

## **Algerian nationals detained unlawfully by Home Secretary**

The High Court today judged the Home Secretary to have detained unlawfully three Algerian nationals who wish to return to Algeria. Mr Justice Mitting ordered that the three must be released from Colnbrook Immigration Removal Centre where they have each been detained for over a year. In each case he found there was no prospect of their removal to Algeria within a reasonable time and that their detention was unlawful.

The case was brought by the Habeas Corpus Project, housed at charity Bail for Immigration Detainees.

According to Jo Hickman, from the Habeas Corpus Project legal team,

'The judgment today is a clear indictment of the Home Secretary's increasingly casual use of administrative detention. Mr Justice Mitting found detention to be lawful in only one of the four cases before him and we intend to appeal that decision.'

Says Amanda Shah of Bail for Immigration Detainees:

'We are delighted that the courts have found continued detention is not justifiable in these cases. Today's judgment shines a light on the scandal of indefinite detention in this country. It is totally unacceptable that people are detained by the government without any end date and without automatic judicial scrutiny.'

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