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## Alternative Workers News Iran

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### **The last nail in the coffin of the anti-labor and intelligence bureaus of the Islamic councils in Iran!**

**T**he government made councils of the capitalist Islamic regime replaced the independent workers' organizations and councils by suppression, the day after coming to power.

The Islamic Labor Councils, whose purpose, is to help the government and the employers to silence the workers, to divert their demands and wishes, to spy on and expose the labor activists, in a word, the Islamic Labor Councils have been and are the regime's security gendarmes in the workplace. The Islamic Labor Councils and the Worker's House (Khaneh -e- Kargar) are the offensive face of the regime in work centers and have not been accepted by the workers and the labor movement up to this date. The **Haft Tappeh Sugarcane Workers' Syndicate**, on the second day of their strike have closed the Islamic Labor Councils room's door. Previously, in other work centers, including the workers Syndicate of the Tehran Bus Company and suburbs (**Sherkat - e- of Wahed**), and also the Ahwaz National Steel Union, have driven the last nail into the coffins of the Islamic Labor Councils. **In the global level, the anti-labor Islamic Labor Councils and the security arm of the capitalist Islamic regimes, tried to represent the Iranian workers by hand picking those in their dreams, but fortunately, with the active presence of the Solidarity Committees and other organization's defending and advocating the Iranian workers, exposed "the hand- picked representatives 'and the demand for their expulsion were repeatedly emphasized in the international**

**meetings.** On Wednesday, 29 September 2021, we were informed through the channel of the **Haft Tappeh Sugarcane Workers' Syndicate**, that the **Haft Tappeh** Sugarcane workers on the second day of their new round of strikes have closed the door of the Islamic Labor Council, demanding the dismantling and the dissolving of it. **The Solidarity Committees, whilst expressing happiness at the right and courageous actions of the Sugarcane workers of the Haft Tappeh, and congratulating these dear ones, hoping that the doors of anti-labor Islamic Labor Councils in other work centers will be closed and the whole entire capitalist Islamic regime and its supporters and colleagues will be overthrown.**

Looking forward for the overthrowing of the entire Islamic capitalist regime, like its Islamic councils.

**Long live the independent labor organizations!**

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## Workers of “Kareez” Contractors Stopped Working in Manjeel- Rasht Freeway Project! October 2, 2021



**W**orkers of “Kareez” stopped working this morning. They have done so as a result of their wage arrears. The workers’ sources in this project told the ILNA reporter that these workers have not received their wages for four months. They say that after six months they have been paid for only two months. They say that Ministry of Roads has given this project to “Atarrodian Contractors” and it has subcontracted the project to “Kareez”. They have told the workers that the reason for delay in the payment of wages is the financial situation of the “Atarrodian Contractors”. But the workers now know that the “Atarrodian Contractors” has paid its obligations to “Kareez”. **At present time a large number of these workers are in a bad livelihood situation. They complain that there is nobody to take care of their problems. Additionally, the workers with temporary contract don’t have any job security.**

## Gathering of Rural Telegraph Workers in front of Imam’s Command Executive Headquarter

**Why we earn only the minimum set by Ministry**



**of Labor?**

**A** group of rural telegraph workers gathered in front of Imam’s Command Executive Headquarter. Protestor’s representatives say although rural telegraph workers, according to Article 83 of Parliament’s Adhesion Law, Ministry of Labor circular and the judgment of the Court of Administrative Justice, have been adjoined to the Telegraph Company of Iran and have formal and permanent contracts then why there is so much discrimination in wages paid? Why after 20 years of sincere work in the rural areas they are still paid the minimum wage set by the Labor Law? The paychecks of the 20 million urban workers and the 5 million rural workers are the witness to this widespread discrimination. Additionally, the food subsidies for rural workers are 42% of the urban workers. The discrimination goes to the other areas such as transportation, lunch, children’s education, job grades, climate conditions of workplace, supplementary insurance, etc. **These workers say their main demands are removing the discrimination, wage and benefits justice, and equalization with the urban workers.**

