DJ Sista interview: ‘Be strong & stick to your principles’

REFUGEES FROM WAR
Young Bosnian women speak out

FORTRESS EUROPE?
Youth against the EC’s Iron Curtain

SHARES IN MURDER
Campaigning against Britain’s arms trade

FIGHTING RACISM
Nationwide Reports

BOSNIAN STUDENTS CRY FOR HELP
Appeal from Tuzla University

BACK TO THE FUTURE
A new era of wars?

Stop Racism & War!

Sex, AIDS and the Age of Consent

Homelessness: The Right To Squat!

PLUS:
AIDS: drug companies make a killing
HUNTING: naff or what?
KURDISH youth speak out against war
INTERNATIONAL Youth Camp in Italy
BACK TO BASICS attacks young women
RAVE On... And On
DECLARE yourself an internationalist!
**Back to Basics?**

**Lud Devine**

Remember the Child Support Act? The idea for it originally came from America. The Tories are again looking to the United States for new ideas on how to attack single mothers (and save money). It seems New Jersey, where women who have a second child when they still haven’t got a man around the house to support them have their state benefits taken away. Leanfare Another idea is ‘leanfare’. If children or young people whose parents are on welfare don’t go to school, it must be their parent’s fault, right? Isn’t everything? The answer? Take their money away. That’ll teach them. The real aims of the back to basics campaign are to save money, and to persuade people that women who have children outside a ‘proper’ family are bad and deserve to be punished. That if they’re poor they must have done something to deserve it. Let’s campaign for back to basics for single mothers - the basics of housing, money, childcare.

**Get On One?**

**Mark Jenne**

For thousands of young people, rave parties are where you can have a good time free from the macho atmosphere that dominates clubs and pubs, so why has the government declared war on illegal raves? Their new Criminal Justice Act, passed on 11 January, strengthens the power of the police to forcibly evict crush raves and free festivals from unused land. Drugs are used as a reason for state repression, but the numbers harmed by Ecstasy are compared to the number of people who have taken the drug. The main danger of the drug - dehydration - can be reduced by having plenty of water for people to drink. Raves charge extortionate prices for bottled water and stop the water supply to the toilets. Squatting raves, fun but not profitable, are less likely to have these unnecessary dangers. The crackdown on raves is just another example of government using heavy-handed tactics to protect private property and crack down on the vibrant and creative energy of the young people involved.

**Get Active!**

**Rod Marshall**

If you want to run a sound system or join the techno sound systems like Bedlam, Vox Populi, Full On, Asylum and Tribe against the Tory Act, contact the Advance Party Network on 081 959 3314. Start by writing to the Home Secretary, at THE HOME OFFICE, 50 Queen Anne’s Gate, London, SW1H 9AT.

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**French lessons for British students**

**Lud Devine**

The last three months have seen a wave of demonstrations by French secondary school and university students against the government’s education reforms, which aim to cut public spending by encouraging privatisation. The French government have amended a nineteenth-century law restricting state funding of private schools. They talk about making private and public education equal. The real idea is that by giving more money to private schools out of the total education budget, middle-class parents will be encouraged to transfer their children to "better" private schools, and pay for what had previously been provided free by the state. In the end, the government hopes to save money. The demonstrators oppose this creation of a twofold system in which only the rich will have access to a good education. In Nantes there were student protests in November on a scale not seen for some years. They lasted for more than three weeks and included several demonstrations of up to eight thousand people. Students were protesting about attacks on their living standards and on the value of their qualifications. They also affirmed their solidarity with overseas students in the face of state racism, and with railway workers in dispute with their employers. 8,000 students invaded the station on 5 November. The French sister group of Liberation, the Jeunesses Communistes Révolutionnaire, described these events as a response to French-style Thatcherism, a challenge to a racist and anti-social government.

Education is a right, not a privilege. The chance to study and learn for free, and in good conditions, must be a guaranteed right for all.
Get ready for March 19th!

