



# ALTERNATIVE WORKERS NEWS IRAN

A Monthly NEWSPAPER of the SOLIDARITY COMITTEES  
WITH IRANIAN WORKERS MOVEMENT - ABROAD



## The necessity to organize at the workplace and the unity of the workers, teachers, nurses and retirees on streets!

Recently, In parallel with the uninterrupted and regular protests of the retirees of social security, civil, and army who have turned the streets into protest gathering and expressing their independent demands, another wave of protests in different sections of working class including oil, petrochemical, mining, and steel, also hospitals begun by chanting slogans, demanding their rights making their voices be heard in society.

Considering the social condition of Iran, such trend with respect to the live and livelihood of the majority of Iranians, and the existing common suffering, if the various sections of society be organized in the workplace, and united on the streets, they will be able to such a social force that could change the political atmosphere of the society and subordinate it to themselves, and unite the majority workers into an organized class. A united class that could push back the capitalist policies, and organize the masses of society in the path of struggle for prosperity and social freedom.

With the implementation of the policies of global capitalist in Iran in 2000s, which was followed in different forms by the various sectors of capitalism, the workers of different fields of industry, including textile, mining, transportation, agriculture and industry, education, health and services, oil, gas, petrochemical and steel gradually begun protesting to the living conditions and providing life expenses and organized their struggle in various forms and different ways wherever possible.

The gained experience of the struggles and the different forms of organizing by relay on own social



power among various sections of the working class, have influenced the social and subsequently the political atmosphere of the society, and provided the conditions for all kinds of social uprising.

So far, the mass uprising, which took place due to the complexity of social contradictions, as well as the social protests towards the livelihood and living conditions of different sectors of the working class in Iran, which have reflected in the current wave of protest, demonstrates that without organizing in the workplace, life, and without the unity of various sectors through their organizations, fundamental changes will not eventuate in the process of struggling for securing welfare and freedom in Iran. We, the Solidarity Committees with Iranian Workers Movement-abroad, together with other organizations that share this important task, will not hesitate to do any activities to realize this cause.



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### Response of imprisoned worker, Reza Shahabi to the open letter of Saemeh Sultani, an Afghan Women Movement's activist!

Dear Saemeh, neighbour and co-destiny, your sincere message touched me deeply. Some believe Shame is a revolutionary emotion, your letter evokes anger and shame at the same time. Against daily insults, violence, expulsion and humiliation that you are encountering every day as a Citizen of Afghanistan. As an Iranian shame on me, I blame myself for all these years sitting idle and doing nothing while definitely I could have done something.

[Read full text in link](#)

## Against warmongering policies and for a lasting peace



By: *Hassan Saeedi, Evin prison*

As one of the imprisoned labor activists and a father in Evin prison, one of the symbols of repression and suffocation in the last 50 years in Iran, I am deeply and increasingly concerned and shocked about the massacre of defenceless people in Gaza, especially thousands of children.

Despite the relentless suppression of the Iranian labor movement by the Islamic Republic for more than four decades, and despite the firing, imprisonment, and harassment of us and our families by this government, our movement has always been and will always be one of the defenders of workers and toilers and oppressed people in the world. International solidarity with the toilers and deprived people of the world is not just a choice for us, but a fundamental human duty. It is not without reason that labor organizations and activists in most countries of the world, while condemning the killing of civilians by the Israeli government and Hamas, they have increasingly condemned the killing of more than 13,000 civilians in the Gaza Strip in the past six weeks by the Israeli army, including more than 8,000 children and Women as genocide and a gross flagrant violation of all international laws and hundreds of resolutions against war and for an immediate ceasefire in recent days.

The Workers' Syndicate of Tehran and Suburbs Bus Company (Sherkat -e- Wahed) is supporting these resolutions and specifically the call of the majority of labor and philanthropic organizations in the world for an immediate stoppage of the killing of civilians, and an immediate ceasefire, ending of the war, the withdrawal of military forces and those affiliated with the Israeli government from all occupied Palestinian territories and the recognition of the right to self-determination for the Palestinian people. I hope we will see the expansion and spread of these calls for an immediate ceasefire. [Read full text in link](#)

## Towards the consistent solidarity and organization of oil workers' protests



Following their scattered protests against the living conditions, the low level of wages and the government's encroachment on their rights and benefits, the official oil workers announced in one of their rallies about two months ago that they will hold rallies on Mondays to fulfil their demands. And they set Mondays of every week as protest days for official oil workers.

It has been more than a year that the pensioners of social security, and nationals including teachers and telecommunications have designated certain days of the week as their protest days and simultaneously hold rallies in different cities of Iran. This way of struggle and protesting has played a great role in creating unity among retirees and strengthening the retirement movement and it has become a tradition. Today, the oil workers are following this progressive and modern tradition as role models, coordinating and organizing their protests. There is no doubt that using this method of protest will strengthen the struggles of official oil workers.

The organization of official oil workers will not only strengthen the struggles in the oil sector, but it will also have a great impact on strengthening the protest and uniting all workers in all sections of production, project, service, etc., in front of their employers and the government system that supports them.

