



# Alternative Workers News Iran

a fortnightly newspaper from :(( solidarity committees with iranian workeres movment -aboad))

## تشکل مستقل حق مسلم ماست

نان گران دارو گران، زحمتکشان، در پی آن، مضطرب  
و سرگردان، در کف خیابان،

خیابان سنگر زحمتکشان



وقتی امکان سازمانیابی و بیان جمعی محدود می شود، مطالبه  
گری متوقف نمی شود؛ به شکل دیگری بروز می کند!

اقتصاد لیبرالی مردم برد به خاری



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## Message from Ali Nejati

Greetings to dear comrades.

Before anything else, I feel it is both appropriate and my duty to remember the late Parviz Gholichkhani. Parviz Ghelichkhani was not only a football player; he was also a fighter and an honourable human being who devoted all his efforts, both before and after the Revolution, to the working class. He carried out his activities honestly and sincerely, without expecting anything in return and without seeking praise or recognition from others. Parviz Ghelichkhani stood alongside workers and remained with them until his final day. Today, as a worker of yesterday and a retiree of today, I wanted to pay tribute to Parviz Gholichkhani. We hope that all of us can at least draw upon his ideas and experiences in the service of our class struggles and our lives. May his memory be honored and everlasting? Parviz Ghelichkhani was an honorable human being and a friend of the working masses.



Warm and comradely greetings to all worker organizations and to all those struggling for the liberation of the working class who have gathered on the occasion of the 114th Conference of the International Labour Organization in Geneva. Your gathering emphasizes the necessity of worldwide working-class unity and reminds us of the truth that the emancipation of the working class can only be achieved by the working class itself.

## Comrades,

The capitalist system, through its unrestrained excesses, has placed the heavy burden of its crises on the shoulders of workers and toilers. One clear example is the forty-day war that was imposed upon the workers and people of Iran. For years, Iran's working class has suffered from these crises to an intolerable degree. The political structure of capitalist rule has deprived workers and the working masses of the most basic human rights and has produced social disintegration



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The repression of workers, women, students, intellectuals, activists defending the rights of national minorities, and human rights advocates; the imposition of censorship; internet shutdowns; and the suppression of information have become common practices in Iran and continue without interruption.

Inflation, poverty, rising prices, unemployment, dismissals from work, and low wages are common and legalized methods imposed upon the working people by parliament and the government through anti-human and anti-worker legislation. Any protest against the existing situation is treated as a crime under the pretext of disrupting national security. The right to organize establishes workers syndicates and unions, and struggle for fundamental worker rights is criminalized through the judicial system.

As a member of the International Labour Organization, the Islamic Republic is obligated to respect the organization's fundamental conventions, including freedom of association and collective bargaining. However, it has never complied with these conventions, agreements, or fundamental working standards, nor has it shown them the slightest respect or sense of obligation.

Despite repeated warnings and awareness-raising efforts by independent worker activists and organizations in Iran, the authorities continue to send representatives of affiliated bodies, such as the High Council of Islamic Labor Councils, to the annual conference of the International Labour Organization instead of representatives of independent workers organizations.

We demand the participation of the genuine and independent representatives of Iran's workers in this organization.

Forward with the class unity of workers in all countries of the world.

Friday, 15 Khordad 1405 (Iranian calendar)

**Ali Nejati**

**Labor activist and retired worker of the Haft Tappeh Workers' Syndicate**



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## سخنرانی شیوا عاملی راد در اجلاس جهانی کار

### در دفاع از معلمان زندانی ایران



شورای هماهنگی تشکل های  
صنفي فرهنگيان ايران

**Dear friends, colleagues, and trade union representatives,**

I bring greetings and a message of solidarity from the teachers and workers of Iran.

