

Quarterly Report about Violations of Palestinian Workers' rights

01/01/2013 – 31/03/2013

The occupation authorities is continuing in its arbitrary measures practiced against Palestinian workers, in violation and deprivation of their rights that are guaranteed by international and Israeli laws and rules, as employers detract the wages of workers and deprive them of their rights to insurance, compensation and safety measures at the workplace, as well as other violations that are overlooked. Moreover, Palestinian workers are subject to frequent racist violations at the hands of settlers on their way home from work, in addition to work injuries that result from the lack of safety and security measures.

Al-Maqdese works through its monitoring and documentation unit to monitor violations against Palestinian workers in Jerusalem and the settlements, as well as providing legal consultations and services to some of these workers and following up their cases in Israeli courts, in addition to distributing hundreds of awareness raising brochures on the category of workers.

During the past four months, the following violations have been monitored:

On 06/01/2014, the worker (B.A) was subject to a head injury that led to his immediate death on the spot as a result of falling down in the workshop that he works in in Al-Lod area; his colleagues reported that he fell from a height of 30 meters which is equal to three floors.

On 09/01/2014, the worker (S.H.) was subject to a serious injury in his workplace, as he works in a paper factory in the industrial area in Um Al-Fahm, S.H. was working on a special paper-cutting machine, the machine stopped working so he tried to fix it but suddenly, it began to work again and led to his injury.

On 14/01/2014, the female worker (N.K.) came to the legal clinic of Al-Maqdese to get the needed legal advice about the violation that she was subject to and which occurred by her Israeli employer 2 months ago, as she was working at a tailorshop in the Israeli industrial Zone of Atarot for 4 years, and during that period, she did not get any convalescence pay unlike her Israeli colleagues. When she asked for her right, the employer refused to give her any amount of money and ordered her to stop asking for the money or he will fire her.

On 26/01/2014 the worker (M.A.) was wounded by two bullets in his foot by the Israeli police in the construction workshop of his workplace in Um Al-Fahm, where the police broke into the workplace which made the worker run in an attempt to escape because he does not hold a working permit, the police started to chase him and shot which led to his injury as he was taken to the hospital to get the needed treatment.

On 06/02/2014, the worker (S.B.) went to the legal clinic of Al-Maqdese to report the violations he was subject to by his employer, as he works in a soft drinks factory in the industrial area in Al-Ramleh, the worker goes to his daily work at 6 a.m.; his work is about an hour away from his home and comes back at 08:00 p.m.; (S.B.) supports a family of 6 children including a special needs child. The worker asked his employer for a week off to be with his son as he needed to have a surgical operation in his feet, but the employer refused and threatened to fire him if he doesn't show up to work.

On 20/02/2014, the worker (N.A.) from Jerusalem was subject to bruises and wounds all over his body after three settlers attacked him while he was returning from his work in West Jerusalem at 11:30 pm, as he was working in a fast food restaurant and on his way home, a settler asked him to guide him to an address in the area, and when the worker said that he doesn't know, one of the settlers pushed him to a garden while the others began to kick him with their legs all over his body, the settlers ran away when the worker screamed, then the worker went to the medical clinic to get the needed treatment.

On 26/02/2014, the worker (F.A.) was subject to an injury in his left hand while working in an aluminum workshop in Deir Yassin, and as a result, he was transferred to the hospital for treatment, he reported that he had been injured due to the lack of safety measures in the workshop although he had asked his employer several times to provide some safety and security measures.

On 16/03/2014, the worker (A.A) was subject to a serious injury while he was working in an iron workshop in the industrial area in (Modi'in), as he was cutting the iron which led to injuring himself as he was transferred to the hospital for treatment.

On 30/3/2014, the worker (S.A.) addressed Al-Maqdese's legal clinic to report the violation that he was subject to, as he was working in an Israeli cleaning company in the West Jerusalem while he lives in Ras- Al-Amoud area, he left his work a month ago, since that time, he has been addressing the company to get his end of service benefits, however, it was a surprise to him when he heard that the company has changed its name and joined another company, taking into consideration that the employer has previously said that he would give him all his dues in accordance to the law.