



Alba Labour

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Alba workers congratulate HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, the Prime Minister for successfully undergoing medical tests.



Alba workers have agreed with the King and contributed by nominating six candidates in the upcoming parliamentary and municipal elections to support the King's project.



The Dismissal of the Unionist Amal Mousa

GRAMCO Company used all kinds of pressure on the worker Amal Al Mousa, including administrative pressure in order to force her to quit her job in the HR department, despite her long experience in this field, the company dismissed her for inhuman reasons.



Alba Workers Fulfill the Dream of the Late Worker "Redha Ghuloom"

Alba workers revealed the one family spirit by raising funds to purchase a home for the family the late worker "Redha Ghuloom" who passed away before achieving his dream.



BFLUF Condemned the Zionist Enemy's Decision in Closing Al-Aqsa Mosque

Bahrain Free Labour Union Federation (BFLUF) condemned the Zionist enemy's unjust decision to close Al-Aqsa mosque in the presence of Muslim worshipers in the old town. As it's said to be an unacceptable encroachment of Islamic holy places in the land of Palestine.

Bahrainis Ready To Protect The Freedom And Democracy



o Mr. Tariq Al Hassan

o Mr. Abdulla Al Bouainain

o SH. Khaled Al Khalefa

o Mr. Salem Al Kawari

During the meeting which was chaired by the counsel Salem bin Mohammed Al Kawari, Chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council and in the presence of the Minister of Justice, Shaikh Khaled bin Ali Al Khalifa, Tariq Al Hassan, the General Directorate of MOI's court and the Executive Director of the elections, Abdulla bin Hassan Al-Bouainain. Al Kawari ensured that the Parliamentary and municipal elections will both be conducted under full judicial supervision which will be headed by the Minister of Justice. He added that all these process will be conducted with integrity, impartiality and independently.

In this issue :

Aluminum Industry Workers in Oman

2

Alba Club and The Arrogant Administration

15

The demise of Bahraini Novelist " Abdulla Khalifa"

20

The National Labour Union of Gulf Air Organizes a Lecture Entitled "Your Health.."



The National Labour Union Of Gulf Air in cooperation with Jaffar Ruyan pharmacy, Jhonson & Jhonson Company and Omron company organized a lecture entitled "Your Health, Your wealth", at Gulf Air headquarters. The lecture included many health activities such as measuring blood pressure and sugar level as well as measuring body fat percentage. They also distributed memorable gifts and special discount on the health measurement tools. Gulf Air Union expressed its appreciations and gratitude to all participants for making the event successful. It pointed out that it intends to hold many such events in the future, which would benefit the workers.

Chairman of BAS Union Meets Bu Khamsin



The National Union of Bahrain Airport Services (BAS) met the executive management of BAS Company, after the appointment of Abdulla Bu Khamsin as the CEO of the company. Commenting on the first meeting with the executive management, the chairman of BAS Union, Ebrahim Al Ansari said that the meeting was fruitful as they discussed workers issues. Al Ansari praised the efforts of CEO in cooperating with the Union Board, which will reflect positively and will raise benefits of the workers. He added that he promised to put more efforts in order to improve workers' living conditions as well as increasing the company's production and to improve the working environment.

Bapco Free labour Union held its first general assembly

Bapco free labour Union held its first general assembly in the presence of a representative from Bahrain Free Labour Union Federation (BFLUF) to observe the meeting. The union board discussed the financial report and agreed on them. They dis-

cussed the new issues. The worker criticized the Bradford system which deprived workers' rights and prevented them from the promotions. The workers assured the importance of meeting the Union demand. They also asked to implement

the Collective agreement. The general assembly pointed out the importance of utilizing a fixed budget for the Union. At the end of the meeting the union board promised the workers to convey these demands to the company management.



BFLUF Condemned the Zionist Enemy's Decision in Closing Al-Aqsa Mosque



o Yaqoub Yousif,
Chairman of BFLUF

Arab Workers News Agency/ Bahrain Free Labour Union Federation (BFLUF) condemned the Zionist enemy's unjust decision in closing Al-Aqsa mosque in the presence of Muslim worshippers in the old town. As it's said to be an unacceptable encroachment of Islamic holy places in the land of Palestine. As usual, breaching all the treaties and agreements about this issue. BFLUF understood that the Israeli decision came along with their planning to convert Jerusalem into a Jewish state and to change the scenario of the holy site. Moreover, BFLUF stressed that this Israeli step has hurt the feelings of Muslims not just in the Arab countries but the whole world and poses a challenge to the laws and charters which prevent all to reach these holy places for praying, this confirms the Zionist enemy's decision to ignore the Palestine citizens and to avoid complying to the international decisions, values and the religious principles. BFLUF said that the international community is responsible to prevent these dangerous Israeli practices and to enable the Palestine people in performing their rituals safely and to force Israel in being committed to the international laws and to stop their violations against the Palestine people and their religious sanctities, stressing the need to condemn and denounce such actions by workers' organizations in the whole world for this unjust and unfair decision.

Aluminum Company Workers in Oman go on strike

The workers of Oman Aluminum Processing Limited Company (OAPIL) in the Sultanate of Oman have been on strike since 45 days as per what the statement made by the Company's union. The strike began in September 2014 without reaching an agreement. The workers on, strike previously met the member of the Shura Council representative, Sohar Ghanem Muqbali and informed him about their demands in the presence of the Company's management. Khalid Torshi said: "More than 30 inspectors from the Ministry of Labour visited the facility a week ago, and after 10 hours of inspection, pointed out the irregularities of the company and registered them." The strike of the workers in Oman Aluminum Company against the management had begun as a result of worker's demand in avoiding migrant workers getting high positions. A statement from last month indicated that the industry recruited few workers without training them which made the workplace unsafe. Khalid Torshi the head of union ensured that the company confirmed the worker's demand to increase their salaries, he also pointed out that among the demands were changing manpower contracts, where the company employs some of the workers under the name of a nominee for a different company, which means that their rights are not maintained such as occupational safety. The company's union had sent a letter to the General Union of Workers of the Sultanate, to ask for an inspection team to monitor the violations of the company in the field of occupational safety.

The Prime Minister Sponsors (Arabal) Conference in November

The organizing committee of the 18th International Arab Aluminium (Arabal) Conference revealed that gulf region countries hit 10% of the global production of the Aluminium, which is around 5 MT annually and Alba produced 900 thousand ton. The chairman of the committee, Mohammad Ali Al Naki said that the aluminium production in the Gulf region is expected to increase to 15% by 2020 due to the smelters extension in Saudi Arabia, Abu Dhabi and Bahrain.

The conference will be held under the patronage of HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa the Prime Minister in Bahrain, from November 25 – 27, 2014, under the theme (GCC: An aluminium powerhouse).

Al Naki expressed his grati-

tude to His Royal Highness the Prime Minister, not only for granting patronage to the conference, but furthermore for his great vision of supporting all the Aluminium smelters in the Gulf region. He said "HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman is the architect of the growth in Bahrain's economy, he is the first one who paid attention to the importance of using oil industry in the Gulf, in the 1970s, so he established the two major companies Alba and Gulf Petrochemicals industries Company (GPIC), and called upon all Gulf countries to benefit from the industrial sector which would create jobs for Gulf citizens, he had a vision and a mission through which, not only Bahrain but all the Gulf countries could take advantage..

Bahraini Private Businesses Men Benefit From the Social Insurance System

Up to a Maximum Pension of BD 2000 Monthly

Manama-BNA

The Bahraini cabinet decided to enable Bahrainis who run private businesses to benefit from the social insurance system and it agreed to allocate a private account for this issue in the Organization of social insurance Fund (OSI).

The cabinet agreed that scheme shall have a monthly income of BD 2000 maximum from the pension. It also agreed that the beneficiaries from this social insurance system can adjust the monthly income by 5% and agreed to implement the decision of opening branch for the Bahraini with private businesses and another branch for the employers. He directed the concerned authorities to implement the

necessary procedures. The general secretary of the cabinet announced a statement after the meeting, where he explained that the cabinet agreed on forming a committee headed by the Ministry of the Foreign Affairs. HRH the Prime Minister directed to continue developing logistic services and movement procedures of trucks and passengers on King Fahad Causeway. The cabinet extended its thanks to the Saudi leadership for continuous cooperation to streamline the movement of commodities and passengers via the causeway. HRH the Premier directed to continue streamlining procedures for obtaining investment construction licenses so as to boost Bahrain's competitiveness in the urban development field.



o HRH the Prime Minister

" Al Sawari " Theatre honored Alba Company

Alba Company was honoured by "Al Sawari Theatre", during the closing ceremony of Al Sawari Theatre Festival for youth, which took place from 18th to 29th October 2014, at the Cultural Hall, under the title "Theatre is Back Again." Alba was honoured as a key sponsor of Al Sawari Theatre Festival in its 10th term, which included 11 theatrical works. President of Al Sawari Theatre Festival, Ahmed Al Fardan, praised the constant role of all participants and contributors, especially the young audience. Al Fardan also affirmed that holding this theatre festival will reinforce the Bahraini

theatre movement and it will create new talent and artists. At the end of the ceremony, Chairman of Al Sawari Theatre Board, Mohammed Al-saffar honoured the winners of the best director, best actor, best show and best lighting awards. The Arbitration Committee consists of the artist Yasser Saif, Jumaan Al Rewaii and the theatre critic Zahraa Al Mansour. Al Sawari theatre was established in 1991, it created lot of Bahraini talent, Al Sawari had returned last year after a gap of 12 years.

