# Martin Luther King Day March: No War, No Deportations, Trump Must Go!

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# Martin Luther King Day March & Rally
# No Racist War - No Deportations - Trump Must Go!

## Monday, January 20,
## 12pm on the Diag

**1pm: Meeting, Michigan Union, Pond rm**

- STOP TRUMP'S PUSH FOR WAR AGAINST IRAN
- U.S. military must leave the Middle East
- No more death-by-deportation for Iraqi refugees
- Defend DACA - Stop Deportations - Shut Down Concentration Camps
- No Muslim Ban - No Wall - Open the Borders
- TRUMP MUST RESIGN OR BE REMOVED NOW!

"We are called to speak for the weak, for the voiceless, for the victims of our nation, for those it calls "enemy," for no document from human hands can make these humans any less our brothers… I speak for those whose land is being laid waste, whose homes are being destroyed, whose culture is being subverted. I speak for the poor in America who are paying the double price of smashed hopes at home, and dealt death and corruption in Vietnam. I speak as a citizen of the world, for the world as it stands aghast at the path we have taken….
We are now faced with the fact, my friends, that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now… Now let us begin. Now let us rededicate ourselves to the long and bitter, but beautiful, struggle for a new world."

-Martin Luther King, April 4, 1967
Riverside Church Speech - *Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break the Silence*

*Trump's attacks and war drive against Iran are the actions of a weak, scared and desperate person, not a show of strength. If the resistance movement mobilizes back out into the streets with real urgency, we can defeat Trump's war drive and we can force Trump out.*

Donald Trump seeks to initiate a new war in the Middle East. Trump's target is Iran. The battleground, at present, is in Iraq. The dangers of such a war are potentially catastrophic. Because of those dangers, world leaders have sought for decades to avert any outright military conflict with Iran. But Trump is now plunging the United States, the Middle East, and potentially the entire world head-first into those dangers. Trump must be stopped, or else the world may face a disaster unlike anything that has been seen since World War II.

The Trump-ordered assassination of Iranian General Qassim Suleimani can only be regarded as an act of war. No one can believe otherwise. No one believes that the assassination of General Suleimani could possibly lead to peace or stability. On the contrary, it will lead to greater violence, destabilization, retaliation, and suffering. This military escalation is the only possible result of the assassination—it can only be concluded that a military escalation is the *purpose* of the assassination.

There is no sane reason for the United States to provoke war against Iran. The U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have proven to be endless fiascos, continuously destabilizing the Middle East while undermining any possibility for peaceful resolution. Iran, on the other hand, is much more powerful than Iraq or Afghanistan. The United States cannot hope to benefit from such a war, and Trump is not attempting to benefit the United States. Trump is attempting to benefit himself. Trump is attempting to distract from his impeachment crisis by creating an even larger crisis. Trump is attempting to hold onto power, to create the one condition that concentrates power most directly in the hands of the President: war.

Alongside Trump's threat to drown the world in bloodshed, Trump also threatens the democratic foundations of the nation over which he presides. Throughout his presidency, Trump has shown no allegiance to the law, to human rights, to the Constitution, or to the truth—no allegiance to anything other than his own personal gain. Trump faced impeachment because he abused his use of military policy in Ukraine to benefit his own political interests. Trump is now exhibiting the same twisted priorities that led to his impeachment: he is provoking war in order to overcome that impeachment. Trying to compensate for his political weakness in the wake of impeachment, Trump's military escapades are an act of desperation. Leaping over Congress to initiate an act of war, Trump is daring to show that he holds all power in his hands, and that no one in Congress or anywhere else is really going to stop him.

The dangers of a U.S. war against Iran are made even greater by the fact of the person who would be leading that war. Donald Trump distinguished his Presidency by initiating the draconian "Muslim ban," locking Central American children in cages within immigrant concentration camps, and deporting Iraqi refugees in America to their certain deaths. He has built his political support by fanning the flames of racial and religious hatred, scapegoating immigrants, and furthering the rise of a neo-fascist, "alt-Right" movement.

A Trump-led war would be a war of hatred that extols human destruction as its own end. A Trump-led war also threatens to be a nuclear war, as Trump himself eagerly inquired about his use of nuclear weapons even before he entered the White House. Indeed, a Trump-led war could carry the same historic significance as Hitler's invasion of Poland in 1939—the beginning of a maniacal and senseless tragedy that engulfs the world in flames.

We cannot allow Trump's presidency to continue. We cannot allow Trump to destroy the lives of millions of people for the sake of his own power, wealth, and ego. Trump must be stopped and we have the power to stop him. After Trump's inauguration, millions of people across the globe filled the streets in a massive outcry of humanity against a racist tyrant and for a future of freedom and equality. Our collective power, rooted in international solidarity, was palpable and we were winning real victories. The massive occupations at airports across the country defeated the first Muslim ban. Now is the time to mobilize the full strength of our movement and shut down business as usual until Trump is forced to resign or be removed, NOW.

