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About IASWI:

The International Alliance in Support of Workers in Iran (IASWI) is a progressive, non-partisan campaign in support of workers' rights and struggles in Iran. The IASWI was formed in 1999 and formally launched in January 2000 with the following objectives:

- Support workers' movement demands and struggles in Iran, including the right to organize free and independent labour organizations and the right to strike.
- Strive for an absolute end to the systematic repression, persecution, imprisonment, torture, assassination and execution of labour activists and political opponents in Iran.
- Promote the implementation and enforcement of internationally

Announcement of the formation of "Committee in Defense of Reza Shahabi"

Workers and the socially conscience people!

Reza Shahabi, a worker and board member of the Syndicate of Workers of Tehran Vahed Bus Company, is imprisoned in Evin prison since 12th of June 2010 due to defending his and other workers' rights and demands.

Reza has severe kidney and liver problems and is suffering extreme spinal column problems and there is numbness on the left side of his body. According to the physicians he might become paralyzed. He has been transferred to hospital several times for emergency reasons.

During the last 19 months, Reza's family members and children have been in the worst mental, physical and economic conditions. We contacted and also wrote over and over again to judicial and various authorities without any result; Reza is still in prison, his situation uncertain and his life at risk.

In protest against his condition, Reza has gone on a hunger strike since November 22nd, 2011. We made all our efforts for his release during the last 19 months, but this imprisoned worker is still incarcerated and in critical condition.

Reza believes that workers should only rely on workers' solidarity and support, and he has consistently endeavored in this manner.

We, the family members and relatives of Reza Shahabi, support Reza and his principles, and hence we reach our hands to workers and labour organizations and ask everyone to make efforts for an unconditional and immediate release of Reza Shahabi.

Hereby, we announce the formation of the "Committee in Defense of Reza Shahabi" and ask anyone who is interested to join the committee or to support its objectives to contact the email below:

k.d.shahabi@gmail.com
k-d-shahabi.blogspot.com

Reza Shahabi Defense Committee

December 3, 2011

Shirin Shahabi - Mohammad Amin Shahabi - Robabeh Rezai - Maryam Ghassemloo - Nader Naderi - Hamid Rezai - Zahra Shahabi - Bahman Shahabi - Mehdi Shahabi - Asgar Shahabi - Qasem Shahabi

Cc: All workers, labour organizations, media and judicial authorities

La création d'un comité de défense de Réza Shahabi

Une copie aux travailleurs
Une copie aux organisations syndicales
Une copie aux médias et responsables judiciaires

recognized human and workers' rights and freedoms for all people in Iran.

The IASWI has been working in collaboration with many labour and progressive activists and organizations in Iran and around the world to strengthen worker-to-worker solidarity in defence of workers' rights and struggles in Iran and against the repressive Islamic Republic of Iran and its capitalist and neo-liberal policies and practices.

As an international solidarity campaign in support of workers in Iran, the IASWI has colleagues and branches in North America, Europe and other parts of the world that work collaboratively towards the realization of the above objectives.

Contact IASWI:

info@workers-iran.org
alliance@workers-iran.org
www.workers-iran.org
www.etehadbinalmelali.com

IASWI Position:

As an organization in defence of workers' struggles in Iran, IASWI, encourages international solidarity and collaborative efforts by the independent labour organizations and trade unions. This approach in promotion of labour solidarity does not imply any formal or informal consent or agreements, or the sharing of similar ideas and beliefs, on any other issues. Taking this approach into consideration, we will continue to promote worker-to-worker solidarity,

Les travailleurs, le peuple et les consciences éveillées,

Réza Shahabi , travailleur et membre du conseil du syndicat Vahed des chauffeurs de bus de Téhéran, est emprisonné depuis son arrestation le 12 juin 2010. cela fait 19 mois qu'il est en prison seulement pour avoir défendu les intérêts des travailleurs.

Réza a des sérieux problèmes de santé. Il a l'insuffisance rénale, et quatre vertèbres de son dos se sont détériorées. Et tout son côté gauche pourrait devenir paralysé selon les médecins. A plusieurs reprises, il est transféré de la prison à l'hôpital.