We meet at a time when independent trade union activity in Iran is under severe security pressure, and activists are denied their fundamental rights to organize, speak, and represent themselves independently. Many of our colleagues who should be present with us today are absent because of imprisonment, repression, or other restrictions placed on them. In this context, it is important to recall the core mission of the ILO, particularly the Convention on Freedom of Association and the Convention on the Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining. These international standards define the minimum conditions necessary for decent work and fair labour relations. Yet in practice, these fundamental rights are systematically violated in Iran. Every year,

the Iranian government and its affiliated representatives participate in the

4 ILO conference through the official tripartite structure of government,



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employers, and so-called worker representatives. However, we state clearly that this representation does not reflect the reality inside the country, where the independent of teachers and workers have been systematically excluded. Independent unions continue to face arrests, imprisonment, dismissals, security surveillance, and fabricated legal cases. Women, workers, activists, and Queer communities face additional layers of discrimination and gender-based violence. The teachers' movement in Iran is the only nationwide and organized independent movement that exists across the country. Its demands extend beyond the interests of teachers and include the rights of students and wider society. This broader vision has given the movement legitimacy and a strong social base. Teachers defend the right to free, quality public education, oppose growing inequality in schools, demand decent living and working conditions, and support the right to education in mother tongues for linguistic people whose rights have long been denied. At the same time, the social and economic situation in Iran continues to get worse. Poverty is expanding, the livelihoods of millions are at risk, and child labour is increasing. The war and militarization have further intensified this crisis. CCITTA refuses to choose between foreign war and domestic dictatorship. We strongly condemn both external and internal violence because they violate the right to life, human dignity, and democratic freedoms. We stand with those struggling for peace, justice, and freedom. Must be noted that children are the first to pay the price of war. Early this year, we witnessed state violence during the crackdown, which killed at least 250 children, along with many other people. In another shocking example, a U.S. military bombing in Minab resulted in the killing of at least 120 children. This tragedy left many families grieving, yet there has been no accountability for this massacre. We stand with the people, workers, teachers, and children who are always the first victims of war,



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militarism, dictatorship, and domestic repression. War not only takes human lives; it deepens poverty, insecurity, and injustice. During the recent conflict, approximately two million workers lost their jobs. Families have faced crushing economic pressures, and more children have been pushed into child labour or forced out of school. At the same time, the security restrictions have intensified, executions have increased sharply, and independent organizations are facing greater pressure. In conclusion, CCITTA raises the following urgent demands from this international platform:

- The immediate and unconditional release of all imprisoned teachers and labor activists, including Amanifar, Khastar, Farhikhteh, Zahmatkesh, Jalalinejad, Lalmohamadi, Farahbod, Chehrazi, and all those detained, and all those detained only for their peaceful, collective action.
- Immediate action by the international community to stop the execution of Alireza Mordasi, a dedicated teacher who has been unjustly sentenced to death, and to save his life.
- An end to the criminalization of trade union activity, security-related prosecutions, dismissals, and the systematic harassment of independent activists.
- The immediate abolition of the death penalty, which has become a tool for social control and intimidation.
- Genuine commitment by the ILO to its own fundamental principles. Freedom of association and collective bargaining must be real, enforceable, and protected rights, not only words in official statements. And last and most important: Only through international solidarity and collective action from the grassroots can we advance peace, freedom, and social justice for all.

Thank you.



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## Fifteen Years of Wage Collapse, Fifteen Years of Poverty Expansion

The purchasing power of the workers has reached a third; only independent

organization can withstand this erosion

The real devaluation of wages in Iran is not

just a failure in economic policymaking; it is a continuous process of transferring

wealth from the working class to the dominant economic blocs. Statistics show that

the nominal minimum wage has increased from 330,000 Toman(US\$305.00 )in 2011

to more than 16 million Toman(US\$90.00) in 2026, but its dollar value has fallen

from about 305 dollars to less than 90 dollars. In other words, today's worker,

despite receiving a wage 50 times larger on paper, has a much smaller share of social wealth.

From the point of view of the working class, inflation is not just an increase in prices. Inflation, in a situation where wages lag behind, becomes a mechanism to reduce the share of the labor force in social production. Every currency jump, every liberalization of prices, and every shock policy destroy part of the value of labor reproduction. The worker is forced to sell the same hours or even more in order to obtain fewer goods and services.

