

DEMAND THE RELEASE AND LANDING OF MOHAMED CHERFI

Mohamed Cherfi was arrested in Quebec City on Friday March 5th. Mohamed had been in sanctuary inside the Saint-Pierre United Church, on the invitation of the church's pastor, the Reverend Gerald Dore. This is the first that Canadian police or immigration officers have violated the centuries old tradition of sanctuary.

According to eyewitness reports in Quebec City, at least 15 police officers from the City of Quebec broke into the church at approximately 12:45pm to arrest Mohamed. The police claimed to have an arrest warrant for Mohamed on a breach of a previous condition of release which apparently stipulated that Mohamed reside at the same address in Montreal. Mohamed had taken sanctuary inside the church on February 18th in order to avoid an eventual deportation to Algeria where he faces almost certain persecution.

Mohamed has since been deported to the United States where he is in detention at the Battavia Detention Centre outside Buffalo, NY, awaiting deportation to Algeria.

Mohamed has been an active member of the Action Committee of Non-Status Algerians in Montreal. He has resided in Canada for close to seven years, speaks fluent French, and has been a tireless advocate on behalf of non-status refugees in Canada. He has helped hundreds of non-status Algerians gain status in Canada, but he himself has been targeted for removal due to his outspoken advocacy. Mohamed has previously been arrested three times for his participation at sit-ins and pickets.

Please call/fax the Ministers below and demand Mohamed be brought back to Canada and landed:

Anne McLellan, Minister of Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Fax: (613)990-9077, Tel: (613)991-2924, McClellan.A@parl.gc.ca
Judy Sgro, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration
Fax: (613) 947-8319 Tel: (613) 992-7774, Minister@cic.gc.ca
Michelle Courchesne, Minister of Quebec Immigration
Phone: (418) 644-2128 Fax: (418) 528-0829

A Solidarity Committee for Mohamed is active in Quebec City. They can be reached at (418) 262-0144 or solimo2004@yahoo.fr In Toronto, contact the Toronto Emergency Committee to Support Mohamed Cherfi at (416) 925-6939 or nooneisillegal@riseup.net.

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Vigil at Immigration Minister Judy Sgro's House

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Mohamed
Cherfi -
Montreal
organizer
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claimant seized
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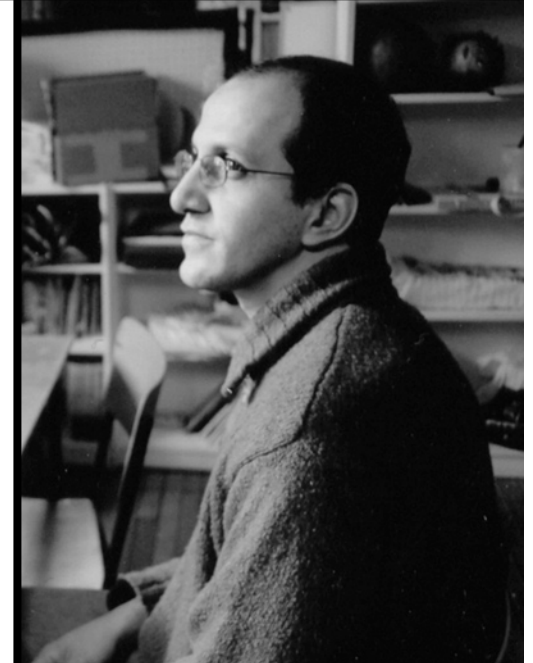
Tuesday, March 9th 6:00pm

**Meet at Lawrence West subway station at 6:00pm
or join us after 6:30 at Judy's house: 25 Veerland
Drive. From Keele and Lawrence West, drive
north on Keele, left (west) on Maple Leaf Drive,
past Culford, turn right onto Veerland. Or take the
52 Lawrence bus from Lawrence West or
Lawrence subway station and get off at Culford.**

**Toronto Emergency Committee to Support Mohamed
Cherfi • 416-925-6939 nooneisillegal@riseup.net**

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