

There are agendas for the following meetings:

Birmingham branch executive committee, 19 March 1961, held at 94 Floyer Road, Small Heath

Birmingham branch executive committee, 23 April 1961, 119 Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham

Birmingham branch executive committee, 24 June 1961, 119 Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham

Birmingham branch executive committee, 26 August 1961, 27 Grantham Road, Smethwick

Birmingham branch meeting, 1 October 1961. This circular also contains details about the biennial General Council meeting of the Indian Workers Association, to be held 7-8 October 1961 at Digbeth Civic Hall

Birmingham branch emergency meeting, 5 November 1961, 119 Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham

Birmingham branch General Body Meeting, 7 January 1962, James Watt Technical Junior School, Smethwick

Birmingham branch executive committee meeting 25 March 1962, 27 Grantham Road, Smethwick

Emergency Birmingham branch executive committee meeting 7 April 1962, 119 Soho Road

Birmingham branch meeting, 20 May 1962

Birmingham branch executive committee meeting, 26 August 1962, 27 Grantham Road, Smethwick

Birmingham branch executive committee meeting 28 October 1962, 121 Cambridge Road, Smethwick; the venue was later changed to the Digbeth Institute, Birmingham, due to the Cuban missile crisis, to enable

Indian Workers Association members to attend a rally organised by the Hands Off Cuba committee, of which the Indian Workers Association was a sponsor.

Birmingham branch executive committee meeting 2 December 1962, 121 Cambridge Road, Smethwick

Birmingham branch executive committee meeting, 15 December 1962, 119 Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham

Birmingham branch executive committee meeting, 10 February 1963, 119 Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham

Birmingham branch meeting, 13 April 1963, 121 Cambridge Road, Smethwick

Birmingham branch Biennial General meeting, 28 April 1963, Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham

Birmingham branch General Body Meeting, 8 May 1966 at Birmingham Town Hall

Birmingham branch executive committee meeting, 18 June 1967, 4 Regent Street, Smethwick, preceded by Social Programmes 17 and 18 June 1967, Birmingham branch meeting 14 December 1969, 8 Cambridge Road, Smethwick

Birmingham branch executive committee meeting 7 August 1970, in Punjabi, 8 Sycamore Road

Birmingham branch Local Committee meeting 29 July 1973, in Punjabi

Birmingham branch meeting, 7 January 1974, 8 Sycamore Road, Smethwick

Birmingham branch executive committee meeting, 10 February 1974, 8 Sycamore Road, Smethwick; the venue was later changed to Digbeth Civic Hall, following a Central Committee meeting held there

Birmingham branch committee meeting, 9 March 1974, 147 Aubrey Road

Birmingham branch committee meeting, 20 April 1974, 101 Whitehall Road, Handsworth

Birmingham branch committee meeting, 16 June 1974, 8 Sycamore Road, Smethwick

Birmingham branch committee meeting, 18 January 1975, 210 Stratford Road, Sparkbrook

Emergency Birmingham branch committee meeting, 10 August 1975, 8 Sycamore Road, Smethwick

There are minutes for the following meetings:

Birmingham branch executive committee meeting, 13 December 1964

Birmingham branch executive committee meeting 17 September 1966

Birmingham branch executive committee meeting, 20 May 1967, 4 Regent Street, Smethwick

Birmingham branch meeting 24 November 1971, Star Inn

Pub, in Punjabi
 Birmingham branch committee meeting 6 January 1974,
 210 Stratford Road, in Punjabi
 Birmingham branch meeting, 19 January 1975
 There are two handwritten annual reports of the
 Birmingham branch, written in Punjabi. One details the
 activities of the branch 1961-1962; the other is a bi-annual
 report of the branch, giving information about its activities
 from 21 March 1976 until 19 August 1978

There is also a handwritten note containing the signatures
 of members who attended an undated meeting held at 119
 Soho Road, Handsworth which did not go ahead because
 there were not enough people, and a receipt of items
 received in the presence of the previous committee
 members 29 July 1973, in Punjabi

Extent: 1 File

MS
 2141/A/8/2/2

Policy papers

1961-1992

This material consists of reports; resolutions; policy
 statements; press releases and informational circulars to
 members giving details about the activities and campaigns
 which the Birmingham branch was involved with both
 locally and nationally.

/1 information circular asking members to march behind
 the Indian Workers Association banner at the Birmingham
 May Day march 1961

/2 information circular in Punjabi inviting members to take
 part in a May Day rally in Birmingham 6 May 1962

/3 statement on proposals made by the Smethwick
 Conservatives and in particular Peter Griffiths, the
 Conservative candidate for election, to educate Indian and
 Pakistani children separately 1964

/4 annotated typescript of a speech given at a meeting
 organised by the Birmingham branch and attended by
 officials from India. The speech includes an account of the
 activities of the branch, including its welfare work;
 campaign against racial discrimination; and protest against
 the visit of Oswald Mosley to Birmingham. The events
 mentioned in the speech suggest that it was given in 1963,
 possibly at an event organised by the branch which was
 attended by the High Commissioner of India and the
 Mayors of Birmingham and Smethwick in February 1963.
 This event is referred to in correspondence listed at MS
 2141/A/8/2/3

/5 press release giving information about the election of
 the branch executive committee and the resolutions
 adopted at the biennial General Body meeting of the

Birmingham branch, 28 April 1963

/6 undated handwritten document giving information about the election of the branch executive committee and the resolutions adopted at a biennial meeting of the Birmingham branch at Digbeth Civic Hall. One of the resolutions concerns the racist policies pursued by elements of the Conservative party in Smethwick, and so may date from 1964 or 1965, after the election of Peter Griffiths

/7 typescript programme of the Indian Workers Association Birmingham branch agreed at the General Body meeting of the branch at Birmingham Town Hall, 8 May 1966, setting out the organisation's policy on tackling racism; cooperation with other black and Asian and anti-racist organisations; social and welfare work; collaborative work with the Trade Union and Labour Movement; involvement with the struggles of peasants and workers in India; solidarity with national liberation struggles in other countries; and supporting cultural activities

/8 resolution on 'the exploitation of economic crisis against coloured community', passed at a Special General Body meeting of the branch at Beacon cinema, Smethwick, 19 June 1966 held to discuss ways to combat racial discrimination in employment

/9 typescript report of the executive committee of the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association covering the period from 1 May 1963 to 1 April 1966 and containing detailed information about the campaigns and activities the organisation had taken part in during that period. Attached to this report is a copy of the constitution of the Indian Workers Association

/10 information circular giving information about a mass demonstration organised by the branch 2 July [1967] to protest against government policy on immigration

/11 information leaflet in Punjabi about an announcement by the Home Secretary Roy Jenkins whereby women and girls who were permanently resident in Britain could bring their husbands or fiances from abroad

/12 statement in Punjabi concerning the expulsion of Sohan Singh Kanwal from the office of president of the Birmingham branch, with a statement in English about the expulsion of members from the Wolverhampton branch 1968

/13 information circular asking members to attend a demonstration against the growth of fascism and the use of racism by British political parties to be held 5 May in Victoria Square, Birmingham. This circular is undated, but the demonstration referred to is likely to be the one held during Harold Wilson's visit to Birmingham for the May Day celebrations in 1968

/14 press release giving information about election of the branch executive committee; the activities of the branch; speeches given by Jagmohan Joshi and Maurice Ludmer; and resolutions passed at the biennial General meeting of the Birmingham branch at Birmingham Town Hall, 13 April 1969

/15 information circular in Punjabi discussing the recent amnesty to all migrants from Commonwealth countries who entered Britain illegally and highlighting the need to continue to struggle against the 1971 Immigration Act. The leaflet also gives contact details for Birmingham branch committee members

/16 press release giving information about the election of the branch executive committee and resolutions passed at the biennial General Body meeting of the Birmingham branch at Digbeth Civic Hall, 21 October 1973

/17 press statement refuting a statement made in the Birmingham Evening Mail and the Wolverhampton Express and Star and attributed to the Indian Workers Association concerning advice that Indians should carry their passports with them to avoid police harassment, 23 October 1973

/18 information circular in Punjabi urging people to vote against the Conservative party due to its racist policies towards migrants, 1974

/19 information circular in Punjabi inviting members to a public meeting with a Labour Party candidate 1974

/20-/21 programme and press release relating to a Shaheed Udham Singh Day Conference organised by the Indian Workers Association at Digbeth Civic Hall, 19 August 1978 at which the report of the Birmingham branch was given and the new branch committee elected. The programme includes the names of the speakers and performers at the cultural programme that took place at this event

/22 information circular in English and Punjabi giving information about the Indian Youth Conference sponsored by the Birmingham branch, to be held at Small Heath Community Centre, Birmingham, 3 December 1978

/23 information circular in English and Punjabi giving information about a political, social and cultural programme held at the Avenue Pub, Small Heath, 9 September 1979 on behalf of the Indian Youth Section of the Birmingham to discuss racism, nationality law, immigration, and problems facing young people

/24 information circular giving information about a memorial meeting to commemorate the life of Arjan Dass Kataria's life, held at the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, 17 April 1983. The circular states that Arjan Dass Kataria had been an active member of the Indian Workers

Association, and died on a demonstration against immigration laws

/25 press release expressing the views of the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association, Women's Section and Women Today on domestic violence against women and children, particularly in the Asian community, following a court case at Stafford Law Courts, 7 October 1986

/26 information circular in Punjabi urging people to attend a public meeting as part of a campaign to stop the closure of Handsworth New Road School 10 December 1989

/27 information circular in Punjabi asking members to attend a public meeting organised by the Indian Workers Association at Summerfield Community Centre, Birmingham at which issued relating to the council tax, racist attacks, and the policies of the Conservative government 18 October 1992

/28 information circular in Punjabi announcing a public meeting at Handsworth Leisure Centre to discuss racist attacks on black and Asian people in Britain, Conservative government proposals to cut social security benefits, and the atrocities against 'Dalits' in India, 29 November 1992

Undated papers consist of:

/29 statement in Punjabi about the issue of Indian passports

/30 information circular in Punjabi appealing to workers to join trade unions

/31 statement issued by the Birmingham branch executive committee to expose the recent actions of a former president of the branch, Jasmer Singh Rai, who has opened an office called the Immigrants Advice Service in Birmingham

/32 information circular in Punjabi giving details about a public meeting to be held at Waterloo Inn, Capehill, Smethwick to discuss a Government white paper that is viewed as anti-working class

/33 information circular in Punjabi

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/2/3

Correspondence

1960-1979

This file largely consists of copy letters from Avtar Jouhl, Secretary of the Birmingham branch, but also includes a small number of letters sent to the branch. Most letters date from the early 1960s, but there is also some correspondence dating from 1974, and from 1978-1979. The subject matter of the correspondence is mainly concerned with administrative matters relating to events and campaigns with which the branch was involved, including May Day festivals held in Birmingham in 1960

and 1979, but also includes letters discussing the representation of Indian Workers Association activities in the local press and arranging advertising for 'Mazdoor', the newspaper of the Indian Workers Association established by the Birmingham branch in 1961.

/1 letter from J. H. Nash, secretary of Birmingham Borough Labour Party, 29 April 1960, discussing the responsibilities of members of the Indian Workers Association who had offered to act as stewards at the May Day celebrations

/2 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to Councillor E. W. Bond, Birmingham, 26 June 1961, apologising on behalf of the branch executive committee for not attending a celebration party and thanking him for his offer of help to the Indian Workers Association

/3-4 letters from the Mayor of Smethwick to Avtar Jouhl, dated July 1961, making arrangements for meetings with the Indian Workers Association, and negotiating a meeting between two members of the Association and Patrick Gordon Walker, Member of Parliament for Smethwick

/5 letter from the secretary of Handsworth Dairies Limited, to the Editor of 'Mazdoor', 24 November 1961, giving permission to photograph a dairy yoghurt carton for an advertisement for Handsworth Dairies to be carried in 'Mazdoor'

/6-7 letter from T. Geoffrey Ayre, Welfare Liaison Officer for the Commonwealth Welfare Council for the West Midlands, 15 January 1962, concerning allegations made by the Chief Education Officer of Smethwick that alcohol had been consumed at a meeting held by the Indian Workers Association on school premises, together with a copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to Mr Ayre, 20 January 1962, refuting allegations that members of the Indian Workers Association had been drinking alcohol and become intoxicated during an event to celebrate the liberation of Goa from Portuguese rule, and suggesting that the caretaker of the hall the branch had hired was exaggerating what had happened.

/8 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to Stella Jull, honorary secretary of the Movement for Colonial Freedom, 18 February 1962, enclosing a postal order in payment for copies of a pamphlet entitled 'Immigration' and asking for advice about the procedure for the branch to affiliate to the Movement for Colonial Freedom

/9-12 copy letters from Avtar Jouhl, editor of 'Mazdoor', to businesses including Handsworth Dairies, Air India, and the Life Insurance Corporation of India discussing advertising in the publication, and to J. S. Rai and U. S. Randhawa, members of the 'Mazdoor' Enquiry Committee, discussing the possibility of appointing Ajit Singh Ramewal

as editor, February-April 1962

/13 letter from Life Insurance Corporation of India to Avtar Jouhl, enquiring about the circulation of 'Mazdoor', 27 February 1962

/14 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to G. S. Pande, Leeds, 3 July 1962, enquiring about the forthcoming World Youth Festival and mentioning the Aldermaston March which they both recently attended

/15-/18 copy letters from Avtar Jouhl and J. S. Rai, President of the branch, to the Mayors of Smethwick and Birmingham, inviting them to tea with the High Commissioner of India Mr Chagla, at Queens Hotel, Stephenson Street, Birmingham on 27 February 1963, and to a public meeting addressed by the Commissioner at the Birmingham and Midland Institute following the tea. There is also a letter to the Resident Manager of the Queens Hotel, discussing the provision of Indian food items on the menu

/19 letter from the Resident Manager of the Queens Hotel, Birmingham confirming the reservation of a private room for afternoon tea for the visit of the High Commissioner of India, and enclosing a suggested menu, 13 February 1963

/20 letter from the Mayor of Smethwick declining the invitation to meet the High Commissioner of India, due to a prior engagement, 13 February 1963

/21 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl, editor of Mazdoor, to an unidentified recipient addressed as 'Sir', 24 June 1963, asking for details of advertisement charges

/22 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to the News Editor of the Birmingham Post, 10 November 1964, protesting against the misreporting of comments he had made about the split in the Coventry branch of the Indian Workers Association following allegations by Rajmal Singh that the leadership of the organisation was influenced by the Communist party

/23 letter in Punjabi from Avtar Jouhl to Mr Sohan, secretary of the Birmingham branch, making suggestions about future meetings, 14 May 1967

/24 newspaper cutting from the 'Birmingham Post' containing an article about the appointment of Avtar Jouhl as editor of Lalkar, described as a newspaper for Indian immigrants, sponsored by the Indian Workers Association and published weekly in Punjabi. The article also states that Avtar Jouhl has not left the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association, but has been replaced as secretary by Kulvir Singh. The cutting is undated, but the article was probably written ahead of Lalkar's launch in October 1967.

/25 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl, editor of Lalkar Weekly, to members of the editorial board of the publication, 18 September 1967, giving information about the next

meeting, to be held in Leamington Spa, 23 September 1967. In this letter, Lalkar Weekly is described as being the 'organ of the Association of Indian Communists, Great Britain'.

/26 correspondence in Punjabi between Avtar Jouhl and the president of the management committee of the Guru Nanak Gurdwara in Smethwick concerning resolutions passed by the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association about the dowry system and other ceremonies performed during weddings, October 1973

/27 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to H.M Inspector of Taxes, Dudley, 21 January 1974, regarding the claim of an Indian Workers Association member for tax allowances. This item is closed because it contains personal information about an individual

/28 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to Reg Birch, 10 February 1974, inviting him to speak on the subject of working class struggle in Britain at a Martyrs Day event to be held at Digbeth Civic Hall, 16 March 1974

/29 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to the Assistant Commissioner, High Commission of India, 15 February 1974, giving the names of members of the branch committee who are authorised to attest photographs for passports

/30 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to an unidentified Labour Member of Parliament', 25 March 1974, discussing Labour Party policy on immigration, and particularly the Immigrants Act 1971, asking for specific questions on this issue to be raised with the Home Secretary and Prime Minister

/31 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to Sital Singh Sidhu, 9 June 1974, acknowledging the receipt of a donation

/32 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to an unidentified recipient due to speak at a Martyrs Day event organised by the Indian National Youth Congress, at West Bromwich Town Hall 10 March 1976, giving information about the association of this event with the High Commission of India and Indira Gandhi's State of Emergency policies in India and asking the recipient, as a member of the Labour Party, to join the party's NEC in protesting against the Indian government

/33 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to Sarwan Singh Bains, Treasurer of the Indian Workers Association, 12 July 1978, discussing the finances of the Birmingham branch

/34-/39 correspondence and promotional material relating to the Birmingham May Day Festival held at Digbeth Civic Hall 1979, with details about the event, and including a typescript programme and printed flyers

/40 undated map of Smethwick

/41 statement about the intention of a member of the

Indian Workers Association to change his name.
/42 blank headed writing paper of the Birmingham branch
of the Indian Workers Association

Access: Partially closed until 01/01/2055. Part of this file is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2055 because it contains sensitive personal information about an individual. The remainder of the file is available for consultation. Remove marked 'closed' items before serving.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/2/4

Publications

1961-1997

This file comprises of a variety of flyers and information leaflets issued by the Birmingham branch to promote campaigning and social events that the group organised. These papers consist of:

/1 undated flyer explaining why the Indian Workers Association supports May Day celebrations and expressing solidarity with the international working class. This flyer probably dates from the early 1960s

/2-/3 election leaflets printed in Punjabi and Urdu and signed by Avtar Jouhl urging Indian Workers Association members in Small Heath to vote for the Labour Party candidate Denis Howell in the by-election of 1961 because the Indian Workers Association believed that the Labour Party opposed the Conservative government's proposals for immigration control

/4 flyer giving details about a public meeting to be addressed by M. C. Chagla, High Commissioner for India, at the Midland Institute, Paradise Street, Birmingham, 27 February 1963

/5 illustrated flyer giving details about a cultural performance of bhangra, songs and dances by various performers from India. The flyer includes a photograph of some of the performers. The event was organised by the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association and was held at the Midland Institute in Birmingham. The flyer is undated, but the event is likely to have taken place during the 1960s.

/6 flyer in Punjabi giving information about Republic Day of India celebrations at West Bromwich Town Hall, 27 January 1968

/7 first issue of a monthly newsletter published in Punjabi by the Birmingham branch, 15 April 1969. The newsletter contains a detailed report of the Annual General Meeting of the branch on 13 April 1969 and sets out the resolutions passed at this meeting

/8 second issue of a monthly newsletter published in Punjabi by the Birmingham branch, 1 May 1969, containing details of local branch activities and May Day celebrations

/9 flyer in Punjabi giving details about events to commemorate the anniversary of the 1919 massacre at Jallainwala Bagh in Amritsar, including a cultural programme. The Annual General Meeting of the branch was to be held on the same day

/10 flyer in Punjabi giving details about a Martyrs Day celebration held at Digbeth Civic Hall 19 August 1972, featuring a programme of speeches, songs, poems and Bhangra. The flyer is illustrated with photographs of Udham Singh and of some of the performers at the event

/11 flyer in Punjabi and English giving details about a Martyrs Day celebration held at Birmingham Town Hall, 9 April 1977, featuring a programme of political speeches and 'patriotic and revolutionary songs, poems and music'. The flyer is illustrated with a photograph of Udham Singh, and another photograph of some of the performers at the event

/12 leaflet in Punjabi giving information about a demonstration in Handsworth against the activities of the National Front there 15 May. The leaflet is not dated, but the demonstration is likely to have taken place during the 1970s.

/13 flyer giving details about a Shaheed Udham Singh Day Conference held at Digbeth Civic Hall in Birmingham, 19 August 1978, including a programme for the day giving information about the political speakers attending the conference and the performers of drama, song and music at the event. The flyer also states that the Birmingham branch report will be submitted and branch committee elections will be held at the conference.

/14 flyer in English and Punjabi issued by the Indian Workers Association Birmingham branch and the Indian Youth League, Birmingham branch encouraging people to join the Indian Workers Association to work against racist immigration legislation and to unite against racist attacks on migrants by fascist groups. The flyer also mentions the welfare services provided by the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre. The flyer is undated, but must have been issued after the opening of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre in 1978

/15 flyer in English and Punjabi giving details about a Martyrs Day and Rally held at West Bromwich town Hall 11 September 1982, featuring a programme of political speeches and entertainment. The flyer includes the names of speakers and performers.

/16 leaflet in Punjabi giving information about a

demonstration against racist laws, held in London 27 March 1983

/17 poster in Punjabi and English giving details about events organised by the Birmingham branch to commemorate Jalianwala Bagh Day at Summerfield Community Centre, 13 April 1986

/18 flyer giving details about a national demonstration called by the Black Action Community Group, based in Wolverhampton, to protest against the death of an African Caribbean man, Clinton McCurbin, in police custody in Wolverhampton in February 1987, and the deaths of other black and Asian people in similar circumstances

/19 flyer in English and Punjabi giving details about a memorial rally to commemorate Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Raj Guru and Sukh Dev, 'communist martyrs murdered by Khalistanis' held at Summerfield Community Centre, Dudley Road, Birmingham, 5 April 1987, featuring a programme of political speeches and poetry and drama. The flyer includes the names of speakers and performers, and a statement by the Indian Workers Association on violence in Punjab.