This situation cannot be explained by the concept of "becoming poor" alone. What has happened is the process of widespread proletarianization of the different layers of society. Sections of the urban middle class that enjoyed a level of economic security in previous decades are now gradually becoming mere sellers of labor.

Teachers, nurses, employees, retirees, and even some specialists are facing the same trend. Poverty is no longer a marginal situation; it has become the general situation of the majority of wage earners.

More importantly, periodic wage increases, even when they appear to be large, are not able to stop this trend. The example of the year 2026 is clear. The 60%

7 increase in the minimum wage in less than two months was swallowed up





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by the jump in the exchange rate and the price of gold. This shows that the main issue is not the level of wages, but the proportion of class forces. As long as capital and the authoritarian state have the power to determine the prices of commodities, currency, and the cost of living, and the workers lack the organized power to impose their demands, any wage increase will be temporary and fragile.

Therefore, demanding higher wages alone is not enough. The struggle over wages is sustained when it is tied to the struggle for organizing power. A worker who waits only for the decision of the Supreme Labor Council at the end of the year has effectively entrusted his fate to institutions that have an interest in maintaining the existing relations. But a worker who is organized in councils, general assemblies, independent organizations, and networks of class solidarity can enter the field from the position of strength.

The most radical conclusion that can be drawn from these figures is that the problem of the working class today is not simply "wage increases"; it is a question of preventing the continued collapse of the value of the labor force. When the purchasing power of wages relative to gold falls to about one-tenth of the level of a decade ago, and its dollar value falls to less than a third of what it was in 2011, we are no longer facing an economic fluctuation; we are facing a historic trend of wealth transfer, the spread of poverty, and the weakening of the social status of the working class.

In such a situation, organization is no longer a mere economic or political desire; it becomes a material necessity for survival. The deeper the gap between wages and the cost of reproduction of life, the greater the need for more independent, universal and more militant forms of labor organization. It is from this contradiction that the possibility arises of the formation of broader class resistance and the raising of demands beyond the annual bargaining over wages.

**There is always money for scolding, threats, and huge expenses; but when it comes to pensions, people's livelihoods, and family tables, they say there is no budget!**

**8** A retiree who has worked for a lifetime and paid insurance premiums, today



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lives on a wage that does not even last for 10 days of a month. Prices are going up every day, but the worker's wage remain the same.

Retirees ask how to live with these skyrocketing costs of housing, medicine, treatment, and food.

Shame on the family is harder than poverty itself. People who worked for years are now helpless to provide for the simplest necessities of life.

No society can achieve peace and stability by ignoring people's livelihoods. Empty tables cannot be filled with slogans, promises, and statistics.

They have brought the farmer to the brink of destruction

The farmer buys everything in cash: seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, fuel, water, labor, and machinery. But when it comes to paying for wheat, the government holds back for months and does not pay the farmer's demands.

The government has received the wheat, but it has not yet paid about 20,000 billion tomans(US\$150,000.00) of farmers' money. This means that the government provides credit and liquidity for itself from the farmer's pocket.

It has reached the point where some farmers are willing to sell their produce much cheaper in order to make their own money.

They expect farmers to produce, they want food security, but when it comes to paying their debts, they are held back for months.

Today, it is not only the farmer who has been crushed under pressure; workers, retirees, nurses, teachers, drivers, livestock owners, poultry farmers, businessmen, and producers have also been affected by this instability and lack of planning.

## **The voice of the Arkan - e -sales has become louder; start implementing the elimination of contractors**

Arkan - e- Sales Oil and Gas Workers Say: The Government Should Not Hesitate to Eliminate Contractors; Now is the Time to Implement It.

**#contracts\_unqualified\_eliminate**



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## **Chariots of death or service workers?**

14 Injured Workers: One Worker on the Edge of Death

Yesterday evening (Tuesday, June 16), the transportation service of workers of a production unit in Rasht Industrial Town near



the Canal Crossroads located on the Tehran-Rasht road, collided with a truck, and in this incident, 14 workers were injured, and the physical condition of one of the workers is not good. It is known that all the injured passengers of this bus were released by rescue teams and transferred to Pour Sina Hospital in Rasht.