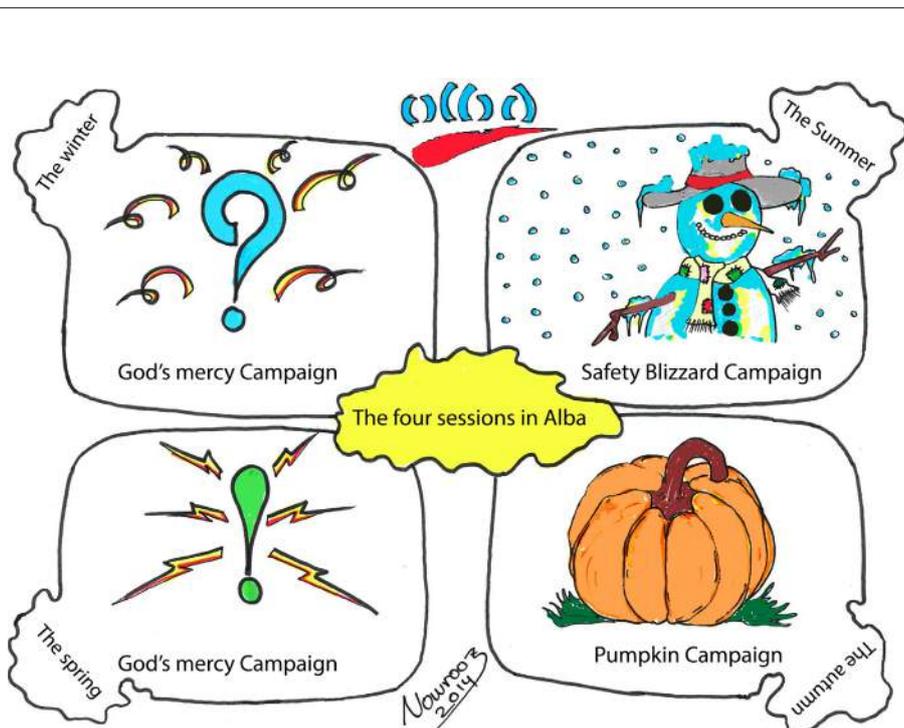


o Alba Company honoured by Al Sawri



The Photos of Our Wise Leaders Go Missing at the Ministry of Labour

A workshop was organized by the Ministry Of Labour to protect the contractor workers and engineers on Thursday, 23rd October 2014. The assistant undersecretary for training department Redha Ahmed Hubail opened the workshop and pointed out the importance of the occupational health and safety principles and the importance of raising safety culture of both employers and workers in order to improve and protect workers from diseases and occupational injuries at workplace. During the opening ceremony, in presence of 150 workers, unionist and ministry officials, everyone who attended the workshop were surprised that the photos of our wise leadership, which were mounted on the wall, were missing and hidden. And we believe that Ministry of labour is well aware of this unwise and shameful action!!



Tatweer Union honored one of its member



The worker Kirk Hobbs from Bapco Company was honored by Tatweer Union for his outstanding performance in the union and helping the other workers. Tatweer Union expressed its appreciation by supporting and honoring him in order to encourage other workers in the company to do as Hobbs did..



Strike in Roma against " Labour Law "

Hundreds of thousands of workers took to the streets in Roma, on Saturday, October 25th 2014 to protest against the "labour law" which was proposed by the Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi.

The Italian Trade Union (USB), which is a left-wing party, called for the rally and said that the new labour law would significantly reduce protection for new labours and would make the job cuts easier. The protests marched around Rome with the slogan "work.. Dignity.. Equality." They also carried the flag of World Federation Of

Trade Unions (WFTU), who had called for demonstrations all over Europe and the world, against the policies imposed by the European Union (European Central Bank and the IMF) to reduce salaries and pensions, deprived workers of their rights and the rights of trade union, privatization of public wealth, infringement of public health and education systems, high unemployment and poverty. On behalf of the 90 million workers around the world the WFTU expressed its solidarity with the workers and the people of Italy, who are members of the Italian Trade Union (USB).

Catalan people decide their fate



A large crowd demonstrated in Barcelona to protest the Spanish government's decision to suspend the voting process on the independence of the province of Catalonia that was to be organized on ninth of November. The Constitutional Court declared their agreement on suspending the voting process despite tens of thousands of Catalans protesting. The Catalans were out on 19th October in demonstrations wearing yellow T-shirts and carrying the flags of the independence of Catalonia region and banners with the writings "It's the time" and "We are ready". Spain's government led by Mariano Rajoy has refused to admit that the people have the right to vote and determine the future of the country, and therefore there is no dialogue or the process of negotiations between the two sides. It is worth mentioning that Catalonia's region is suffering from being in poverty although it is one of the richest sector in Spain, moreover, there are differences in government's dealing with this sector, which has been ruled by force and terror by the king of Spain for the

past three hundred years. The Spanish government is today using the majority in Madrid with the support of the opposition Socialist Party in Spain (PSOE), and the bias of the Constitutional Court for the government, to oppose the democratic and peaceful vote... and by the demands of the Catalonia region. On the opposite side, the Left Party was established for independence of the Esquerra pel Sí-Sí in order to pressurize the government, and to discuss about announcing the ninth of November, the day when the people of Catalonia decide their fate through peaceful vote on their region's independence from Spain. This party consists of people from different societies such as labor unions, women's movements, freedom fighters, socialists, democrats, and scientists etc. The World Federation of Trade Unions WFTU has called the governments in Europe and the world over, political parties and democratic institutions to support the right of the Catalan people to decide their own future, and demand the Government of Spain to conduct a peaceful vote on the 9th of November.

Italian Union Calls for General Strike



The Italian union (USB) organized demonstrations in 27 cities including: Rome, Milan, Nablus, Florence and many others. Around 100000 workers participated in the strike from private and public sectors as well as the unemployment, retirees, student and foreign workers.

Greece: More than 100000 take part in the national rally



More than 100,000 people flooded the streets of Athens with 9 huge demonstrations that met at Syntagma Square, at the National Rally of Pame. Pierpaolo Leonardi addressed the greeting message in front of the WFTU and Italian union (USB). Pame workers will continue the general strike on November 27th 2014.



Reaching to a proper solution for the worker's problem " Waheed Rahemi" in coordination between the Union and the management

Alba Labour Union in cooperation with the company management could reach to a solution for the problem of the retired worker, Waheed Rahemi, who was working in the Reduction line 4 and suffered an accident on 15/12/2010 by the truck which was carrying aluminium, during his duty. The accident resulted in severe injuries and fractured bone in his right foot, and the company at that time could not help the worker to undergo surgery and pay the medical expenses which was paid by the worker himself and the other expenses which were incurred as a result of the worker staying at his home. On 11/05/2013, the worker Rahemi suffered another work accident on the same foot, which resulted in severe bruises and cuts, which forced him to opt for the

surgery abroad. After a long discussion with the management, they offered him help, which was less than expected, and could not cover 20% of the medical expenses, this caused him more suffering. The worker's condition got worst, and the management offered him with medical retirement, and a small amount of money as compensation, which was to be compensated for the months he spent without salary. After continuous negotiations with the worker, the company management agreed to respond to his claims. And the worker thanked Alba's CEO, Tim Murray and Alba's COO, Isa Al Ansari for giving back his rights in addition to the medical expenses. Rahemi, added that he would never forget Alba Labour Union, who offered him their help and solidarity, without their firm attitude, he would have never obtained his rights.

Awareness on Occupational Safety

Alba Labour Union organized an awareness session on occupational safety on Thursday, October 23rd 2014. The lecture was conducted by Mariam Al Ansari, in charge of awareness & guidance in Ministry of labour. Al Ansari explained the definition of occupational safety and its implementation procedures in the industrial environment. She emphasized on the relationship between the employer and employee and their rights. She affirmed the importance of providing and committing safety measures by both the employees and employers and how to prevent work accidents. Al Ansari clarified the rules and regulations of occupational health and the dangerous consequences of ignoring the safety measures; she added that the safety measures should be implemented by the concerned authorities.



Alba Labour Union Organizes a Lecture on Social Insurance as a Part of Series of Educational Lectures



On Thursday 2nd October 2014, Alba Labour Union organized a lecture entitled «insurance rights and benefits» in cooperation with the Public Authority for Social Insurance Mr. Khalid Ali Abdulaziz - Chairman of the Department of rewards Authority - in Alba Union Hall. Mr. Khalid Ali briefed mainly on 3 topics in the lecture which included the Social Security benefits of integration of public sector with private sector, and the definitions, benefits and standards in the field of insurance, and about the retirement plans and their benefits. Mr. Khalid Ali stressed the importance of completing the procedures related to the reporting of any accident involving the worker, whether it is at the workplace or during travelling to and fro to the workplace, and the importance of informing the manager of the company within 24 hours of the incident along with a statement about the case, pointing out that the statement should not necessarily be given by the worker but can be given by one of his relatives. Bahraini workers and foreign workers attended the seminar and asked a lot of questions related to the retirement systems in Kingdom of Bahrain. Mr. Khaled Ali was honored by the union at the end of the lecture.