/20 flyer in Punjabi issued by the Indian Workers Association, Pash Memorial International Trust and Lok Sath Britain, giving information about a poetry day in memory of the Punjabi revolutionary poet Pash, at Summerfield Community Centre, 9 October 1989

/21 flyer in English and Punjabi giving details about a historic, political and cultural programme to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the death of Udham Singh, held at West Bromwich Town Hall, 2 September 1990. The flyer includes the names of speakers and performers

/22 flyer in Punjabi and English giving details about a Martyrs Day celebration held at Handsworth Leisure centre, Holly Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, 22 March 1992 featuring political speeches and poetry performances. The flyer includes the names of speakers and performers, and a statement by the Birmingham and Sandwell branch about the importance of supporting the event and opposing the immigration legislation and council tax imposed by the Conservative government.

/23 flyer in English and Punjabi giving details about a public meeting to honour Bhupinder Singh Saroa who died 21 November 1992. The meeting was to be held at the Sparkhill Centre, Stratford Road, Birmingham, 31 January 1993, and featured political speeches and poetry performances. The flyer includes the names of speakers and performers.

/24 flyer in English and Punjabi giving details about a public meeting to honour the 'martyrs of independence and unity and integrity of India' held at Sandwell College,

Crocketts Lane, Smethwick, 23 March 1997, featuring political speeches and a cultural programme consisting of poetry performances. The flyer includes the names of speakers and performers.

/25 undated leaflet in Punjabi giving information about a cultural programme organised by the Birmingham branch at Birmingham Town Hall. The leaflet also sets out the recent activities of Narinder Dosanjh and Sarwan Singh Sahota

/26 undated leaflet in Punjabi issued by the Birmingham branch and the Indian Youth League celebrating the victory of workers in joining trade unions

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/2/5

Membership records

1966-1967

Typescript list containing the names, addresses and membership numbers of members of the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association

Other membership records of the Birmingham branch are stored at MS 2141/A/6 and MS 2141/A/2/5

Access: Closed until 01/01/2048. This file has been closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2048 because it contains personal information about individuals. Remove marked 'closed' items before serving.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/2/6

Press cuttings

1975-1989

Microprints and photocopies of articles from local newspapers including 'Smethwick News Telephone'; 'Midlands Chronicle'; 'Wolverhampton Express and Star'; and 'Sandwell Evening Mail' 1979 relating to protests at a National Front rally in West Bromwich, as well as a small number of articles about the protests surrounding the exclusion of a Sikh boy from a school in Wolverhampton for wearing a turban.

The file also contains photocopies of two articles from Punjabi newspapers. One consists of a letter from members of the Birmingham and Sandwell branch of the Indian Workers Association criticising the leadership since the death of the General Secretary Jagmohan Joshi in June 1979. The other is an article giving details about a march against the Poll Tax to be held in Birmingham 28 October 1989.

Also included is a photocopied article from 'New Law Journal' 1975 on the admission of dependents (wives and

children) for settlement, and a blank sheet printed to gather contributions for the 'West Bromwich 22 Defence Fund'

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/3

Bradford branch

1964-1971

This file contains correspondence between the General Secretary, Jagmohan Joshi, and Charn Singh Chima and Sarwan Singh Kang of the Bradford branch, concerning the formation of this branch in 1964. The letters discuss the steps taken by Indian migrants in Bradford in setting up the branch, and the payment of funds to the Central Executive Committee. One of the letters includes a list of the names of those elected to the executive committee of the Bradford branch.

The file also includes other papers, consisting of: a letter from G. S. Sanghera of the Bradford branch to Jagmohan Joshi concerning forthcoming events held by members of the Indian Workers Association in Yorkshire relating to forming branches in Leeds and Huddersfield, June 1965; a flyer in English and Punjabi giving details about an event organised by the Bradford branch to celebrate Indian Independence Day at the Co-operative Town Hall, Bradford, undated; and letters in English and Punjabi from the secretary of the Bradford branch to Jagmohan Joshi referring to resolutions passed by the branch at their meeting of 4 April 1971

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/4

Coventry branch

1964-1990

This file predominantly contains sequences of correspondence between the General Secretary and members of the committee of the Coventry branch between 1964 and 1967. There are also a small number of newspaper cuttings, and a flyer dated 1990.

Correspondence consists of:

/1-/12 letters dated 1964 discussing disagreements between members of the Coventry executive committee and the Central Committee, and a dispute between different factions within the branch, connected with contested election results, affiliation to the Central Committee, and the holding of membership money. The dispute appeared to centre around Rajmal Singh, President of the branch in 1964, who later broke away from the rest of the branch that remained affiliated to the

national Indian Workers Association. Rajmal Singh considered that the Indian Workers Association leadership and the office bearers of the Coventry branch were too closely connected with the Communist party. Some of these letters include the names and addresses of members of the branch committee.

/13-/18 letters and press releases dated 1965 giving details about decisions made by the branch committee and events organised by the branch, including Independence Day celebrations and a public meeting held to celebrate Indian Republic Day. Letters include the names of speakers at both these events, and the names and addresses of members of branch members and office holders

/19-/21 letters written in Urdu from the General Secretary of the Coventry branch, Gurdev Singh Dhami, to Jagmohan Joshi 1966-1967 discussing arrangements for Independence Day celebrations organised by the branch in 1966; giving details about decisions made by a meeting of the branch executive committee 28 October 1967; and making suggestions about possible changes to a document sent by Joshi with a provisional title 'Hungry India'. Dhami thinks it should be changed to 'Food Problems in India'

/22-/25 letters and statements issued by Jagmohan Joshi in April and May 1968 in response to newspaper articles in 'The Birmingham Post' about the activities and statements of Rajmal Singh. The papers request corrections to be published in this newspaper explaining that Rajmal Singh had been expelled from the Coventry branch of the Indian Workers Association in 1964, and distancing his views from both the local and national organisation.

Newspaper cuttings consist of short articles published in an unidentified local newspaper, probably in 1968, containing statements by Rajmal Singh, cited as President of the Coventry branch of the Indian Workers Association. One article reports that the Coventry branch is to lobby the Indian High Commission to allow Indians who have obtained British passports the opportunity to obtain Indian passports. The other article reports claims by Rajmal Singh that the Coventry branch has lifted its ban on admitting members of the British Communist Party to its executive committee. The newspaper cuttings also include two letters sent to the newspaper in response to this article; one is from Sardara Singh, President of the Coventry branch, with the information that Rajmal Singh is a member of a group that split from the Coventry branch in 1964 to form an independent body

The file also contains a flyer printed in English and Punjabi giving details of a May Day celebration organised by Coventry branch, held at Barras Green Social Club in Coventry, with speakers from Piara Singh Devsi, African National Congress, Indian Workers Association, Anti-Dowry Campaign, together with poetry and singing.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/5

Derby branch

1964-1975

The majority of the correspondence in this file dates from the mid 1960s, and is written by H. S. Johal, General Secretary of the Derby branch, to Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association. There are also some letters from Joshi to members of the Derby branch.

/1-/2 discuss the registration of the branch, and arrangements for a meeting between Joshi and branch members, 1964

/3-/4 invite Joshi to attend Derby branch celebrations for Indian Republic Day 1965 and 1966

/5-/12 consist of correspondence dating between January and April 1967 relating to procedures adopted by the branch following a vote of no confidence in H. S. Johal as General Secretary, which the Central Executive Committee considered to be unconstitutional. This correspondence includes the names and addresses of members of the disbanded executive committee of the Derby branch and the names and signatures of branch members attending an unspecified meeting, together with letters from Joshi and from Avtar Jouhl concerning action taken by the Central Executive Committee to resolve the situation

/13-/14 are written to Joshi by Khushdev Singh Johal, the new General Secretary of the Derby branch. /13 discusses arrangements for a meeting of the Derby branch to discuss Indian Independence Day 1967, and /14 includes a list of the names of the members of the Derby branch executive committee, to be used at the forthcoming National Conference in Leicester

The file also two other documents. One is a copy of an Indian Workers Association resolution on the immigration policy of the British government, demanding the withdrawal of the White Paper on immigration and the strengthening of the Race Relations Act 1965.

The other document is a letter from the secretary of Guru Ravidas Sabha, Derby to Avtar Jouhl, following a function

held by the Indian Workers Association Derby branch, asking Avtar Jouhl to speak at a function held by Guru Radivas Sabha to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Dr Bheem Rao Ambedkar, July 1975

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/6

Erith, Kent branch

1968-1971

Correspondence from branch secretaries of the Erith branch to Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association discussing the administration of the branch and resolutions adopted at meetings of the branch executive committee, and informing Joshi about new branch representatives. The file also contains an undated copy letter from the Central Executive Committee asking for Erith branch to send its membership dues, and an acknowledgement of the receipt of membership subscriptions

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/7

Hitchin branch

1969

Letter from the General Secretary of the Hitchin branch, Bachittar Singh Dhillon to an unidentified individual, addressed as 'brother', asking him to speak at the celebration meeting organised by the branch to celebrate Indian Independence Day at Hitchin Town Hall, 10 August 1969.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/8

Huddersfield branch

1965-1989

The majority of the material in this file consists of letters from Som Kaushik, General Secretary of the Huddersfield branch, to Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, dating between 1967 and 1969, mainly discussing some of the Indian Workers Association campaigns during this period. There is also a letter from Jhalman Singh Sahota to Joshi, dated September 1965 about the formation of a Huddersfield branch, asking to be connected with the national Indian Workers Association, and requesting a copy of the constitution.

Correspondence from Som Kaushik consists of:
/2 letter of support for the strikers at Coneygre Foundry Ltd in Tipton, also expressing concerns about the need for the Indian Workers Association to have a unified approach to the problems facing immigrants, and to resist attempts at assimilation by the government and local authorities, May

1967

/3 confirming his position as assistant general secretary of the Huddersfield branch, June 1967

/4 letter of support for the forthcoming National Conference in Leicester 1967, and expressing concern that Joshi has not replied to a letter about injustices done to Indians, November 1967

/5-/6 concerning the mass lobby of parliament organised by the Indian Workers Association on 28 February 1968, and enclosing a copy of a letter from the Huddersfield branch to the Prime Minister, the Home Secretary, and David Ennals, the Under-Secretary of State for Immigration and Race Relations protesting against proposals to impose further restrictions on black and Asian migrants entering Britain

/7 supporting proposed militant action to be taken by the Indian Workers Association following a forthcoming meeting, April 1968, possibly after a racist speech made by Enoch Powell in Birmingham a few days earlier

/8 expressing support for demonstrations organised by the Indian Workers Association in January 1969, probably during the Commonwealth Prime Ministers conference that took place in London at this time

/9-/10 expressing concern about the divisions within the Indian Workers Association created due to political and individual differences, and stating the need for a united Indian community, having contacted the leadership of Indian Workers Association Southall and the other faction of the Indian Workers Association (GB) in an attempt to bring about a resolution of the issues.

The correspondence also includes:

/11-/12 copy letter from Joshi suggesting a meeting with Kaushik and others to discuss matters raised in his letters relating to promoting unity with other Indian Workers associations, together with a reply from G.S Gill, General Secretary of the Huddersfield branch, August 1969

The file also contains a flyer in English and Punjabi, giving details about a memorial rally for Charn Singh Cheema, to be held at Huddersfield Town Hall, 21 May 1989

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/9

Leamington Spa branch

1967

Papers in this file largely concern a dispute over elections that took place at a meeting of the Leamington Spa branch in January 1967, and the repercussions of this for the branch. They consist of correspondence between J. Gosal of the Leamington Spa branch and Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association; and

newspaper cuttings from the Leamington, Warwick, Kenilworth and District Morning News.

Gosal's letters protest that the election procedure was unconstitutional, and that the branch executive committee elected at the meeting were the choice of the Indian Workers Association leadership. Gosal states his case, and informs Joshi that he and some other members of the Leamington Spa branch have formed an Action Committee while waiting for the new branch committee to be disbanded. His final letter, dated 2 May 1967, informs Joshi that as no action is to be taken by the Central Executive Committee in disbanding the branch committee, he and his supporters will disaffiliate the Leamington Spa branch from the national organisation.

The newspaper articles are dated 8 May and 10 May 1967. The earlier article includes details about the protest by members of the Leamington and Warwick branch against the national Indian Workers Association, and their demand for a refund of their membership fees, which they claim are being spent on 'ultra-leftist political motives'. The later article corrects details given in the first article about a forthcoming meeting of these branch members.

The file also contains correspondence from Hussan Lal Baden, a member of the Leamington branch. One letter contains details about poor dental treatment he had received in Leamington and Birmingham in 1963 and refers to taking legal action over this. The other letter is dated 28 April 1967, and states his intention to resign from the Indian Workers Association, presumably due to the position of the Central Executive Committee over the election of branch committee members in Leamington.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/10

Leicester branch

1964-1975

Correspondence, flyers and publications of the Leicester branch, largely dating from the 1960s, but including some correspondence dating from 1974-1975 and an undated newsletter. The file also includes undated copies of Indian Workers Association resolutions on 'the Indian Food Situation'; the Punjabi speaking state'; 'Indonesia'; and 'Vietnam'.

Material includes:

/1 letter from Surgit Mann to unidentified recipient addressed as 'Brother', giving details about Independence Day celebrations arranged by Leicester branch, and

referring to a campaign by the branch against a 'colour bar' being operated in a public house, 30 July 1964

/2 letter from the general secretary of the Leicester branch to Jagmohan Joshi discussing arrangements for Independence Day celebrations, 2 August 1965

/3 letter from Ajit Singh Sandhu, general secretary of the Leicester branch, to Jagmohan Joshi, inviting him to join Republic Day celebrations to be held in January 1966, 30 December 1965

/4-/5 letter from Ajit Singh Sandhu to Jagmohan Joshi, inviting him to attend Republic of India day celebrations in January 1967 on behalf of the branch executive committee, 28 December 1966, together with a typescript programme for this event giving the names of speakers and performers in the cultural programme

/6 flyer issued by the Leicestershire branch for an event entitled 'Hands Off Vietnam', featuring a speech on Vietnam and the political situation in India given by R. K. Karanjia, editor of 'Blitz', a weekly newspaper published in India, at Friends Hall, Leicester, 11 June 1967. The event also included speeches by other Indian Workers Association representatives and a cultural programme including poetry performances

/7 accounts written on Leicestershire branch notepaper consisting of a list of branches and the amount of funds either received by or allocated to each one, undated

/8-/9 letter from Mohinder S. Farma, assistant general secretary, to Jagmohan Joshi, informing him that Leicester branch will not be participating in the International Youth Festival, enclosing a letter to the editor of 'Des Pardes' explaining that the branch is boycotting the event due to the appointment of Rita Faira, 'Miss World' as one of the judges at the Bhangra concert at this event. Rita Faira had previously entertained American soldiers in Vietnam. Letters dated 15 June 1967

/10 circular letter from Mohinder S. Farma, assistant general secretary, comprising an invitation to attend Indian Independence Day celebrations at Edward Wood Hall, Leicester on 12 August 1967. Letter dated 24 July 1967

/11-13 consist of correspondence between H. Rato, organiser of the Indian Workers Association Opposition Group, and Jagmohan Joshi on behalf of the Central Executive Committee regarding unconstitutional elections of the Leicester branch held on 29 July 1968 and the subsequent decision of the majority of the members of the branch to move a vote of No-Confidence in the committee that was elected. Joshi's letter requests a copy of the signatures collected by H. Rato protesting against the elections, and /13 consists of photocopied pages of signatures of the members of the General Body of the

Leicestershire branch requesting the President to call an Extra Ordinary Meeting for re-election following the vote of No-Confidence. This list includes the names, signatures and membership numbers of over 650 individuals

/14 letter from Gurmit Singh Gill, general secretary of the Indian Workers Association Opposition Group, Leicestershire branch, inviting Jagmohan Joshi to attend Independence Day celebrations organised by the Opposition Group at the Corn Exchange Hall in Leicester on 2 February 1969. Letter dated 20 January 1969

/15 flyer giving details about a demonstration against apartheid in South Africa organised by the Leicestershire branch of the Indian Workers Association to protest against the visit to Leicester of a trade mission from the South African Embassy, 15 May 1969

/16 flyer giving details of a social function organised by the executive committee of the Action Committee of the Indian Workers Association Leicester branch, held at Wolseley Hall, Leicester on 14 June 1969. The event consisted of a cultural programme, and speeches by Jagmohan Joshi, amongst others

/16 letter from G. D. Mistry, secretary of the Leicester branch, to H. S. Sandhu, with a copy to Jagmohan Joshi, enclosing a cheque for the publication of 'Khabarnama' following the Central Committee decision made 21 October 1973 at Smethwick. Letter dated 15 February 1974

/17 letter from R. Sharma, secretary of the Leicester branch, to Avtar Jouhl, national organiser of the Indian Workers Association, discussing arrangements for a forthcoming meeting with political groups and trade unionists on the State of Emergency imposed in India, to be held 11 January 1976 at Highfield Community Centre in Leicester, 23 December 1975

/18 statement issued by Avtar Jouhl, National Organiser of the Central Committee of the Indian Workers Association in 1976 concerning the expulsion of a Leicester branch member in July of that year

/19 undated newsletter of the Leicester branch containing an article on British imperialism, particularly in India, and the opposition of the Indian Workers Association to racist immigration legislation

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/11

London branches

1960-1979

Papers relating to the organisation and activities of the London; East London and Essex; Plumstead, Woolwich and Charlton; and Greenwich branches of the Indian Workers Association, consisting largely of

correspondence, but including newsletters and reports. Most of the papers date from the 1970s, although there is one letter dated 1960 and a programme dated 1969

Material relating to the London branch comprises:

/1 letter from Rattan Singh to Sant. Singh Sahota, President, and Avtar Jouhl, General Secretary, of the Indian Workers Association, inviting them to Independence Day celebrations organised by the London branch, 17 August 1960

/2 letter from members of the London branch to Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, and members attending the National Conference, November 1967, setting out an account of a dispute between the membership of the branch and Rattan Singh and members of his executive committee who have allegedly illegally remained in office without holding bi-annual elections and have not fulfilled their duties as officer-bearers. The letter contains the signatures of twenty-two members of the London branch

/3 agenda of the Annual General Meeting of the London branch, held at the Labour Party Office, Camden Town, London, 29 April 1973. Names and addresses of members of the branch have been written on the reverse of this document.

/4 photocopy of a letter from a member of the London branch to Jagmohan Joshi discussing the agenda of a forthcoming Central Committee meeting, giving details about the recent campaign work carried out by the women's section and particularly by 'comrade Fatima', who has established close contacts with women strikers at Grunwick, amongst other activities; and emphasising that branch meetings must include speeches in Hindi or another language that Gujarati speakers can understand
30 June 1978

/5 letter from Deepak [Mathur] to Avtar Jouhl discussing Central Committee business and referring to the branch not receiving copies of Lalkar, 6 August 1979

Material relating to the East London and Essex branch comprises:

/6 letter written in Urdu from Avtar Singh to a fellow Indian Worker regarding the charge and report sheet of the East London branch, 16 August 1973

/7 newsletter of the East London and Essex branch, no.3 July/August 1978 containing articles about racist attacks on migrants living in the area; the visit to London of Indian Prime Minister Moraji Desai; an explanation of the effects of the 1971 Immigration Act on black workers; and a report on the recent Indian Workers Association conference in

Coventry. The newsletter also includes a translation of a poem originally written in Urdu by Jagmohan Joshi, entitled 'People's War' /8 report explaining the reasons why the East London and Essex branch resigned from the Indian Workers Association at a meeting of the branch executive committee on 11 February 1979. The report gives a brief history of the branch and information about its campaigning activities during that time, and contains a detailed account of differences between the branch members and the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association during this period.

The file also contains a letter from Hardev S. Dhillon, general secretary of the Greenwich branch, to Avtar Jouhl enclosing payment for the hire of a coach from Birmingham to Plumstead on 7 September 1968, and a programme for celebrations organised by the Plumstead, Woolwich and Charlton branch to mark the Independence of India at Woolwich Town Hall, 7 September 1969

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/12

Manchester branch

c. 1967

This file primarily comprises undated handwritten lists containing the names and addresses of members of the Manchester branch of the Indian Workers Association, but also includes a letter from Janet E. Ahmad to Jagmohan Joshi asking for the address of the Manchester branch on behalf of her husband in India who is trying to find suitable employment in the area if he comes to Britain, 12 January 1967

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/13

Nottingham branch

1964-1970

The majority of these papers comprise correspondence between members of the Nottingham branch and members of the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association, but the file also includes some posters and flyers.

/1-/9 consists of correspondence dated 1964, largely relating to administrative matters concerning the branch, including arrangements for the election of office-bearers for 1965-1966 at a General Body meeting of the Nottingham branch 6 December 1964. This correspondence includes a letter written in Urdu from Chanchal Singh to Jagmohan Joshi discussing apparent election irregularities and internal differences amongst

individuals in the branch, particularly Avtar Attawl. Joshi and other members of the Central Executive Committee have been branded as communists. There are also invitations to Indian Independence Day and Indian Republic Day celebrations organised by the branch.