**Worker”s life is valueable.**

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

## **Sometimes being in limbo is worth more than being fired!**

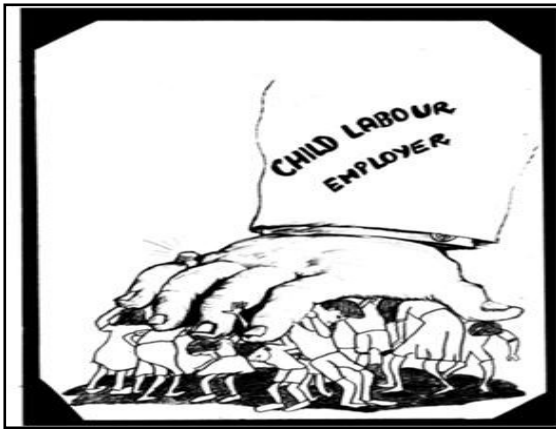
A contractor worker of one of the companies working with car manufacturing industries says: "they tell you that the project has slowed down and you can come to work less than usual. But when you come to work less, your income becomes less and if you protest they tell you that the next project is up in the air." This "in limbo" situation makes the workers remain silent and accept the reduction in income.

Contractual and short term workers are the first group of workers whose work hours are reduced or their employment ends since they have a more fragile situation and can not negotiate from a position of strength.



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## The World Day Against Child Labour

June 12 of each year, the world day against child labour, is a reminder of the sufferings of millions of children who have lost their childhood in the field of labour, poverty, exploitation and deprivation. It is also a reminder of struggles of generations of activists, organizations and the labour children themselves for putting an end to the exploitation of the children.

But in order to understand the real meaning of this day we should talk of the movement which created it. This movement is based on the belief that no form of labour for children is acceptable and rights of no child should be sacrificed for any economic, political or ideological expediency.

Child labour, regardless of its form and its conditions, deprive children of their right to education, health, growth and experiencing a child's life. Defending the child's rights is an inseparable part of the struggle for justice and freedom.

**Enough to children's exploitation!**

**Abolish the child's labour today!**



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## **Protest rally of the National Foulad Group workers regarding their wages' arrears and changes to their insurance policies**

The National Foulad Group workers' problems have been continuing and have caused their protest. Workers talk about the possibility of restarting the strike and march in protest regarding their wages' arrears and their problems with the insurance and overtime work: they will address the management for two months arrears and their overtime work has been cut, resulting in up to ten million Toumans reduction in their monthly salaries.

They say in recent months Some workers who are on the verge of retirement faced a reduction in the amount of insurance premiums paid, which in the last two years will reduce the amount of pension in the retirement period of these employees.

Since none of the responsible people in the company listened to their demands they have decided to gather for protest in front of the Provincial Headquarters the following day, Wednesday.

**Tuesday, June 09, 2026**

## **A report on wage arrears and problems of workers at the Siyaden Abhar Steel Factory**

Factory have unpaid workers at the Siyaden Abhar Steel 280Around –HRANA workers also complain about the inadequate #These wage demands for two months safety and health conditions in their workplace



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## The pensioners of Arak city gathered in front of the General Administratiof Social Security of the province

On Sunday, June 14, the pensioners of Arak city gathered in front of the General Administration of Social Security of the province, in protest against the non-implementation of Articles 96 and 54 by the Social Security Organization and the imposition of misery on the pensioners, at the same time as in other cities. Protest gathering of social security pensioners of Mashhad, in front of a social security organization. The main and important demands of retirees raised in their protests are as follows: Request for immediate payment of arrears, especially arrears due to equalization/adjustment plans of previous years. Increase and full equalization of wages with workers or other retirees to compensate for the decrease in purchasing power. Improving the quality of medical insurance services and solving problems related to payment of expenses.