Alba Labour Union in Cooperation with the Ministry Of Interior Organized a Lecture on Drugs

Alba Labour Union in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior organized a lecture on drugs, conducted by the first lieutenant Khalid Ahmed Al Kaabi, Deputy Lieutenant Khaled Al Hamaddi and Ahmad Rashdan from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) team. They explained the different methods of producing and smuggling drugs. They also presented a short film which showed the impact of drugs impact and the consequence of being a drugs addict. Khalid Ahmed Al Kaabi affirmed the importance of not taking any medicine, unless it was prescribed by a doctor, explaining that the drug's dealers use various ways to attract and target people. He added that DEA team transfers all legal cases to the Public Prosecutor who then decides whether it is a drug abuse or drug dealing case. He said that the drug's dealers may face 10 years in prison while drug abuser faces 3 years. At the end of the lecture, the DEA team displayed samples of different types of drugs in order to raise awareness among Alba workers. The head of Anti-Narcotics Directorate Mubarak bin Huwail was honoured by Alba Labour Union for his efforts and good work in enforcing the control on drugs in the kingdom of Bahrain".





The solidarity of Alba workers An Example

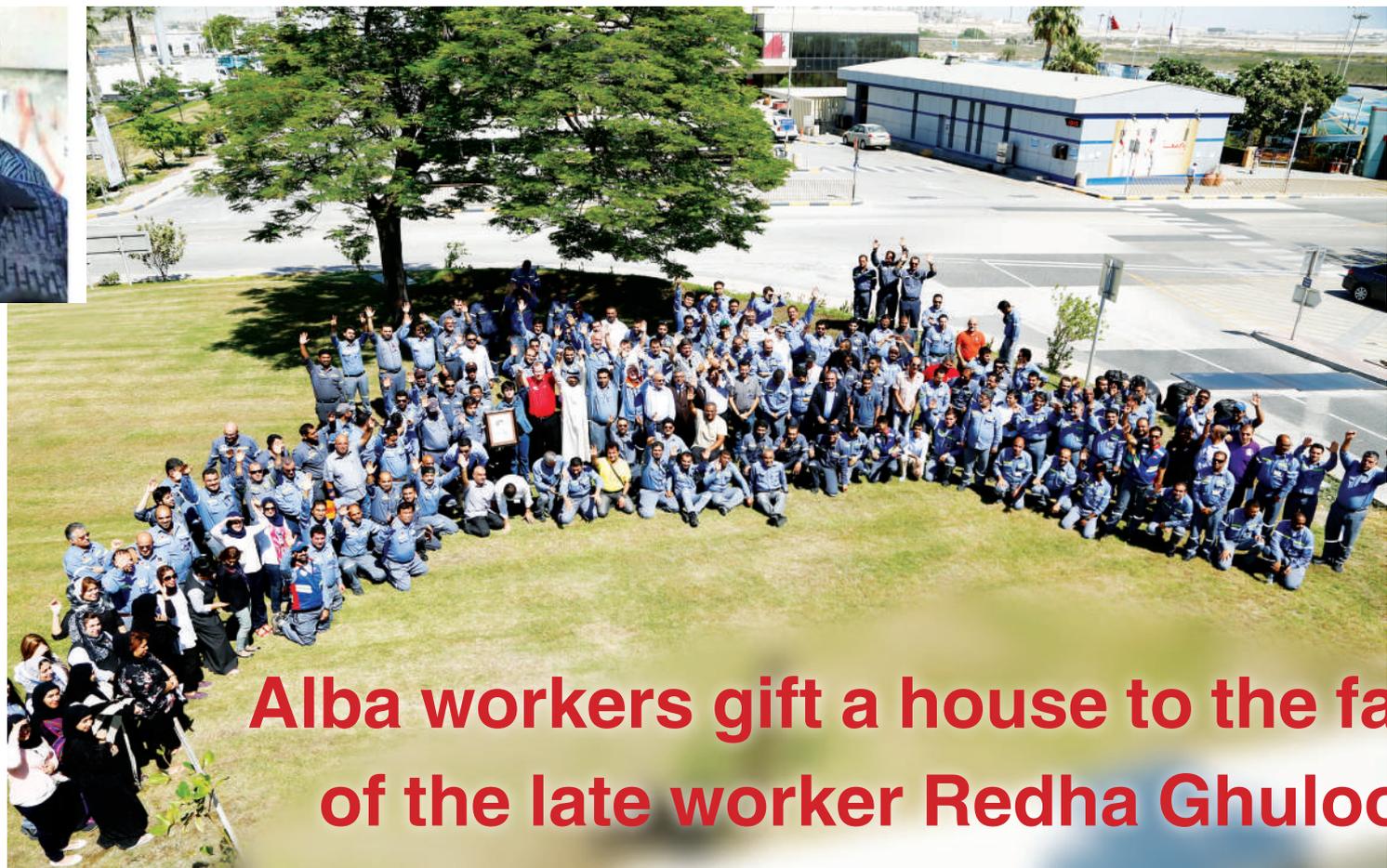
By: Farid Ahmad Hassan

In its September Edition 2014, the Newsletter "Alba Labour", issued by Alba Labour Union, focused on the example set by the workers' solidarity, when they could raise an amount of BD 100,000 within five days only to buy a house for the family of Alba worker who died a month ago, emphasizing on the principle of solidarity and compassion and in response to the Union's request to provide a decent house for the family of the late worker. The most thrilling in this matter is that the union hoped that the workers would take the initiative to raise an amount to buy a small flat for the late family, but the surprise was that the amount collected was enough to buy a beautiful villa that can accommodate the whole members of the late family which was presented to them to express their kindness and to make the family feel that there is a lot of kind-heartedness in this world. This is Bahrain as it is always and shall remain forever despite all that has been happening in this peaceful country over the last three years, and despite the efforts to divide its people into two parties, but it has been proved that the people of Bahrain are able to overcome the difficulties and absorb the differences in opinions, and shall march steadily forward for a bright and prosperous future, for the sake of building one homeland, a big home enough for all. The workers, who denoted to buy a house for the family of their fellow worker, did not look at the matter from the narrow angle of the religious community, and the proof on this is obvious when all workers from different communities donated generously without any consideration to any other matter, expressing their unity as they belong to one people of Bahrain. It should be emphasized that this people cannot be changed or divided or betray their homeland. Definitely, the example of solidarity set by Alba workers is not a mere example of solidarity of a group of workers with their fellow worker, but it proved that such good deed is just an example of so many good qualities and good values which are originated deeply in the hearts and mind of our people, that constitute its solid unity and integration. The workers, as a small section of the Bahraini society, indicated that we are one people and there is no place for those who try to divide the unity of our people. Solidarity is an original conduct which has deep roots and felt everywhere and every time among the people of Bahrain. There are so many examples of the wonderful images known to everyone, and the most remarkable one is the project of His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa for the orphans and the widow women, and the initiatives made by the King's wife Her Highness Shaikha Sabeeka Bint Ibrahim AL Khalifa to provide a decent life and decent housing for the divorced. Every day there are so many examples that confirm this behaviour and ethics, which are not restricted to a class, and prove without any doubt that the people of Bahrain are one people, sharing the same concern and the same ambitions and dreams. Bahrain also is part of the GCC countries which have great achievements in the field of solidarity and integration, and an example on that is in some countries of the GCC a special program has been allocated to explain the needy cases suffering from certain problems and solving such problems on Air immediately. In the same context, a country in the GCC has allocated "#" in Twitter, to announce for cases that need an immediate help, and so to raise donations from the different sectors of people, and this is a clear example on the social solidarity. Our people are known for their kindness, generosity and the willing to help, especially when the matter related to the needy families who lost their supporters, or if the family supporter suffers serious accidents etc. In such situations the image of solidarity emerges in its wonderful form. However, we can say that we can invent other new bright forms of solidarity to distinguish Bahrain and its people in this social and human field.

AL- Watan newspaper 19 Oct 2014

Picture of handing over the house key to Redha Ghuloom's family





Alba workers gift a house to the family of the late worker Redha Ghuloom



Mr. Amir / Redha's son

Alba Labour Union with all of its members celebrated one of the impressive social events, when they gifted the late worker Redha Ghuloom's family a house to live, in the presence of Alba's CEO Tim Murray, Alba's COO Isa Al Ansari, and Abdul Rahman Janahi, Director of HR Alba, chairman of BFLUF Yaqoub Yousif Mohammad and chairman of Alba Labour Union Ali Albinali, besides a large number of workers.

This event came after the great efforts of Alba workers to fulfil the dream of their late colleague Redha Ghuloom who passed away at the age of 43, where the workers' donations exceeded BD70000 in just five days and the

company management added BD30000 to the amount, making it a total of BD 100000. Alba's CEO Tim Murray said that this event shall be recorded as one of the biggest achievements in the history of all Alba and Bahrain. Alba COO Isa Al Ansari, said that the late Redha Ghuloom passed away but his memory is still alive in the hearts and minds of all workers, addressing Redha's son Mr. Amir, he said that his father did not leave him an orphan as there were more than 3000 employees in Alba to look after them.