/10 letter written in Urdu from Chanchal Singh to Jagmohan Joshi discussing campaigning activities. The letter makes reference to the work of the Movement for Colonial Freedom and the 'Anti-Apartheid Committee' and mentions that the branch has sent letters to Barbara Castle, Fenner Brockway and Yusuf Dawood, 2 January 1965

/11 letter written in Urdu from Tarlok Nath Gajree to Jagmohan Joshi describing proceedings of the annual elections of the branch for the year 1965, including the names and addresses of the office-bearers and members of the working committee of the Nottingham branch, 4 January 1965

/12 letter from T. N. Gajree to Jagmohan Joshi expressing concern about the effect that the representation made to the Indian Government through a procession for the release of political prisoners in India has had a harmful effect on the reputation of the Indian Workers Association in the Nottingham area by implying that the organisation is more interested in political campaigns than welfare activities, 26 July 1965

/13 flyer giving details of an Election Forum organised by Nottingham branch at the Education Centre, Broad Street, Nottingham 27 March 1966, with speakers from all political parties discussing policies on immigration and racial discrimination. Jagmohan Joshi, as General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, was also a speaker at this event.

/14 letter from Jagmohan Joshi to the President of the Nottingham branch of the Indian Workers Association discussing the overdue branch elections, 14 December 1966

/15 poster advertising celebrations for India's Republic Day 25 January 1970, organised by the Nottingham branch at the Co-operative Education Centre, Broad Street, Nottingham, featuring speeches by Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association; T. S. Sahota, Acting President; and Avtar Jouhl, editor of Lalkar; and including speakers from the Caribbean Socialist Union; the Pakistan Peoples Revolutionary Group; and Zanu. The event also included a cultural programme with dancers, radio singers, and performers from Walsall and Coventry.

The file also contains leaflets in Punjabi and Urdu giving

details about an event to celebrate India's Republic Day, and a 'grand poetry symposium', both held at the Cooperative Education Centre in Nottingham. This leaflet includes the names of performers. Both leaflets are undated.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/14

Southall branches

1964-1979

Correspondence and printed material relating to both the Indian Workers Association (Southall), which split from the national association in the mid 1960s, and the Indian Workers Front (Southall), which was formed following the split and affiliated to the Indian Workers Association (GB). Papers relating to the Indian Workers Association (Southall) consist of:

/1 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi to the Southall branch urging members to affiliate to the national association and asking them to consider the matter at the next branch executive committee meeting, 6 October 1964. Joshi has written on this letter that the Southall branch did not reply.

/2 -/4 circular letters concerning elections held at Indian Workers Association (Southall) in July 1965, including campaign letters in English and Punjabi for different teams of candidates and a leaflet setting out the nature of the election irregularities

/5 letter from Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary, and Rattan Singh, President of the Indian Workers Association to members of the Indian Workers Association (Southall) dated 25 February 1966, discussing the ongoing investigation into alleged charges of ballot rigging and other irregularities in connection with elections at Southall. The letter also expresses concern that the Southall branch had attempted to amend the constitution of the organisation and to register their branch under the Friendly Societies Act and gives information about the response of the Central Executive Committee to these actions. The letter asks branch members to attend a meeting of the General Body on 5 March 1966 at which new office bearers and members of the local executive committee would be elected to restore good relations between the branch and the Central Executive Committee

/6 letter from Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary, and Rattan Singh, President of the Indian Workers Association to members of the Indian Workers Association (Southall), dated 6 March 1966, reporting decisions taken by the Central Executive Committee in relation to election irregularities

/7 letter from Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary, and

Rattan Singh, President of the Indian Workers Association to members of the Indian Workers Association (Southall), dated 21 April 1966, informing them that the previous committee members of the Southall branch have been suspended, and giving the names of the new office bearers and committee members

/8 undated flyer in English and Punjabi issued by the executive committee of the Indian Workers Association in Southall, describing their programme for welfare and social activities, stating that their policy is non-political and non-sectarian, and giving details about their relationship with the central Indian Workers Association

/9 typescript copy of the Registration of the Indian Workers Association (Southall) as a Working Men's Club under the Friendly Societies Act, 1896, 8 March 1966, comprising the constitution of the organisation under these terms of registration.

/10 letter from Mohinder S. Padda, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association (Southall) to a recipient addressed as 'Secretary/Chairman' discussing arrangements for a conference held to decide a campaign programme against immigration legislation to be held 25 August 1973 at the Dominion Ball Room, Southall

/11 letter from P. S. Khabra, President, and Tarsem Singh Toor, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association (Southall) enclosing a copy of a summary of proceedings of a Convention against new immigration rules held 6 January 1980, organised by the Indian Workers Association Southall and attended by major national anti-racist organisations

/12 undated election flyer in English and Punjabi issued by the 'Broad United Front' contesting Indian Workers Association (Southall) elections, including photographs of candidates for each position on the branch executive committee

Papers relating to the Indian Workers Front (Southall) consist of:

/13 printed pamphlet entitled 'An open letter to the Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association (Southall) consisting of a detailed account written by Harpal Brar attacking the policies of the Indian Workers Association (Southall), and protesting against the decision of the executive committee to deny him membership of the organisation, 24 July 1976

/14 letter from Harpal Brar on behalf of the executive committee of the Indian Workers' Front (Southall) to Avtar Jouhl, President, and Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association dated 26 November 1978, consisting of a detailed account of attempts by former members of the Indian Workers Front (Southall) to

split the group, and the subsequent formation by these individuals of a rival organisation called the Indian Progressive Workers Forum. Two flyers produced by this group are attached to the letter. One gives details of a cultural programme and public meeting held 24 September 1977; the other is in English and Punjabi and asks supporters to oppose the visit to Britain of Indira Gandhi, and condemns the role of the Indian Workers Association (Southall) in inviting her to speak

/15 copy of 'Mazdoor Lahir', the newsletter of the Indian Workers Front (Southall), volume 2, number 1, January 1979, published in English and Punjabi. The newsletter contains articles about demonstrations against Indira Gandhi's visit to Britain organised by the Indian Workers Front and the Indian Workers Association and comments on a recent Indian Workers Association (Southall) General Body meeting

/16 information leaflet issued by the Indian Workers Front (Southall) condemning the practice by immigration officials of subjecting black and Asian migrants to gynaecological examinations and accusing the leadership of the Indian Workers Association (Southall) of betraying black and working class people, 3 February 1979

/17 letter from Harpal Brar, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Front (Southall) to Avtar Jouhl, Jagmohan Joshi and T. S. Sahota of the Indian Workers Association, 1 April 1979, responding to a series of questions raised in a previous letter about various issues relating to branch business

/18 letter from Harpal Brar to Teja Singh Sahota, Jagmohan Joshi and Avtar Jouhl, 30 April 1979, concerning an incident that took place at a demonstration in protest at Ealing Council's decision to allow the National Front to use Southall Town Hall for a meeting, involving the disruption of a speech by Harpal Brar by members of rival Indian workers organisations in the Southall area

/19 letter from Harpal Brar, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Front (Southall) to Jagmohan Joshi and Avtar Jouhl of the Indian Workers Association, 30 April 1979, informing them of a public meeting held by members of a rival organisation led by Laxmi Dass in honour of May Day, and urging them not to allow any members of the Indian Workers Association to attend this meeting

/20 letter from Harpal Brar, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Front (Southall) to the Central Committee of the Indian Workers Association, 11 August 1979, giving an account of matters discussed at a meeting of the executive committee of the Indian Workers Front (Southall) 4 August 1979

/21 letter from Harpal Brar to Avtar Jouhl, 24 August 1979

complaining about the attitude of the Central Committee towards his work, with particular reference to a dispute at a memorial meeting held at Wolverhampton Polytechnic, organised by the Wolverhampton branch on 1 July 1979 to pay tribute to the life of Jagmohan Joshi.

Extent: 1 File

- MS
2141/A/8/15 Walsall branch 1966
This file contains a letter from K. S. Khana to the General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, 30 January 1966 asking for advice and support in forming a local branch of the association, and including the signatures of other Indian workers living in the Walsall area; and a business card of a Tho[ma]s H. S. Walkinshaw of Walsall
- Extent: 1 File
- MS
2141/A/8/16 Watford branch c.1968
Letters from branch officials to Jagmohan Joshi requesting membership cards and constitution books in order for the branch to carry out its duties and programme. One of the letters is from J. Pal, President of the branch, dated 28 May 1968. The other letter is from M. S. Chima, President of the branch, and is undated.
- Extent: 1 File
- MS
2141/A/8/17 Wolverhampton branch 1967-1997
Correspondence; flyers; and administrative papers relating to the Wolverhampton branch of the Indian Workers Association, mainly dating from the late 1960s, but including correspondence dated 1979 and a small amount of material from the 1980s and 1990s
Papers consist of:
- /1 circular letter from Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, to members of the Wolverhampton branch inviting them to attend the General Body Meeting of the branch at Wolverhampton Civic Hall, 16 July at which elections of office bearers and the branch executive committee will be held. The year of this event is not given, but it is likely to have taken place during the mid or late 1960s
- /2 letter from M. S. Saini of the Wolverhampton branch to Jagmohan Joshi, 17 July 1967, discussing recent branch elections which Saini suggests were not conducted fairly
- /3 copy letter from M. S. Basra, Secretary of the Wolverhampton branch, to the President of the Indian Workers Association, with copies to Jagmohan Joshi,

- General Secretary, and Surjit Singh Mann, Treasurer, 20 November 1967, withdrawing the branch from the central Indian Workers Association after recent Central Executive Committee elections failed to take place, and requesting the return of membership fees paid to the Treasurer
- /4 typescript document setting out the resolutions passed by the Wolverhampton branch at a meeting to celebrate Indian Independence Day 11 August 1968
- /5 handwritten document setting out the resolutions passed by the Wolverhampton branch at the Annual General Meeting 15 June 1969
- /6 letter from D. S. Judge, Secretary of the Wolverhampton branch, to the Manager of Lloyds Bank, Wolverhampton, 27 August 1969 concerning the payment of funds from the branch accounts
- /7 letter from G. S. Kandola, acting Secretary of the Wolverhampton branch to Avtar Jouhl, President of the Indian Workers Association, inviting Jouhl and Teja Singh Sahota to a branch meeting to be held 2 September 1979, to discuss matters relating to the branch that need to be resolved
- /8 photocopy of a letter from Gurdip Chandarh, General Secretary of the Guru Ravi Dass Welfare Association in Walsall, to the President of the Indian Workers Association and the Dalit-Mukti-Alliance, 14 August 1979, complaining about his treatment at the Wolverhampton branch Independence Day celebrations 12 August 1979, at which he had been asked to speak.
- /9 photocopy of a letter in English and Punjabi from Mohan Singh Mehli consisting of an invitation to a meeting focusing on the political situation in India, held at the Polytechnical College, Wolverhampton, 4 September 1988
- /10 photocopy of a letter in Punjabi, published in the 'Punjab Guardian' 1-15 October 1989, written by Mohan Singh Mehli in response to a previous letter by Bhupinder Singh, discussing issues raised on dowry practices
- /11 flyer in Punjabi giving details about martyrs day celebrations to be held at Dunstel Hill Community Centre to celebrate Indian Independence 30 November 1997
- /12 undated typescript lists giving the names, addresses and positions of members of the Wolverhampton branch executive committee
- /13 press release issued by the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association giving details about a festival of Indo-Pak culture organised by the Wolverhampton branch at the Civic Hall in Wolverhampton 23 November. The year of this event is not given.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/8/18 New branches n.d [1960s-1970s]

Letters to Jagmohan Joshi, General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association, from individuals representing groups of Indian migrants in different towns and cities in Britain wishing to form local Indian Workers Associations and affiliate their branches to the central organisation. There are undated letters from presidents of Indian Workers Associations in West Drayton, Middlesex; Oxford; Rugby; Sheffield; Maidenhead, Berkshire; and Stockton-on-Tees, and a letter from a representative of the provisional committee of the East End London branch, dated 7 January 1971.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/A/9 Writings, 1960s-1990

Manuscript, typescript and printed writings in English, Punjabi, Urdu and Hindi, largely by members of the Indian Workers Association, including Jagmohan Joshi and Avtar Jouhl.

MS
2141/A/9/1 Political writings 1961-1990

This file contains a number of articles and drafts of press statements on issues surrounding immigration control and racism in Britain during the 1960s. There are also a smaller number of articles on communist politics, as well as two articles written by members of the Indian Workers Association on the Black People's Alliance. Brief English summaries are provided for the majority of the articles in Punjabi and Urdu.

/1 fragment of aide memoire in English and Punjabi concerning campaigning activities of the Indian Workers Association 1961
/2 typescript notes on Portuguese and French aggression in Goa during the 1950s
/3 typescript draft report on the housing situation in Birmingham as it affected immigrant communities in the early 1960s, expressing concerns about the trend toward concentration of immigrant areas
/4 handwritten draft statement on the proposals by Smethwick Conservatives to acquire houses in order to prevent black and Asian migrants buying them
/5 incomplete handwritten draft statement on the labour shortage in Britain during the early 1960s
/6 typescript summary of The National Plan, published by the Stationary Office, London, September 1965
/7 handwritten articles in Urdu on the problem of racial discrimination, centred on the perceived shortage of housing and jobs. The articles urge people to unite against racial hatred and to join the Labour movement
/8 typescript article on racism in Britain, discussing

- discrimination against black and Asian migrants and the main areas of conflict between host and migrant communities
- /9-/10 typescript articles focusing on prejudice against Indian migrants to Britain from a communist perspective. /9 is entitled 'Immigration, Racism and Class Viewpoint'
- /11 part of a typescript article on Communist party politics and the 'principles of democratic centralism'
- /12 part of a typescript article about the editorial direction of the Indian Students Society's annual publication, the 'Journal'
- /13 incomplete typescript draft of an article about Indian politics after Independence
- /14 handwritten notes on Indian Workers Association policies
- /15 typescript article entitled 'On the question of Anti-Racist and Anti-Fascist Committees', intended for submission as an Indian Workers Association resolution
- /16 handwritten drafts of press statements issued by the Indian Workers Association giving the organisation's views on issues surrounding immigration control. There is also a draft statement on the death of Nehru
- /17 printed article by Rattan Singh Sandhu, Nottingham branch of the Indian Workers Association, about Internationalism, in Punjabi
- /18 article in Punjabi by Avtar Jouhl on the Three Day Week, printed in 'Des Pardes' 3 February 1974
- /19 photocopy of part of an article in Punjabi about the origins and abolition of the caste system in India
- /20 photocopied article in Punjabi by Ratan Singh Sandhu entitled 'Powell and the Black People's Alliance', detailing the relationship between racism and capitalism, drawing comparisons between 'white racism' and 'black racism' in the form of the Black People's Alliance and suggesting that 'black racism' creates divisions amongst the non-white working class
- /21 photocopied article in Punjabi by Surjit Mann, criticising the Black People's Alliance
- /22 photocopy of a handwritten article in Punjabi by Avtar Jouhl concerning trade union activities
- /23 manuscript articles in Punjabi written by Avtar Jouhl in two pads of 'airmail' writing paper on racism in Britain and the influence of government policies on immigration control, 1967
- /24 article in Punjabi by Avtar Jouhl, published in 'Punjabi Darpan' detailing the reasons for the rise and eventual success of counter revolutionary movements in Eastern Europe 9 March 1990
- /25 article in Punjabi, published in 'Punjabi Darpan', about the collapse of socialist and communist regimes in Eastern

European countries 16 March 1990

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/9/2

Literary writings

n.d [1960s-
1986]

Narrative stories, plays, and poems, predominantly in Punjabi, written by members of the Indian Workers Association and other writers. Most of this work is handwritten, but there is also a small amount of printed writing. The material is largely undated, but it is likely that most papers date from the 1960s and 1970s. Brief English summaries are provided.

- /1 part of a Punjabi satire written by Santokh Singh Santokh, a Punjabi writer based in England
- /2 poem written by Harkewal Singh Kewal
- /3 poem written by Santokh Singh Santokh
- /4 story written by Acchar Singh Kharlveer of Coventry
- /5 poem written by Santokh Dhaliwal
- /6 poem written by Avtar Sadiq, 6 September 1967
- /7 unidentified story
- /8 story written by Sohan Singh Kanwal
- /9 printed article in the form of a letter from a mother to her newborn baby daughter published in the Punjabi magazine 'Samvad', originally published in another Punjabi magazine 'Inqulabi Jantak Leeh'. The article is a criticism of the customs and traditions imposed on women by a male dominated society
- /10-/11 printed article by Dr Ashok Kumar Jain published in the Punjabi monthly 'Pardesan', March 1986. It challenges the concept of God and the qualities attributed to Him.
- /12-/13 part of a one act play written by T. S. Tara
- /14 part of an unidentified story
- /15 booklet written by Mohinder Kaur Sandhu for learners of the Punjabi language
- /16 English translation of a poem entitled 'Destination (Delhi) is not far'

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/A/9/3

Miscellaneous writings

n.d [1960s-
1970s]

This file contains various manuscript writings in Punjabi, Urdu and Hindi. No English summaries exist, and the nature of the material has not been identified, but the majority of the papers probably consist of political and literary articles, possibly including some Indian Workers Association material, and may also include poetry.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/A/10 Photographs and exhibition material, late 1950s-1994

The majority of the material in this section consists of digital scans of gelatin silver and colour prints depicting some of the campaigning activities undertaken by the Indian Workers Association, largely during the 1960s and 1970s, but also including a smaller number of photographs taken during later demonstrations. The section also contains panels for an exhibition produced around 1979, which focuses on the history of Indian Workers Association campaigns and the organisation's role in the trade union movement.

Creator of material: The creators of the materials in this section are unknown unless otherwise specified.

Copyright: The Copyright of the material in this section is with individual photographers.

MS 2141/A/10/1	<u>Photographs</u> Various gelatin-silver and colour prints in the form of digital scans depicting demonstrations organised or supported by the Indian Workers Association during the 1960s and 1970s, and prints showing cultural events and gatherings of Indian Workers Association members over a wider period. Most of the photographs were taken during demonstrations, including several taken at a march organised by the Black Peoples Alliance but there are also some photographs of meetings and cultural events held by the Association.	late 1950s-1994
	Digital images. Surrogates served.	
	Extent: 56 Photographs	
MS 2141/A/10/1/1	<u>No title</u> Group of young Asian men standing outside a house on an unidentified street. Some of the men are leaning against a car, facing the camera. These men were possibly members of the Indian Workers Association during the early 1960s	1950s-1960s
	Digital image. Surrogate served	
	Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 89mm x 127mm	
MS 2141/A/10/1/2	<u>No title</u> Small group of Asian men sitting with drinks at tables in a room possibly within a public house. Jagmohan Joshi is standing amongst the group, possibly making a speech. These men were probably members of the Indian Workers Association during the early 1960s	1950s-1960s
	Digital image. Surrogate served.	

