Eight men jailed over sex abuse of teenage girls in Rotherham

This is never ending. But it took so long to make the prosecutions begin. If the names seem familiar its because other men of the family were sentenced earlier this year. From Yorkshire newspaper the <u>Arshid</u>, <u>Basharat and Bannaras</u> to 35, 25, and 19 years in prison respectively in February.

Seven other men were given sentences of between five and 17 years alongside Hussain at Sheffield Crown Court for what Judge Sarah Wright called the "degrading and violent" sexual exploitation of teenage girls in the South Yorkshire town.

Over the course of two trials this year, the Hussain brothers and their associates have now been given prison sentences by Judge Wright totalling 198 years for their grooming and abuse activities in Rotherham.

The judge heard how Hussain's victim, who was abused by all eight defendants, had complained to police in 2003 but the inquiry was dropped, partly because she was so terrified of her abusers.

Judge Wright highlighted one incident in which the girl was taken to a flat where she was made to perform oral sex on five men in turn, including defendant Masoued Malik. In a victim impact statement read to the court, the girl, now in her 20s, said she had all the normal events of teenage life "ripped away from me".

The judge rejected claims by one defence barrister that the fact this victim had written a book about child sexual exploitation and lectured on the subject was evidence that the harm she had suffered was not at the most extreme end of the

scale.

Judge Wright shook her head as she dismissed the lawyer's arguments.



She said to the defendants: "The extreme damage that you have caused to her makes it all the more impressive that she has had the courage to bring her own story out into the open and has put herself into forums where she has discussed the issues of child sexual exploitation in order, selflessly, to seek to help others.

"Her courage and strength in doing that should in no way deflect from acknowledging the extreme damage she has suffered as a result of your offending. Her dignity and bravery as she gave evidence in this courtroom was palpable."

The judge added: "No-one listening to the evidence will forget the obvious trauma of all the victims and Victim One emotionally recounting that if, by her efforts, she has prevented just one young girl having to go through what she has had to go through then she will feel that she has achieved what she wanted to accomplish.

Mohammed Whied, 32, of Psalters Lane, Kimberworth, was jailed for five years after being found guilty of one count of aiding and abetting rape. Ishtiaq Khaliq, 33, of Cherry Brook, Rotherham, was sentenced to 17 years in prison after being convicted of one rape and three indecent assaults.

Waleed Ali, 34, of Canklow Road, Rotherham, was jailed for 13 years after being found guilty of one rape and one indecent assault.

Asif Ali, 30, of Clough Street, Rotherham, was given a 12-year term after being convicted of one rape.

Masoued Malik, 32, of Bridgewater Way, Rotherham, was jailed for 15 years after being found guilty of one rape, one count of conspiracy to commit indecent assault and one of false imprisonment.

Naeem Rafiq, 33, of Clarendon Road, Rotherham, was sentenced to eight years after being convicted of one count of conspiracy to commit indecent assault and one of false imprisonment.

Basharat Hussain, 40, from Goole, was convicted of one indecent assault. Hussain, who is currently serving a sentence at HMP Wakefield, was given an additional seven years to run alongside his current term.

The offending of all the defendants except Khaliq involved one girl, referred to as Victim One. Khaliq's offending related to all three victims in the trial.