Meanwhile, chairman of Bahrain Free Labour Union Federation (BFLUF) Yaqoub Yousif Mohammed pointed out that he did not meet the late worker, but

he knew him through the words and expressions of his friends, the workers of Alba. Chairman of Alba Labour Union Ali Albinali, said that the late Redha Ghuloom gave Alba workers a chance to reveal and express their solidarity and their high level of morals and sympathy, he pointed out that the campaign for collecting donations had concluded and achieved its goal with just 50% of the total number of Alba Labour Union members. In the end one of the family's members of the late worker delivered a speech in which he expressed their gratitude and thanks to all workers in Alba for their kind and human treatment and for their solidarity that they showed towards them.

HR department deprives expatriates of their facilities

The expatriate community was in for a shock when they learned that the HR department have stopped paying the Passport renewal fees which has been the practice since the past 20 years or more, as if the passport renewal, which occurs just once in 5 or 10 years, the fees for which is about Bd 31 is going to save a very big amount in the budget.

Even the Compassionate leave has been reduced from 7 working days to 5 working days, which is surely not enough for anyone to travel and return back in such a short period after completing the necessary last rites.

As we understand, according to the HR the relative is supposed to die on a Thursday so that an

consulting the Union or the employees which is causing unnecessary difficulties and burden on

a lot of efforts in helping achieve the targets set by the company.



Instead of providing more benefits to the employees as per their demands the management is snatching away even what was being given to them in the past this actually looks to be the result of the some people who are trying to make their personal gains and achieve higher positions by pleasing the higher management by cutting down the provided facilities and putting the entire expat community to further hardship.

employee can utilise the weekends to complete the last rites. They are making changes without informing or

the employees. This has resulted in disappointing and demoralising the expat employees who put in

Evaluation for annual increment



Send us your suggestions, feedback and complaints on:

Omalalba@gmail.com





On the International Day for breast Cancer awareness

Two lectures were organized for men and women



o Dr. Hussain Al- Durazi



o Dr. Muna Ali

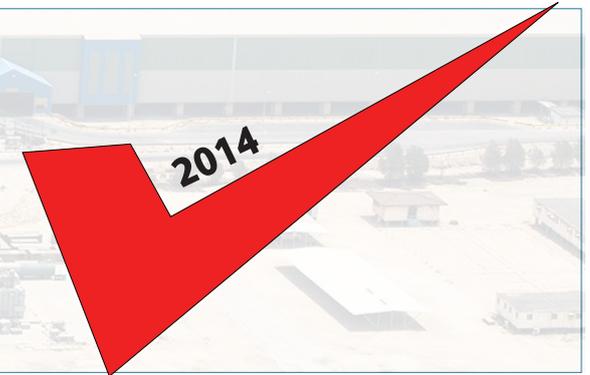


The Women Committee of Alba Labour Union organized, on the occasion of the International Day for breast Cancer, a health seminar on this dangerous disease for both men workers and women workers separately, on Thursday, 16th October, 2014, in the Union Hall of Alba. In the beginning, Dr. Hussain Al- Durazi, a medical officer in Alba Medical Centre made a presentation to the men workers and then Dr. Muna Ali from Ministry of Health made another presentation to the women workers about this issue. Dr. Al- Durazi pointed out that there are so many people who have lost their mothers, sisters, daughters or wives because of this dangerous disease (breast Cancer), and both women as well as men are exposed to this dangerous disease. The recent statistics show that there are 135 men who suffer from this disease compared to 50.000 women, and that is because the man's body does not contain the Estrogen substance. Dr. Al- Durazi emphasized that the family history and the pregnancy in the late age are the main causes of this disease, besides smoking, overweight and alcohol also plays their roles in causing breast Cancer. Both doctors emphasized on the importance of physical exercises for both women and men, especially arms exercises which requires raising up the hands and putting them down in a circular movement several times. Moreover, they emphasized the importance of the periodic medical check-ups that can detect the disease in its early stages and make the treatment more simple and effective. Finally, Dr. Hussein and Dr. Muna thanked Alba Labour Union for its cooperation and organizing such events, hoping that other health lectures shall follow in the near future on the topics which are crucial to the well-being of the workers, men and women and to their families.





torn and an advertising campaign rose against them as if they were the ones who were involved with the opposition. We say to all those opposition parties that have united to destroy this country, that we, Alba workers will be at the forefront to defend our country against your evil intentions. You will never succeed in the destruction of the country as long as such good people are available to participate in the elections from different sects and groups.



Redha Shukr Allah

Central Governorate (7)

Our vote is for Bahrain

The Parliamentary candidate Redha Shukr Allah has been working in the stores as HSE coordinator since 19 years and has a Diploma in International Health and Safety. He is married and has a son and a daughter.

Redha aims to serve the people of his governorate as well as the people of Bahrain by representing them in the parliament with his sincere efforts to try to fulfill their needs.

The program also aims in promoting the national unity, to safe guard the rights of the people from different religions and sects and to work on implementing the decisions taken by the highest authority in the country for the benefit of the people. Furthermore, the program also concentrates on the economy and to make the punishment more severe in the administrative and commercial areas, to run the housing scheme in a fair way and to distribute the government's budget fairly on the people as well as the governorates.

Redha did not forget about the social part so he also plans to give importance to the widows, orphans and the physically challenged people.



redhashukralla@gmail.com



Jameel Abbas

Northern Governorate (7)

Together towards the change

Jameel Abbas is working in Alba since 2004 in FTP, he has been awarded many times as the best worker. He has a Bachelor's degree in Information technology from Birla University, he is married and has 3 sons.

Jameel's program includes many different aims in order to solve the highest number of problems that the citizens are suffering from, and to serve all their needs.

Jameel contributed in solving the housing problem by reducing the waiting period. He forced the concerned people to prepare a proper schedule for allotting the houses and distribute them according to first come first serve basis. Additionally, he also aims to improve the health services, to allow citizens to get their treatment abroad if needed, to support the people with sickle-cell disease, and to build new health centers in different places, in order to reduce the burden on the current health centers. Coming to the education part, Jameel aims to increase the number of scholarships given to study in Bahrain and abroad, including the physically challenged people as well.



alsaffarvote@gmail.com



Salman Al Saffar

Northern Governorate (7)

Vision of the future of youth

The Parliamentary candidate Salman Al Saffar has been in Alba since 15 years. Heworks as a Shipping Officer in the Marketing Department. He is married and has a daughter.

The candidate said that his program aims to avoid corruption. He also aims to get the retirement loan written off for the public workers and to discuss about this issue.

Moreover, he also aims in improving the living condition by supporting the youth in the forum; help in reducing the unemployment and to help them get married.

For the services, the housing project will be Salman's first consideration through community partnership and to raises the housing allowance.

The program also gives importance to occupational health as well as safety at work and to improve the information system.

Saffar never forgot the saying that knowledge is power, and gave attention to the quality of education through by visiting the schools and he looks forward to implement new technology in education field.



alsaffarvote@gmail.com



الانتخابات النيابية

Alba workers contest the elections



Alba workers, who denied the opposition without fear, joined the others to contest for the upcoming election. The workers supported the reforming project of His Royal Highness King Hamad Bin Isa Al khalifa by nominating six candidates from Alba. The candidates as well as their family members were pressurized by the people who want to destroy the country and to prevent the people from participating in the elections. Alba workers are contesting in both Municipal and parliamentary. Moreover, those candidates had their tents burnt, their banners



Mohamed Janahi

Southern Governorate (6)

A clear vision through hard work

The candidate Mohamed Janahi is working in the Safety Department in Alba since almost 4 years and he is currently continuing his education in Islamic studies. He is married and has 2 daughters.

Janahi plans ways to increase the income by using the resources more efficiently. He also wishes to open new schools.

Janahi also aims to provide new playgrounds for the young people to encourage them in practicing their skills. He also aims to repair the roads in Riffa and to study the traffic jams problem in Riffa near the schools.

Additionally, Janahi also plans to improve the drainage of rain water during the rainy season, and he is concerned about the religious issues as well such as helping and supporting the charities.



janahi.zx10@hotmail.com



Mahmood Al Hamar

Central Governorate (5)

«I learnt to give not because I have more but because I know how it feels when you have nothing»

The candidate Mahmood works as a Purchasing officer in Stores Department of Alba, he has been working for 7 years and has a Bachelor's degree in Information system and has Diploma in IT from Bahrain Institute. He is married and has a son and a daughter. Mahmood says that the citizen's deeds are like a mirror reflecting their loyalty to work. He believes in saying less and doing more. His slogans:

Goals and ambitions
Together we can start
The people want to be safe
Solve the economic problem
People want to save the economy
Accounting
Saving people's rights
Avoid poverty
Improve the condition of low salaried people
Improve the condition of physically challenged people



m.alhamar15@hotmail.com



Hashim Al Aradi

Central Governorate (3)

Together for a prosperous life

Hashim served Alba Company for 16 years in the reduction department, he has a Bachelor's degree in chemical engineering. He is married and has 2 sons and a daughter.

He stressed upon the importance of providing job opportunities and in strengthening the role of the young people in the development process and to support those projects that provides job for the young people. He added that his program involves certain investors who have huge amount of money that could help in solving the housing problem through the establishment of the residential complexes.

