

نامه اعتراضی کنفدراسیون اتحادیه های

کارگران راه آهن ژاپن در رابطه با دستگیری ابراهیم مددی

دوشنبه بیست سوم دی ۱۳۸۷

سندیکای کارگران واحد

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Protest Statement - Arrests of Trade Unionists in Iran

Trade unionists and human rights activists around the world are once again appalled to learn that Ebrahim Madadi was arrested in Tehran today. According to his union, Vahed Syndicate, he was visiting the North Tehran Branch of the Employment Office when plain-clothes security personnel detained him with a court order and took into police custody. He is believed to be in one of the police branches tonight and is due to appear before the judge tomorrow morning. Meanwhile, two Executive Board members of the union are verbally summoned by the secret police.

Madadi, the Vice President of the union, was already arrested on the International Action Day, 9 August 2007, when worldwide protest action was taking place against Mansour Osanloo's abduction on the previous month after his return from his European visit. And although Madadi was given a three and a half year sentence in October, he was released from prison two months later. Furthermore, the court ordered the Tehran Bus Company to reinstate him in June 2008.

This is not the first time that the Iranian authorities have taken unjustified actions against genuine trade unions during the Christmas holidays. Less than a week ago, the trade unions condemned the arrest of Mohsen Hakimi, a member of the 'Iranian Writers Association' and the 'Coordinating Committee to Form Workers Organisations,' who was detained by the secret police for unknown charges. He is now being held in Section 209 in Evin Prison. On the previous week, an auto worker, Bijan Amiri, at Pars Khodro factory was also arrested for unknown charges.

In 2005, the entire leadership of Vahed Syndicate was arrested en masse during the last week of December. Undoubtedly, the Iranian government is well-aware of the persistent international pressure against their breach of the ILO Conventions on freedom of association and the right to negotiate collectively which is why they choose this time of the year to oppress the independent workers' movement.

The Japan Confederation of Railway Workers' Unions (JRU), together with the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) and the entire global trade union movement requests the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to release Ebrahim Madadi, Mohsen Hakimi, Bijan Amiri as well as Mansour Osanloo and Farzad Kamangar immediately and unconditionally. There is reason to have concern about Osanloo's health as we have received reports that he has not been given adequate medical treatment during the past two months.

Masaharu Takei President Japan Confederation of Railway Workers' Unions (JRU)