Pendant ces 19 mois, les membres de sa famille et ses enfants étaient dans une situation difficile à plusieurs égards. Nous avons essayé par tous les moyens de contacter et interpellé les responsables et autorités judiciaires, mais en vain. Pour protester les conditions de ses détentions, Réza a entamé une grève de la faim depuis 22 novembre et actuellement, sa vie est en danger.

Réza croyait et croit que les travailleurs ne doivent compter que sur les soutiens des autres travailleurs.

Nous, les membres de sa famille en soutenant Réza Shahabi et ses idéaux, avons besoin des travailleurs et des organisations syndicales et nous souhaitons que tous ensemble, demandons la libération immédiat et sans condition de Réza Shahabi .

Par la présente, nous annonçons la création d'un comité de défense de Réza Shahabi et nous demandons à tous ceux qui souhaitent devenir membre de ce comité et à toutes les personnes qui souhaite apporter leur soutien à ce comité , contacter les adresses ci-dessous :

k.d.shahabi@gmail.com
k-d-shahabi.blogspot.com

3 décembre 2011

Shirin Shahabi- Mohammad amin Shahabi- Robabeh Rézaï- Maryam Ghasemloo-Nader Naderi- Hamid Rezaï- Zahra Shahabi- Bahmin Shahabi- Mehdi Shahabi- Asgar Shahabi- Ghasem Shahabi

Second Communiqué from the Reza Shahabi Defence Committee

As of today, fifteen days have passed from the commencement of Reza Shahabi's hunger strike, in section 209 of Evin prison. We have no news of Reza's conditions.

The last time that we heard his voice was on 4th December 2011 and he spoke in a weak and shaking tone, which reflected his poor condition. There is a chance that Reza Shahabi may be left permanently disabled, and we still do not know whether or not he has been taken to hospital.

The Tehran prosecutor's office sent the coroner's report to Evin prison, in which it has been recommended that Reza Shahabi must be quickly taken to hospital for an emergency operation.

On past Sunday, when Reza was speaking with his wife and children, constant pressure could be heard from the other end telling him to hang up and end the communication. This is whilst Sundays are set aside for prisoners from section 209 to use the telephone. However the guards sought to put him under further psychological pressure by telling him to finish his call quickly, even though he was using his official weekly telephone time; they left him with no choice but to cut his conversation short.

For a long time, Reza's family have not been able to visit him. During his last fortnightly visiting time

with unions, local, national and international labour federations as well as labour and progressive activists, based only on the interests of the working class. The IASWI does not support collaboration with governments and other organizations that are directed by and/or financially supported by governments and capitalist institutions in any country. Such collaborations are against the underlying principles of the working class international solidarity and compromise the struggle for the formation of free and independent labour organizations in Iran. Furthermore, such collaborations with states and capitalist institutions would contribute to the subjugation and control of the labour movement in the interest of the capitalist system. In addition, while pro-actively supporting workers' struggles against the repressive Islamic Republic of Iran, IASWI opposes economic sanctions and military interventions by Western forces/allies against Iran.

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Reza Shahabi had been too weak and sick to get to the visiting room because of the effects of his hunger strike. Security operatives tried to do psychological damage to his family by telling them that Reza himself did not wish to "see his family".

Shahabi is a worker who has defended the legitimate rights of other fellow workers, and because of that he has been in detention for 19 months. He is in a very unsafe condition and there is a growing fear that he might become paralyzed. He is facing unbearable conditions and his life is in danger.

The Reza Shahabi Defence Committee thanks all the organizations and individuals who have declared their support or membership of the committee and will soon communicate these names and declarations.

This committee calls for urgent steps to be taken in the immediate and unconditional release of Reza Shahabi.

Reza Shahabi Defence Committee- 16 Azar 1390
December 7, 2011

k.d.shahabi@gmail.com
k-d-shahabi.blogspot.com

Sample Protest letter:

Please take a moment to send this protest letter or use your own version:

Free Reza Shahabi!

I (we) am (are) writing this to condemn persecution and arrests of labour activists in Iran. Labour activists in Iran are being constantly harassed and arrested by the Iranian government authorities. In particular, this letter is written to express my (our) serious concern about the health and well being of Reza Shahabi who has been on hunger strike for the 2nd time since Nov 22, 2011.

