



AMNESTY

ELY CITY GROUP

**Remembering those experiencing injustice,
A time for contemplation.....**

February 2021

“Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners. And those who are ill-treated as if you yourselves were suffering.” Hebrews: 13:3

A special time is usually set aside in Bishop Alcock’s Chapel on the first Sunday of each month from 9.00 - 10.15am. Here we hold in mind or pray for the people whose cases are highlighted for the current month.

Though we cannot gather in person due to present circumstances, we invite you to remember the cases here and any others for whom you have a particular concern.

China: Missing student

More than two years ago, Uyghur student Yiliyasijiang Reheman went missing while studying in Egypt. The Chinese government had begun a crackdown on the mainly Muslim ethnic people – forcing more than one million of them into internment camps. At its request the Egyptian authorities rounded-up hundreds of Uyghurs, handing them over to the Chinese authorities. Yiliyasijiang, his pregnant wife and young child tried to flee the country ahead of this, but he didn't make it on to the plane. He hasn't been seen since.

Please hold in mind or pray:

- For Yiliyasijiang to be released
- That he will be reunited with his wife and children, who are in exile in Turkey
- For the Chinese authorities to disclose the whereabouts of the missing Uyghur people and close their “re-education” camps

Amnesty International Ely has adopted Yiliyasijiang's case

USA: Asylum seeker detained

Steven Tendo is a Christian minister and human rights activist from Uganda who was tortured by the authorities there. They also killed several members of his family. He fled to the United States and tried to claim asylum. He has been detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement for the past two years and without adequate treatment for his diabetes he has become blind in one eye and is losing vision in the other. He is facing imminent deportation and believes he will be killed on arrival.

Please hold in mind or pray:

- That he will be granted humanitarian parole until his asylum case can be heard
- That he will receive the health care he needs until then

Israel: Covid-19 jab for Palestinians

Israel has been one of the fastest countries to roll out the coronavirus vaccination to its population, reaching a tenth of its people by early January. However, while its roll-out plans include all Israeli citizens – including Israeli settlers on the West Bank and Palestinian residents living in Jerusalem – they do not include the nearly five million Palestinians living under Israeli military rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. As a result of the Gaza blockade, the Palestinian authorities rely on the World Health Organisation-led COVAX programme to provide the vaccine. It still hasn't begun distribution.

Please hold in mind or pray:

- That Israel will not ignore its international obligations as an occupying power and provide the Covid-19 vaccines equally and fairly to Palestinians
- That the Israeli health ministry will draw up a policy that will allocate and distribute the vaccine to the Palestinian authorities

Take Action:

If you have more free time than usual as a result of the lockdown and are interested in finding out more about these cases and others, or simply wish to test your own knowledge of human rights – search Amnesty International UK.

Sources for cases: Amnesty International

'I pray for all of us, oppressor and friend, that together we may succeed in building a better world, through human understanding and love, and that in doing so we may reduce the pain and suffering of all sentient beings.'

Dalai Lama XIV

"To clasp one's hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world."

Please keep this sheet to hand and use it in prayer or meditation, and any action you feel and find possible.

Your local Amnesty group can be contacted at www.amnestyelycity.org.uk

ELY AMNESTY NEWS

All of our forthcoming events and regular meetings have been postponed or cancelled until further notice due to the Coronavirus / COVID-19 outbreak.

If you are interested in what we normally do, or would like to find out ways that you can continue to support Amnesty from home, then please feel free to get in touch with us through the above website.