KNOWN CASES OF WITCHCRAFT, SPIRIT POSSESSION AND RITULISTIC ABUSE

1991

Kousar Bashir
Age 20
Manchester
8 day exorcism via payment to religious leaders, beatings, starvation.
Unknown prosecutions

1993

Fareda Patel
Age 21
London
Torture & murder - accused of being possessed by a djinn and beaten to death during exorcism.
2 sisters charged with her murder

1993

Cheung Ho
Age 48
Norwich
Murder, beaten to death - believed she was possessed by evil spirits.
Brother convicted of murder, sentenced to 5 years

1994

Mary Odegbami
Age 26
London
Devil accusation; exorcism, starvation/forced feeding - accused of being possessed by the devil and subjected to 'deliverance'.
Fiancé convicted of manslaughter, 6 year sentence

1998

Sylvester Orieso
Age 5
London
Believed to be possessed by demons, attempted exorcism by strangulation, mental health of mother
Mother indefinitely detained under mental health act

2000

Victoria Climbé
Age 8
London
Torture & murder - accused of spirit possession. being a witch, burned, beaten, isolated.
Great aunt and boyfriend convicted of murder (life)

2001

"Adam" (Torso in Thames)
Age 4-7
London
Muti- body found in River Thames, expertly dismembered (head/limbs never found), believed to be trafficked from West Africa via Germany.
Unresolved.

2002

Mardoche Yembi
Age 10-11
London
Witchcraft accusation (kindoki); exorcism, neglect and psychological abuse.
No conviction

2004

Samira Ullah
3 months
London
Murder, father believed daughter was possessed by djinn
Father convicted of murder, mother convicted of neglect

2005

Child B (Angolan girl)
Age 8
East London
Labelled "witch", beaten, starved, chilli peppers in eyes.
Guardians convicted of cruelty

2008

Kyra Ishaq
Age 7
Birmingham
Starvation, physical chastisement, abuse with belief of djinn possession

Mother sentenced to 15 years, stepfather jailed indefinitely for public safety

2009

Eunice Spry
Age 8-11
Gloucestershire
Physical, psychological abuse and neglect, belief that foster children were the 'children of the devil'.
14 year conviction.

2010

Glasgow "Coven" cases
Ages under 13
Glasgow
Multiple children, witchcraft rituals, seances, locked in cupboard/oven/freezer, sexual abuse, ouija board rituals, forced to stab dogs.
11 accused on trial

2010

Kristy Bamu
Age 15
London
Accused of kindoki/witchcraft; tortured to death.
Sister & partner convicted of murder

2011

Shayma Ali
Age 4
London
Believed possessed by djinn; attempted exorcism by dismembering of child's body
Mother indefinitely detained under Mental Health Act

2012

Asma Hussain
Age 50
London
Believed posessed by devil; beaten with stick during 2 hour exorcism by religious leader
Son jailed 1 year, son in law jailed 9m, husband 1 year suspended sentence

2013

Ayesha Ali
Age 8
London
Manipulated belief in being "evil/witch", physical abuse
Mother and lover convicted of manslaughter (13&18 years)

2015

Hijama case
Age 13
Leeds
Hijama, exorcism, father believed son possessed by black magic, boy subjected to wet cupping, with cuts to expel djinn
father convicted 42 weeks suspended, hijama practitioner convicted, 42 weeks suspended

2015

Anita B
Age 15
London
claimed demon possession, abducted abroad for exorcism
Brother convicted of abduction

2015

Bilal
Age 9
UK
Hijama & exorcism, severe neglect
SCR only

2017

Elliot Proctor
18 months
Bradford
Mother suffered undiagnosed paranoid schizophrenia, threw son from 6th floor believing God told her to sacrifice him
Indefinite hospital order

2018

Emilia Brooke Harris
Age 4
Wales
Mother sufferig acute psychosis/schizophrenia drowned daughter then buried body, believed God instructed her to sacrifice her daughter to save mankind.
Not guilty by reason of insanity, detained under mental health act

2020

Michael & Juliana Olorunbi
Various ages 8+
Birmingham
Spiritual baths (holy water) linked to evil/devil cleansing; sexual abuse, repeated rape, coerced abortions.
Michael jailed 34 years, Juliana jailed 11 years for aiding/abeting rape

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