Katey Marshall

Britain's biggest anti-racist march since the 1970's is happening on SATURDAY 19 MARCH in the East End of London.

You'd better be there if you don't want to miss making history!

Organised by the TRADES UNION FEDERATION CAMPAIGN. It will be a united nation-wide assembly of every part of society that stands against racism. All the anti-racist and anti-fascist organisations will be there along with trades unions, women's organisations, student unions and youth groups like Libération!

Meeting up after 11 am at SPITALFIELDS MARKET, in the heart of the area's black community, the march will march off at 12 noon to a massive rally at LONDON FIELDS.

Libération will be on the march with our banner. If you'd like to meet up with us or help sell Libération on the day, write to us at PO Box 1109, London N4.

Unite the anti-racists Manchester style

Rakib Newton

The rise in racist attacks and the growth of the far-right in Britain has seen an increase in activities fighting racism and fascism. Several anti-racist organisations, each claiming to have the legitimacy and correct form of being "the national anti-racist movement" have been launched or revived. However all these groups have been found wanting - anti-racist activity has suffered from its weakness and public blackening, and the potential strength of thousands of anti-racists has been dissipated at a time when we need a boost. Against this background the Manchester Unity Committee Against Racism and Fascism was formed.

Unity demo

The October 25 demonstration to "close down the BNP" was welling succeeded in one thing nationally - uniting the majority of active anti-racist forces on one single demonstration. Despite the many negative points about its organisation and outcome this positive aspect should not be forgotten.

In Manchester many independent anti-racist activists and different organisations came together to organise the demo. This formed the basis for the Unity Committee.

Black activists

It is concerned with black activists organised in the Black Peoples Alliance and their supporters. They were the driving force behind Manchester's largest ever anti-racist demonstration in August 1991 (a memorial march to protest the racist murders of Siddik Dada and Mohammed Sarwar).

Also involved are a group of largely Asian activists who were the core of Manchester's support group for the Burnside strikers in Birmingham.

There has also been some input from Manchester Anti-Fascist Youth - a new independent group of sixth form students - with suggestions for joint activities. Other individuals and left wing groups are involved but no group dominates. The Unity Committee meets fortnightly and is open to anyone.

It aims to work with community and black organisations and local trade unions - as well as existing anti-racist groups - to take anti-racist initiatives in the city.

At the Unity Committee's initiative, Manchester Trades Council has agreed to sponsor an anti-racist demonstration on May Day this year just before the local elections. The British National Party will be standing candidates in the area and all the main stream parties are ready to play the "race card."

Still very new, the Unity Committee is a positive step forward. There is a need in Manchester, as in the rest of the country, for this type of open and broad based organisation which is not totally dominated by one particular group or strangled by bureaucracy. We are optimistic that the Manchester Unity Committee will continue to go from strength to strength in 1994.

Stop the Isle of Dogs racists

A Mark Jones

After the October election of Derek Beacon, the fascist British Nationalist Party's first councillor in Millwall, the BNP are on the offensive on the Isle of Dogs and in around the country, hoping for more seats in the local elections in May. The Isle of Dogs is an im-

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Help the IWA Bosnia convoy

Stop Racism and War Worldwide

I'm so proud to be from Tuzla, where all the people still believe in something

Two young Bosnian women speak out

When the IWA convoy was in Bosnia they received the following appeal:

STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
MINING - GEOLOGICAL FACULTY
TUZLA UNIVERSITY

Respected Colleagues,

We address you from Tuzla, the centre of north-eastern Bosnia, which is at the same time the most powerful mining centre of our country.

Soon, the whole two years will pass since the war has begun in this area. The war affected all of us, including students and our faculty. Besides, faculty is still in function. Professors and students still work hard and learn in order to use their acquired knowledge in after war industrial development of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In this difficult time, our work is going to be worse, because we are faced with a lot of problems.