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 89mm x 127mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/3

No title

1950s-1960s

Group of Asian men, including Jagmohan Joshi, standing together in a room, probably in a public house. The men in the photograph are probably members of the Indian Workers Association.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 126mm x 187mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/4

No title

1962

Creator of material: 'Evening Despatch', Birmingham. Jagmohan Joshi speaking to a group of Asian and white men and women who are standing on a pavement in front of him. The people are likely to be taking part in a demonstration, probably to protest against the 1962 Commonwealth Immigrants Act. Sheila Wright is in the group, second from the left.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 158mm x 209mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/5

No title

1962

Creator of material: 'Evening Despatch', Birmingham. Jagmohan Joshi standing on a street corner with a group of Asian, and white demonstrators including Shirley Fossick, who later married Joshi. This photograph was probably taken during a demonstration to protest against the 1962 Commonwealth Immigrants Act.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 158mm x 209mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/6

No title

1962

Creator of material: 'Evening Despatch', Birmingham. Procession of Asian, black and white men and women walking past a monument. This photograph was probably taken during a demonstration to protest against the 1962 Commonwealth Immigrants Act.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 165mm x 213mm

- MS
2141/A/10/1/7 No title 1962
Creator of material: 'Evening Despatch', Birmingham.
Jagmohan Joshi standing on a street corner with a group of Asian, and white demonstrators including Shirley Fossick, who later married Joshi. This photograph was probably taken during a demonstration to protest against the 1962 Commonwealth Immigrants Act.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 157mm x 209mm
- MS
2141/A/10/1/8 No title 1960s
Creator of material: 'The Times'.
Close-up photograph of three Asian men in conversation. One of the men is possibly Abimanyu Manchanda, who was a friend of Claudia Jones.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 142mm x 207mm
- MS
2141/A/10/1/9 No title 1960s
Two Asian performers at an Indian Workers Association cultural evening

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 69mm x 112mm
- MS
2141/A/10/1/10 No title 1960s
Creator of material: 'The Times'.
Large group of Asian and white protestors watched by a white male uniformed police officer. The same group is featured in the photograph described at MS 2141/A/10/1/11. This photograph was possibly taken outside the House of Commons during an unidentified demonstration probably attended by the Indian Workers Association.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 141mm x 297mm
- MS
2141/A/10/1/11 No title 1960s
Creator of material: 'The Times'.
Large group of Asian and white protestors watched by a white male uniformed police officer. Some of the protestors

are looking at the camera. The same group is featured in the photograph described at MS 2141/A/10/1/10. This photograph was possibly taken outside the House of Commons during an unidentified demonstration probably attended by the Indian Workers Association.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 143mm x 208mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/12 No title 1960s

Creator of material: 'The Times'.
Group of white and Asian demonstrators standing outside a building. Jagmohan Joshi can be seen on the far right of the photograph. The same group is featured in the photographs described at MS 2141/A/10/1/10 and MS 2141/A/10/1/11. This photograph was possibly taken outside the House of Commons during an unidentified demonstration probably attended by the Indian Workers Association.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 141mm x 207mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/13 No title 1960s

Group of Asian and white men and women looking at a set of exhibition boards set up in an outside space on which are photographs and text on the political situation in Vietnam

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 85mm x 124mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/14 No title 1960s

Jagmohan Joshi with a group of Asian men, some seated, others standing. This photograph was possibly taken at a cultural evening or poetry performance.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 126mm x 187mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/15 No title 1969

Creator of material: Birmingham Post & Mail.
Black and Asian demonstrators marching down the middle of a street, watched by spectators on the pavements and

flanked by white male uniformed police officers. Several of the demonstrators are holding placards and banners with slogans denouncing racism in Britain and elsewhere. This photograph was taken during a Black Peoples Alliance demonstration attended by Jagmohan Joshi and other members of the Indian Workers Association.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print

MS
2141/A/10/1/16 No title 1969
Creator of material: Birmingham Post & Mail.
Group of black and Asian men with their arms raised in a 'black power' salute. A white male uniformed police officer is walking in front of them.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 167mm x 215mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/17 No title 1969
Creator of material: Birmingham Post & Mail.
Black and Asian demonstrators, many holding banners with slogans. One banner reads 'Black Peoples Alliance'. This photograph was taken during a Black Peoples Alliance demonstration attended by Jagmohan Joshi and other members of the Indian Workers Association

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 167mm x 214mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/18 No title 1969
Creator of material: Birmingham Post & Mail.
Jagmohan Joshi with other Asian and black men marching with banners and placards and shouting slogans. This photograph was probably taken at a Black Peoples Alliance demonstration held during the Commonwealth Prime Ministers conference in London in January 1969

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 167mm x 215mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/19 No title 1969
Creator of material: 'Sun'.
Large group of black, Asian and white demonstrators with banners and placards, gathered in an open space outside some large buildings. This photograph was probably taken

during a Black Peoples Alliance demonstration held during the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference in London in January 1969

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 171mm x 250mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/20

No title

1969

Large crowd of black, Asian and white men and women with banners and placards, including one reading 'Black People's Alliance', gathered in a street, flanked by white male uniformed police officers. This photograph was taken during a Black Peoples Alliance demonstration attended by Jagmohan Joshi and other members of the Indian Workers Association

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 126mm x 187mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/21

No title

1969

Creator of material: Birmingham Post & Mail.
Large number of white male uniformed police officers, some on horseback. This photograph was probably taken at a demonstration held during the Commonwealth Prime Ministers conference in London in January 1969, organised by the Black Peoples Alliance.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 167mm x 215mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/22

No title

1960s-1970s

Close-up prints of an Indian Workers Association banner being held by an Asian man while on a demonstration. Two other demonstrators are in the foreground on the far right of the photograph. It is not clear which demonstration this photograph depicts.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 240mm x 300mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/23

No title

1960s-1970s

Jagmohan Joshi and other Asian men seated on a platform. Joshi is sitting behind a microphone. This

photograph was taken at a poetry performance, but is undated.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 232mm x 279mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/24

No title

1960s-1970s

Group of black, Asian and white men and women, including Jagmohan Joshi, sitting in a large room in what is possibly a community centre or similar venue. These people were possibly attending a Black Peoples Alliance meeting or were discussing more general anti-racist campaigns

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 202mm x 253mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/25

No title

1960s-1970s

Jagmohan Joshi and another Indian Workers Association member, Sohan Sandhu, at a peace conference in Tokyo.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 132mm x 179mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/26

No title

1960s-1970s

Jagmohan Joshi shaking hands with an unidentified man of uncertain ethnicity. Other men are standing in the background. This photograph was taken at a peace conference in Tokyo which Joshi and other members of the Indian Workers Association attended.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 129mm x 181mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/27

No title

1960s-1970s

Jagmohan Joshi in the foreground standing outside a building from which other black Asian and white people are leaving. This photograph was taken at a peace conference in Tokyo which Joshi and other members of the Indian Workers Association attended.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 130mm x 182mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/28

No title

1960s-1970s

Jagmohan Joshi wearing sunglasses and standing with other Asian and white men and women in front of a statue of a man seated with arms raised. This photograph was taken at a peace conference in Tokyo which Joshi and other members of the Indian Workers Association attended.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 126mm x 180mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/29

No title

1970s

Jagmohan Joshi standing with two other unidentified Asian men.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 126mm x 187mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/30

No title

1970s

Large group of Asian men and women in a procession with banners and placards containing slogans relating to Indian politics. White male uniformed police officers are watching the procession. This photograph was probably taken during a demonstration on the political situation in India led by the Indian Workers Association in Hyde Park

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 87mm x 111mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/31

No title

1970s

Large group of Asian men and women in a procession with banners and placards containing slogans relating to Indian politics. One of the banners reads 'Indian Workers Association E. London and Essex branch'. This photograph was probably taken during a demonstration on the political situation in India led by the Indian Workers Association in Hyde Park

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 112mm

MS No title 1970s
2141/A/10/1/32

Asian men and women in a procession with banners and placards containing slogans relating to Indian politics. Some demonstrators are riding on the back of a truck decorated with various banners. One of the banners reads 'Indian Workers Association. A white male uniformed police officer is walking alongside the demonstrators. This photograph was probably taken during a demonstration on the political situation in India led by the Indian Workers Association in Hyde Park

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 111mm

MS No title 1970s
2141/A/10/1/33

Group of Asian men, including Jagmohan Joshi and Avtar Jouhl, standing outside a building. This photograph was probably taken during an industrial dispute at a factory in the West Midlands during the 1970s.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 177mm x 228mm

MS No title 1970s
2141/A/10/1/34

Group of Asian men and women seated on a platform in front of an audience of Asian men and women. A man is standing on the platform and speaking into a microphone. Jagmohan Joshi is one of those seated on the platform. This photograph was possibly taken at a cultural evening or poetry performance organised by the Indian Workers Association.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 124mm

MS No title 1970s
2141/A/10/1/35

Group of Asian men and women seated on a platform in front of an audience of Asian men and women. A man wearing a turban is standing on the platform with a book in

his hand, and speaking into a microphone. Jagmohan Joshi is one of those seated on the platform. This photograph was possibly taken at a cultural evening or poetry performance organised by the Indian Workers Association.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 124mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/36

No title

1970s

Group of Asian men and women seated on a platform in front of an audience of Asian men and women. A man is standing on the platform and speaking into a microphone from a book he is holding. Jagmohan Joshi is one of those seated on the platform. This photograph was possibly taken at a cultural evening or poetry performance organised by the Indian Workers Association.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 124mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/37

No title

1970s

Group of Asian men and women seated on a platform in front of an audience of Asian men and women. Jagmohan Joshi is standing on the platform speaking into a microphone. A man is standing at the back of the room taking photographs with a camera. This photograph was possibly taken at a cultural evening or poetry performance organised by the Indian Workers Association.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 124mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/38

No title

1970s

Group of Asian men and women seated on a platform in front of an audience of Asian men and women. A man is standing on the platform and speaking into a microphone. Jagmohan Joshi is one of those seated on the platform. One of the men in the audience is standing up. This photograph was possibly taken at a cultural evening or poetry performance organised by the Indian Workers Association.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 124mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/39

No title

1970s

Group of Asian men seated in an audience, watching the front of the room. This photograph was possibly taken at a cultural evening or poetry performance organised by the Indian Workers Association.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 124mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/40

No title

1978

Asian and white men walking down the middle of a street. One of the men is holding a placard on which a slogan has been written. Only part of the slogan is visible, reading 'The National Front'. Another man is wearing a fox head mask. These people are probably demonstrating against the activities of the National Front in Saltley. Members of the Indian Workers Association are likely to have taken part in this demonstration.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 203mm x 253mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/41

No title

1978

Asian men standing on the back of a truck being driven along a street. A placard reading 'The National Front is a Fascist Front' is attached to the truck. This photograph was probably taken at a demonstration against the activities of the National Front in Saltley, and shows members of the Indian Workers Association

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 253mm x 335mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/42

No title

1979

Group of Asian men and women demonstrating outside 10 Downing Street. Some of the people are holding loud hailers, and others hold sheets of paper. This photograph is likely to have been taken during the demonstration against state brutality that took place on 3 June 1979

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 203mm x 254mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/43

No title

1979

Asian woman speaking into a microphone on a platform backed with a large banner reading 'Black People Against State Brutality'. Other black and Asian demonstrators are standing in front of her. This photograph was taken during the demonstration organised by the Indian Workers Association on 3 June 1979

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 202mm x 253mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/44

No title

1979

Asian men marching past the camera, holding banners and placards, one of which reads 'Black People Against State Brutality'. They are flanked by white male uniformed police officers. This photograph was taken at a demonstration in London against state brutality, organised by the Indian Workers Association and other groups on 3 June 1979.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Gelatin-silver print 276mm x 334mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/45

No title

1970s-1980s

Denis Howell MP and five Asian men standing on a platform with their heads bowed.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 124mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/46

No title

1970s-1980s

Young Asian girl being presented with a prize by Denis Howell MP. Three Asian men are also standing on the platform where this presentation is taking place.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 124mm

- MS
2141/A/10/1/47 No title 1970s-1980s
- Asian man speaking into a microphone on a platform at which are seated other Asian men, and Denis Howell MP. A large audience is seated in front of the platform, consisting of Asian men, women and children.
- Digital image. Surrogate served.
- Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 124mm
- MS
2141/A/10/1/48 No title 1970s-1980s
- Large group of Asian men and women seated in rows facing the front of a room, listening to an unseen speaker or performer
- Digital image. Surrogate served.
- Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 123mm
- MS
2141/A/10/1/49 No title 1970s-1980s
- Large group of Asian men and women seated in rows facing the front of a room.
- Digital image. Surrogate served.
- Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 123mm
- MS
2141/A/10/1/50 No title 1970s-1980s
- Asian man standing on a platform, speaking into a microphone and reading from a piece of paper in his hands. Another Asian man standing on the platform is shaking hands with Denis Howell MP.
- Digital image. Surrogate served.
- Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 124mm
- MS
2141/A/10/1/51 No title 1970s-1980s
- Denis Howell, MP, standing on a platform speaking into a microphone. A group of Asian and black men are also seated or standing on the platform
- Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 124mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/52

No title

1970s-1980s

Asian man standing on a platform speaking into a microphone. He is handing a piece of paper to another Asian man. Another Asian man is standing behind these two, and Denis Howell MP is seated at the far right hand of the photograph.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 127mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/53

No title

1970s-1980s

Asian women standing on a platform speaking into a microphone. Several Asian men and Denis Howell, MP are seated on the platform. The table in front of them contains various commemorative shields.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 127mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/54

No title

1970s-1980s

Asian man standing on a platform speaking into a microphone. Three other Asian men are seated on the platform watching him.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 127mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/55

No title

1970s-1980s

White man standing on a platform speaking into a microphone. Three Asian men and Denis Howell MP are seated on the platform next to the microphone.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 88mm x 127mm

MS
2141/A/10/1/56

No title

1994

Group of Asian and white demonstrators holding small Transport and General Workers Union banners and a large Indian Workers Association Birmingham branch

banner. This photograph was taken in London on a Trade Union Congress demonstration against racism 19 March 1994.

Digital image. Surrogate served.

Extent: 1 Colour print 101mm x 149mm

MS
2141/A/10/2

'Black Workers and the Trade Unions' exhibition

1979

Exhibition panels containing text and illustrations about the history of Indian Workers Association campaigns from the 1950s to 1979.

The first panel contains text describing the Indian Workers Association's role in the trade union movement and in the struggles of black and Asian workers fighting racial discrimination in employment, together with photographs from demonstrations, picket lines and strike meetings during the 1960s and 1970s. The panel includes the heading 'Black Workers and the Trade Unions'

The second panel focuses on campaigns against immigration control during the 1960s and 1970s, and includes reproductions of photographs, newspaper articles and posters illustrating the role played by the Indian Workers Association.

The third panel is devoted to cultural events organised by the Indian Workers Association and includes examples of Jagmohan Joshi's Urdu poetry together with photographs of him at poetry performances. Some of the text on this panel mentions the production of a recording of poems by the revolutionary Punjabi poet Sant Ram Udassi by the Indian Workers Association and the Indian Peoples Association of North America [IPANA] in 1979.

The fourth panel is smaller than the rest, and measures 520mm x 801mm. It contains text on Indian Workers Association campaigns against racist attacks on black and Asian people living in Britain.

Extent: 4 Items 801mm x 1115mm

MS 2141/B Records of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, 1966-1994

Administrative History

The Indian Workers Association had been involved in community and welfare work since its establishment, and provided assistance to all members of the Indian community, playing a role as advisor and mediator to people in finding employment, complying with immigration regulations, completing tax forms, lodging claims for family allowance and other benefits,

securing accommodation and mortgages, and getting legal representation. There is evidence that a welfare office was set up in 1961 (see MS 2141/A/3/3/2), but there is little more information about the remit of this office. By the late 1970s, the Association was dealing with a number of social and welfare issues arising from the arrival in Britain of Indian migrants' wives and families, and the different needs of younger Indians who had grown up in Britain. These issues included the problems of youth unemployment; the need for English language tuition; the provision of childcare and playgroup facilities; and the growing need for the provision of a conciliation service for family disputes and cases in which adult children became estranged from their parents.

In order to continue to fulfil a social and welfare role in the community, the Indian Workers Association wanted to purchase premises to use as a permanent welfare centre which would provide social and cultural facilities as well as a point of contact for people seeking advice and support. It was intended that this welfare centre would be run by an organiser or warden, with assistance from part-time paid and voluntary workers. The Association identified a property at 346 Soho Road in the Handsworth area of Birmingham, and applied to the Barrow and Geraldine S. Cadbury Trust for financial assistance in the purchase of this property in 1977. In order to receive funding from charitable trusts, the Association set up the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Trust to oversee the running of the welfare centre, to be called the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, and to administer its accounts. A constitution was drawn up, and the trust was managed by a committee elected annually, consisting of six members and Honorary Officers; President, Treasurer and Secretary.

The centre opened in May 1978. It was partially destroyed by fire in January 1991, and was rebuilt with the help of grants from the Cadbury Trust during the early 1990s. The trust was funded by grants from the Cadbury Trust and the Urban Aid Programme; by subscriptions and donations from members of the trust; and by fund raising events organised by the Indian Workers Association.

Although the main function of the welfare centre was to provide advisory and welfare services, the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Trust also staged cultural awareness events, and campaigned with the Indian Workers Association for the release of government papers relating to Udham Singh from 1989 until the papers were finally opened in 1996 and 1997. The welfare trust was then involved in the publication of an edition of these documents, and of a book on the life of Udham Singh written by Navtej Singh of Punjabi University, Patiala in India.

The co-ordinator of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Trust was Surinder Kumar Taggar until his death in 2002. The welfare centre celebrated its Silver Jubilee in August 2003.

Description:

Correspondence; reports; grant application forms; financial records; case work papers; and associated material relating to the work of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre. Because the Indian Workers Association carried out welfare work from its establishment, there are some casework papers that predate the opening of the centre in Handsworth in 1978, but the majority of the material dates from the late 1970s and 1980s. Further records of the welfare centre can be found at MS 2142/B See MS 2142/B for further records of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre

MS 2141/B/1 Grant applications and associated papers, 1977-1986

This series comprises material relating to the establishment of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre at premises on the Soho Road in the Handsworth area of Birmingham in May 1978, and to the further development of the centre during the 1980s. Papers consist of correspondence; reports; and completed application forms for funding from charitable trusts and urban development programmes, and contain information about the aims and objectives of the centre, and about some of the work it was able to carry out during the early 1980s.

MS 2141/B/1/1	<u>Papers relating to the establishment of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre</u>	1977-1979
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This file consists largely of correspondence relating to the Indian Workers Association's application to the Barrow and Geraldine S. Cadbury Trust for funding to set up a social and welfare centre, and to the Association's purchase of property for the welfare centre. There is also material documenting members contributions towards the establishment of the centre.

Papers include:

/1 typescript list of charitable trusts, compiled by the Birmingham Community Relations Committee, and presumably used by the Indian Workers Association in applying for funding

/2 typescript application for funding and assistance for permanent premises to enable the Indian Workers Association to provide a social and welfare service to the community, giving details about some of the problems faced by the Indian community and explaining the ways in which a welfare centre would solve them. The application is clipped to an acknowledgements slip to Jagmohan Joshi from Anthony Wilson, representing the Barrow and Geraldine S. Cadbury Trust, undated

/3-/7 correspondence relating to a survey carried out on premises at 346 Soho Road, Handsworth by Chesshire Gibson for the Indian Workers Association October-November 1977

/8 letter from Anthony Wilson, Secretary of the Barrow and Geraldine S. Cadbury Trust to Jagmohan Joshi discussing the possibility of the Trust granting funds to the Indian Workers Association towards the purchase of premises for a welfare centre and explaining the conditions that the Trust might want to impose on the use of the grant, November 1977

/9 letter from Anthony Wilson, Secretary of the Barrow and Geraldine S. Cadbury Trust to Jagmohan Joshi confirming the amount the Trust have granted towards the purchase of 346 Soho Road, Handsworth for the welfare centre, December 1977

/10-/13 correspondence between Anthony E. Wilson, Secretary of the Barrow and Geraldine S. Cadbury Trust,

to J. Whiting Smith, Wragge & Co solicitors, Birmingham, concerning the conveyancing and purchase of 346 Soho Road, Handsworth by the Indian Workers Association, 1977-1978

/14-/19 receipts for contributions from Indian Workers Association members towards the welfare centre, including a letter to Joshi from G. Appa of the London branch which also discusses Central Committee resolutions, mentions the Grunwick strike and the need to make contacts with the women workers and ,asks Joshi to remind branches of the resolution on Gujaratis, stating that speeches should be in Hindi or another language that Gujaratis can understand, June 1978

/20 copy letter from the Charity Commission relating to the bid for the Harmony trust to be considered a charity, July 1978. This letter does not appear to be related to funding for the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre.

/21 copy of the policy of the Commission for Racial Equality on Grant-Aid for projects, 1978-1979

/22-/26 papers relating to the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre constitution, including correspondence between Anthony Wilson of the Barrow and Geraldine S. Cadbury Trust and J. Whiting Smith of Wragge & Co solicitors, Birmingham concerning the need for the trustees of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre to approve a constitution. There is also a copy of the constitution of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Trust (Birmingham) and a copy of a constitution for an Indian Workers' Welfare Centre, adopted in September 1967. This would seem to be a precursor to the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, which may not have had its own premises, but was obviously constituted to carry out the welfare activities that the Indian Workers Association already undertook.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/B/1/2

Development of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre

1979-1986

This file contains papers concerning the administration of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, and includes an annual report. It also contains material relating to applications for grants to fund the further development of the centre during the early 1980s.

Papers consist of:

/1-/3 letter from Birmingham International Council Development Education Programme asking for information about the welfare centre, including a draft list of groups in Birmingham active in increasing understanding and co-operation between peoples of the world, with a reply by the

Bhupinder Singh, president of Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association giving brief details about the remit of the centre June-July 1979

/4-/5 photocopy of the annual report of the welfare centre, giving information about the activities carried out 1979-1980, forming part of an application to the Urban Programme Grant Aid to fund a co-ordinator for the welfare centre. The application includes details of income and expenditure for 1980-1981

/6 copy of Inner City Partnership Programme summary for 1982-1985, published in June 1982. The programme gives details of projected expenditure in priority inner city areas of Birmingham to improve the living environment and to provide services for communities living there.

/7 Birmingham Inner City Partnership Urban Programme Grant Aid 1985-1986 guidance notes for voluntary organisations applying for funding, together with a copy of an application by the Indian Workers Association for a community centre on Grove Lane, Handsworth, preferably on the site of the Grove Lane Baths. A letter from West Midlands County Council Senior Adviser on Economic Development to Avtar Jouhl is attached to these documents, offering assistance to discuss ideas for developing the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, July 1984

/8-/9 blank raffle tickets for the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Trust Christmas draw 1986; blank headed paper for Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Trust

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/B/2 Financial papers, 1978-1988

This series consists of incomplete sets of income and expenditure accounts and balance sheets of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, together with supporting documentation such as invoices; receipts; and payment books.

MS	<u>Income and expenditure accounts</u>	1978-1988
2141/B/2/1	/1 statement of income and expenditure May 1978-Jan 1979	
	/2 income and expenditure accounts and balance sheet, with accountant's report and notes on account prepared by S. J. Duggal Accountants, Birmingham for April 1986-March 1987	
	/3 income and expenditure accounts and balance sheet , with accountant's report and notes on account prepared by S. J. Duggal Accountants, Birmingham for April 1987-March 1988	

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/B/2/2 Other financial papers 1981-1987

The majority of these papers date from the mid 1980s, and consist of a bundle of utility bills and invoices for stationery and photocopier costs 1986-1987. There are also cheque book stubs dating from 1985-1986 for accounts in the name of the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, and an Income Tax, Pay As You Earn and National Insurance payslip booklet for the Singh Welfare Centre, 1986-1987.

