

# Edinburgh Stop the War Coalition

## Ten years of shame **SHUT DOWN GUANTANAMO**

This month sees the tenth anniversary of the Guantanamo bay prison camp. President Obama said he would close the camp but he has not. 171 prisoners remain without prospect of release. The so-called 'war on terror' established a web of horror around the world of which Guantanamo is perhaps the best-known centre. Individuals were picked up in Afghanistan, Pakistan and in other parts of the world. They were then incarcerated at Bagram in Afghanistan and Guantanamo and flown to torture cells in Egypt, Morocco, Syria and elsewhere. This was known as extraordinary rendition.

The United States and British governments have lied repeatedly over whether 'rendition' was happening, the scale of the process and the use of torture. However, bit-by-bit the evidence of torture has emerged. Those who have been rendered have had their rights stripped away with no recourse to any legal process or protection. We know from those who have eventually been released that many were just in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Over a dozen British nationals and residents have been illegally imprisoned at Guantánamo. Two remain: Shaker Aamer, a UK resident with a British family in south London, including a son he has never met; and Ahmed Belbacha, an Algerian national from Bournemouth. Both men were cleared for release in 2007. Kidnapping and imprisoning people indefinitely without charge or trial, denying them their freedom and human rights, gratuitously denigrating and abusing them physically and mentally: ALL OF THIS MUST END.

Edinburgh Stop the War meets 7.30pm on Monday  
16<sup>th</sup> January at the Friends Meeting House, 7  
Victoria Terrace – come along and help us organize.  
Future meetings 20<sup>th</sup> February, 19<sup>th</sup> March same venue

Find out more at [www.edinburghstw.org.uk](http://www.edinburghstw.org.uk) or email  
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