Our town and country are kept in blockade from all sides, so we are not in the position to make a contact with the outside world.

In this way we would like to accomplish all kind of co-operation with you.

As we are not able to provide the new books and literature kindly we ask you to help us as much as you can.

Our financial situation is tragic so we ask you for support.

Our address is: Student's Association, Mining - Geological Faculty, Bratiska jezdjara, 75 000 Tuzla, phone: (075) 238 552 / 239 492

Greetings.

Ema Kadi and Samira Keramihmedovic, unemployed women refugees from Tuzla in central Bosnia, talked to Liberal Action:

L: What was Bosnia like before the war?

Samira: We had a really great time. If I could choose whether to stay here or to be back in my country before the war, I'd probably choose to go back. It was really difficult for me to leave, and I was crying and it was hard to leave all my friends. But I really like it here in England I think people here are more friendly.

L: The government hasn't really been sympathetic to refugees in general. What problems have you had?

Ema: I've had a letter from the Home Office, they gave me a visa that ends in November. I can apply again for political asylum but I don't know if that will happen, if the war is over then I'll have to go back to Bosnia.

L: What differences do you think there are between life in Britain and life in Tuzla?

Samira: They are not big differences. But I think Tuzla was more quiet, I mean, the lifestyle here in London is so fast. In our country we started working at seven in the morning and finished at three, and then we had the rest of the afternoon to spend with our family. Here people work until five and then, after dinner, you have just a few hours to spend with your family and then it's time for bed.

L: What do you like most about this country?

Ema & Samira: Nightlife!

L: And what do you like least?

Samira: I don't like to see lots of homeless people. I mean I was really surprised to see that in our country you don't really see homeless people on the street.

In our country, the difference between poor people and rich people is really rather great. You don't have really, really rich people and really really poor people, everybody works together.

L: A lot of people in Britain are very concerned about racism and the growth of racism. Do you think Britain is racist?

Samira: Yes, but I didn't really get any harassment. Some people were really shocked when they knew we were Bosnian refugees. It was like a really big deal. And some people said "what are you doing here" and when I said I was proud to be Bosnian they said why don't we go and fight for Bosnia and kill Serbs and Croats. Bosnia before the war was really multi-ethnic. In Bosnia we used to live together. My next door neighbour one side was Serb, the other Croat.

L: There are now many Bosnian refugees in London. How important is the community of Bosnians living here to you?

Samira: When you see people from Bosnia you think my God, I don't want to talk to them about Bosnia because you just want to forget what's happening. It's not easy for me, especially for me because I'm really embarrassed about everything that is happening to Bosnia, especially the bad, you know. I wish I was with my parents, I heard yesterday from my sister that they're really hungry. And I hear things like that and I want them to be well.

L: There's a move to try and get people to twin with Tuzla University, and to get people to write letters of support to Tuzla. Do you think that's useful?

Samira: Yeah I think that's really useful because if you're in Tuzla, you think that the rest of the world doesn't hear about what's happening.

L: International Workers' Aid picketed the Foreign Office in January calling for Tuzla airport to be opened. Why did you encourage people to go?

Samira: The worst of the war in Bosnia is that people are living there and they haven't got any food. When I talked to my sister she said that for instance in Tuzla people are really dying from hunger. I think that is really important to open the airport to get supplies there. A friend of mine rang me the other day and said that the situation in Tuzla is really bad. There are people making appeals to other towns in northern Bosnia, asking for food because people are dying. She said that the Serbian army are burning everything that is not Bosnian.

I'm so proud to be from Tuzla, where I know that all the people still believe in something, that they can live together. If we go back to Bosnia, if take a gun and go I probably won't be killed. What I can do is to raise money and send it to people in Bosnia. If some people really want to live together, like they want in Tuzla, they should have the right to.
Don't go back to find the future!

German socialist John Heartfield's 1932 photo montage shows Adolf Hitler as he really was - 'swallowing gold and spoiling trash'.