The production sector in the oil industry is an artery to the government's earning and, in addition, the employer of this industry is the government itself, which is directly confronting the workers.

The government has a vital need for the oil production sector to be active in order to cover the exorbitant costs of its own system and to cover the costs of governance in general.

Therefore, official workers and the third pillars of oil have a special place in the entire labor movement in Iran. [Read full text in link](#)

## Joint statement of independent organizations advocating children in Iran: Stop the killing of Gaza's children with an immediate ceasefire!

On the 41st day of the killing and displacement of the people of Gaza by the Israeli army, a group of independent and non-governmental organizations in the field of protecting children's rights in Iran protested this killing by publishing a joint statement and demanded the end of the genocide and the establishment of an immediate ceasefire.

The importance of this statement is that it puts the defense of peace, resistance against violence against children and violation of human rights, occupation, aggression and repression in its proper and necessary place.

The regime that slaughters and suppresses dissidents and protestors and is the main cause of injustice and violence against children in Iran cannot ever be a real supporter of the children of Gaza.

A regime that acts as a foreign occupier, and has killed or blinded or sent thousands of Iranian people to prison for demanding freedom and justice, cannot be against the principle of occupation, aggression, killing, and be a supporter of freedom and justice for others.

This regime only opposes the goal of defending fundamentalist brutality and replacing it with Israeli crimes. On the other side, the forces that, along with the propaganda of the Israeli regime, have used the slaughtering and displacement of Palestinian children as an excuse to promote the military aggression of Israel's global allies against Iran and the killing of Iranian women, men and children, in principle they are neither against of murder, killing and rape, and nor they are in favour of peace.

Just as the lives of Gaza civilians and especially children are not important to the reactionary extremist Zionist ruling elite in Israel, the lives of the people and especially the ...

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From No. 189 until No. 190

## *Short News*

### **The gathering of the employed workers of the oil industry in front of the parliament!**

11<sup>th</sup> November, 2023

This gathering today 11th November was in regards to merging of the retirees coffers with the coffers of social security and non-payment of previous wages of the employed workers of the oil industry.



### **The workers of the steel industry in protest & strike!**

Today, 11<sup>th</sup> November, the workers of the National Steel Industry of Iran from 'Ahwaz.' In regards to lack of job levelling, low wages & and other demands not being met, stopped out of work for several hours and gathered in front of the management's building ,and at the same time there was a report about the security forces clashing with the workers.



### **The arrest of several protesting retirees of the steel & mines industry in Tehran!**

Today, 12<sup>th</sup> November, the gathering of retirees of steel & mines took place, while being surrounded by the security forced with the slogans:

"Police go & catch the thieves", "our wages are in Rails, your earning is in dollars", "Fatemi shame on you, come off your chair".



**The strike of the petrochemical workers of 'Chabahar'**

The workers of Bestab-Bana petrochemical company went on strike for non-payment of wages for 5 months.

**The workers of the oil & gas of 'Agha-Jari' gathered in protest once more!**

In continuation of the protests of several weeks, on Saturday 11th November the protesting workers of 'Agha-Jari' in protest to their demands not being met, gathered in protest like previous days. Total Demands  
 -Cancellation of the wages ceiling; -Cancellation of year's limitation in retirement, -Yearly payment of surplus taxes, -Implementation of 10th index, -Prevention of using the retirement coffers of the oil industry retirees.

**The Retirees of 'Shoosh!'**

Today, 12<sup>th</sup> November gathered in front of the governorship building in regards to hard financial conditions, poverty, prejudice and corruption and empty promises the protesters chanted: 'down with slavery, long live life.'

18<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**Rasht:** The gathering in protest by the nurses and health personnel in regards to non-payment of tariffs and overtime.



**We only get our wages in the streets!**

The gathering in protest by the retirees of the social security in regards to harsh economic condition and prejudice chanted: "'Death to slavery, long live life'"

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November

**Tehran:** the gathering of the retirees of the steel industry, today 19th November in 'Vozara' street, in front of the steel coffer.



16<sup>th</sup> November, 2023

**Clashes between the workers of 'Abfa' & the security forces!**

The attack by the security forces towards the gathering of the workers of water and sewage on Wednesday 16th November resulted in clashes & shot being fired in the air. The protesters were aiming at the corrupt management of the water and sewage and trampled wages.

Today Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023 the workers with temporary contracts of the oil ministry of 'Ahwaz.' Gathered in protest in regards to their demands not being met.

Sunday 19th November a group of workers of the oil rich area of southern Iran gathered and demanded that their demands be met .

The workers demanded that the hiring laws be acted upon and conditions and their welfare situation be seen into.

**About us**

"The Committee in Solidarity with the Iranian workers Movement -Abroad" of solidarity groups and individuals outside of Iran that support Iranian Workers'. Struggle for:  
 (1) Democratic rights and economic. Justice;  
 (2) Exposing anti- labour policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran;  
 (3) Building bridges between the Iranian and international workers' movement.

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