Dear Kate Green MP

I am writing to you to ask you to continue to support your constituent Manjeet Kaur (Home Office number K1332632) whose asylum appeal is due to be heard at the Asylum and Immigration Tribunal in Manchester on Thursday, March 6th 2014.

Manjeet is an Afghan national and current Chair of RAPAR, the human rights organisation based in Manchester.

She came to this country three years ago after being subjected to a series of threats and attacks following the disappearance of her husband in India in February 2011. Before he disappeared, Amitt Bhatt, a campaigning journalist and Panun Kashmir activist, had been persecuted and attacked as a result of articles and books he had written criticising the Indian government’s policies in Kashmir. Manjeet helped with research and proof-reading for Amitt’s books, 'Lies and Genocide of the Indian Government' (2011) and '*Cryashmir'* (2009).

Following his disappearance, Manjeet was beaten at her home in Delhi on two occasions by a group of men who were looking for information about her husband’s whereabouts. They told her that, if they failed to find him, they would be back to rape and kill her. Manjeet uses a wheelchair due to paralysis resulting from polio and the injuries sustained from these attacks have worsened her condition. The violent assaults were reported to the police in India but no protection was offered to Manjeet, despite increased vulnerability due to her paralysis.

Manjeet left India in March 2011 in fear for her life. She came to the UK to be with family members who live in London because they could offer her the safety and support she needs. When she claimed asylum, Manjeet was housed in Manchester and now has numerous friends and supporters she has met through her work for RAPAR, community and trade union activities, and national disability rights and access to justice campaigns.

Manjeet met Amitt in India after moving there from Afghanistan following the death of her father who was a doctor in Kabul.

Despite documents which show that she is from Afghanistan, the Home Office wants to return Manjeet to India where she has already been threatened, and where there is no-one to support her and 90% of the infrastructure is wheelchair inaccessible. She needs to be with her family and friends in the UK.

Manjeet is appealing against the Home Office decision to return her to India. The tribunal date is Thursday, March 6th.

You may remember that Manjeet first came to see you two and a half years ago when she was threatened with eviction from her asylum support housing in Whalley Range. You took up her case and Manjeet’s asylum support was reinstated.

You also made representations on Manjeet’s behalf when the Home Office told her she had to report weekly at Dallas Court, Salford Quays, despite the fact that she had a manual wheelchair at the time and had to take four buses to get there and back again in all kinds of weather. Manjeet was finally told she could report to Dallas Court by telephone.

Manjeet is a member of Unite’s Greater Manchester Social Action Branch and her campaign is also backed by the Manchester and Salford branch of the National Union of Journalists which has worked with the International Federation of Journalists to establish what happened to Amitt.

Together with another member of RAPAR, Manjeet worked with the UK Disabled People’s Council on a Disability Murals project in Bristol to help raise awareness about the difficulties faced by disabled people seeking asylum in the UK.

I believe that Manjeet should be granted asylum in the UK and ask you to support her case.

Yours,

(Name and postal address)

Please cc letters to admin@rapar.org.uk