**Francois Chopel**

When the world-wide capitalist economy goes into crisis, war and racism will follow.

History has the proof. The last time Europe had a recession like this was in the 1930's. After the Wall Street crash in 1929 unemployement rose and world trade collapsed. By the mid-1930's most capitalist democracies had either dictatorship or coalition governments.

The ruling rich throughout Europe became insecure as mass unemployment and poverty grew. In many countries they turned to the far-right - thugs they use when they are desperate.

Fascism in 1930's

Fascist governments in Germany and Italy, like the authoritarian monarchy in Japan, ruthlessly broke up attempts to defend ordinary people from the recession caused by the ruling rich.

Those governments were also militaristic, nationalist and sought to extend the territory they controlled.

The fascist regimes carried ideas used by the old colonial powers through to brutal extremes. Their mass murder of Jews and Gypsies in Europe was motivated by the same ideas of national superiority as Britain has used to deny basic democratic rights to those countries occupied by the Empire.

After the war, some of those racist themes fell into disuse as a wave of third world revolutions forced the colonial empires to collapse.

Back to the future?

In 1994, we are going back to find our future.

The Western rulers no longer have the threat of the 'communist' countries to keep people in line. Now, using NATO and the UN, they lie to us that the peoples of the third world are war-crazy and bound by tribal loyalties and need the west to keep them in check.

They obscure the real causes of the wars in Somalia and Yugoslavia to win back the right of the west to police the world.

They hide the real facts - that far from bringing peace in Somalia, the UN has killed over 4,000 people, that far from importing food and hope, the bulk of the money spent by the west in Somalia has gone on TV coverage to show us the side of the story.

**European rally**

The right wing are rising again in Europe. What happens in Bosnia is part of our business. What might happen tomorrow in Russia - maybe with the fascist Zhimovsky getting his finger on the nuclear button - concerns us too.

The economic disorder requires desperate solutions. Either young people unite with the working masses to scrap capitalism, or capitalism will use the far right to break our potential power.

**Militarist danger**

If the militaristic right and nationalists are brought to power now - when economic conflicts between the big western powers are so sharp - trade battles will lead to world wars and racist regimes.

That is what happened in World War Two. In the Pacific, Japan and the US were fighting for economic control of the region.

In the 1990's, they are fighting for control of trade worldwide and that makes us all in the same boat.

**Don't go back to find the future!**

Tear down the racist walls of Fortress Europe

**Alden Salter**

Fortress Europe symbolizes the exclusion of non-citizens both inside and outside the European Union (EU), from its prosperity.

The Single European Act (SEA) opens internal borders to the free movement of its nationals, allowing them to live and work and obtain welfare in the country of their choice.

Simultaneously it aims to reduce entry into the EU from outside and to deny the right of freedom of movement and settlement to non-citizens resident within.

The SEA harmonizes the immigration policies of individual states, so that the most restrictive policies become the norm throughout.

**'Black list'**

Fortress Europe is deeply racist. There is a literal 'black list' of 127 countries whose nationals will require visas to enter the EU. The populations of these countries are predominantly black.

In contrast, the three commonwealth countries exempted from the list are 'white'. The aim is primarily to exclude people from the Third World. Black residents in the EU are the principal victims of internal border controls aimed at non-citizens.

Fortress Europe policies also target people fleeing war and poverty resulting from the economic disintegration and rise of nationalism in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

As those interviewed in this issue of Liberation can testify, Bosnian refugees have already fallen foul of the legislation.

**No legal migration**

Today there is virtually no legal immigration into Europe for the purpose of employment. The largest categories of people entering Europe from the number one Third World asylum seekers and unauthorized migrant workers (who number about four million).

Many are refugees, refused asylum, who have gone underground to avoid deportation. Others come from poverty stricken countries where employment is scarce and welfare non-existent. Their families and national economies depend on their earnings.