- Reza Shahabi, treasurer and a board member of the Syndicate of bus workers of Tehran and suburb, has been in custody in the notorious Evin prison for more than 18 months. He was arrested on 12 June 2010 without a charge. After almost a year on 25 May 2011 he was tried in a court in Tehran on charges of "propaganda against the Islamic State" and "conspiracy against National Security". Shahabi is still being held in Evin prison in a state of uncertainty. According to the latest news, his health has deteriorated significantly. There is a growing fear that Reza might become paralyzed as a result of his worsening health conditions. Reza has been on hunger strike since November 22, 2011 in protest against his unjust detention.

I (we) condemn the continuous gross attacks on workers' rights in Iran. I (we) demand the immediate and unconditional freedom of Reza Shahabi and all other jailed labour activists and call on the Islamic Republic of Iran to respect the right of workers to organize, assemble and freedom of association and expression.

Name:
Organization:
Position:

Send Copy of your Protest Letters to:

info@leader.ir, info@judiciary.ir, dr-ahmadinejad@president.ir; iran@un.int; ijpr@iranjudiciary.org, info@dadiran.ir, office@justice.ir, support@irimlsa.ir; info@humanrights-iran.ir; avaei@Dadgostary-tehran.ir; CC: info@workers-iran.org

Free Reza Shahabi



Sample Protest letter:

Please take a moment to send this protest letter or use your own version:

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Communiqué n° 2 du comité de défense de Réza Shahabi

Depuis 15 jours, Réza Shahabi a entamé une grève de la faim. Ce travailleur et militant syndicaliste est détenu dans la section 209 de la prison d'Evin. Nous n'avons pas beaucoup de nouvelles sur sa situation.

La dernière fois qu'on a entendu la voix de Réza ; c'était le dimanche 13 Azar (4 décembre), il avait une voix tremblante qui révélait sa très mauvaise santé. Réza pourrait devenir paralysé (selon les médecins). On ne sait pas encore s'il a été transféré à l'hôpital ou pas ?

Le procureur de Téhéran a envoyé à la prison la confirmation du médecin légal selon lequel Réza Shahabi a besoin ,le plus rapidement possible, d'une opération chirurgicale .

Le dimanche , pendant que Réza était en train de parler avec sa femme et ses enfants, alors que chaque prisonnier a droit de parler au téléphone un temps réglementé, Réza a été contraint de finir rapidement sa conversation. Il subit apparemment beaucoup de pression par des gardiens de la prison.

La famille de Réza n'a pas droit de visite régulière par des diverses raisons notamment l'état de santé de celui-ci.(d'après les agents de la prison).

Shahabi est un travailleur et le militant syndicaliste, Cela fait 19 mois qu'il est en prison, seulement pour avoir défendu les intérêts des travailleurs. Et actuellement il risque de devenir paralysé et sa vie est en danger.

Le comité de défense de Réza Shahabi remercie toutes les organisations et toutes les personnes qui sont membre du comité ou ont apporté leur soutien.

Ce comité appelle à une action immédiate et il demande la libération rapide et sans condition de R.Shahabi.

Le comité de défense de Réza Shahabi
Le 16 Azar 1390 (le 7 décembre 2011)

German:

ufruf zur Gründung der Solidaritätskomitee zur Verteidigung von Reza Schahabi,
An alle Arbeiter/Innen, Gewerkschaften, Medien

Reza Schahabi, Arbeiter und Vorstandsmitglied der Teheraner Busfahrer Gewerkschaft ist seit 19 Monaten im gefürchteten Ewin Gefängnis. Rezas einzige Schuld ist die Verteidigung der Rechte und Forderungen der Arbeiterklasse im Iran. Reza leidet an erheblichen Beschwerden der Leber und der Nieren und vier Wirbel der Wirbelsäule sind so geschädigt, dass er Taubheitsgefühle an der linken Körperseite hat. Die Ärzte schließen das Risiko einer vollständigen Lähmung nicht aus. Während den 19 Monaten Haft ist Rezas Familie in eine äußerst schwierige psychische wie auch finanzielle Lage gekommen. Trotz aller Bemühungen seiner Familie über die Zuständigen der Justiz, der Polizei sowie dem Arbeitsministerium die Lage zu klären, ist Reza weiterhin in Haft und sein Leben immer noch in Gefahr.

