Twitter Thread by Ilyas Nagdee



Ilyas Nagdee
@ilyas_nagdee



Statement from the #JusticeForShukriAbdi Campaign

The Coroner released her verdict of accidental death brings to a close a painful chapter for the family, one which has been made even more painful due to the failure of all the institutions that were meant to protect Shukri.

17 months ago,this campaign was created in the wake of the tragic death of Shukri. Since then her mother Zamzam &her family have faced what can only be described as a never-ending nightmare as she demanded answers & the truth of her beloved daughter's last moments on this earth

This vulnerable refugee mother, whose daughter was taken from her in dubious circumstances, was left in limbo with unanswered questions and her own trauma to deal with all the while trying to support her other children come to terms with what had happened to their older sister

Her family protected her the moment she stepped onto UK soil, but sadly those authorities who should have protected Shukri Abdi, categorically and without question, failed her. The facts are now firmly out there for the world to see that this was not merely a 'tragic accident'.

This campaign was set up to protect & provide support for the family, & to fight alongside the legal team to ensure that the truth of Shukri's death was exposed, & to ensure that no family ever has to experience the obstacles this mother had to face to simply get to the truth

That was and has only ever been our objective. It was only through the determination and persistence of the family and this campaign that a deeper investigation was secured and only through widespread calls for action that we have got here today.

The investigation of Shukri Abdi’s death & subsequent investigations by the school, police and other local authorities have come to represent yet another example of the institutional racism riddled throughout this country.

Shukri’s family were failed by the school who failed in their duty of care to protect her despite being aware of the bullying she was facing, & after her death they treated the family so badly Zamzam walked out of a meeting after a whitewashed report was put in front of her

Shukri’s family were failed by the police who did not investigate her death comprehensively, and throughout this Inquest they have spoken down to Zamzam and her family. They have learned no lessons since the Macpherson report.

Shukri’s family were failed by the very institutions they were meant to trust - by the ones that were meant to protect them. If the school has taken Zamzam’s concerns seriously, we may never have had to be here today.

Playground racism whether the SIkh Boy in Telford, Jamal the Syrian refugee in Huddersfield or even the tragedy of Ahmed Iqbal Ullah in Manchester all those years ago - schools have failed to learn any lessons and to protect our children.

This year has seen a increased light shone on racial injustice in this country, with millions across the world joining #BlackLivesMatter demonstrations and Shukri’s name rang out in cities across the globe to mark one year since her tragic death.

Shukri is no longer with us, but the underlying issues that led to this tragedy remain. Institutional racism, Islamophobia, the demonisation of refugees and migrants continues to this day.

We ask everyone to carry forward the determination and strength Zamzam and her family have shown in the struggle against these injustices and this time when we demand action, we must persist because no family should ever have to go through this ever again.

It is with the support of those people who loved her,her community&all those who made sure her name was heard across the world that we declare this campaign has not ended-it goes in as we support the family with the end of the Inquest & continue on the long hard road to justice