In addition, Aradi also gave importance to repair the roads and the sewage lines as to clear the accumulation of rain water during the rainy season. Aradi never forgot the retired workers and has asked to provide them a decent life by increasing their pensions.



hashoomi@googlemail.com

Alba Club and the arrogant administration



The Alba administration is running the club in a strange way. Since the creation of the club in the mid-nineties, the administration does not miss any opportunity to take revenge on the club's staff and to embitter them and their job security. The club is suffering from lack of job stability and the absence of a clear plan with the administration. So the administration tries to apply different policies every few months. Sometimes they try to relieve the sick workers in jobs that suit them in the club and sometimes they try to return these workers back to their original work sites in Alba. Sometimes they try their best into encouraging workers towards early retirement. Moreover, the administration had also asked the Women to work in

night shifts, despite knowing the culture and restrictions of the Bahraini families, their nature and their habits. The Alba club workers are on fire and are suffering from lack of seriousness and confusion, as they can work full time today and at the same time the admin can decide whether the worker is on leave, and they can decide when the worker can work as overtime or when to turn the worker from his position at the reception to an observer on the swimming pool. The swimming pool has strange timings according to the administration, so it's possible to be closed at any time and to be without lifeguards at any time or could have one lifeguard only. Thus, depending on the mood of adminis-

trators, they handle these matters. When workers receive their salaries, they get surprised that part of their salary must be traced back to the company's management where they forgot to pay extra shift or overtime wages owed but it is not admitted by the administration. The topic in general is that the workers in Alba club are always complaining because of their poor and unfair treatment from the company's management and the way that the club is managed. The issue of the manpower in the club is another story where sometimes you find the workers from the company attending and working in the club and suddenly you find them the next day working in the company and the construc-

tors work instead of them in the club. The administration has not been satisfied by bringing construction workers only, but they also bring domestic servants to work as trainers at the club and it's embarrassing that some of these workers are on Free Visa. The club is suffering from the rules and regulations that are used to run the club, the problem of deductions from workers salaries is too much for the workers to bear, and the management's mistakes in calculating the allowances and overtime, force the workers in Alba Club to handle the administration errors by themselves. Perhaps the administration does not know that the club is indirectly contributing in the production process at the com-



Don't make their studies harder

A group of workers who are studying on their account and some on the company's account, complained from the company's policy in not giving the workers a chance to be free two hours before the studies. In past years, the workers in Alba left work two hours earlier before studies in order to be able to complete their studies in such a way that allows them to continue within the educational process. But the surprise was that the Department of Human Resources has issued instructions to the directors of departments to stop such facilities. A series of threats began to haunt the workers and they were informed that their salaries will be deducted if they left earlier to their universities and institutes.

Mice in the Marine

Mice in the Marian Security!! The workers of Caliciner and Marine are suffering from the huge number of mice, especially in the Security building. Despite the fact that we have talked to our managers, who convey our voice to the higher management, and despite the accidents that have occurred and damaged the company facilities because of these mice, no action has been taken nor any follow up done. It is a habit of these mice to cut off the wires, which results of the failure of the security system. The question is how many times can this type of failure be tolerated?! On Tuesday, September 16th 2014, the main wire of the communication network in the main gate was cut off, which resulted in shutting down all the phones, computers and PTR system for more than 20 hours. This action led the securities to the "day of ignorance" by recording the workers' entry and exit on papers!! Now the question here is "how much does it cost to repair and replace the main wire of the communication network?!" How long does it take to be fixed?! Do all these loses require more attention?!

Does the issue need a serious and immediate action to be taken?! There are more than 20 diseases carried by the rats such as: plague, rats-bite-fever and tuberculosis. These diseases can be transmitted by these creatures and their faeces up to the mouth of the humans through different ways such as foods and dishes, it can be transmitted by touching the dust and contaminated surfaces and through direct contact with the body or biting or by moving wind to keep micro-organisms in air for long periods. As workers, our health conditions are in danger and we might be infected by these diseases because of the unhealthy work environment.

Is the management waiting for any worker to be infected by any of these diseases? Is the life and health of a worker worth nothing? Is there anyone reading our reports or even caring about it? Who will be responsible if any accident is caused by these mice?

By: Aymen Ali
member of Alba Labour Union

Delay of the Canteen no (2) maintenance



A number of workers were displeased by the delay of maintenance of the canteen no 2, which is located near the Carbon department for more than seven months. As a result of this delay in maintenance works by the project contractor, the workers are forced to go to other canteens by walk, despite the long distance, and the possible dangers that exist on the roads inside the company. This suffering was due to the obvious negligence of the management in following –up such matters. The union's efforts have resulted in solving the workers' problem through an urgent agreement that has been made between the company and the contractor to complete the maintenance works by the end of October 2014.

The origin of the "Eight hours of working"



By: Ali Madan

No doubt that when we talk about the Industrial Revolution, we talk about a critical moment that changes the human history, and brought us so many positive changes. At some phase, after the establishing the first large factory, particularly in England, thousands of new job opportunities in industry were created. Another point which can be narrated in the first years of the " Industrial Revolution", when most of the workers were brought from the rural areas in particular, entire families were distributed to factories and workshops, some of these attracted men and women, without mentioning the involvement of the children,

which is far away from the legal, social, and health observation and controlling.

one of the most prominent emerging issues perhaps in the modern automation era, that factory workers have to face long "working hours", which are about 10 to 16 hours per day. Meanwhile, there were so many calls for the validation of this issue, which differed in its seriousness and success. One of the most important attempts to put clear limits to the working hours was led by the Welsh socialist and reformist, Robert Owen who called in 1810 for reducing the working hours to 10 hours. Again in 1917 he called for reducing the working hours to 8 hours per day, as his new target, raising his famous slogan "Eight hours for work", Eight hours for recreation, and Eight hours for rest". Robert Owen applied all of his ideas in the factory which he owned. Until 1847, no significant changes could be achieved regarding these calls, when the claim of "10 hours of work" was approved as legal in England, while France approved "12 hours of work" in 1848. Despite the growing call over the subsequent decades, the "8 hours limit" principle was not approved until the mid- twentieth century. The significant achievement, reveals the strong determinations required to achieve a change that makes the world more cooperative, more humane and more empathetic, but at the same time, confirms the norm which says such changes are possible.

“The Unionist “ Amal Muosa” and the persistent violations of GARMCO

The management dismissed her after thirteen years of service

She endured so many insults, intended to force her to quite her work



o The Unionist “Amal Al Mousa”



o Amal Al Mousa talking to Alba Labour Union

The worker Amal Abdulrahman Al Muosa, who struggled for more than thirteen years in the Gulf Company for the rolling aluminum (GARAMCO), for the sake of the working class, finally faces the same suffering which was endured by so many honest and sincere workers in this country. GRAMCO Company practiced all kinds of pressure on the worker, including all kind of the administrative pressures in order to force her to quit her job in the HR department, despite her long experience in this field, but the company dismissed her for inhuman reasons.

This is the reward that this sincere worker received for her dedication to her work, to dismiss her from her work. Amal is a well qualified woman, with so many great ambitions, she holds

a bachelor degree in the computer programming, and MA in the business management, besides so many certificates in management, administration and auditing she obtained from internationally recognized institutions. These high qualifications and valuable experience did not prevent the management to dismiss her from her work. She worked hard to obtain such qualifications and experience.

She was an excellent worker, and the company honored her many times which proves that she was an ideal worker.

Amal Al Muosa, the member of the Woman Committee in the Bahrain Free labour Union (BFLUF), did not receive any support to her issue, and to stand firmly in the face of the efforts to force

her quite her job. She was fighting alone. Her direct supervisor took an advantage of an old resignation submitted previously by the worker, and in her holiday he entered into her office, took the letter of resignation and approved it, and to announce later that she had submitted her resignation normally, and so she was no longer an employee in this company.

Meanwhile, the company did not only dismiss her from her work, but deprived her from her labour rights, including her balance of holidays and her pension as she was not qualified for the early retirement.

This worker has entered into a circle of lost and disappointment, and fed up with so many false promises. Here long service in this company did not give

her any kind of privilege, as the company criteria are different. The slack attitudes of the National Union caused a sever and painful shock and disappointment to Amal, who found herself jobless and without any future. On the other hand, and through a telephone call made by the Editorial Board of “Alba Labour”, with Fahad AL Hassam, the head of the HR department in GRAMCO company, he said that the company did not dismiss the worker, but the worker herself submitted her resignation and the company approved this resignation, he added that if the worker intends to submit a lawsuit against the company, then the legal procedures shall be followed.

«Bucket Challenge» reaches



It seems that the bucket challenge has reached Alba and the workers are forced to join this competition. The water is seeping here and there, and the Company's management is not at all concerned about repairing the old buildings which have been forgotten a long time ago. The power maintenance department is witnessing an unprecedented negligence, where the water is still leaking from the roof of the ladies wash room, which is unusable for more than two months, and the management still didn't wake up from its deep dreams of the pumpkin farm (Alba named the safety campaign for autumn as pumpkin cam-

paign). The water leaks in between the electrical connections which puts the workers in a risk of electrical shock. Whenever the concerned department is questioned about this unsafe condition, they directly blame the contractors of company, who weren't informed about the leak. From another point, the manager of the power maintenance is delaying the opening of a new wash room for the workers in the new building near the maintenance department, arguing that the building is not yet completed. After the union insisted, the manager promised to open a wash room in the new building to be used as a temporary solution until the leak is fixed.