Unter diesen unklaren Umständen ist Reza seit dem 1. Azar in einen Hungerstreik getreten. Dies gefährdet zusätzlich schon geschwächte Gesundheit Rezas.

Reza war immer der Überzeugung, die Arbeiterklasse muss sich auf eigene Solidarität und Stärke verlassen und hat immer dieses Ziel verfolgt. Wir, die Angehörigen Rezas, appellieren auf Solidarität und Zusammenhalt der Arbeiterklasse weltweit, wie es von ihm immer gefordert wurde, um die sofortige Freilassung von Reza zu erreichen. Aus diesem Anlass möchten wir die Gründung des

significantly. There is a growing fear that Reza might become paralyzed as a result of his worsening health conditions. Reza has been on hunger strike since November 22, 2011 in protest against his unjust detention.

I (we) condemn the continuous gross attacks on workers' rights in Iran. I (we) demand the immediate and unconditional freedom of Reza Shahabi and all other jailed labour activists and call on the Islamic Republic of Iran to respect the right of workers to organize, assemble and freedom of association and expression.

Name:
Organization:
Position:

Send Copy of your Protest Letters to:

info@leader.ir, info@judiciary.ir,
dr-ahmadinejad@president.ir;
iran@un.int; ijpr@iranjudiciary.org,
info@dadiran.ir, office@justice.ir,
support@irimlsa.ir;
info@humanrights-iran.ir;
avaei@Dadgostary-tehran.ir;
CC: info@workers-iran.org

Contact IASWI:

info@workers-iran.org
alliance@workers-iran.org
www.workers-iran.org
www.etehadbinalmelali.com

IASWI Newsletter
Vol 1, No 8
December 07, 2011

Solidaritätskomitees bekannt geben und alle, die uns bei diesen Kampagnen unterstützen können, bitten wir sich mit uns unter folgenden Adressen in Verbindung zu setzen:

k.d.shahabi@gmail.com
k-d-shahabi.blogspot.com

Komitee zur Verteidigung von Reza Shahabi

Shirin Shahabi, Mohammad Amin Shahabi, Robabeh Rezaie, Maryam Ghasemloo, Nader Naderi, Hamid Rezaie, Zahra Shahabi, Bahman Shahabi, Mehdi Shahabi, Askar Shahabi, Ghasem Shahabi

Spanish:

- **La creación de un comité de defensa de Reza Shahabi**

una copia a los trabajadores
una copia a los sindicatos
una copia a los funcionarios judiciales
y a los trabajadores de los medios y las personas con la conciencia despierta

Reza Shahabi trabajador y un miembro de la sindicato Vahed de los conductores de bus en Tehran en el 12 de junio 2010 debido a defender los derechos y demandas de trabajadores esta en la presión de Evin en Tehran desde hace 19 meses.

Reza sufre problemas de salud en hígado, riñón y cintura de la tuerca y ahora ha sido la geopolítica perdida Baucalis a la izquierda que se ha transferido su cuerpo ha advertido a doctores y de acuerdo con la parálisis el suyo muy probablemente tiene allí y hasta ahora varias veces se ha ingresado en hospital.

En el período de 19 meses, los miembros y los niños de la familia Reza estan en las condiciones peores mentales, físicos y las tareas económicas.

Nosotros en varias ocasiones nos acercamos a las autoridades judiciales también referimos al varios correspondencia y REZA no ha sido liberado todavía y no se ha lanzado hasta ahora y el comandante su vida está en peligro. Reza en protesta contra el estado desde 22 de noviembre esta en huelga de hambre. Todos sus esfuerzos a este trabajo es debido a que el cree que entre los trabajadores se tienen que apoyar pero ahora, después de 19 meses continuos en condiciones físicas peligrosas por su salud en la prisión.

Nosotros miembros de la familia de Reza estamos incondicionalmente apoyándole y para el pedimos la libertad inmediato.

Esto significa que formamos a "comité de defensa REZA contacte

k.d.shahabi@gmail.com
k-d-shahabi.blogspot.com

3 décembre 2011

Shirin Shahabi- Mohammad amin Shahabi- Robabeh Rézaï- Maryam Ghasemloo-Nader Naderi- Hamid Rezaï- Zahra Shahabi- Bahmin Shahabi- Mehdi Shahabi- Asgar Shahabi- Ghasem Shahabi