The file also contains handwritten receipts for sums of money donated to the welfare centre in 1981, and a letter from Anthony Wilson of the Barrow Cadbury Fund Ltd concerning the trust's contribution towards the cost of a plate-maker.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/B/3 Case work papers, 1966-1994

Correspondence and official documents relating to welfare work carried out on behalf of individuals by the Indian Workers Association at the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre. These papers chiefly concern applications by individuals to live and work in Britain and appeals against deportation under the terms of British immigration legislation, but there are also applications for passports, housing and social security benefits. This series also contains papers of a more miscellaneous nature, relating to other welfare work carried out by the Indian Workers Association

MS
2141/B/3/1 Indian passports 1979-1988

Correspondence and related material concerning new rules for the attestation of Indian passport photographs following a bill introduced in the Indian Parliament in March 1978, including a list of organisations approved to attest passports, consisting of the Indian Workers Association, the Guru Nanak Gurdwara in Smethwick, Shormanai Akali Dal UK Birmingham branch, and Bharti Nau Jawan Sabha. The file also contains a letter from Avtar Jouhl to the Assistant High Commissioner of India confirming the names of officers of the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association authorised to certify passport photographs, together with an example affidavit for applicants for Indian passports, and a photocopy of a completed Indian Workers Association membership card., 1989.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/B/3/2 Deportation cases 1966-1979

Correspondence and associated papers relating to the involvement of the Indian Workers Association and Jagmohan Joshi in various deportation cases during the

1960s and 1970s. This material includes correspondence from the Home Office and from individual Members of Parliament particularly Andrew Faulds, Labour MP for Smethwick concerning the cases of individuals detained or deported under the terms of immigration legislation. Correspondence discusses requests for extension of visas and entry certificates; appeals by individuals against deportation; the detention of individuals as 'illegal immigrants'; applications for social security benefits; applications for dependents to join relatives already living in Britain. Appeal statements include applications by individuals for UK entry certificates and contain personal details about applicants.

The papers provide evidence of the efforts of the Indian Workers Association to support these individuals and raise awareness about their appeals against deportation by helping them with getting legal representation and lobbying Members of Parliament for further support.

Access: Closed until 01/01/2060. This file has been closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2060 because it contains sensitive personal information about individuals. Remove marked 'closed' files before serving.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/B/3/3

Housing policy

1980

This file largely contains correspondence between local authority Housing Departments in Birmingham and Smethwick, and black and Asian organisations including the Indian Workers Association; Sharomani Akali Dal UK; Guru Nanak Sikh Temple in Smethwick; Bangladesh Workers Association; and Kashmir Workers Association concerning the policy of keeping records of the ethnic origin of applicants for council housing and the uses made of this information. One of these letters sets out the views of the black and Asian organisations on the keeping of such records and challenges the view of the recommendation of the Commission for Racial Equality that questions on ethnic origin be included. 1980.

The file also contains papers concerning government provisions on housing repairs and improvements made to older stock in the Metropolitan Borough of Sandwell in response to questions raised on this issue at a meeting between Avtar Jouhl and a representative from Sandwell Housing Department, 1980, and some blank forms issued by the City of Birmingham Treasurers Department and used for certifying unoccupied property.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/B/3/4

Miscellaneous welfare project papers

1969-1985

These papers are on varied topics and include a letter to Avtar Jouhl from Handsworth Law Centre giving details about the organisation's activities and its intention to extend its work into community relations, inviting local organisations to make use of legal and advisory services at the centre, August 1979. There is also a statement issued by the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre to all shopkeepers in Handsworth who suffered losses during the uprisings in the area during the nights of 9 and 10 September 1985, urging them to campaign for compensation.

There is also a report on a project to set up an adventure playground in Smethwick in 1969, organised by a group of local organisations with the support of the local MP Andrew Faulds. This group was to be called the Smethwick Adventure Playground Association. Although there is no indication that the Indian Workers Association was involved in this venture, it is possible that the organisation would have taken an interest in the provision of social and leisure facilities for the local community in Smethwick.

In addition, the file includes a four page article in Punjabi about the prevention of diabetes, containing an exercise programme and diet plan; and an incomplete annotated typescript consisting of pages 4 and 5 only, containing details of 'the legal aspects of drugs' and information about resources for drug users with addiction problems. This typescript is undated

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/B/3/5

Other case work papers

1974-1994

Correspondence and associated papers relating to applications by individuals for housing and social security benefits, including photocopies of official documents such as birth and marriage certificates, and affidavits. There is also a photocopy of a deed granting Power of Attorney.

Access: Closed until 01/01/2075. This file has been closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2075 because it contains sensitive personal information about individuals. Remove marked 'closed' files before serving.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/C Papers of other campaigning organisations , 1960-1992

This section of the archive primarily comprises organisational records of a number of campaigning groups and political parties active in Britain, India and Canada, most of which the Indian Workers Association co-operated with on specific campaigns, or which individual members were involved with in as committee members or office holders. Papers consist of reports; correspondence; minutes and agendas; press statements; circulars; leaflets and flyers; articles; press cuttings; newsletters and magazines.

The organisations which the Indian Workers Association was most closely associated with were the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination, in which Jagmohan Joshi was Secretary; and the Association of Indian Communists, in which many of the leaders were also office holders in the Indian Workers Association. Jagmohan Joshi was also active in the Black People's Alliance, and many members of the Indian Workers Association were also members of the Communist Party of Great Britain during the early 1960s, and supported the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist).

Avtar Jouhl was active in groups formed to challenge the increase in racist attacks and the rise of the National Front in the late 1970s, such as the Anti-Nazi League, and in organisations established to campaign against further controls on immigration introduced by Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government after 1979, such as the Campaign Against Racist Laws. The section also contains papers of organisations not directly associated with the Indian Workers Association including several black and Asian campaign and welfare groups, as well as various publications likely to have been collected by members of the Indian Workers Association. It is possible that the Association collaborated with some of these groups on campaigns, or that their contact was in an advisory capacity.

MS 2141/C/1

Anti Nazi League

1979-1980

The Anti-Nazi League was formed in 1977 in response to the increased activities of and growth in support for the National Front. It is likely to have been established by Paul Holborrow, a district organiser of the Socialist Workers Party, Ernie Roberts, a trade unionist and later Labour MP, and Peter Hain, an anti-apartheid activist and also later Labour MP, following a confrontation at which anti-fascist groups attempted to stop a National Front demonstration in Lewisham in August 1977. The League enjoyed broad support from other left-wing groups, and trade unions, and the founding statement was signed by several hundred trade unionists and community activists, as well as footballers, musicians and other celebrities. Many local Anti-Nazi League groups were set up.

The Anti-Nazi League worked together with a sister organisation, Rock Against Racism, which brought together white punk groups and black reggae bands to unite people through music and combat the threat of racism and fascism. The largest Anti-Nazi League/Rock Against Racism events were large carnivals organised from 1978, publicised in the music press as well as

through left-wing networks. Local carnivals were also held. The Anti-Nazi League was very active between 1977 and 1979 in organising anti-fascist demonstrations, including a protest march against racism in Brick Lane on 14 May 1978, following the racist murder of Altab Ali, a protest against a National Front demonstration at Southall on 23 April 1979. Here the police Special Patrol Group attacked Anti-Nazi League demonstrators, and Blair Peach, a teacher and member of the Anti-Nazi League, was killed. Between 1977 and 1979, several million Anti-Nazi League leaflets were distributed, and thousands of badges sold. Fifty local Labour Parties affiliated, along with many branches of several trade unions. The campaigning of the Anti-Nazi League forced the National Front onto the defensive, preventing activists from putting their message across and from demonstrating. The National Front did badly in the 1979 General Election, and split into three rival factions, and support on the streets crumbled. Following the election, there seemed to be less need for an anti-fascist movement, and many Anti-Nazi League and Rock Against Racism campaigners took up different causes, including Right to Work marches, and Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament campaigns. The last Rock Against Racism Carnival took place in Leeds in 1981, while the Anti-Nazi League was officially wound down in autumn and winter 1981.

The Anti-Nazi League was re-launched in 1992 by the original founder members of the organisation, at a time when the British National Party were attempting to gain political influence, and fascist groups in France, Eastern Europe and Germany were gaining votes. The Anti-Nazi League became Unite Against Fascism in 2004, with the aim of alerting British society to the rising threat of the extreme right, in particular the British National Party (BNP), gaining an electoral foothold in this country. A connected campaign, Love Music Hate Racism, was formed in 2002, in the tradition of Rock Against Racism. This group uses the music scene to celebrate diversity and involve people in anti-racist and anti-fascist activity, as well as to urge people to vote against fascist candidates in elections.

Sources: Website of David Renton, historian of the Anti-Nazi League: <http://www.dkrenton.co.uk/anl/anl.html>
Accessed August 2006

Anti-Nazi League website:

<http://www.anl.org.uk/campaigns.htm> Accessed August 2006

Unite Against Fascism website: <http://www.uaf.org.uk/>

Love Music Hate Racism website:

<http://www.lovemusichateracism.com/about/>

Description:

Correspondence and campaign material relating to the early activities of the Anti-Nazi League, supported by the Indian Workers Association. Avtar Jouhl was a member of the steering committee of this organisation.

Papers consist of:

/1 typescript report on the Anti-Nazi League National Conference held at Central London Polytechnic, 14 July 1979, including details of policy resolutions carried at the conference and a list of steering committee members elected, one of whom was Avtar Jouhl

/2 photocopy of notice of change of address of the Anti-Nazi League, signed by Jerry Fitzpatrick, organiser

/3 letter from Jerry Fitzpatrick, organiser of the Anti-Nazi League, to Avtar Jouhl, discussing action taken by the organisation after the arrest of Judit Kertesz, December 1979

/4 letter from Hackney Anti-Nazi League to Avtar Jouhl asking him to attend a co-ordinating meeting to discuss future activities for local branches of the Anti-Nazi League in his capacity as steering committee member

/5-/10 papers relating to the inquest into the death of Blair Peach who was killed at a protest against a National Front meeting in Southall in April 1979. Most of this material consists of campaign material issued by the Friends of Blair Peach Committee, but there are also some information leaflets issued by the Anti-Nazi League, and a statement issued by the Indian Workers Front, Southall including details about a memorial demonstration held for Blair Peach in April 1980.

/11 leaflet issued by the Oxford Anti-Nazi League giving information about a fund-raising event organised for the Southall Defence Campaign, to raise funds for the legal costs faced by anti-racist demonstrators arrested at a rally to protest against a National Front meeting in Southall in April 1979

See MS 2142/D/1 for further papers relating to the Anti Nazi League

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/C/2 Association of Indian Communists, Britain (M-L), 1961-1978

The Association of Indian Communists was formed in around 1966 by Indian members of the Communist Party of Great Britain, many of whom were also Indian Workers Association members or office holders. According to research by De Witt John, Indian members of the

Communist Party of Great Britain formed their own branches, and elected their own officers. English party officials may also have attended these meetings, but they were largely conducted in Punjabi. Although these Indian branches of the Communist Party of Great Britain took part in some of the campaigns led by the organisation, they were also very active in organising Indian migrants on the basis of class interests, and as such, had close links with local Indian Workers Associations. De Witt John suggests that Indian communists became active in many local Indian Workers Association branches, and were also instrumental in founding new branches during the 1960s. This may partly explain why the same people feature in the leadership of the national Indian Workers Association and of the Association of Indian Communists during this period.

The Association appears to have been organised on similar lines to those of the Indian Workers Association, with a Central Executive Committee and branch committees elected annually, and meeting taking place on a regular basis. National Conferences were also held, and the decisions of the Central Executive Committee disseminated to members through circular letters and notices to branches in the same way that the agendas and minutes of meetings were. The Association seems to have supported Indian Workers Association campaigns, and its journal 'Lalkar', launched in 1967, was read by members of the Indian Workers Association; indeed, many members of the editorial board also held office in the Indian Workers Association, and were later involved in the establishment of the Indian Workers Association magazine 'Lalkar' in 1979.

Sources: De Witt John, *Indian Workers Associations in Britain*, Institute of Race Relations, London, Oxford University Press, London, 1969: 66-70

Description:

Policy statements and resolutions; agendas for meetings; correspondence; reports; financial records relating to the publication of the Association of Indian Communists journal 'Lalkar' largely dating from the late 1960s, but including conference papers dating from 1978, and a small amount of material relating to the activities of the Communist Party of Great Britain during the early 1960s.

See MS 2142/D/2 for papers of the Association of Indian Communists dating from the 1980s and 1990s

MS 2141/C/2/1	<u>Policy papers and correspondence</u> /1 circular letter from Vishnu Dutt Sharma to the secretary of a Birmingham communist group called the Indian Workers Party, asking them to call an emergency meeting to elect representatives, and including an agenda for the next meeting of representatives of the Indian Workers Party groups, to be held in Coventry, 5 February 1961 /2 letter from Bill Dunn, City Secretary of the Communist Party, Birmingham City Committee, giving details about a meeting to discuss the activities of national liberation movements in African countries which were former British colonies. This letter is undated, but was probably written during the early 1960s /3 letter from Sohan Singh Josh, Communist Party of India, Central Office, to Avtar Jouhl congratulating him on the	1961-1978
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- contents of the journal 'Mazdoor', 22 August 1961
- /4-/5 copy letters to Sohan Sandhu, Secretary of the Co-ordinating Committee of the Association of Indian Communists, discussing arrangements for a meeting of the Co-ordinating Committee to discuss the accounts of the organisation, and for a meeting of the newspaper sub-committee, including an agenda, June-July 1966
- /6-/7 typescript report presented by Sohan Sandhu at a meeting of Indian Communists held in Coventry in July 1966 at which the Association of Indian Communists was formed, together with a copy of the constitution of the Association of Indian Communists, Britain (Marxist-Leninist)
- /8 communique to members listing individuals who attended the meeting of the co-ordinating committee of Indian Communists in Britain and including a statement setting out relations and points of divergence between the viewpoints of Indian Communists in Britain with the Communist Party of Great Britain, June 1966
- /9-/10 circular notices to members of the Central Executive Committee of the Association of Indian Communists giving information about the next meeting of the Committee, to be held in Southall 29 April 1967 and including a detailed agenda, together with a notice consisting of minutes of this meeting, which includes a list of members in attendance. Notices are signed by T. S. Sahota, Secretary of the Central Executive Committee
- /11 copy letter to members from Avtar Jouhl giving details about two documentary films on the political achievements of Mao Tse-Tung that are being shown in London, May 1967
- /12-/13 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to Teja Singh Sahota discussing matters relating to 'People's Democracy' and the translation of the Red Book, 31 May 1967, with a reply from Teja Singh Sahota
- /14 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to Peter Holland, IBM UK Ltd, concerning instructions for the design of a type-face, and asking him to contact [Abimanyu] Manchanda, 1 June 1967
- /15 letter to members giving information about a school on Marxism-Leninism and the political thought of Mao Tse-Tung, organised by the Association of Indian Communists, June 1967
- /16 circular letter to members of the Central Executive Committee of the Association of Indian Communists with an agenda for the next meeting to be held 24-25 June 1967 in Coventry
- /17 circular letter to branches of the Association of Indian Communists giving information about a demonstration against the racist policies of Harold Wilson's Labour

government, organised with the Indian Workers Association, Birmingham branch, and other organisations, and to be held 2 July 1967. The letter sets out the reasons for the demonstration to be held.

/18 letter to members from Jagmohan Joshi, member of the Secretariat of the Central Executive Committee of the Association of Indian Communists, asking for suggestions on the way that the organisation's work should proceed in investigating the problems and needs of the Indian community, 19 June 1967

/19 handwritten notes in English and Punjabi following a meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the Association of Indian Communists, June 1967

/20 letter to members of the Central Executive Committee and branch secretaries of the Association of Indian Communists giving information about an extended meeting of the committee to discuss difficulties in publishing the organisation's journal, 10 July 1967

/21 circular letter to branches discussing conditions of membership and the internal organisation of the Association, 31 July 1967

/22 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to Teja Singh Sahota asking for an urgent meeting of the Birmingham branch of the Association of Indian Communists be called in order to discuss action to be taken in response to Avtar's court summons regarding an incident, possibly of racial discrimination, that took place in the Robinson Crusoe public house in Smethwick, 1 August 1967

/23 circular letter to branches giving details of decisions taken and resolutions passed at Central Executive Committee meetings in July 1967

/24 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to the editor of the 'Birmingham Post' correcting details published in a newspaper article about Avtar's appointment as editor of 'Lalkar' and his move to London. This letter states that 'Lalkar' was to be sponsored by the Association of Indian Communists rather than the Indian Workers Association, 7 August 1967. See also MS 2141/A/8/2/3 for further material on the launch of Lalkar

/25 copy letter to members of the editorial board of Lalkar with the agenda for the next meeting, to be held 14 August 1967

/26 handwritten notes in Punjabi on an Association of Indian Communists Birmingham branch meeting

/27 text of 'resolution no.2' passed by the Association of Indian Communists expressing support for the Naxalite peasant uprisings in West Bengal, 1967

/28 letter to Teja Singh Sahota from a correspondent in India, discussing communist politics there, 14 August 1967

/29-/35 correspondence in English and Punjabi and

handwritten resolution in English on the Naxalite peasant uprisings in India August 1967. The letters are from Association of Indian Communists branches giving their reactions to the resolution

/36 letter to members of the Association of Indian Communists with the agenda for a meeting of the Central Secretariat to be held 8 October 1967

/37 circular letter to members of the Central Executive Committee and branch secretaries of the Association of Indian Communists, and members who are also members of the Indian Workers Association Central Executive Committee or branch secretaries, giving information about an extended meeting of the Association of Indian Communists which all the named representatives are urged to attend, October 1967

/38 leaflet in Punjabi issued by the Association of Indian Communists Leamington branch giving details about an event to celebrate the victories achieved by the 'people of Vietnam against American Imperialism' 2 March 1968

/39 letter to members from Teja Singh Sahota with the agenda for a meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the Association of Indian Communists to be held 22 June 1969 in Southall

/40 information leaflet issued by the Association of Indian Communists giving details about a public meeting to be held to discuss the 'Indian revolutionary armed struggle', 15 August 1970

/41 leaflet in Punjabi criticising the Indian Workers Association for its approach towards the Black People's Alliance, undated

/42 copy letter from the International Secretary of the Labour Party to the Secretary of the Warley East Constituency Labour Party accepting a resolution condemning the repressive measures introduced by Indira Gandhi's government in India under the State of Emergency laws, 10 February 1976

/43 printed pamphlet entitled 'Once Again On the Question of Participation in Bourgeois Parliamentary Elections and the Mistakes of our 'Left' Comrades', by Harpal Brar, member of the Southall branch of the Association of Indian Communists, for circulation to members of this association only, May 1978

/44 undated typescript draft resolution expressing the support of the Association of Indian Communists for 'the Revolutionary Liberation Struggle of Indonesian People under the leadership of the Communist Party of Indonesia (PKI)

/45 undated typescript report entitled 'The National Question: The Application of Marxist Analysis to the National Minority Question in Britain', presented by the

sub-committee of the Association of Indian Communists, consisting of Avtar Jouhl, Teja Singh Sahota and Jagmohan Joshi, and approved by the Secretariat
 /46 undated leaflet in Punjabi issued by the Association of Indian Communists about Indira Gandhi's visit to Southall, probably during the late 1970s. The leaflet denounces the policies of her government
 /47 undated leaflet in Punjabi concerning the expulsion of six of its members

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/C/2/2

Conference papers

1967-1978

This file contains copies of reports and resolutions discussed at the National Conference of the Association of Indian Communists in Coventry in May 1978. These include: resolution on the revolutionary situation in India and on the need to combat racism and fascism in Britain; congress resolution on the international revolutionary struggle; plan of action to be taken by the Association of Indian Communists in the struggle against racism and fascism in Britain and internationally; handwritten draft minutes in English and Punjabi of a Central Executive Committee meeting at the conference.

There is also a set of undated resolutions passed by the Association of Indian Communists at its Central Committee meeting, written in Punjabi. The second resolution extends its support to the armed revolution of the Naxalites in India. The file also contains a poster in Punjabi published by the Birmingham branch of the Association of Indian Communists giving details about a conference to be held in Smethwick 27 March 1967, as well as an undated handwritten report in Punjabi

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/C/2/3

Lalkar accounts

1967-1972

/1 handwritten and typescript statements of accounts for the publication of Lalkar between September 1967 and August 1969, including details of income received from sales and subscriptions by local branches, and printing and distribution expenditure. This publication was sponsored by the Association of Indian Communists but subscribed to by the Indian Workers Association
 /2 invoices for stationery and printing supplies provided by London businesses 1968-1969
 /3 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to 'Jagil', April 1972, with details of expenses incurred during the production of Lalkar

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/C/3

Birmingham Peace Committee

1960-1961

The British Peace Committee was formed shortly after the end of the Second World War in 1945. It was a forerunner of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament [CND], but was organised through the Communist Party and focused its campaigns around the issue of American bases in Britain, German rearmament, and the need for diplomatic agreements between the superpowers. It supported multilateral disarmament, and boycotted the first Aldermaston marches organised by CND in 1957 and 1958. After 1960, the organisation's objectives became more similar to those of CND.