**Stop the Deportations of Iraqi Refugees - No More Death by Deportation!** Even as he pushes for war in the Middle East, Trump is still pursuing the deadly deportations of Iraqi refugees who have lived here since the last time the United States destroyed their country. Ali Al-Sadoon and Wisam Hamana are just two of the thousands of Iraqi refugees facing deportation who have been in the fight of their lives for over two years. They are among the heroes and leaders of the immigrant rights movement who have taken matters into their own hands to save their own lives. In April, this most recent phase of this prolonged struggle was kicked off by another Iraqi refugee, Oliver Awshana, who fought, kicked, screamed as ICE agents tried to force him onto a deportation flight to Iraq. When the pilot saw this, he refused to fly him and ICE was forced to return Oliver to continue to fight his case. BAMN got his case reopened within the week. This was just the beginning of an escalated struggle between ICE and the immigrant rights movement.

In June, Ali and Wisam refused to comply with ICE's orders to show up at Detroit Metro airport to be deported via Delta Airlines to their deaths in Iraq. Instead, they cut off their tethers, determined to remain here with their families in the only home they have ever known, hoping to buy time for something to change to stop this murderous policy. Their example inspired more Iraqi refugees to do the same throughout the summer. Some made it safety to Canada through the new Underground Railroad.

Seeking to make an example of Ali and Wisam, ICE hunted them down in July. On July 25, ICE agents pulled up in mass onto the Al-Sadoons' front lawn, broke down their door, held guns on Ali's wife and young children and violently dragged him out of his house as his terrified children clung to his leg. Two days earlier ICE had arrested Wisam. The federal government charged them both with "hampering a deportation" to which they pled not guilty. Ali and Wisam represented by BAMN attorney and leader Shanta Driver, prepared to go to trial with the confidence they could convince a jury that cutting their tethers and refusing to cooperate in their own deportations was self-defense. Just days before each of their pre-trial hearings, the prosecutor dropped the charges, afraid to let the truth of this murderous deportation policy come out in the trial. They are both still being held in ICE custody. Through relentless persistence we won a stay that has stopped Ali's deportation. We must now win the same protection for Wisam who is still in danger of deportation, and fight to get them free from the nightmare of ICE detention once and for all.

The courageous struggles of Ali, Wisam and Oliver are shining examples for us all - if you fight, you can win. In standing up against Donald Trump's brutal racist and deadly immigration policies, they are fighting for every immigrant in the U.S. who lives in fear of what the future holds, everyone suffering the physical and mental torture of indefinite detention, every family living in constant fear of being torn apart.

Trump's attacks are meant to keep every immigrant in America living in constant fear. Like the DACA youth, Ali and Wisam were brought here by their parents when they were very young and know no other home. This attack on Detroit's longstanding Iraqi community, the largest Iraqi and Middle-Eastern community in the nation, like all of Trump's racist attacks, is meant to send a message that no one is safe - not refugees to whom the U.S. promised refuge after completely destroying their countries, not the DACA youth; not TPS holders who fled war or natural disasters; not even young children; not even babies. But like the caging of children and babies in concentration camps at the border, like the attack on DACA, this attack is a vast overreach that has explosive potential to spark mass rebellion. Whether Trump can get away with enforcing the arrests and deportations of DACA youth depends on the strength of our movement. We must become more organized and mobilize to defend our neighbors, classmates, co-workers by any means necessary. We can focus the movement for Trump's impeachment on what matters most: his racist attacks on immigrants and refugees, his crimes against humanity at home and abroad.

**JOIN BAMN!** BAMN is committed to building youth leadership for the new civil rights/ immigrants movement. This moment in history calls for bold leaders who are prepared to stand on the truth and lead through action. BAMN exists to develop the conscious political method needed to turn our struggles into fights that can win - learning both from the successes and mistakes of our own struggles, and from the most successful leaders of mass movements like Martin Luther King and Frederick Douglass. Our movement is integrated and international, and we are fighting for fundamental equality and freedom for all of humanity, for a new kind of society. We are fighting to put the oppressed in power. Our movement fights for open borders, for a definition of citizenship that says if you live here, work here, go to school here, contribute to this society, you are a citizen and should have full citizenship rights. We are not a 'single issue' campaign because the struggles are not separate and we can't win if we separate them. If you agree with the views and demands in this leaflet, BAMN is for you. Join us, contact us, talk to us. We can make and change history.