**We will come on Sundays until we get our dues, June 14, Mashhad**

## Retirees Slogans in Iran

Food, healthcare, welfare are the rights of the retiree

Retiree shout: Shout your rights!

Down with this meagre wage, enough of this discrimination!

Enough of poverty and high costs, our bread basket is empty!

Retiree stands up, demanding his rights!

Neither threatening nor jail, do not stop us demanding our bread and healthcare!



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Bread, healthcare, and dignity are our rights for eternity!

Such injustice, never seen any people!

The retiree is awake, hateful of discrimination!

We're not going to rest till we get our rights!

Just rights are the requirements of the time!

Shame, shame on this meager wages!

United retirees against poverty and oppression!

Give us an answer, you government with no plan!

Wages under the poverty line is an open oppression!

Unleashed economy has destroyed the bread baskets!

Profits for the rich and hardship for the retirees!

Everyday inflation has made life hell!

Wealth for a small minority, poverty for the majority!

The retiree shouted: they stole our rights!

**Food\_Work\_Freedom#**

**Happiness\_Welfare\_Prosperty#**

**#Down\_with\_Exploitation\_and\_Piecemeal\_Wages**

## **Crisis at Haft-Tappeh Pars Steel; 4 months of workers' insurance premiums not paid**

According to these workers, the insurance premiums for the months of October and November last year(2025), as well as April and May this year(2026), have not been paid to the Social Security Organization. Wage, insurance and unemployment arrears for workers at the Qazvin Toli Press factory. 108 workers at the Qazvin Toli Press factory are in job uncertainty after the closure of this factory. These workers have expressed dissatisfaction with the non-payment of their insurance premiums and wage demands for several months and are demanding to return to work.

**14** The inflation data for May from the Statistics Center shows that the



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inflation pressure has weighed most heavily on the lower income deciles. While inflation is usually reported as a general indicator for the entire economy. According to statistics, the first to fifth deciles of society, i.e. a large part of low-income and lower-middle income households, have been more exposed to the direct effects of inflation than other groups. In other words, the lower the household income level, the more severe the increase in the cost of living has been. A point-by-point examination of inflation rates across income deciles shows that the second decile has experienced the greatest pressure with inflation of 96 percent.

## **Airstrike on Karoon Petrochemical Company in Mahshahr**

Part of Industrial Complex Damaged The Karun Petrochemical Company in Mahshahr, Khuzestan Province, was targeted by an airstrike early Monday, Mehr News Agency reported. The agency quoted Valiullah Hayati, deputy head of security and law enforcement for the Khuzestan governorate, as saying that part of the industrial complex was damaged after being hit by projectiles. According to Hayati, no casualties or injuries were reported in the attack until the initial announcement. He added that more details about the extent of possible damage will be announced later. The targeting of a petrochemical complex in Khuzestan, in the wake of recent attacks, once again shows how vulnerable the country's sensitive infrastructure is to the direct consequences of the Islamic Republic's escalating policies.

## **Telecommunications retirees**

Years have passed since the transfer of telecommunications to the private sector; years in which many of the rights, benefits, and legal demands of employees and retirees were ignored. Those who spent their lives and youth building this complex are now forced to pursue and protest for their most basic legal rights.

The unanimous vote of the 9235 procedure has emphasized the legitimacy of the retirees' demands, but as long as there is no collective demand and pursuit, these rights will remain on paper. Monday's protests are only about demanding.

The unanimous vote of legal rights, enforcing rulings, and ending the neglect of retirees. Experience has shown that wherever there has been widespread unity and presence, officials have been forced to respond.