Description:

Papers relating to nuclear disarmament and peace campaigns organised by the Birmingham Peace Committee and other anti-nuclear and peace groups in the Birmingham area during the early 1960s, including the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament [CND], together with papers concerning the '2nd Midlands Conference for Peace' which took place in Birmingham in March 1961. The Indian Workers Association gave financial support to the Midlands Conference for Peace, and it appears that Jagmohan Joshi and Avtar Jouhl were involved with the Birmingham Peace Committee, but also took part in CND marches during this period. The Birmingham Peace Committee was the local branch of the British Peace Committee.

Papers consist of:

/1-/3 circular letters issued by Birmingham Peace Committee and Birmingham Youth Peace Campaign with details about a summit conference on disarmament held in Paris in May 1960 between the leaders of the 'four Great Powers', presumably America, the Soviet Union, Britain and France, and a summit rally to be held in Birmingham to mark this event and press for agreement at the summit on definite disarmament measures; Newsletter of Birmingham Peace Committee June 1960 which focuses on the failure of the Summit Conference and gives information about future campaign activities to press for disarmament, including a public discussion entitled 'Which Way For Peace', to be held at the Arden Hotel in Birmingham, 23 June 1960

/4-/5 circular letter issued by Colin Yardley, secretary of Birmingham Peace Committee asking for the support of individuals and organisations in a campaign against the

- presence of US forces and air bases in Britain, together with a blank petition sheet, July 1960
- /6 Birmingham Peace Committee Newsletter August 1960, including details about an Edinburgh to London march organised by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament to protest against nuclear weapons, US air bases, and NATO's nuclear strategy
- /7 flyer issued by the Youth Peace Campaign, giving details about events organised to mark the passing of the Edinburgh to London marchers on their way through Birmingham, 16-17 September 1960
- /8 circular letter issued by the Midlands Clause Four Campaign Committee with details of an All-Midlands Nationalisation Conference September 1960
- /9 circular leaflet issued by Birmingham Peace Committee giving details about a demonstration organised to protest at the visit of NATO supreme commander Norstad to Coventry. The demonstration was organised by the Labour Party; Trades Council; Victory for Socialism; Peace Council and Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, 12 October 1960
- /10-/14 papers relating to the '2nd Midlands Conference for Peace' in March 1961, including circular letter issued to publicise the forthcoming recall of the conference; flyer issued by the conference preparatory committee inviting delegates and giving details of sponsoring organisations including the Birmingham branch of the Indian Workers Association, and of participating speakers; draft policy statement issued at the conference; introduction and statement of aims of the conference; report on the conference, with details of sponsors, delegates, proceedings, resolutions passed, finances and publicity.
- /15-/16 letters to Avtar Jouhl from Colin Yardley of the Birmingham Peace Committee on behalf of the Conference for Peace Preparatory Committee, discussing his involvement in the conference and general council meetings March and July 1961
- /17-/18 flyers and leaflets containing information and advice for marchers taking part in the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament Easter March from Aldermaston and Wethersfield to London in 1961
- /19 Birmingham Peace Committee Newsletter May 1961, including information about the forthcoming British Peace Committee General Council meeting which was held in Birmingham 2 July 1961
- /20 letter from the treasurer of the Midlands Conference for Peace asking the Indian Workers Association for payment for copies of Bertrand Russell's pamphlet 'Win We Must', May 1961
- /21-/22 papers concerning a Midlands Youth Day for

Peace to be held in Birmingham 1 July 1961, following a decision taken at the 2nd Midlands Conference for Peace. These include a letter to Avtar Jouhl from Zsuzsa Yardley giving details about the event, and asking whether the Indian Workers Association cultural group that performs Indian dances and songs would take part in an international cabaret to be held at the Youth Day, May 1961

/23-/24 draft Resolution to be submitted to the General Council Meeting of the British Peace Committee 2 July 1961; report on the finance and constitution of the British Peace Committee, of which the Birmingham Peace Committee was a regional branch

/25 circular letter issued by Birmingham Youth Peace Campaign with a press statement issued as part of its campaign of opposition to the arrival of German troops for training in Wales, 22 August 1961. Handwritten notes on the reverse of this letter apparently consist of statements drafted following a meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Workers Association.

/26 undated leaflet issued by Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament to highlight what happened at Hiroshima, and urging people to join the organisation

/27 undated flyer issued by the West Midlands Committee of 100 focusing on regional seats of government [RSGs] to be used in the event of nuclear war and giving details of a march to RSG 9 near Kidderminster

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/C/4

Black Peoples Alliance and Black Power groups

1967-1971

The Black Peoples Alliance was formed from a number of black and Asian campaign organisations at a meeting at Leamington Spa in 1968, partly as a reaction to Enoch Powell's inflammatory speeches against immigration. A steering committee of six, headed by Jagmohan Joshi and including Roy Sawh, chairman of the Black Power movement, Zakaria Chaudry, Tony Huq, Abdul Matin from the National Federation of Pakistani Associations and Ivan Kelly of the West Indian Standing Conference in Birmingham was established. The Black People's Alliance considered that black workers needed to unite to fight for themselves as black people in Britain, and the organisation campaigned with other black and Asian led groups against racism and imperialism during the late 1960s and 1970s.

Description:

Papers of the Black Peoples Alliance and papers and publications of other black organisations active in Britain

during the late 1960s and early 1970s. Jagmohan Joshi was convenor, and a founder member of the Black Peoples Alliance, which was established by a number of black organisations following Enoch Powell's 'rivers of blood' speech in April 1968. The Black Peoples Alliance and Indian Workers Association worked together on several campaigns against racism and imperialism during this period. It is likely that the Indian Workers Association also supported the activities of the other organisations whose papers are featured here.

Black Peoples Alliance material consists of:

/1 open letter to James Callaghan, Home Secretary of Harold Wilson's Labour government, condemning the public assault of a Nigerian diplomat following an alleged parking offence, and the treatment of five black youths arrested by Brixton police following this incident, November 1969

/2 Black Peoples Alliance newsletter, January/February 1970, containing articles on racist attacks on black and Asian people worldwide, and further information about the incidents in Brixton in November 1969 which resulted in the arrest of a group of young black people following the assault of a Nigerian diplomat

/3 flyer giving information about a demonstration by 'black and white militants' to protests at the 'extradition and plot to murder Bobby Seale, chairman of the Black Panther Party in the US' following his imprisonment in California, and against police harassment of demonstrators and the arrest of other 'black and white militants'. The demonstration took place at Hyde Park, followed by a march to the US Embassy in Grosvenor Square, March 1970

/4 open letter delivered by the Black Peoples Alliance demonstration to the US Embassy in London 15 March 1970, condemning the actions of the US authorities against the Black Panther Party, the oppression of black people in America, and US imperialism in Vietnam. The letter is signed by Jagmohan Joshi, convenor of the Black Peoples Alliance

/5 undated leaflet giving information about a forum on national liberation struggles in Africa, Asian and the Caribbean at Dr Johnson's House, Birmingham, 20 July. The leaflet gives the names of the speakers at this forum, and discusses the need for all black peoples to campaign against racism and British and American imperialism.

/6 undated leaflet in Punjabi issued by the Black People's Alliance. It addresses some of the criticisms raised against the formation, programme and activities of the organisation
Material of other black organisations consists of:

/7 pamphlet entitled 'Play the Black Man: Britain's Race

Laws' prepared and published by the West Indian Standing Conference. The pamphlet explains the terms of the Race Relations Act 1965, and discusses its limitations

/8 pamphlet entitled 'The Unsquare Deal: London's Bus Colour Bar', prepared and published by the West Indian Standing Conference, July 1967. The pamphlet investigates cases of racial discrimination within London Transport, particularly against Barbadian migrants who applied for promotion

/9 Black Power newsletter published by the Universal Coloured Peoples Association [UCPA] and People's Voice September 1968

/10 Black People's News Service, a newsletter published by the Black Panther Movement in Britain, December 1969. The newsletter contains national and international news, including articles about the arrest of young black people in Brixton following the assault of a Nigerian diplomat; several cases of police brutality against black people; the activities of the Black Panther movement in America; and life for black people in Zimbabwe/Rhodesia

/11 copy of Afro-Asian Solidarity, the journal of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Movement, volume 1, number 3, April 1970. This organisation appears to have been a Maoist Communist group, and the journal contains several articles about the People's Republic of China, as well as other pieces about revolutionary and anti-imperialist struggles across the world

/12 constitution of the United Black People's Organisation, Sheffield, undated. The reverse of this constitution contains handwritten notes in Jagmohan Joshi's writing concerning the activities of the Black Peoples Alliance and Universal Coloured Peoples Association

/13 open letter to supporters from the Black Unity and Freedom Party, discussing the organisation's aims, objectives and activities, and enquiring whether other black movements would consider developing their relations with this group, undated.

/14 leaflet listing the aims and objectives of the Racial Adjustment Action Society, and calling on black people in Britain to participate in the movement. The leaflet is signed by the group's organiser, Roy Sawh, undated

/15 undated flyer protesting against the formation of a 'National Black People's Organisation', described by the flyer as a 'National Uncle Toms Organisation' by black professional people who 'have made it in white society'. The flyer gives a list of some of the committee members of this group, and claims that its formation 'is an attempt to recreate CARD..this is setting us back 10 years'

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/C/5 British Soviet Friendship Society, Birmingham branch 1960-1962

The British Soviet Friendship Society was established in 1927 to promote peace, friendship and mutual understanding between people living in Britain and the Soviet Union. The organisation arranged cultural activities and exchange visits, and many local branches were twinned with towns and cities in the Soviet Union and developed links with trade unionists, schools, universities, theatres and museums. It appears that the Russia Today Society and the National Committee for British-Soviet Unity merged with the organisation.

Source:

<http://www.hull.ac.uk/oldlib/archives/pressure/friends.html>

Available March 2007

Description:

Policy papers; reports; financial statements; and campaign material of the Birmingham branch of the organisation, mostly dating from 1961. Several papers concern the 1961 General Conference of the British Soviet Friendship Society, which was held in Birmingham at the Digbeth Institute. It is likely that Jagmohan Joshi and Avtar Jouhl and probably other members of the Indian Workers Association were members of this organisation.

Material consists of:

/1-7 papers concerning the 11th General Conference of the British Soviet Friendship Society, May 1961. These include a flyer inviting delegates to the conference; resolutions; additional resolutions submitted by the Birmingham branch to the Conference, together with a list of nominations for office; Biennial Report and financial statements of the British Soviet Friendship Society for 1959 and 1960 prepared for the General Conference; report on the Conference proceedings, including details about those elected to the National Council, and some of the recent activities of the Society

/8 leaflet about the history and activities of the Birmingham branch of the British Soviet Friendship Society issued to delegates attending the 1961 General Conference in Birmingham

/9 circular letter inviting individuals or organisations to participate in a British Soviet Friendship Society Birmingham branch coach outing to the Soviet Exhibition and Trade Fair at Earls Court, London, 15 July 1961

/10 circular letter from the secretary of the Birmingham branch of the British Soviet Friendship Society giving information about a public meeting at which a member of the Institute of World Economic and International Affairs

will present the Soviet Union's proposals on disarmament, nuclear tests, and Berlin, July 1961

/11 copy of a joint press statement issued by the Secretary of the Birmingham branch of the British Soviet Friendship Society; Councillor J. T. Webster and the Secretary of the Birmingham and District Co-operative Party following their return from a visit to the Soviet Union. The press statement attempts to explain the views of the Soviet people on disarmament and Germany, September 1961. This statement was circulated to members, and includes an advertisement for a talk given by Commander Edgar Young on 'The Soviet Union, Disarmament and Germany' at the Midland Institute, October 1961

/12-/13 letter from Progressive Tours giving information about a holiday to Czechoslovakia for groups of Trade Unionists and their families, together with an itinerary and information about the dates and cost of the trip

/14 leaflet giving information about a holiday to the Soviet Union organised by the Birmingham branch of the British Soviet Friendship Society which will include visits to factories, collective farms, and co-operative organisations in various cities, including the Birmingham branch's sister city Sverdlovsk in the summer of 1962

/15 invitation from Brains Trust on the Soviet Union to a display of coloured slides of the Soviet Union at the Midland Institute, December 1961

/16 circular letter to members giving information about forthcoming branch meetings, and events at the Midland Institute which include a film show on a Birmingham teacher's holiday in the Soviet Union in 1960, and a talk by Mr Mateveyev from Moscow's 'Izvestia' on 'The Soviet Union and Peace', January 1962

/17 circular letter to members giving information about branch activities, including the Soviet Union holiday in July 1962; and exhibition on the teaching of Mathematics in the Soviet School, held at Birmingham University; and a film show at the Midland Institute

See also MS 1824 for minutes and papers of the Birmingham branch of the British Soviet Friendship Society, 1975-1990. The University of Hull Archives and Special Collections holds some records of the British-Soviet Friendship Society, 1941-1972

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/C/6

Campaign Against Racist Laws

1979-1983

The Campaign Against Racist Laws [CARL] was established in 1979 by representatives from a number of black and Asian campaigning groups and anti-racist

organisations to work together to oppose the trend of legislation to tighten controls on immigration into Britain. The organisation was particularly active in campaigning against the White Paper in 1979 and the Nationality Bill which became the 1981 Nationality Act. CARL remained active during the 1980s, and subsequent demonstration and conferences organised by CARL also focused on efforts to oppose racist legislation introduced by the government. The Indian Workers Association approached other organisations in 1979 to discuss ways of campaigning together on issues of immigration and nationality, and Avtar Jouhl and other members of all three Indian Workers Association groups existing at the time were elected to the mobilising committee.

Description:

Campaign material produced by the Campaign Against Racist Laws [CARL] for demonstrations and conferences mainly dating from 1979 and 1980 and organised in opposition to Nationality and immigration legislation proposed by the incoming Conservative government led by Margaret Thatcher, but also including some campaign flyers for a demonstration in 1983.

Papers consist of:

/1 copy letter from Teja Singh Sahota and Avtar Jouhl on behalf of the Indian Workers Association asking other organisations to attend a meeting to discuss the formation of a national body to launch a campaign on issues surrounding the proposed Nationality and immigration legislation, 20 August 1979

/2 letter to Avtar Jouhl from the Senior Field Officer of the Commission for Racial Equality suggesting that the Action Group on Immigration and Nationality already deals with issues surrounding immigration legislation on a national basis, 20 September 1979

/3-/5 Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants briefings and press statements on the White Paper on Immigration; the Government's Immigration Proposals; and Foreign Husbands, November 1979

/6 newspaper article from the 'Morning Star', 8 October 1979 reporting on the build-up to a national conference and demonstration against immigration proposals sponsored by the Indian Workers Association and by other anti-racist groups

/7 open letter asking supporters to attend a mobilising conference for the newly formed Campaign Against Racist Laws and giving a list of organisations and Members of Parliament supporting the organisation to date. A national demonstration was scheduled to take place on 2

December 1979

/8 list of names of individuals elected to the mobilising committee for the campaign against immigration laws, with details of the organisations they represented, 20 October 1979

/9 letter to supporters from Jerry Fitzpatrick for the mobilising committee, issued on Campaign for Racist Laws headed paper, asking for support for the first mobilising committee meeting, and for organisations to book coaches and distribute posters and leaflets ahead of the demonstration, which has been brought forward to 25 November

/10 handwritten notes about activities of 'CRC' [possibly Community Relations Commission] written on notepad which also contains a list of names and organisations, and notes on the CARL National Mobilising Committee meeting November 1979

/11 copy letter from Jouhl to Jerry [Fitzpatrick] referring to arrangements for the 25 November demonstration against Nationality and immigration legislation, enclosing a 'list of names, amendments passed and other papers', together with a list of signatures of people attending an unidentified meeting, and the organisations they represented, November 1979

/11 flyer in English and Punjabi giving information about the demonstration organised for 25 November 1979 to 'Stop the Tory Racist Laws' and 'Repeal the 1971 Immigration Act'

/12 open letter sent to supporters asking for support for the 25 November 1979 demonstration, and for donations to the campaign. The reverse of this letter contains the names of individuals, organisations and Members of Parliament sponsoring the Campaign Against Racist Laws
/13-/14 two letters to supporters, one signed by Avtar Jouhl, Chief Steward of the National Mobilising Committee, the other signed by Parminder Vir for the National Mobilising Committee, asking supporters to distribute leaflets and posters and to attend a steward's meeting, as well as to request their organisation to picket the UK High Commission

/15-/20 correspondence between the organisation Women Against Rape and representatives from Campaign Against Racist Laws concerning the arrest of Judit Kertesz of Women Against Rape at the demonstration against immigration controls whilst attempting to speak to an organiser. These papers include a letter from the arrested woman thanking the Indian Workers Association Birmingham branch for their support on the march; a flyer issued by Women Against Rape campaigning against the new immigration proposals introduced by the Conservative

government; a photocopy of a letter from Avtar Jouhl to Women Against Rape explaining that he has contacted Jerry Fitzpatrick of CARL and suggesting that he will write to the police on the organisation's behalf; and a photocopy of photographs taken at the 25 November 1979 demonstration in Hyde Park and Trafalgar Square

/21 letter to supporters from Jerry Fitzpatrick for CARL inviting people to attend the National Recall CARL Conference on 22 March 1980, and asking for people to support vigils outside Parliament until the parliamentary vote on the new immigration laws. The letter also mentions a national demonstration to be held on 27 April in remembrance of the violence at Southall in April 1979 and the death of Blair Peach at this demonstration, 20 February 1980

/22 letter to supporters from Jerry Fitzpatrick for CARL giving information about a mobilising committee meeting to be held at the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre in Birmingham to discuss a forthcoming march organised with the Asian Youth Movement in Bradford, 25 February 1980

/23 letter inviting supporters to the National Recall CARL conference on 22 March 1980 and encouraging people to make a donation to the campaign

/24 typescript list of declarations made at the CARL Conference in March 1980

/25 flyer in English and Punjabi giving information about a demonstration in remembrance of Blair Peach, to expose police brutality, and to protest against racist attacks, April 1980

/26 letter to members of the CARL mobilising committee giving information about a meeting to be held at the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre on 18 May 1980 to discuss the progress of the campaign so far, and to finalise details of the Black Freedom March

/27-/28 handwritten draft minutes of a CARL mobilising committee meeting probably held on 18 May 1980, and letter from Vishnu Sharma, conveying apologies for his absence from the meeting. The minutes include details of representatives attending.

/29-/30 letter to Avtar Jouhl from the South London branch of CARL enclosing leaflets advertising a public meeting organised by this group to take place on 10 September 1980 and urging Indian Workers Association members to support this meeting. The leaflets discuss the proposed Nationality Act and offers the opportunity to affiliate to CARL

/31-/32 minutes of a CARL newsletter organising meeting held on 9 May 1980, together with a photocopied typescript proposal for the format and content of a CARL

newsletter, put together by Bernard Misrahi
/33 letter to supporters giving details about a Recall Conference to be held to discuss the Black Freedom March provisionally arranged for August 1980. The letter includes an agenda for this conference, and details of conference fees
/34 printed pamphlet entitled 'Passport to Racism: A Critique of the Conservative Government's White Paper on British Nationality Law', by Rudy Narayan, September 1980. The pamphlet was written for the West Indian Standing Conference and was distributed free to all Labour Parties and affiliated organisations, and to all Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Kashmiri and West Indian organisations in Britain
/35-/39 various flyers in English, Punjabi and Urdu giving details about a demonstration and open-air festival organised by CARL 27 March 1983. One flyer gives details about the music and poetry performers who will be at the festival. Most of the flyers were issued by CARL, but one was issued by the Indian Workers Association and gives information about pick-up points for coaches leaving Birmingham and Smethwick

See MS 2142/D/5 for further material relating to the Campaign Against Racist Laws

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/C/7 Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination, 1961-1968

The Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination [CCARD] was set up in 1961 by the West Indian Workers Association; Indian Workers Association; and Pakistani Workers Association, in collaboration with the Birmingham University Socialist Union and other groups including the Methodist Mission; Movement for Colonial Freedom and Jewish Ex-Servicemen's Association. A report in 'World News' December 1961 suggests that it was founded at after a meeting in Digbeth called by the West Indian Workers Association and the Indian Youth League to protest the suspected CIA murder of Patrice Lumumba, the leader of the Congolese revolution.

The organisation was established to fight racial intolerance and promote racial harmony, and campaigned to repeal immigration legislation and to introduce laws to outlaw racial discrimination and racial hatred. It demonstrated against the first immigration control bill, which became the 1962 Commonwealth Immigration Act, and took up issues relating to racial discrimination in employment, education and housing, and became involved in individual cases of racial discrimination in Birmingham and Smethwick. Although much of its casework was based in the West Midlands, its focus was nationwide, and it organised a lobby of parliament in December 1965 to protest against the White Paper on Immigration. CCARD worked with the Indian Workers Association on many anti-racist campaigns, and the two organisations worked together on the pamphlet 'The Victims Speak' in 1965. CCARD also had an international scope, and built links with the civil rights movement in America. Victor Yates, Labour MP for Ladywood, was president/chair of CCARD during the mid 1960s.

Founder members included Jagmohan Joshi of the Indian Workers Association and Maurice Ludmer of the Jewish Ex-Servicemen's Association. Jagmohan Joshi was campaign secretary, and when he became committee secretary he was succeeded in the post by Shirley Fossick, who later married Joshi.

CCARD was probably wound down during the late 1960s, but its campaigns were continued by other organisations, including the Indian Workers Association.