As illegal immigrants they have no welfare or employment rights taying them open to superexploitation by their employers. Most work for poverty wages in sweatshop conditions. If they protest they may be reported to the state and deported.

**'Flood'?**

Governments claim Europe is being 'flooded' by bogus 'economic refugees'. This is false.

The main burden of supporting refugees falls on poor countries. In 1989 Somalia had four times and Pakistan 20 times as many refugees as Britain. Only 700,000 of the world's 14 million recognised refugees live in Europe.

Since the mid '80s the rights of asylum seekers have been systematically eroded.

Individual EU states have imposed visa requirements on refugee producing countries, in tandem with 'carrier liability' laws which fine airlines for carrying passengers without the required travel documents. The definition of refugee used (those with a well-founded fear of persecution) excludes those fleeing foreign aggression and occupation.

Asylum seekers face deportation, welfare discrimination, measures to hasten their departure and even criminalization.

Britain's 1993 Asylum Act introduced finger printing for asylum seekers, abolished their right to public housing and introduced a fast-track appeal process.

**Schenegen Act**

But the most draconian measures against asylum seekers are being implemented at EU level.

The Schengen Act removed the obligation on EU countries to consider applications of those previously refused asylum by another EU country.

At the Edinburgh summit in December 1992 the Ad-Hoc Group on Immigration proposed that 'people fearing civil rights violations should seek protection from their own authorities or in the first safe country.'

The group declared 'the international movement of refugees is seldom necessary for protective purposes'.

Tear them down! Anti-racist campaigners must fight to tear down the walls of Fortress Europe.

We must bring to public view the people who have a right to enjoy asylum and to work in the EU. We must campaign for unauthorized migrants and all black people in Europe to be granted citizenship rights.

Above all we must fight to end the world capitalist economic system which creates mass poverty and mass migration.
 Declare yourself an internationalist!

BIG IDEAS
Made Simple

Paul Krugman

Look around. Fruit...and vegetables in our stores are harvested in Africa and the Caribbean.
Our furniture is made from trees felled in South-East Asia and Scandinavia. Stereos, televisions and personal computers were designed in the United States but are built in East Asia.
The music we listen to and clothes we wear are influenced by Western, South Asian and African-American cultures.
We live in an interdependent world. Our lives are regulated by the world market.
This global economy has no concerns for national boundaries.
It moves from country to country searching for cheap labour and mass profits.

NATO, UN & G7
The bosses and their friends in government or business internationally.
Their economic forum is the annual Group of 7 economic summit, their military pact is the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and their political alliance is the United Nations.
So it makes sense that those of us who oppose these policies should think and act internationally.
Events in one country can have a tremendous impact around the world.
When the fascist dictatorship in Portugal was overthrown in 1974 it was in large part due to the resistance of the liberation forces in Portugal’s African colonies.
More recently, the destruction of the Berlin Wall gave the green light all over Eastern Europe to the fight for democratic freedoms.

South Africa
In the 1980’s many young people spoke out and campaigned against the apartheid regime in South Africa. Tens of thousands attended concerts demanding the release of Nelson Mandela.
Many took part in boycotts of South African products telling supermarkets to buy from elsewhere.
University campuses in the United States ran divestment campaigns calling on their colleges not to invest in companies which did business in South Africa.
There are coming struggles which will need the support of internationalists too.
In Brazil a Popular Democratic Government led by the Workers’ Party (PT) may be elected later this year.
This Government which aims to run the economy for the workers, poor peasants, share-dwellers and the dispossessed will be under attack from foreign governments and global institutions.

Real power

Real power is in the hands of the imperialists - the western governments, multi-national corporations and financial institutions which control the world economy. They use their power to strangle any revolution.
So international solidarity isn’t just about supporting people in struggle around the world.
We have to fight against the imperialist designs of our own government in Britain.

That’s the most effective way to help movements for revolutionary change around the world.