The Labours' Will won

By: Abdulla Al-Moaraj

The Labours' celebration for Alba workers was ended, crowned by 15 members who took over leadership seats in the 15th session of Alba Labour Union (2015-2019), to be a steady and strong slap on the faces of all those who call for divisionism, sectarianism and disorder. The demonstration of struggle for the sake of the workers' rights and their achievements has been renewed for the future era. The vote results revealed the strong support which was directed to the Labour' Bloc which obtained an overwhelming victory over other candidates. That was due to the considerable weight that this Bloc enjoys among workers. Alba workers set the best examples in this election in which they showed the workers' unity and cooperation.

They defeated the ghost of the sectarianism through their solid unity, to witness the birth of their new born union, which an indicator of new, bright and promising future for all of Alba workers and their families. Our process started by the strong determination to defend the workers' achievements and rights, and shall be our ultimate mission to the end. There are so many pending issues which to be dealt with by the new union, and which constitute the major concern of all workers, such as the medical insurance for the worker's family members, and the increase of the housing loans, besides the eighth grade which has to be granted to the workers and other important issues related to the workers' rights and achievements, and to stand firmly in the face of the management which hesitates in fulfilling such demands, through so many false arguments and justifications through (Titan project) . The workers' mobility under the leadership of the Alba Labour Union shall work hard to achieve the workers' demands, and to improve the work conditions in the work places.

Long Live Alba Workers
Long live the Working class.

Accidents and Injuries during the Month of October

Date	Place of the accident	Details of the accident	Notes	Evaluation	Results of the investigation
09/10/2014	Carbon department, Kilns 3	The Kilns 3 Senior operator was moving the units next to the Exhaust Ramp No. 6, surprised by strong back pressure from the Flu-Wall No. 1, causing damage to it	The importance of this incident have not been taken into consideration and investigation was not imminent high likelihood of an accident	Damage Incident and considered as High Potential Near miss	Found that the Exhaust Ramp leg was clogged with pitch due to weak functioning of the air in the flu-wall
10/10/2014	Carbon department, Kilns 3	The Senior Operator was doing routine work and tries to improve the temperature inside the flu-wall, he pressed the manual control button he surprised by strong back pressure from the Flu-wall No. 1, causing damage to it	Repetitive Incident and the reason was lack of seriousness in the investigation and obtaining the root causes of the incident and the lessons learned	Damage Incident and considered as High Potential Near miss	Found that the Exhaust Ramp leg was clogged with pitch due to weak functioning of the air draft in flu-wall and the main reason was that the cloth used for Exhaust Ramp legs not as per specification
12/10/2014	Reduction line 5	When the operator was helping his colleague in the removal of the concrete slab at the reduction cell No. c074, hot Bath particles fallen from a shovel of PTA Crane on the worker, causing slight scattered burns in the neck and back	Worker was not aware of the risk of working directly under the crane	Minor injury	Found that the worker was working directly under PTA Crane Shovel and because of the residue bath in the shovel, some particles fallen causing the injury
15/10/2014	Production support services OSS Crucible Cleaning section	when the contractor worker was trying to disengaging the tapping lid Ejector of tapping crucible, he broke the ejector of the tube causing slight wound in his ring. Immediately he was transferred to Alba Medical Centre	During Risk Assessment discovered that the portable stairs used was not safe. So the management decided to design safer one	Minor injury	Found that the tapping lid ejector was not safe to stop the sudden breakage in the ejector, and the administration has decided to develop the design of the ejector pillar to stop recurrence of such incidents
19/10/2014	CastHouse 2	When the CTTV started pouring metal, surprise fire occurred, and then the driver has taken the necessary measures of contacted emergency Fire Department and then trying to put out fire using the available fire-fighting tools until the arrival of fire fighters team.	Molten Metal splash is the main factor leads to fire if the fire retardant oil not used	Fire Incident and High potential Near miss incident	Found that the cause of the incident was metal splash on the hydraulic hoses. But found that the hydraulic oil was mixed with normal oil instead of fire retardant.
30/ 10/2014	Central workshops	When the mechanic was descending from Alumina Point Feeder he slipped. And while trying to maintain his balance, using his hands, the worker felt pain in his right hand	Supervisors and superintendent should review the practice of climbing and descending from vehicles as well as emphasising on three point contact	Minor injury and Medium potential near miss incident	Lack of focus during the get climbing or descending from the operational vehicles, and not following the three point contact while using ladders

Stop the Argument....The Worker Is on Fire

One day, a fire broke out in one of the aluminum pouring vehicle, belonging to the Cathouse, and the officers of the concerned departments met to discuss the causes of the fire. Instead of investigating the real causes of this accident, they started accusing each other, and some of them were blaming the workers for not being serious in performing their duties as firemen, others criticized the use of the wrong quality of oil in the vehicle that resist the heat, and others accused each other of not adhering to the safety requirements in the emergency situations. Then they started accusing each other, trying to conceal their indirect role in preventing such accidents, forgetting that one of the workers might have been a victim of this fire. It would be more essential for management team to find out the real causes of the fire, as it is a real threat for the workers' lives, instead of arguing and wasting their efforts to hide the truth in order to escape from their responsibility and protect themselves.



Edama Company and the physically challenged workers in Regency Parking

The issue of the physically challenged workers is still left unsolved since the Edama Company occupied the parking of the regency. Edama Company kept the workers in their positions after the BFLUF tried their best to avoid the workers being dismissed from their work through talking to the senior most officials in Bahrain, as well as His Royal Highness Prince Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa and despite all of this, Edama Company still tries directly or indirectly to pressurize the workers in order to make them quit their jobs, and this was done by threatening them that the working condition will

be made tougher and that the workers will be punished badly for any mistake, moreover they also force them into signing few papers which state that they have no right to ask for an increase in pay or any other rights in future. Furthermore, they are forced to stand outside under the hot sun for 8 continuous hours in order to issue the parking ticket manually. As per the officials of Edama Company, this is done as the automatic ticket issuing machine is not working, and instead of the Company repairing the machine, they allow the physically challenged people to stand outside in the hot sun despite their different disabilities without showing any mercy. Many people using this parking area were amazed by the way those physically challenged people were treated and were allowed to stand out in the hot sun for 8 continuous

hours. Wadie Isa, the vice chairman of the free labour federation for private sectors said that the company called the security forces on last Monday for forcing the workers to give the accounting box and all the other statements, and this is not the first time where Edama Company has called the security forces against those weak people, where once before also they called the security forces and forced the physically challenged people to leave the workplace but thanks to the Almighty God, the leaders of the country interfered and returned them back to work. Isa added that there are just 10 workers with BD 2881 paid in total as their salaries, on the other hand, the income of the parking area exceeds BD 18000 on weekdays and reaches up to BD30000 during weekends, and the workers get only 15% from this income. Edama Company is also looking forward to increase the parking fees, so the income will obviously increase too but the workers will not benefit in any way. Whereas they are supposed to get a higher proportion of profit especially because of their low salary and because they are less in number which will not harm or effect the company in anyway.



o Mustafa Al Aradi working under the hot sun.

Workers and Sectarianism: The Factory Unity

By the late: Abdullah Khalifa

National unity resides not in the streets but mainly in factories. Factories are the main cell to produce the national unity and political rationality. Conflictual relations between capitalists and workers have historically led to be framed within the conflictual unity, and the communities and political experiences are exposed to rupture and failure and to return again without it. The charity tendencies do not push employers to the industrial project, but the search for quick and mounting profits if possible. The market conditions and available useful projects are quick engines to take the risk of the capital, and this utilitarian direct awareness is being often and too long dedicated in the prevailing commercial understanding, and whenever the capital cycle was quick and useful and free of social and political risks that was the best. But the changes of social and political conditions and the interest in the nature of intellectual and national workers are outside the direct utilitarian awareness, but those conditions and the nature of the national workers are essential, which affect the fates of factory and the public economic life. The employer consider as the direct economic utilitarian object who evolve and understand the historical conditions that lead to the prosperity of certain economic structure and the collapse of other economic structure. Workers are not the only human preparation. Rather, they are a very important and necessity class for the factory, and without them and without development and reproduction in the next generation, it will not be a historic prospects. The national and historical crises erupted in different countries as crises erupted in factories in the beginning of the extensive layoffs or heavy reliance on foreign workers without plans for national development, they are the primary sources of political excruciating crises over the decades. When employers demobilize the workers or when prefer the foreign workers with severe decline wage they canceling the national unity in the factory. These conditions have led to long social and political unrest and often they believe the Arab Spring without these fundamental etiologies. National unities have been disrupted on the factories, mines, and the economic government property levels mainly and overflowed on communities, The mine provides valuable material for the government company and provides very low wages for the workers and the intermediate powers: contractors, government departments, government and private banks, to take great advantage of economic surpluses, So the mining or industrial area turn to the belt of poverty while sons breed without the ability to engage in mines and factories and engage in marginal occupations as happened with Bouazizi. This leads to let the unproductive forces especially parties to exploit the crisis and rise to the authorities, but the mine leaves in poverty and the lack of change relationships inside it and be asked to continue in production within the same lagging socio-economic map. This is because the miners and employers did not negotiate with them and to form a political unity and define the role of the factory or mine in joint economic and political life and how unions and industrial network of educational development in the entire national scale, so do not rely on parasitic middlemen and so factories proliferate through cash surpluses and the technical development which processions of the era. National Unity comes through this capitalist Labor and unifying conflict that shall split the groups on the basis of its position in the production and not on the basis of religious faith, and on the different concepts of the distribution of economic surpluses, and how to develop a national economic rules, and the fight against unemployment and poverty, and industrial weak schools and habits of extravagance and laziness and mass addiction. So, there are points in common and there are differences, and this is being done through the crystallization of the political currents of these differences and operates a joint or individual works under the National Cooperative difference and the dome of the parliament. Direct utilitarian awareness for layers shows through spontaneous conflictual tendencies affecting the evolution of producers, and across the left political forces exploit these conflicts self-interests, that is why the employers and workers parties important in their historical presence based on the production of the political and social economic knowledge for both sides, and the presence of factories, an its social and technical future and with its relations markets and renewable raw materials and relations with the natural sciences, social sciences and the development of the productive forces, and through the rise for this direct utilitarian awareness for both teams, that cares about its profits and wages to the maximum degree.