Sources: interview with Shirley Joshi, October 2005; 'Racism in the Age of Globalisation' by A. Sivanandan, published on Independent Race and Refugee News Network website <http://www.irr.org.uk/2004/october/ha000024.html> Accessed August 2006

Description:

Campaign material consisting of press statements; correspondence; reports; draft articles and newspaper cuttings relating to CCARD campaigns during the early to mid 1960s, primarily concerning opposition to immigration legislation and concern about racial discrimination, particularly in Birmingham and Smethwick.

MS 2141/C/7/1	<u>Race relations and racial discrimination</u> Press statements; articles; correspondence; flyers and newspaper cuttings on the general issue of racial discrimination and the activities of the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination in protesting against racist attacks and cases of discrimination against black and Asian migrants in housing, education and employment, particularly in the Smethwick area where the Smethwick Conservatives were blaming migrants for social problems. Other papers concern the efforts of the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination and other groups in lobbying for the introduction of legislation against racial discrimination during the early and mid 1960s	1961-1968
	Papers consist of: /1 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi, secretary of Co-ordinating Committee against Racial Hatred, to the Lord Mayor of Birmingham about racial tension in the city, and asking if he would receive a deputation of various immigrant organisations to discuss racial antagonism. This letter is undated, but it was probably written in the early 1960s, before the group became known as the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination /2 typescript statement issued by the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination setting out the organisation's aims, objectives and activities, giving details of the organisations supporting its statements, and appealing for people to support the work of the Committee /3 typescript article entitled 'Let My People Go' by Shirley Fossick, discussing the experiences of Indian migrants to Britain in the late 1950s and early 1960s. This article was	

probably published at the same time that 'Mazdoor' was launched as the journal of the Indian Workers Association in 1961

/4 handwritten draft statement condemning the proposed establishment of an all white organisation in Smethwick by Councillor Don Finney, for distribution to local print and broadcast media organisations

/5 letter to Joshi from Victor Yates, MP explaining his reasons for not being able to continue as CCARD president, 9 September 1962

/6 draft typescript article entitled 'Racialism' written by Jagmohan Joshi and Shirley Fossick for CCARD. The article discusses racial discrimination in the aftermath of the passing of the 1962 Commonwealth Immigration Act. A handwritten Punjabi copy of this article is attached.

/7 handwritten draft press statement in response to Sir Alec Douglas Home's statement on immigration and his failure to condemn the racist activities of members of the Smethwick Conservative Association

/8 handwritten draft press statement condemning the murder of a group of black men in Birmingham, Alabama, the action of the police in shooting at the crowds protesting against the murders, and the comments by Governor Wallace on the incident, September 1963

/9 typescript draft press statement giving information about a lobby of parliament in support of legislation against racial discrimination. The statement mentions the views of Sir Edward Boyle, Minister of Education 1962-1964 and refers to Fenner Brockway's bill for legislation against racial discrimination

/10 handwritten draft press statement calling on the Coventry Education Committee to dismiss Colin Jordan, leader of the National Socialist Movement, from employment [as mathematics teacher] because of his extreme political views

/11 typescript press statement on CCARD headed paper expressing opposition to the policy of Smethwick Conservatives to ban all immigration to Britain

/12 typescript press statement on CCARD headed paper condemning the conviction of Nelson Mandela and others in the South Africa sabotage trial and urging people to join a demonstration for their release and the end of the system of apartheid, 12 June 1964.

/13 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi on behalf of CCARD appealing for funds in order for the organisation to continue its work in preventing racist organisations from speaking in Birmingham. The letter mentions the success of recent campaigning which has seen Oswald Mosley, Colin Jordan and the League of the Friends of the Nazis denied the use of Birmingham halls for their meetings, 18

June 1964

/14 letter from Jocelyn Barrow, General Secretary of the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination, asking 'all organisations interested in the welfare and future of immigrants in this country' to attend a Round Table Conference to discuss ways of combating racism. The letter includes an agenda for this meeting, which includes an address by Dr David Pitt, September 1965

/15 flyer for a protest rally organised by CCARD against the White Paper on Commonwealth Immigration at Digbeth Civic Hall, 12 September 1965

/16 invoice to the 'Community Against Racial Discrimination' from the Arden Hotel, Birmingham, 1 November 1965

/17 open letter to the leader of the Labour Party, Harold Wilson from CCARD; the Federation of Pakistani Welfare Organisations; the Indian Workers Association; Birmingham University Student Campaign Against Racial Discrimination; and the West Indian Standing Conference. The letter expresses disappointment at the controls on immigration introduced by the Labour government since 1964, and urges Wilson to follow up anti-racist speeches with action against racism in politics

Newspaper cuttings include articles about a CCARD petition organised in support of campaign for legislation against racial discrimination; article about Harry Baker, secretary of Birmingham Trades Council, withdrawing support for CCARD petition because of Communist signatories 1961; and an article about Indian Workers Association members seeking a meeting with Labour MP for Smethwick Patrick Gordon Walker to discuss discrimination against Indians in Smethwick 1962. Other articles discuss immigration controls; the racist policies of Smethwick Conservatives; CCARD lobbying to outlaw racial discrimination and the organisation's support of Fenner Brockway's bill; a reply by Avtar Jouhl printed in the 'Smethwick Telephone' 1963 about the rights of Indian immigrants to be in Britain; 'Daily Express', 'Daily Mail' and 'The Times' report on the 'Victims Speak' pamphlet exposing unequal pay to immigrant workers 1965, the operation of 'colour bar' in Smethwick public houses and factories and in Birmingham hotels and leisure facilities; an informal meeting for tea between the wives of Smethwick councillors and the wives of members of the Indian Workers Association. There is also a report from 'World News' about the collaborative work of the Indian Workers Association, the West Indian Workers Association and the Pakistani Workers Association, and the formation of the

Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination in Dec 1961.

Extent: 1 File

MS
2141/C/7/2

'Immigrants and Housing'

1961-1968

Campaign file largely containing newspaper cuttings, but also including statements by the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination concerning racial discrimination against black and Asian people in the allocation of council housing during the mid 1960s. Newspaper cuttings focus on cases of discrimination by local authorities against immigrant communities in particularly in London, but also in Birmingham and the West Midlands. One mentions the study of Sparkbrook commissioned by Survey of Race Relations in Britain and the work of the Sparkbrook Association and its founder member Dr Molly Barrow. Another gives details of special housing programmes for immigrants proposed by the Labour Minister of Housing Richard Crossman. There are also pages from 'Social Service News' August 1961 containing an article entitled 'Immigration and the colour bar' which takes the form of questions and answers challenging myths and prejudices about migrants and immigration

The file also contains other papers. These consist of:
/1 copy letter from Jagmohan Joshi on behalf of the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination to Richard Crossman, Minister of Housing, complaining about Smethwick Conservatives racist housing policy in asking the local council to buy houses in order to prevent black and Asian migrants from buying houses there, December 1964

/2 statement issued by the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination and written by Maurice Ludmer, 15 July 1968, rejecting a report issued by the General Purposes Committee of Birmingham City Council about housing and immigrants and mentioning the case of Mr and Mrs Coles. Full details of their case are attached to this statement.

This case summary is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 because it contains sensitive personal information about individuals

Access: Partially closed until 01/01/2049. Part of this file is closed under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 until 2049 because it contains sensitive personal

information about individuals. The remainder of the file is available for consultation. Remove marked 'closed' items before serving.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/C/8

Communist Party of Great Britain

1960-1981

The Communist Party of Great Britain [CPGB] was formed in 1920 after the Third International decided that greater attempts should be made to establish communist parties across the world. The Communist Party supported the Russian Revolution and for many years accepted Russian funds in order to spread its ideas. Initially it attempted to work within the Labour Party but was never affiliated. Even during this period, the Communist Party of Great Britain fielded its own candidates at parliamentary elections. Support for the CPGB was concentrated in particular trades, specifically in heavy engineering, textiles and mining, and in addition tended to be concentrated regionally in the coalfields, certain industrial cities such as Glasgow and in Jewish East London. There was an increase in membership during the period of high unemployment in the late 1920s and 1930s, but instead of building a party based on mass membership, the CPGB decided to follow the Leninist doctrine that communist parties should be run by a small revolutionary elite, excluding all but the ultra-committed. The CPGB also decided that it would follow directives issued from Moscow whether or not they applied to British circumstances. This succeeded in isolating the CPGB from the working classes, who they were supposedly there to represent, and drove away potential recruits, most of whom joined the mainstream Labour Party.

Following Hitler's rise to power in Germany, all Communist Parties realised the need to ally with anti-fascist forces, and in Britain, the CPGB forged an alliance with the Labour Party and even with parties to the right of Labour. The CPGB played a leading role in the struggle against Oswald Mosley's British Union of Fascists in London and other British towns and cities, and organised volunteers to fight for the Spanish government against fascism.

Following the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, the CPGB campaigned for peace, seeing it as an imperialist war in which the working classes had no side to take. Between 1939 and 1941 it was active in supporting strikes and denouncing the government for its involvement in the conflict. However, following the invasion of the Soviet Union by the Nazis, the CPGB changed its stance and supported the war as a struggle between fascism and the Soviet Union.

The CPGB experienced its greatest ever loss of membership as a result of the intervention of the Warsaw Pact armies and their crushing of the workers uprising in Hungary in 1956. After 1956, the party increasingly functioned as a pressure group, seeking to use its well-organised base in the trade union movement to push the Labour Party leftwards. The international split between Moscow and Beijing in 1961 led to divisions within many Communist Parties but there was no split in the British party until later, when a group formed around Reg Birch, an engineering union official, to establish the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist). Initially, this group supported the position of the Communist Party of China. During the 1970s and 1980s, the CPGB was increasingly affected by factional struggles and splinter groups, and in 1991 when the Soviet Union collapsed, the party was disbanded, and renamed as Democratic Left, a left-leaning political think tank rather than a political party.

Sources:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Communist_Party_of_Great_Britain Accessed August 2006

Description:

Correspondence; circular briefings; election material and policy flyers; and draft articles mainly issued by the Midlands District Committee and Birmingham City Committee of the Communist Party of Great Britain [CPGB] relating to activities and political campaigns in 1960 and 1961. There is also material relating to the formation of the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) which split from the Communist Party of Great Britain in 1968, and an item dating from 1979 that probably relates to a Communist Party congress that year. Many members of the Indian Workers Association with communist sympathies joined the Communist Party of Great Britain when they arrived in the country, partly because it was seen as easier to join than the Communist Party of India. Many were active in CPGB campaigns during the early 1960s, but later formed the Association of Indian Communists following ideological disagreements.

Papers consist of:

/1 letter to Avtar Jouhl from Harry Bourne, Midlands District Committee, asking him to attend a meeting in Manchester and to contact the office or Maurice Ludmer to confirm attendance, 26 April 1960

/2 press statement issued by the Birmingham City Committee of the CPGB giving information about the Small Heath Bye-Election, 9 March 1961

/3 Agenda for a meeting of the Birmingham City

- Committee of the CPGB 23 March 1961, together with minutes of the Birmingham City Committee meeting 16 March 1961, signed by Bill Dunn, City Secretary
- /4 circular letter from Bill Dunn to members with an interest in the housing situation in Birmingham, inviting them to attend a discussion with Councillor Jack Webster on the issue at the Midland Institute, 9 April 1961
- /5 Circular letter and flyer for the May Day demonstration 1961, giving information about events on the day and setting out the demands of the CPGB
- /6 election campaign material setting out the reasons why people should vote Communist in municipal elections in Birmingham 1961
- /7 CPGB Midlands District Committee bulletin 16 May 1961 giving election results for Birmingham, Coventry, South Staffordshire and North Staffordshire
- /8 Birmingham City Committee Campaign Letter No.1, 12 June 1961 discussing the local activities of the party. This letter was issued for discussion at branch committees and includes information about forthcoming demonstrations and social events
- /9 circular letter to members of the Birmingham City Committee of the CPGB giving information about a Speakers Training Class to demonstrate the method of compiling a speech, to be held 25 June 1961
- /10 Agenda for a meeting of the Birmingham City Committee of the CPGB 24 August 1961, with minutes of a City Committee meeting that took place on 13 July 1961 and Executive Committee meetings 27 July and 17 August 1961
- /11 Midlands District Congress district resolution on the Political Report of the CPGB and its effects on the policy and programme in the Midlands, November 1964
- /12 undated flyer issued by Birmingham Young Communist League giving information about a talk given by Dick Etheridge on the need for young workers to join trade unions
- /13 annotated typescript of a speech given at the first public meeting called by the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist). The typescript is anonymous and undated, but the speech contains a reference to the recent arrest of Jagmohan Joshi and other members of the Indian Workers Association during Harold Wilson's visit to Birmingham in May 1968.
- /14 Bulletin of the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) No. 4
- /15 annotated typescript article on the need for a new Communist Party in Britain, other than the CPGB and the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist)
- /16 Resolutions of 36th National Congress 1979 on Tory

plans to intensify racism in immigration procedures and tighten 1971 Immigration Act. This
 /17 letter to Avtar Jouhl from Dave Cook, Communist Party of Great Britain, inviting Indian Workers Association members to attend a conference on 'Racism and the Police' to be held in January 1981, and asking Jouhl to make a contribution to the discussion, 28 October 1980
 /18-/20 flyer and programme for the 'Racism and the Police' conference organised by the Communist Party National Race Relations Committee 31 January 1981, together with a covering letter from the conference organiser Vishnu Sharma
 /21 letter to Avtar Jouhl from Vishnu Sharma, thanking him for his contribution to the 'Racism and the Police' conference, 6 February 1981

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/C/9

Communist Party of India

1974-1983

The Communist Party of India [CPI] maintains that it was founded in 1925, but the Communist Party of India (Marxist), which split from the Communist Party of India in the 1960s, claims that the party was founded in 1920. During the 1920s and 1930s the party was badly organised, and there were several communist groups working on a regional level with little national coordination. All communist activity was banned by the British colonial authorities, making it more difficult to establish a united party. The party was accepted as the Indian section of the Communist Third International in 1935. After the Soviet Union joined the Allies in 1941, following its invasion by the Nazis, the Communist Party of India was legalised for the first time. At the same time, communists were criticised for their opposition to the Quit India Movement. During the late 1940s and 1950s, the party led armed struggles in Tripura, Telangana and Kerala against a series of local monarchs that were reluctant to give up their power. The most important rebellion took place in Telangana, against the Nizam of Hyderabad. The communists built up a people's army and militia and controlled an area with a population of three million. After the rebellion was brutally crushed, the party abandoned the policy of armed struggle. In the general elections in 1957, the Communist Party of India emerged as the largest opposition party, and won the state elections in Kerala. A serious rift within the party surfaced in 1962 with the outbreak of the Sino-Indian War. The Soviet faction of Indian communists backed the position of the Indian government, while other sections of the party claimed that

it was a conflict between a socialist and a capitalist state, and thus took a pro-Chinese position. Hundreds of CPI leaders accused of being pro-Chinese were imprisoned. In 1964 two different party conferences were held, one of CPI and one of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), and thus the party was split.

During the period 1970-77, CPI was allied with the Congress party, and formed a government with Congress in Kerala. After the fall of the regime of Indira Gandhi, CPI reoriented itself towards cooperation with CPI(M).

Sources:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Communist_Party_of_India
[Accessed August 2006](#)

Description:

Press statements; resolutions; typescript and published articles and pamphlets issued by the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist). Members of the Indian Workers Association led by Jagmohan Joshi during the 1960s and 1970s supported this party rather than the Communist Party of India because of its pro-Chinese views.

Papers consist of:

/1-/2 draft and final version of a statement issued by the Central Organising Committee of the Communist Party of India (M-L) on the armed struggle of Naxalite peasants in India, February 1974

/3 draft resolution on the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party in India, December 1975

/4 Copy of 'Red Flag', the bulletin of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist), No.1 May 1977

/5 press release by Satya Narain Singh, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) hailing the defeat of the Congress party and the victory of the Communist-led United Left Front in West Bengal in elections, June 1977

/6 flyer issued by the Maharashtra State Committee of the Communist Party of India (M-L) condemning the repression of peasants and workers and the persecution of 'Dalits', and urging people to defend the 'Peoples Movement'

/7 photocopy of pages from 'Frontier', 23 July 1977 consisting of an article entitled 'When Will They Be Freed', focusing on the detention of political prisoners in West Bengal

/8 photocopy of a typescript article entitled 'Defend the Andhra Forest Movement', issued by the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) Andhra Pradesh Committee, 15 August 1977

/9 press statement in Punjabi issued by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) about the violence in Punjabi 4 April 1983

See MS 2142/D/7 for further papers relating to the Communist Party of India

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/C/10

Joint Committee Against Racism

1979-1980

Joan Lestor, Labour MP and a former editor of Searchlight magazine, was the central figure behind the Joint Committee Against Racism [JCAR], which was launched in December 1977. The organisation was seen as an alternative, more moderate version of the Anti-Nazi League. It attracted wide support from the Labour Party, Liberal Party, the British Council of Churches, various immigrant organisations, the National Union of Students and the National Union of Conservative Associations. The Board of Deputies of British Jews also supported the group. There were difficulties in getting such a broad-based organisation to agree to policies, and activity focused on the distribution of anti-racist literature. JCAR also lobbied parliament on the issue of racist attacks and harassment of black and Asian people living in Britain. The group produced a wide ranging report on racist attacks in Britain which was presented to the Home Office in 1981 and led to changes in the law on race relations. Gavin Grant was organiser of JCAR, and Joan Lestor and Shelagh Roberts served as the first Co-Chairs. Shelagh Roberts was succeeded by James Lankin, and Eric Pickles was Co-Chairman of JCAR between 1982 and 1987.

Sources: Website of David Renton, historian of the Anti-Nazi League <http://www.dkrenton.co.uk/anl/working.html> Accessed August 2006

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eric_Pickles Accessed August 2006

Description:

Minutes; reports; press statements and policy briefings issued by the Joint Committee Against Racism, which some members of the Indian Workers Association may have been involved with. Members of the Indian Workers Association (Southall) were certainly active in this organisation. Papers consist of:

/1 Executive Minutes 19 November 1979

/2 Executive Minutes 7 January 1980

- /3 Annual Report 1979, including details of income and expenditure
- /4 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 21 January 1980
- /5-/6 letter to supporters from Gavin Grant, Organising Secretary of JCAR concerning membership of a working group on Race and Housing, enclosing the terms of reference of this group, 28 January 1980
- /7 handwritten letter to Avtar Jouhl from Gavin Grant, apologising for not sending him material for the JCAR Annual General Meeting in advance and offering to meet representatives of the Indian Workers Association to discuss involvement in JCAR, 11 February 1980
- /8 Memorandum on Public Order submitted to the Home Affairs Committee by the Board of Deputies of British Jews 13 March 1980, concerning the banning of demonstrations inciting racial hatred
- /9 circular letter to full members of JCAR giving details about current campaigns and asking for copies of any evidence submitted to the Home Affairs Committee on Race Relations and the 'Sus' Law, 26 March 1980
- /10 letter to JCAR Council members giving details about the next Council meeting on 30 April 1980
- /11 press release on the appointment of new members to the JCAR Executive which also gives details about the organisations making up JCAR and a summary of the organisation's aims, undated
- /12 press release on the election of leaders in Britain's Asian community to senior posts within JCAR, including Piara Khabra, President of the Indian Workers Association (Southall) and Tasadduq Ahmed, London Convenor of the Federation of Bangladesh Associations, undated
- /13 draft programme of the Joint Committees Against Racism, undated
- /14 JCAR paper on the proposed Youth and Student sections of the organisation, undated
- /15 Minutes of the Race and the Law Working Party, held at the British Youth Council
- /16 photocopy of Bill for Local Government Grants (Ethnic Groups) 1980

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/C/11

National Association of Asian Youth

1979-1980

The National Association of Asian Youth was set up in the early 1970s as the National Association of Indian Youth. The organisation appears to have received financial assistance from the Arts Council of Great Britain during the 1980s, according to Arts Council records held at the Victoria and Albert Museum

Source: <http://www.vam.ac.uk/vastatic/wid/ead/acgb/acgb-1m-q.html> Available March 2007

Description:

/1 Information Bulletin No.6, May-June 1979, focusing on the events that took place in Southall on 23 April 1979 at which anti-racist activists were involved in disturbances with National Front supporters.

/2 circular letter from Ravi Jain, General Secretary of National Association for Asian Youth (formerly National Association of Indian Youth) with details of the 6th Annual Conference of the organisation at Nottingham University in September 1979

/3 letter to Avtar Jouhl from a representative of the National Association for Asian Youth with details of an annual conference to be held in Birmingham, and inviting him to speak, mentioning that he had also spoken at the 1979 conference.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/C/12

Indian Peoples Association in North America

1976-1986

The Indian Peoples Association in North America was founded in June 1975 after a three day convention in Montreal, Canada. It was an organisation of progressive, patriotic Indians living in North America to work together in supporting people in India. The organisation campaigned against the domination of the country by American and Soviet imperialism, to win genuine democracy for the majority of the people, and to attain decent living conditions. Their first campaigns focused on opposition to the State of Emergency introduced by Indira Gandhi's government in India during the mid 1970s, and the organisation aimed to build a broad front of progressive support through mass propaganda and education to oppose fascism and dictatorship in India and discrimination and racism against Indians in North America. The organisation had bases in Vancouver in Canada and Boston and New York in the United States of America.

