

# Refugee Hope March

## Palm Sunday 4 April 2004

### Refugees are Workers

We are the workers of the world! You will find us in whatever part of the world you travel to. Anyone can become a refugee. At this time in our lives many of us are struggling.

Capitalist governments are sacrificing our lives and our freedoms for their own political and financial gain. They are setting us against each other so we will go to war, so will be divided, so we will not stand together for human rights.

### Background

The government accustomed the Australian population to military force against groups of people by using misinformation. Lies whipped up racist fear of refugees.

Before 1991 people seeking asylum in Australia were housed in open centres that provided English language classes, trauma counselling and settlement services. The Labor government first introduced mandatory detention.

Temporary Protection Visas were proposed by Pauline Hanson in 1998 and later adopted by the Liberal government.

# Workers change the world

Australia Asia Worker Links was founded to build links between unions and labour organization in the Asia Pacific region. AAWL develops these links by organising union training programmes, solidarity exchange visits and by building campaigns to support worker's disputes and political prisoners in the region.

AAWL meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm at Trades Hall, 54 Victoria Street, Carlton South.



### Solidarity

We can stand together with other workers from around the world. We can march with our unions for our rights. We can take a stand against racism and refuse to fight each other. When workers join together we gain new strength. Yes to freedom.

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