Pictures of the late novelist "Abdulla Khalifa"



The demise of Bahraini Novelist " Abdulla khalifa "

On Tuesday 22nd October, the author and the novelist Abdulla Khalifa (66 years old) passed away and departed from the literature's arena to his resting place in Manama's graveyard where writers, intellectuals, citizens and Alba workers were prominent to bid him the final farewell, leaving behind him a gap for those writers who always benefited from his studies, short stories, novels, daily columns in the newspaper which had a different approach altogether that made him different from the other writers.



By his sudden demise, most of the families in Kingdom of Bahrain who were associated with him were in for a shock, he leaves behind a legacy of writings wherein he put a lot of efforts, struggle and sacrifices to achieve his goals for the betterment of the Kingdom. Through his works he has inspired the people to be stronger and firm in decision making and to stride towards a better future. During his last stages due to criticism, he was mostly bonded at home suffering and fighting his illness and replying to the critics as: "During my career, I have tried my best to spread the light across the social and educational area, and paving the way for better teaching and different outlook, which might have shocked some of the readers who were unaware of the historical facts, legends and heritage that are made available in hundreds spread across many libraries and stores. When these things are put up in the columns of the newspaper, the readers might find it strange, even though these have been mentioned previously in plenty of religious and traditional books". Abdulla was from the working class as mentioned by his friend Ali Al Sharqawi in his description about the sufferings of Abdulla since they were in Gudaibiya in the year 1956, he noted that in one of his essays with the title "Abdulla the biased novelist who tortured the earth". Abdulla is one of the hard working people and maybe it's not a coincidence that he is one who was interested and worried regarding the working class, he lived and grew up on his father's efforts who worked hard for the survival of the family, and it's not a coincidence that his friends and relatives who used to play draughts with him and who were from the same category where they lived in the same area and also suffered in the same manner. Although he was surrounded by huts built with wood and trees around him, he was lucky enough to live in a house built by clay. So from here onwards, Abdulla started to write about the destitute and downtrodden, which was exactly expressing the way Abdulla lived and the poor people's atmosphere which looked almost similar to the atmosphere where he was raised between its playgrounds, sea and the huts that moved from west to the east are of fire.

Khalifa was very much affected with his mother's character and his eldest sister Mariam who passed away earlier. She had in fact a big role in building her brother's character, and she always told her brother that he would be an important person with a great role some day in future. Abdulla started working in the early seventies 1972 with a story named (the bread) where he avoided following the classical manner of story writing that other writers do, so as soon as he started his journey, he drew a clear different path than others; so he expressed about Bahrain's ideology and consecrated it in short stories apart from the character's emotional description, which where most of the time used as codes the writer used represent on the hero of his stories. In the year 1988, four of his novels and two of his stories were issued. Whereas in the 90's he issued more and more of his novels.

The novelist never gave up women, and was always supporting her through his writings, novels and short stories; in addition, his name was related in many boards and forums in his respect for women. He is a role model to those who stood with the women in the most complicated cases. He was honored by Sheikha Mai Al Khalifa the minister of education on his educational and national work. Certainly, the departure of this novelist Abdulla Khalifa will leave a big space behind him and the books as well as the newspaper will miss his special writings.



Workers (News) Agency

Tunisia

UTT Takes Part In China Meeting

Ali Al Dhawe, head of external relations in UTT took part in the meeting which was held in China. The meeting gathered many Unionists from various countries, including the general secretary of (ICATU), where they explored ways to promote the trade union relations and the role of Chinese Unions in developing the economist aspect.



UTT Demands Wage Increases

UTT held a meeting to discuss and review the trade union situation in Tunisia. It condemned the government position, where it refused to negotiate the wages increase in the public sector.

Strike on 16th and 17th October

The labour Union in Venoo Company, which is member of Union Des Travailleurs De Tunisie (UTT), organized a strike on 16th and 17th of October. The "Palace Tunisia" Union also decided to go on strike for 3 days; 17-18-19 October demanding the return of the dismissed workers.

Morocco

Taxi Drivers Strike in Casablanca



Taxi Drivers in Casablanca organized a protest against the marginalisation of their demands. Moroccan transport professionals Union, called on the strike, it said «We reject the Government system and we demand for the allocation of large taxi parking in front of hotels».

The Moroccan Government Will Issue a Strike law Soon

Minister of employment and Social Affairs said that the Moroccan Government intends to issue new law of the strike soon, without giving a specific date for it. He added that «the current and previous Constitution stipulates that the law and the right to strike are guaranteed.»

National Strike in Morocco

Morocco's three largest labour unions: the Moroccan Labour Union (UMT), Democratic Labour Confederation (CDT) and Democratic Federation of Labour (FDT) have called for a national strike in the public and private sectors to protest against government reforms of pensions, where it is seeking to increase the retirement age to 65 and expand the number of years of contributions for pensions.

Egypt

33 Percent of Workers Lost Their Jobs

The report which was issued by the Egyptian Ministry of Planning said that despite of the continuous unemployment rating which was last year 13.3%, the percentage of workers who lost their jobs rose from 23.5% to 33.4%. The report even showed that the unemployment rose among males for up to 50.3% compared to 38% during the same period.

"Viber" Workers on Strike In Alexandria

The workers in Alexandria, "Viber" Company are on strike since 40 days due to the liquidation of the company which resulted in the dismissal of hundreds of employees in the company. The workers demanded the President, Prime Minister and Ministry of Industry to intervene in order to avoid displacing hundreds of workers in the company through re-scheduling the debts and merge with the public sector.

Create A Political Wing For The Trade Union Organization



The Chairman of the union workers Jabbaly Al Muraghi confirmed that he is looking forward in creating a political wing for the trade union organization, and this requires the candidates to support the workers in the upcoming House of Representatives.

Egypt

Egyptian Workers Demand The Return Of The Dismissed Workers

The Egypt campaign demanded the Prime Minister not to politicize the workers demand, to work on adopting their demands through the trade union organizations and the General Federation of Trade Unions of Egypt and not to be ignored by the Ministry of Labour. The campaign stressed the need to meet the demands of the workers to return of the workers.

The Death Of Egyptian Worker In Jordan



An Egyptian construction worker (38 yrs.) died after falling from a 20m building while working. The sources pointed out that the ambulance team provided the necessary first aid and then rushed him to the hospital where he died.

Third Death of a Worker Digging Through the Suez Canal

A digging worker in the new Suez Canal died at work. A source said that Basil Mohamed Mahmud aged about 30 years was standing on the edge of the drill path, from where he fell on a stone and injured his head due to which he died before arriving to the hospital.

Sudan

Teachers Strike In Darfur

The strike by the teacher's union in the east of Darfur entered its 4th week after the government's effort which failed in resolving the crisis caused by the financial arrears accumulated since 2011 amounted to 3 million pounds. Mohammed El-Zeina union member said that the state government had promised to pay the teacher's arrears but they failed to do so.

An Emergency Meeting to Resolve the Unpaid Wages Issue

The General Federation of Trade Unions of Sudan Workers conducted a meeting with the Ministry of Finance to discuss about the budget of 2015 and to increase the wages, and to hold an emergency meeting with the executive offices.

The First Forum of Leadership for the Women of Sudanese Union Women

In Khartoum, the first forum of leadership for the women of Sudanese union was concluded. The forum discussed about the difficulties faced by the Sudanese women in the union and the ways to enable the women to engage in the political and economic field along with the participation in trade union.

Jordan

Protect the Women at Work

The ILO plans to make a new agreement in November, to set standards for protecting the working women against any violence at the workplace, the local and regional women's organizations and unions are seeking to persuade the government to accept this agreement. Furthermore, they are stressing on the importance of expanding the working women's protection.

Dismiss 157 Workers

The public electricity workers union warned the consequences of Board of Directors of the Central Electricity Generating Company's decision to dismiss 157 workers. The union said that they will take all the necessary actions that would preserve the rights of workers of the company. The head of the union Ali Al Hadid pointed that despite the company's profits, the company started dismissing the workers.

More Than 11,000 Workers Arrested

Jordan's Ministry of Labour announced that more than 23149 Egyptian workers who were working illegally since the beginning of this year were arrested; including 11277 Egyptians (half of the total Violators), 10093 Syrian, and the rest included various other nationalities.