Feed your mind!

spread the word

Liberation! is unique

Tip out this coupon, and post it to:
Liberation!, PO Box 1109, London NW 2XU.

I want to subscribe. Here is £2 in stamps, or a £2 cheque or postal order payable to ‘Liberation!’
Send me ______ copies of Liberation! on sale or return.

Name
Address
Post code __________ Age
Telephone

Young people write it, design it and distribute it - working together to put forward a feminist, ecologist and socialistic alternative to the lies that fill the bosses’ newspapers.
Every young person should get the chance to see Liberation! And that means we need your help.
Take out a subscription and we’ll send you the next four issues for just £2.
Maybe you can take a few copies to sell to friends at school, college or at work?
Not just in Britain, but all over the world people are eager to get Liberation! seen.
Some readers in Vancouver, Canada, just wrote in asking for us to start sending a bundle of 20 copies of every issue!
Kissing Doesn’t Kill: Greed And Indifference Do

Lolly Green

Find a cure is the demand that everyone who wants to see an end to AIDS must raise. Even with the best education schemes, without immuno-stimulants, or a cure, there will always be new cases of HIV. The statistics are clear: when AIDS has infected the gay community and on an epidemic scale, developments in the economic effects of a high proportion of the population with weakened immune systems.

Yet the drug companies are concerned only with profits, and reap from the AIDS crisis.

When a drug trial found that AZT was less useful than thought, Wellcome, the company that developed the drug, was more worried about the drop in their profits than the effectiveness of drugs for people with HIV taking AZT.

Competing with each other, the drug companies attempt to keep their research top secret, withholding money and more importantly, time to find a cure for AIDS.

Meanwhile, people who are diagnosed HIV positive are advised to avoid stress and delay the onset of AIDS.

Do not so easily when a positive diagnosis means discrimi-

nation in almost every area of life.

Being thrown out by a bigoted landlord, losing a job, friends and family support are not uncommon experiences.

If someone becomes too ill to work, then they are taken to a hospital, a system which is completely inadequate for anyone’s needs, let alone someone who needs to avoid stress and eat well on medical advice.

Where poverty exists alongside HIV there has been a massive growth in the spread of TB, not only in the poorest nations of Africa, but in urban centres of the richest nation, the USA.

Government efforts to prevent the spread of HIV have been heavy on the scare tactics, while failing to get information to people most at risk.

Young men are still becoming infected because schools and colleges do not provide relevant sex education.

Liberation! wants:

1. To Prevent the Transmission of HIV

Access to information about safer sex and drug use, regardless of age and sexual orientation, and especially for young gay men particularly at risk.

Distribution of free condoms

De-criminalise prostitution, no more convictions for carrying condoms

Free needle exchange schemes

2. To Find A Cure

Drug research should be run by the state for the public good, not by private companies for the cause of profit.

Open up the files on the state of drug trials

3. To improve life expectancy and quality of life for people living with AIDS and HIV

End discrimination against people living with AIDS or HIV, in the workplace, housing, education, immigration law and insurance provision.

Benefit levels should take account of people’s real needs.

Give the NWS the funding needed for comprehensive health care of people with HIV and AIDS

Fight poverty in the Third World, prioritising health care over debt repayments

Do young people need ‘Age of Consent’ laws?

Kate Alesana

The House of Commons has recently voted on the age of consent for gay men. Before the vote the age of consent for gay men was 21, while for straights it is 16. Lesbians don’t even get a mention - apparently Queen Victoria didn’t believe they existed.

But what’s the big deal?

Why should anyone object to gay men choosing to have sex at the same age as straights?

In fact, what is the point of the age of consent at all? It was only in 1967 that gay sex was made legal. Even now, lesbians or gay men kissing in the street can be arrested for indecent behaviour.

Young men are being sent to prison or put in care just for choosing to have sex with another man before the age of 21.

Young lesbians are being put into care, not for doing anything wrong, or because their parents can’t provide for them, but simply because they are lesbians.