October 2, 2021

## Support the many strikes taking place in Iran! October 5, 2021

The so-called "unofficial" workers' strike because they work for multiple subcontracting companies without permanent contracts, in the oil, petrochemical and gas sector begins here but stops elsewhere after negotiations with the employers. The Protest Organizing Council announced on October 4, 2021, that workers in the Parsian gas field transport unit had ended their strike, specifying that it was temporary. They will wait two months and if the agreements are not respected, the movement will start again. As the workers put an end to the strike temporarily, the drivers of trucks and machinery at the *Gatchsaran petrochemical complex*



began a strike on October 3. The **Haft-Tappeh** sugar cane workers Syndicate (unrecognized and even banned by the government) announces the 8th day of strike action for October 5, 2021. The workers left their workplace to demonstrate in the streets of the city of Susa (Shush in Farsi). Their demands are: payment of



wage arrears, designation of the management of the company (the current management is dismissed by court decision), reinstatement of workers made redundant (for having participated in various movements of **Haft-Tappeh**), extension of contracts seasonal workers and those in the pest suppression section, stop legal proceedings against lawyer *Farzaneh Zilaiy* (lawyer for the workers of **Haft-Tappeh**),

prosecuted for this and it is the workers who defend her). On October 5, some 500 workers from the **Sungun** open-cast copper mine (located 130 km from Tabriz, capital of West Azerbaijan province) walked out of the clutch and gathered in front of the companies' offices. subcontractors. Indeed, they are scattered in 5 different companies. They demand increased wages and improved working conditions. They are obliged to work under fixed-term contracts of three months while some of them have between 15 to 20 years of seniority.

**Kerman** coal mine workers have been on strike for eight days. But



on October 4 the police forces of the "special unit" came to suppress their peaceful assembly

at the **Dachtkhak** crossroads near Kerman. A woman and a child were injured and taken to hospital. These mines are either private or semi-public. The workers demand equal pay for the two sectors and the end of fixed-term contracts (89 days). They also want social security contributions to be paid and a career plan established. They are between 900 to 1000. Teachers from elementary to high school organized rallies and protests across Iran. On Sunday (non-public holiday in Iran) October 3, 2021, teachers gathered in 50 cities for their demands, for salaries and against the nefarious laws currently simmering in the Islamic Assembly (the Iranian parliament). The teachers also protested against the continued detention of fifteen colleagues in the prisons. The arrest of **Aziz Ghassemzadeh** this same Sunday, October 3, particularly



moved, not only the teachers but many viewers. **Ghassemzadeh** is a teacher who is active in the Center Syndical of Professors of **Guilan** (a province in the north of the country). The Coordinating Council of Teachers Union Centers in Iran called for the October 3rd rallies. **Ghassemzadeh**

was explaining live on a Persian-language television station abroad the aims and demands of the teachers for these gatherings. All of a sudden, several agents of the regime's political police knocked on the door and forced their way into it. **Ghassemzadeh** said on television: "The security guards are coming. Her Mobile phone was left on for a while. We then hear his mother begging the officers not to do violence to her



son and not to take him to custody. An agent notices that the telephone is working and cuts it violently. Although tens of thousands of Internet users have demanded, on social networks, the release of **Ghassemzadeh**, but he is currently still in detention, and it is feared that he will be torture.

Finally, let us add that several militant workers are either in prison or summoned to go there, among others:

**Shapour Ehsani-Rad**, sentenced to 5 years and currently in the prison of Greater **Tehran**.

**Nahid Khodadjou**, sentenced to 5 years and summoned for the application of sentence.

**Nasrin Djavadi**, sentenced to 5 years and summoned for sentence.

**Heydar Ghorbani**, sentenced to 11 years.

**Sadjad Shokri**, currently sentenced to 5 years in Evin prison.

**Arash Djouhari**, sentenced to 10 years and currently in Evin.

The list of worker and teacher prisoners is not exhaustive, and neither is the number of workers' strikes.

## Strike by workers of the transportation unit of South Zagros Oil & Gas Exploitation Company

These workers from Parsian, Aghar, and Delan had gathered in front of their workplaces on Saturday. According to the ILNA reporter one of the striking workers, while mentioning the strikes of a few months earlier, said: "the people in charge promised that all the drivers will be included in SAPNA (Information System about the Oil Company's Human Resources Contractors), but so far, in spite of the Oil Ministry emphasis, nothing has been done."

This worker added that as result of excluding 380 drivers from SAPNA in March of 2020, they have been deprived of the job benefits such as Job Classifications Project, supplementary insurance coverage and other legal and customary benefits whether they are officially hired workers or contract workers.



### 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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