Description:

Correspondence; press releases and circular statements; and publications and flyers of the Indian Peoples Association of North America [IPANA]. Avtar Jouhl and other members of the Indian Workers Association were supporters of this organisation, and the two Associations worked together to exchange information on the struggles

of South Asians living in Europe and North America, and to exchange the literature of Indian Marxist-Leninist organisations. They also worked together on cultural projects. Most correspondence in this file dates from 1979 and 1980, but there are also a small number of papers with earlier and later dates.

Papers consist of:

- /1 circular letter from Hari P. Sharma enclosing a complimentary sample copy of the first issue of the IPANA publication 'New India Bulletin'
- /2 copy of 'New India Bulletin', March-April 1976 containing articles about peasant struggles in India and the activities of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist)
- /3 copy of 'New India Bulletin', May-June 1976 containing an editorial article on the activities of the organisation during its first year
- /4-/5 letter from Harinder Mahil, Chairperson of IPANA, to Avtar Jouhl, expressing sympathy following the death of Jagmohan Joshi. The rest of the letter discusses financial arrangements for Sant Ram Udasi's visit to Canada and England, and plans to bring out a book of his poems/songs
- 3 July 1979, with a reply from Avtar Jouhl, 20 July 1979
- /6 letter from Harinder Mahil to Avtar Jouhl discussing dates for Sant Ram Udasi's visit to England, 14 August 1979
- /7 circular letter from Harinder Mahil to IPANA Executive, with a copy to the Indian Workers Association consisting of minutes of a meeting between representatives of IPANA and the Indian Workers Association that took place in Toronto, 18 September 1979 to discuss joint activities
- /8 letter from Harinder Mahil to Avtar Jouhl discussing matters to follow up resulting from the meeting between members of IPANA and the Indian Workers Association during a Mahil's visit to England, 6 October 1979
- /9 copy letter from Avtar Jouhl to Hari Sharma, IPANA, discussing the production of a book and recording of Sant Ram Udasi's poetry, and the Punjabi translation of Ye Jianying's speech, 15 October 1979
- /10 flyer issued by IPANA giving information about a demonstration on 8 December in Vancouver to denounce the detention, beatings and harassment of Harinder Mahil by Punjab police in Faridkot, India after he addressed a Conference on Civil Liberties and Democratic Rights in Baghapurana, 9 November 1979
- /11 open letter to the President of India condemning the arrest of Harinder Mahil and demanding that an inquiry be conducted into his treatment
- /12 press statement issued by Harinder Mahil 11 November 1979, giving an account of the events leading

up to and following his arrest in Baghapurana and describing his treatment by police

/13 press release from IPANA on the arrest of Harinder Mahil and his ill treatment in detention, 23 November 1979

/14-/15 letter from Hari Sharma to Avtar Jouhl discussing the respective campaigns of IPANA and the Indian Workers Association, and discussing matters relating to the production of a recording of Sant Ram Udasi's poetry, 4 December 1979, with a reply from Teja Singh Sahota discussing the production and distribution of the book and recordings of Sant Ram Udasi's poetry, 17 December 1979

/16 copy of the monthly news publication of IPANA, 'India Now', January 1980

/17 Special Supplement of the monthly news publication of IPANA, 'India Now', March 1980

/18 letter from Harinder Mahil to Avtar Jouhl discussing the distribution of the recording of Sant Ram Udasi's poetry in Britain, and the possibility of making a recording of poetry by Jagmohan Joshi, 24 March 1980

/19 letter from Harinder Mahil to Avtar Jouhl enclosing a copy of the IPANA document 'The Real Face of India's Democracy', 27 March 1980. This document does not survive in the archive

/20 letter from Harinder Mahil to Avtar Jouhl enclosing a press release issued by the Canadian Farmworkers Union which is supported by IPANA, together with a flyer giving information about an event to celebrate the founding of the union, 26 April 1980. Mahil states that IPANA supports this organisation and its campaigns, and asks whether the Indian Workers Association will send a message of solidarity for the union's celebration, 10 April 1980

/21 letter from Harinder Mahil to the Indian Workers Association inviting representatives to join IPANA's Third General Convention in New York, 15-17 August 1980

/22-/23 publicity material issued by Lok Sabiacharak Manch Calgary and IPANA for a cultural event in memory of Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev, 23 March 1985 and for future events 1986-1989

See MS 2142/D/9 for further material relating to the Indian Peoples Association in North America

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/C/13	<u>Constitutions of other organisations</u> Constitutions and reports of black and Asian organisations and of groups set up to improve community and race relations in Birmingham and the surrounding area during the 1960s and 1970s.	1965-1980
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/1 draft constitution of the Anderton Park Parents Association, agreed at a meeting on 9 October 1968. The Association was committed to multi-racial education

/2-/3 proposed draft constitution for presentation at the Afro-Asian-Caribbean Convention, with an agenda for a meeting of the Preparations Committee of this organisation, 13 January 1980 and minutes of a meeting held 9 December 1979. Representatives from the Indian Workers Association attended this meeting

/4 report by Birmingham Community Relations Committee entitled 'Alienated Youth in Birmingham' investigating the problems and views of alienated groups of young people, particularly black young people living in the Handsworth area of Birmingham, 1973

/5-/7 draft constitution of the Federation of Indian Organisations, with a covering letter from the Assistant High Commissioner of India requesting comments from other organisations and a list of points agreed by the Constitution Committee at a meeting on 4 January 1975

/8 constitution of the Indian Association of the UK, December 1970

/9 letter to the General Secretary of the Indian Workers Association from the Chairman of the Sponsoring Committee for a Proposed Walsall Council for Racial Harmony giving information about a public meeting to be held at Walsall Town Hall to inaugurate this organisation, November 1965

/10 Agenda for the first Annual General Meeting of the Walsall Committee for Human Rights, 28 April 1969

/11 Aims and objectives of the Community Relations Commission and information about the proposed formation of the Warley Community Relations Council, 27 June 1969

/12 undated briefing paper on Race Relations legislation issued by the UK Committee for Human Rights Year.

Extent: 1 File

MS 2141/C/14 Writings and campaign material of other organisations 1961-1992

This material consists of pamphlets; newsletters; leaflets and flyers; and draft articles produced by various black and Asian organisations and other anti-racist groups. The file includes several flyers relating to anti-deportation campaigns for individuals during the 1980s, but also contains papers relating to a number of other campaigns.

/1 flyer written in Urdu issued by the Indian Youth League, Birmingham giving information about a public meeting to be held at Digbeth Civic Hall 19 February 1961 to protest against the murder of the Congolese Prime Minister

Patrice Lumumba

/2 flyer issued by the Joint Labour Demonstration Committee giving information about the May Day Demonstration in Birmingham 7 May 1961

/3 flyer in Punjabi issued by Smethwick Constituency Labour Party appealing to voters to support Labour in the council elections 11 May 1961

/3 flyer issued by the Afro-Asian Caribbean Conference calling on all Afro-Asian Caribbean workers to attend a Commonwealth Lobby in national dress and work uniforms to demand the withdrawal of immigration controls, described as the 'Colour Bar Bill', 13 February 1962

/4 souvenir programme published by the Joint Labour Demonstration Committee for the May Day Demonstration in Birmingham 5 May 1963

/5 flyers written in Urdu and Punjabi issued by the Pak-China Friendship Society, Birmingham, urging people to boycott a film entitled 'Shatranj' or 'Chess' because it is critical of China and the country's friendship with Pakistan in the context of the war between India and Pakistan in September 1965

/6 flyer written in Urdu by an unidentified Pakistani organisation giving details about a public meeting to be held at City Hall, Sheffield to discuss racial discrimination. Tariq Ali is one of the speakers at this event, together with Geoff Crawford from the West Indian Standing Conference, Radford Hue, a Trinidadian barrister, and Dr Frank Girling of Sheffield University

/7 pamphlet produced by the organisation Equal Rights providing a policy statement of this group

/8 information leaflet produced by Equal Rights on Racial Equality and Immigration, with reference to the Race Relations Bill May 1968

/9 programme for a United Nations Association Central Regional Council area conference on 'The Race Relations Bill', held at Shakespeare Institute, Stratford-upon-Avon, 25 May 1968

/10 leaflet written in English and Punjabi announcing a boycott of cinemas in Coventry by the Indian community, organised by Jai Hind Jatha, until the cinema managements lower their ticket prices, September 1968

/11 circular letter from Shri Geeta Bhawan Mandir, Handsworth, in English and Hindi, giving information about events for Hindus of all denominations 1968

/12 leaflet produced by the Indian Marxist Leninist Association giving information about the objectives of the organisation and the names of the members of the Association's council, and inviting people to participate in a meeting on 'Victory of United Front in West Bengal' at Student Movement House in London, 28 March 1969

- /13 flyer in Punjabi issued by Indian Sports Committee, Coventry, giving details about tournament to be held in Gravesend, Kent in May 1969 and Leicester in July 1969, in memory of Shaheed Udham Singh
- /14 flyer issued by Unity Movement of South Africa giving information about the organisation and advertising a public meeting to be held on the 'Revolutionary Struggle in South Africa', 16 March 1970
- /15 typescript memorandum by the Pakistani Workers Union and the Working People's Party of England on racist attacks on Pakistani people in London, March 1970
- /16 flyer written in English, Punjabi and Urdu and issued by the Pakistani Workers Union giving details about a public meeting to be held 18 April 1970 in Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham to consider the issue of increasing racist attacks on Pakistani people in East London
- /17 flyer produced by the Black Arts Work Shop advertising cultural events at the West Indian Student Centre to commemorate the anniversary of the assassination of Malcolm X, 22 February 1970
- /18 typescript statement by the Communist Party of East Pakistan (M-L), 13 July 1972 entitled 'Answer to the Question: How East Bengal is a Colony of Soviet Social Imperialism?'
- /19 large flyer written in German giving information about talks arranged in several German cities on the State of Emergency in India, including speeches by representatives from the Indian Workers Association and the activist Mary Tyler
- /20 programme and programme of action of the Communist Party of Germany KPD, 1974
- /21 flyer advertising a 'Teach-In' on Community Relations at the Central Hall, Birmingham with the title 'Racial Integration - Dream or Nightmare?'. The panel included Jill Knight MP, Mihir Gupta, Rev. Harry Morton and Dr David Pitt
- /22 circular letter written in English and Punjabi and issued by the Bharti Dalit Mukti Alliance (UK) expressing opposition to the persecution of Dalit Peoples by Indira Gandhi's government in India and calling on other organisations to protest against Indira Gandhi's visit to Britain in 1978
- /23 flyer issued by the 23 April Ad Hoc Committee giving details about a 'Rally Against Racism' against the National Front's National Demonstration [in Southall], 23 April [1979]
- /24 pamphlet issued by Sheffield Campaign Against Racism [SCAR] on immigration controls and their effect on migrants living in Sheffield, late 1970s
- /25 calendar for 1980 'Towards a New India' featuring

photographs of Indian children for each month of the year, with statistics and quotes about children's lives in India

/26 press statement issued by Guru Nanak Nishkan Sewak Jatha at a press conference in London 6 October 1982 on Lord Denning's ruling that Sikhs should not be considered a racial group and are not protected by the Race Relations Act 1976

/27 flyer urging people not to buy the Punjabi newspaper 'Des Pardes' following the refusal of its owner to provide workers with the minimum rights provided by employment laws, and to allow them to join a union

/28 flyer issued by Handsworth People's Campaign giving information about a picket and public meeting at the DHSS [Department of Health and Social Security] offices on Soho Road in Handsworth to protest against benefit cuts

/29 flyer issued by Workers Power giving information about an Anti-Visas Demo. The reverse of the flyer contains a photocopied article about the imposition of sanctions against South Africa by the trade union movement

/30 programme for a one day conference organised by Campaign Against Racism and Fascism [CARF] entitled 'Black Workers and the Trade Unions' at Digbeth Civic Hall, early 1980s

/31 flyer for a public meeting at Carrs Lane Church Centre attended by the French anti-racist movement SOS Racisme, and a social evening with Bongo Go organised by Campaign Against Racism and Fascism [CARF] Birmingham

/32-/38 flyers produced by anti-deportation campaigns for Viraj Mendis, Rajwinder Singh, Satpal Ram, Som Raj and Kokila and Amritlal Patel during the mid 1980s. Most of the flyers give information about demonstrations and rallies organised to raise awareness of these cases

/39 flyer explaining the reasons for Sikhs to celebrate the festival of Dussehra, mid 1980s

/40-/41 photocopies of newspaper articles about the activities of Sikh separatist leaders in Britain, mid 1980s

/42 photocopy of a letter printed in an unidentified newspaper about Birmingham City Council plans to name a school after Nelson Mandela and streets after black politicians

/43 photocopy of a newspaper article about the opposition of black and Asian groups, including the Birmingham and Sandwell branch of the Indian Workers Association, to Government proposals to introduce a visa system for visitors from West Africa and South Asia, 1986

/44 flyer issued by the Broadwater Farm Defence Campaign and the Irish in Britain Representation Group giving information about a demonstration for 'Civil Rights and Justice' in London to protest against the imprisonment

of people from black and Irish communities in Britain, including the 'Tottenham Three', the 'Guildford Four' and the 'Birmingham Six', mid 1980s

/45 flyer published by Handsworth Law Centre giving information about the new rules for stop, search and arrest enforced by police in Handsworth, 1986

/46 poster giving information about a charity fundraising Bike Marathon from Birmingham to London, organised by the British Sikh Students Federation to raise money for the production of Sikh literature and the purchase of sports equipment to raise awareness within the Sikh community and a greater understanding of it, 13 August 1988

/47 flyer written in Punjabi giving information about events at the Birmingham Womens Festival 1989, produced by the Birmingham City Council Women's Unit

/48 poster written in English and Punjabi for a 'Family Drama and Cultural Show' organised by Loke Sabhiachark Manch Calgary, 6 May 1989

/49 flyer written in English and Punjabi giving information about a demonstration in Chamberlain Square, Birmingham to protest against the activities of the British National Party in the city. The demonstration was organised by Campaign Against Racism and Fascism [CARF], Birmingham Trades Union Council, the Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Kashmiri Workers Associations, Birmingham Anti-Apartheid Youth Congress, Birmingham Socialist Workers Party, Birmingham Communist Party, and Birmingham Socialist Outlook, 30 September, 1989

/50 flyer issued by the New University Educational Trust providing information about the proposed 'Poll Tax' to be introduced by the Conservative government, and giving details about a day school entitled 'Building Resistance to Poll Tax' at New University Project, Hockley, [1989]

/51-/53 campaign flyers and leaflets in English and Punjabi produced for the industrial dispute by workers, mostly Asian women, against Burnsall Limited, a metal finishing company in Smethwick, West Midlands. The strikers were campaigning for union recognition, equal pay and basic health and safety at work, and were supported by the London Burnsall Strikers Support Committee, the trade union GMB and other trade unions, and the Indian Workers Association

/54 leaflet giving details about a day of film, video and discussion at Wolverhampton Polytechnic entitled 'Where Do We Go From Here? British Television and black people'. The event featured a preview of the film 'Handsworth Songs' made by the Black Audio Film Collective, and a studio discussion featuring the writer and commissioning editor for Channel 4 Farrouk Dhondy

- /55 flyer issued by Liberty giving information about a candlelight vigil; a lobby of West Midlands Police Authority; and a public meeting to campaign for the rights of the black victims of miscarriages of justice, early 1990s
- /56 flyer written in English and Punjabi issued by the Baba Sahib Ambedkar Buddhist Association giving information about a demonstration to protest against the persecution of Dalits in Kumher and other villages in Bharatpur state of Rajasthan, India, 25 October 1992
- /57 incomplete leaflet issued by an unidentified Communist organisation focusing on the 'capitalist press', undated
- /58 annotated draft typescript article entitled 'The October Revolution' by R. Sidhanta, undated
- /59 handwritten notes in Jagmohan Joshi's writing on the activities of an unidentified Communist group
- /60 annotated typescript statement issued by an organisation called 'Birmingham People Against Racism' including details of its aims and objectives, undated.
- /61 statement written in Gurarati or Bengali, possibly issued by CARD, undated
- /62 undated information leaflet in Punjabi, issued by a campaign group established in 1969 with branches in Portsmouth and Leicester
- /63 undated leaflet in Punjabi, issued by the Progressive Workers Association Southall to commemorate Vaisakhi Day in Southall, undated
- /64 undated leaflet in Punjabi, issued by Revolutionary Youth Association, giving details of the organisation's aims and objectives
- /65 flyer in Punjabi and Urdu issued by Maurice Foley, Labour Party candidate for West Bromwich, appealing to voters to support him in July 1963
- /66 undated flyer in Punjabi issued by Guru Ravidass Cultural Association, Shri Guru Ravidass Bhavan, Birmingham, in support of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi
- /67 poster in Punjabi issued by Guru Ravidass Sabha, Derby, announcing details of events to celebrate the birthday of Dr Bhim Ambedkar, leader of the 'untouchables' in India, 1975
- /68 undated pamphlet in Punjabi published by Sache Patshah Forum, Canada, appealing to all Sikhs to maintain the sanctity of Sikh temples and to stop their misuse
- /69 poster in Punjabi issued by Shiromani Akali Dal, Coventry branch, about a conference in memory of Sikhs killed in Amritsar 13 April 1978
- /70 leaflet in Punjabi inviting people to attend an event to celebrate the anniversary of Small Heath Punjabi School at Small Heath Community Centre, Birmingham 12 June 1983, run by Guru Nanak Sikh Temple in Smethwick

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MS 2141/C/15 Publications of other organisations 1965-1983

Miscellaneous newspapers, magazines, newsletters and articles mainly aimed at black and Asian communities in Britain. There are also some publications of anti-racist campaign groups, Communist organisations, and trade unions, as well as some in Punjabi and other South Asian languages, most of which are published in India. The file also contains one publication by an anti-immigration group, The Racial Preservation Society.

Publications consist of:

- /1 AFFOR [All Faiths For One Race] Newsletter Number 3, Spring 1980
- /2 All India Civil Liberties Bulletin, Vol 1 No 1 October 1977
- /3 Proceedings of the Amalgamated Union of Foundry Workers Twentieth Annual Delegate Meeting, 1965
- /4 Asian Music Circle programme for a series of recitals of dances from different areas of India presented by U.S Krishna Rao and U.K Chandrabhaga Devi, 1965-1966
- /5 Asian Times, Issue 44, 2-8 December 1983
- /6 Caribbean Times, Issue 143, 2-8 December 1983
- /7 Comment: A Communist Weekly Review, Vol 3 No 34, 21 August 1965
- /8 Free the Bradford 12: Bulletin of the July 11th Action Committee, 1981
- /9-/11 India Today, Vol 2, No 1, 1977; India Today, special issue November 1978
- 'Torture in India' reprinted by Progressive Books and Asian Arts from India Today, 16-31 May 1977
- /12 Insaniyyat Monthly, Urdu magazine printed in Nottingham, October 1978
- /13 'Is There a Middle Stratum?: The Intelligentsia and its Present-Day Role', an article by Bajram Abdiu reprinted from 'Albania Today' and distributed by the Communist Unity Association Marxist-Leninist, 1974
- /14 'Midland News', publication of The Racial Preservation Society' No 1 Spring 1966
- /15 Ruskin College Prospectus, 1980-1981
- /16 SCAR News, No 1, September 1979. Publication of Sheffield Campaign Against Racism
- /17 Searchlight, No 1, Spring 1965
- /18-/19 The Indian Observer, Vol 1 No 1, 7 December 1968; The Indian Observer, Vol 1 No 5 11 January 1969
- /20 Photocopy of 'The Spark', organ of the Central Committee of Unity Centre of Communist Revolutionaries of India (M-L), Vol 3, No 2-3 April-June 1977
- /21 The Voice, Issue 59, 29 October 1983

- /22 West Indian Digest No 101, December 1983
- /23 West Indian World, Issue 635, 26 October 1983
- /24 Report for Marxist-Leninist Unity on the Birmingham Conference June 1977, published by the Workers Party of Scotland (Marxist-Leninist)
- /25 'Unite The Many, Defeat The Few: China's Revolutionary Line in Foreign Affairs', by Jack A. Smith
- /26 'Sikh Religion and Sikhs' by Professor Sher Singh 'Sher', published by the Managing Committee of the Sikh Temple, (Gurdwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha), Southall and printed by Sher-E-Punjab Weekly
- /27 Pamphlet containing reprints of sales catalogues for the auction of items appropriated by the British when the Punjab was annexed in the 1850s
- /28 Publication in Urdu of news and articles about Asian and African struggles for revolution, undated
- /29 Publication in Hindi, printed in India
- /30 photocopy of Indian communist publication in Punjabi, 1977
- /31 Punjabi publication published in Southall, London, 11 April 1971. This edition contains articles about a demonstration against the 1971 Immigration Bill
- /32 'Daily Nawan Zamana', published in Jullundur and written in Punjabi, 12 January 1964
- /33 Punjabi political and literary magazine 'Sedh' [Direction] September 1975
- /34-/36 copies of Punjabi magazine 'Nava Chanan' [New Light] March, July and September 1965, containing articles about the role of Bhagat Singh in the struggle for the independence of India; the Indian prime minister Lal Bahadur Shastri and the role of Britain and America in Vietnam; and the death of William Gelcher, president of the Communist Party of Great Britain from 1956 to 1963.
- /37 'Panjab Times', 15 February 1970, in Punjabi, published in London

Extent: 1 File