Age of consent laws are used against straight young people too. Young women who want to have sex when they’re under 16 risk being put into care and their boyfriends risk prosecution.

If you are forced into any sexual act with anyone, whatever age you are, that’s illegal, and the person who forced you has committed the crime.

But the Age of Consent laws do not prevent people being hurt. They are there simply to stop young people choosing to have sex when they want, and with whom they want.

They are not about protecting young people from being preyed upon by older people, they are about taking away our rights to choose what we do with our bodies.

The laws protecting us from rape and sexual assault certainly leave a lot to be desired. But the age of consent laws are a substitute for the real changes to increase young people’s rights or safety.

The Age of Consent laws stop young people getting the information they need about contraception and safer sex - they don’t stop young people from having sex.

The result is unplanned teenage pregnancies, and higher incidences of sexually transmitted diseases.

All in the name of protecting us.
DJ Sista: ‘Stick to your principles’

Hard Kaur...She Knows the Score

One time manager of Fun-da-mental, the Face’s ‘DJ of the Month’ August ’93, first ever Asian DJ on Radio 1 FM (specialising in Bhangra, reggae and house), Bhangra musicologist, active anti-racist and fighter for women’s rights, Ranjit Kaur aka DJ Sista is a very busy woman. Liberalisation managed to catch up with her in her home town of Huddersfield to discuss music and politics...

L: Bhangra is getting onto the media radar. Can you give us a brief history of the style?

R: The UK scene started off slowly about ten years ago. Originally traditional Bhangra was performed in temples, then later at weddings. Organisations startedtoadd modern instruments to traditional Punjabi ones, and a movement was pioneered by bands like Aalap. Bands then started to perform in the midlands and in London. Bhangra is originally Punjabi music but now you find some Asians from all backgrounds into it. Fun-da-mental, for instance, contain Muslims within their ranks. It’s been a long Bhangra-Raggas crossover. Does that present a cultural mix at the roots between black and Asian youth?

L: That was a money-making gimmick by some record companies who thought they could cash in on the popularity of raggas. Many blacks were offended by it. Some of the music was really good, and people danced to it, but generally it was a commercial move and was potentially damaging to black Asian relations.

R: Do you see bhangra as radical or positive?

L: In the past, Bhangra dealt with traditional subjects and having a good time. More recently, Asian youth have started to sing about the problems they face in Nineties Britain. However, most record companies are worried that political stuff will not be popular and won’t sell. Female rappers are crucial, crucial. They have to push themselves and as a result they are having a radicalizing effect on the scene.

R: Are you an anti-racist activist or do you have any advice or comments for the movement for the movement?

L: There needs to be more unity and cooperation between the anti-racism movement and all the different struggles against specific oppressions. The major anti-racist organisations are all doing separate things, but if they could unite they could kick some serious ass. The movement needs to be open and radical, and anti-sexist and anti-homophobic etc. Capitalism has to be fought by fighting for freedom against all oppressions, rather than by illustrating the struggle. The main thing is to have groups of people who come together because they want to fight racism and are prepared to act locally to tackle it. Don’t bother sending me any applications forms, I’ll just send them back!

R: Do you encounter sexism in the scene?

L: Yes, lots of it. People didn’t expect me to be a DJ and I often get patronised. I’ve just had to stand up for myself. I have gained respect amongst people who know and work with me.

R: You are in a band called the ‘K K Kings’, can you explain the origins of your name?

L: K K is the British Government. The Government sells a lot of weapons to Turkey. One of our demands is to end military and economic aid by European governments to Turkey, and we demand that European people don’t go on holiday to Turkey. Because the money they spend equates to food for people in Turkey comes back to us as a bullet. Are there other things you’d like to see young people do to support your struggle?

R: I think the majority of people are young, the future depends on them. We would like them to participate more in politics and stop their government supporting the Turkish government.

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