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## Massive layoff of petrochemical workers in Mahshahr

While the Mahshahr governorate has banned the firing of workers, companies are firing workers en masse. The US and Israeli military attack on the petrochemical industries in Iran has caused temporary unemployment for a large number of workers employed in the Mahshahr Special Energy Zone. Some employers are making temporary unemployment permanent for workers. Israel bombed the Mahshahr Special Petrochemical Zone on April 15, 2026. Following this attack, about 70% of petrochemical workers were told to temporarily apply for unemployment benefits until they could return to work after reconstruction. Now, however, some employers are unwilling to return the workers to work. The Iranian Labor News Agency, which is affiliated with the Workers' House, wrote on Sunday, June 1, 2026, quoting Ebrahim Pirayesh, executive secretary of the Mahshahr Port Workers' House: "Given the current situation, some companies are laying off workers without observing legal standards and procedures." He said that "companies such as Petronad, which is a subsidiary and contractor of Maroon Petrochemical Company," have fired workers. According to him, Mahshahr Pipe Manufacturing has also had widespread layoffs. The executive secretary of the Mahshahr Workers' House said: "In these companies, we generally witness mass layoffs of thirty to forty workers, and in some cases, layoffs of over a hundred workers." Parayesh considered the dismissal of workers to be contrary to the resolution of the governor's labor council, which states: "No company has the right to reduce the workforce or dismiss workers." According to him, there are no accurate statistics on the number of dismissed workers, and companies based in Mahshahr say that the number of workers is "confidential." Parayesh said that the dismissed workers have gathered in front of government institutions in recent days, but no effective action has been taken so far. He claimed that only 50 of the dismissed workers have managed to "receive unemployment benefits." Workers in special and free economic zones are subject to the regulations of these zones, and the Ministry of Cooperatives, Labor and Social Welfare does not supervise companies in these zones. In Iran, it is estimated that the US and Israeli military attack has left up to four



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million workers unemployed. Workers in the steel and petrochemical industries suffered the most from this attack. The Iranian government had previously said that it would facilitate the conditions for receiving unemployment benefits. Mahshahr Workers of the Petrochemical Terminals and Tanks Company protest against the Department of Labor and Employment Services of the Petrochemical Special Economic Zone Organization, in protest of mass layoffs, the elimination of welfare payments, and livelihood problems.

## **Forty workers of Bandar Mahshahr Pipe Coating Company still in limbo; employer does not implement return-to-work approvals**

About 40 workers of Bandar Mahshahr Pipe Coating Company, nearly three months after their dismissal, are still denied the right to return to work. These workers say that despite issuing official approvals for return to work and drafting a letter of non-compliance against the employer, the company's management refuses to implement these approvals.

According to the workers, at the same time as the war began, 110 employees of this complex were introduced to receive unemployment insurance; while the company continued its activities and did not suffer any direct losses. After the workers' protests and follow-ups, some of the workers returned to work, but 40 workers are still in limbo.

Many of these workers have between 17 and 20 years of experience, and the continuation of this situation, in addition to the cut in wages, has also put their insurance records and retirement process at risk.

This case shows once again that even existing official approvals and mechanisms are not a guarantee for maintaining workers' job security, and employers can simply refuse to implement them. Although war conditions have exacerbated layoffs, the dismissal and unemployment of workers has been part of the government's and employers' anti-labor policies.

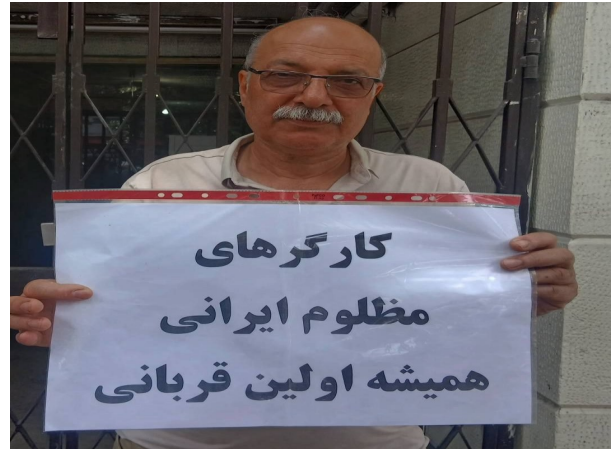


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## Amir Waqari Farhang Langroudi, a labor activist and defender of pensioners' rights, was summoned.

Amir Waqari Farhang Langroudi, a labor activist and a defender of pensioners' rights, was arrested by the order of the investigator of the 13th branch of the



Rasht Revolution Prosecutor's Office after participating in the nationwide protest rallies on May 18, 2026. After two days of detention in Ward 12 of Rasht's Lakan prison, he was temporarily released on May 20, 2026, after posting a bail amounting to four billion Tomans(US\$25,000.00). In his statements, Amir Waqari pointed out the inappropriate and worrying conditions of keeping the detainees of the events of 7and 8 January 2026 in Ward 12 of Lakan Prison and described this situation as miserable. According to reports, on June 6, 2026, Mr. Waqari was summoned to appear in the second branch of Rasht Revolution Court through a notification without the name and details of the issuing authority. Referring to what he described as "incomplete notification and lacking legal authority", he announced that he will not participate in the said meeting.

Coordinating Council of Teachers' Guild

## A new charge was added to Reza Muslimi's case in Hamedan Revolutionary Court

According to a report received by the Coordination Council of Iranian Educational Guild, a hearing on the case of Reza Moslemi, a teacher guild activist, was held on Tuesday, June 17, 2026, at the second branch of Hamedan





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Revolutionary Court, presided over by Judge Torabpour. According to the information received, during this hearing, the charge of "forming a group" was added to his previous charges. Previously, charges such as "gathering and collusion" and "anxiety of the public mind in cyberspace" had been raised in the case of this guild activist. The new charge has been added to the case while no clear documentation has been provided regarding this claim.

#Coordination\_Council\_of\_Iranian\_Educational\_Guild while supporting Reza Moslemi, calls for his case to be closed and for the release of other teachers.



## **In Turkiye, Iranian tea pluckers were beaten up after they demanded their wages to be paid!**

In the city of Çayeli in the province of Rize, 30 Iranian workers who were taken there for plucking tea leaves, were beaten when they asked for their wages. Among these workers some were women. Local authorities say the judicial process about this case has begun.

Based on a report by Anka News Agency, these workers were housed in improper conditions in an industrial area and while the daily wages for plucking tea leaves in the area is between three to four thousands Liras (US\$65-85.00), these workers were paid only 1,100 Liras(US\$25.00). After 15 days of work when they asked for their wages they had a dispute with the person who had found them the work.

According to the claims, this person has been identified with the abbreviation "M.I." after the escalation of the disputes had called about 15 people



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by phone who then attacked the workers. In this attack a great number of workers were injured. Some were treated in Çayeli hospitals and some were treated in the Rize Center. One worker whose jaw was broken was transferred to Kara Deniz University hospital in Trabzon. Hospital asked for 130,000 Liras(US\$2765.00). They couldn't pay that and left without getting any treatment.

In the framework of judicial investigations, the person who is said to have the main role in attacking the workers, has been arrested and after talking to the prosecutor has been released under the judicial control. After this, the Iranian workers were transferred to the Çayeli bus terminal. The owner of one of the bus companies in the terminal, İbrahim Öztürk, after watching their situation of injuries notified the police and helped the workers. With police being notified they were settled in the prayer room of the terminal.

Öztürk has said that the workers were attacked because they owed 500,000 Liras. (U\$105.00). He said that he was very upset by the workers' situation. According to him, after the intervention by the governorship and local help, Iranian workers were sent to Doğubayazıt.

The chief of the city branch of the Justice and Development Party (the ruling party in Turkiye) has said that it is possible that behind this situation there is human trafficking or organized exploitation of immigrant workers. He said that these workers have been brought from Iran with a much lower usual rate of wages and it is possible that middle men have kept part of the wages for themselves.

He also said that some workers did not complain in their official reporting and it was because of fear or whatever else they did not say anything. He said.

Sertaç Kırçuval, the district governor of Çayeli called the incident regrettable and added that the Iranian workers were sent back to their country, but the case is open and the judicial process is continuing.

This incident has shown one more time the fragile situation of seasonal migrant workers in Turkiye; workers who without sufficient legal protection are housed in improper conditions and paid lower wages than real ongoing wages. When they ask for their rightful wages they are faced with threats, violence, and expulsion from the workplace.