Lebanon

The new salary system will affect low

The General Confederation of Lebanese Workers (CGTL) refused the implementing of the new salary system which will affect the low-income families and workers. He added it is justice system especially for retirees, contractors, security and public administration.

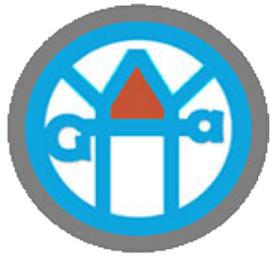
Engineers Union contributes in the reconstruction of the Gaza



The delegation of the Lebanese Engineers Union issued a cheque (\$ 420,000) for the Palestinian Embassy in Lebanon as a support and contribution in the reconstruction of the Gaza Strip.

TMA workers in strike

The General Confederation of Lebanese Workers (CGTL) affirmed that he will stand by the TMA workers until receiving their salary. He rejected any prejudice to the continuity of work in these. He called on the Ministry to «intervene immediately and put an end for this issue, which has affected more than 150 workers.



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Gulf Worker

Port workers in strike

The Labour Union in Kuwait ports went on strike which resulted in stopping the work in the sectors g for 8 hours. The chairman of the Union said "the workers have succeeded their strike, but the Minister did not respond to their demands and this will led the workers to protest every day until the minister meet their demand.

Meeting with Communist Party

A delegation of the (G.F.IW) met the General Secretary of the Iraqi Communist Party on 16/10/2014, the President of the General Union, Ali Rahim gave a detailed explanation about the latest developments in trade union action about its interventions in the internal affairs, moreover, some attempts to undermine the Iraqi trade union movement and spoil the global reputation as well as destroy the interests of the national history.

About 114000 Palestinian workers earn low salaries



The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) revealed that around 114000 Palestinian in the private sector earn low salaries.

UAE confirms commitment to continuous of protection for domestic workers

United Arab Emirates responded to the statement issued by Human Rights Watch (HRW) about the mistreatment of domestic workers and added that the report was based on a small group of workers."

Competition to secure the position of ICATU

The Board of Directors of the Egyptian Union headed by Jebali Maraghi decided to nominate Mohammed Wahab-Allah for the position of General Secretary for the (ICATU) that the nominations for this position have been closed, where only three candidates applied including the Egyptian candidate Mohamed Wahab-Allah, the Algerian Tele Ashour and the Libyan Rajab Matouk .

Celebration of the World Action Day



Many of the countries of the Arab world responded to the call of the World Federation of Trade Unions WFTU, to celebrate the World Action Day and had organized sit-ins, marches and demonstration against the unemployment where they demanded the importance of providing decent work.

A worker was injured in SA

An accident in Saudi Arabia, caused a partial collapse of the western side of one of the commercial complexes in Saudi Arabia. One of the workers was injured, as well as some of the nearby vehicles got damaged. Upon receiving the call, the civil defense team moved to the location, and noted that the partial collapse resulted in minor injury.

Labour 22

Seminar about "The Severance Pay"



The Board of Labour Union in Kuwait Oil Tanker Company said that he will organize a seminar on "the severance pay" in the oil sector, in order to raise the workers awareness and to protect their rights after retiring..

A field visit by the delegation of (G.F.I.W)

A delegation of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Iraqi workers led by, the President Ali Rahim and the Vice President Hadi Ali, recently visited the global unions in Iraq's provinces, to learn about the actions taken by the trade union in order to defend the rights and interests of the workers , ensure their future and the freedom of trade union organization and the trade union movement away from self-interests .

Palestinian Worker Injured In Accident

A Palestinian worker was injured in accident while working. He was taken to the hospital and the sources informed that his health condition was stable.

One killed and 2 injured in Dubai



An Asian worker died and two others were critically injured due to the sudden fall of the lift at the work site under construction. The injured were transferred to the hospital. The work was suspended in order to ensure that all safety standards are implemented properly.

Oposing the health rule project

The national Committee of the health workers following the Union Federation of Algeria opposed the new rule of health, stating that they refused this rule as it does not have the consensus of all, cannot respond to workers aspirations, does not assure the patients protection and health and does not give the liberty to get the treatment at any time or any place.

The death of five workers in a fire at a fireworks factory

The Indian police announced the death of 5 workers, where 4 others were injured as a result of a fire at the fireworks factory in South of India. The fire started during lunch break in the factory in Vakatiba's Village. Some sources said that the firework factory lacks minimum safety standards.

The death of a health worker in Germany due to «Ebola»



A hospital in Germany announced the death of a health worker as a result of "Ebola". Where the worker traveled to Liberia along with the medical staff and died despite receiving intensive medical care.

Kuwait OIL Company: reducing salary in the oil sector will create crises

Chairman of the Labour Union in Kuwait OIL Company condemned the new salary strategy which is called "the alternative strategy", he said "it will create a big crisis and it is unacceptable to standardize the workers' salaries in all sectors because the salaries of oil sectors will decrees.

Iraq's Union workers received the delegation of Egyptian Workers



The Iraq's Union general federation, headed by Star Dabnos on Tuesday 21 October received the Egyptian delegation of workers to discuss ways to strengthen the Egyptian and Iraqi relations in respect to the trade union.

Palestinians Banned From Israeli Public Transport System

Israeli defence minister has given orders to ban Palestinian workers from using Israeli public transportation services. He asked the civil administration to prepare for the change by informing Palestinian workers and offering them an alternate transportation.

Worker Falls to Death in Sharjah

An Indian worker fell to his death from a building under construction in Sharjah. Sharjah Police rushed to the accident site and it was concluded that the worker had died as a result of the critical injuries after falling from the 28 floor.

Algeria creates its first union for policeman



The Ministry of Interior announced the creation of the union, and this was done after hundreds of Algerian policemen stopped the sit-in of workers which had started on 15th Oct in front of the presidential palace after which the government pledged to fulfill all the demands to improve their occupational status.

Trade unions in Italy calls for strike

Italian trade unions called for a general strike against the government of Matteo Renzi, Causing chaos in major cities because of disrupting all kinds of transport. The Italian trade unions said that it is seeking to amend Article 18 of the order of the workers which provide the unjust dismissal of the workers, noting that the protests were affecting the public transport causing traffic jams.

Aden workers carrying out angry



A number of workers in Aden were protesting angrily on Sunday 19/10/2014 in demand of their financial dues that have not been received from months, in favoritism to some workers at the expense of others. The protested workers demanded the need for reforms in the institution.

Kuwait

Iraq

Palestine

Emirates

Algeria

The world

The world



Union Highlights

An ex-manager of Alba, as revenge, ordered to delete the names of Alba safety coordinators and restricted them from participating in the Conference of Gulf safety for Aluminum. It's worth mentioning that the hotel bookings that had been made a few days ago were reduced in order to cut down the number of participants from Alba.

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A political party is trying to damage the reputation of the CEO of Bahrain Mumtalakat Holding Company, Mahmud Al Koheji, by issuing fake statements that are attributed to him in order to block the sixth line project in Alba.

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One of the labour federations is facing criticism from the political society that resulted in following the withdrawal from the International Confederation of Arab Trade Union (ICATU) and establish an independent Federation of Arab-Israel as a substitute for it.

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A political party criticized the National Institutions for Human Rights, for signing a memorandum of agreement with the Alba Labour Union. The response of the National institution to the political party was more than enough.

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The current minister in agreement with a political society demands to extract BHD 200,000 in the favor of the fake federation in return to support the Free Federation (BFLUF)

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In one of the events of the fake federation, it ordered the companies to pay BHD 330 for each participant and for a minimum of 3 participants, to pay as loyalty for the political party. This federation has collected almost BHD 27,000 from the fake event. This money will be used to fund the political opposition who are following the fake federation.



Pensioners and their National Federation

By: Ghazi Al Hamar

There is no need to highlight the economic or social living conditions of pensioners, nor the destiny which they are facing or the harsh conditions in which they are living, due to their low wages when confronted with the rising cost of living, and also we don't have to mention that as long as we have law to dismiss a worker in return to a very low compensation along with the economic interests to head towards privatization, there is no wonder that this will increase the number of the retirees in a short time, when the Social Insurance Fund faces a fiscal deficit (financial shortage). May be this explains the slow process of the unification of pension benefits and the process of choosing the best of them to dissolve the differences between the private and the public sector. This move is still unstable to this date. So, from what has been previously mentioned, we conclude that a group of factors, circumstances and legislations are pushing toward the opposite direction to improve the conditions of retirees who are a vital part and whose number is increasing in the society, especially now that the early retirement process receives encouragement from the official authorities. The question which is raised here is, "why such a big group in the community remains far from decision-making process and remains outside the circle of representation in the Social Security Fund Management?!!" Why can't they take part in fateful decisions as regards to their insurance money as contributors and participants in the insurance fund after long years of serious work? Does this important group of our community have the right to gather under one representative union which can protect their rights, fulfill their ambitions and hopes, or may be enhance their gains and improve their living conditions? In fact, from many government officials we do hear of sparkling remarks from here and there promising to improve the retiree's living conditions. But in reality, we see that even their right to form an unions is taken away. We do remember the position of the Ministry of Labour; on the day they put the foundation stone to create The National Union of the Bahrain pensioners (NUBP). Despite the fact that their founding Conference was held under the patronage of many unions and International Federations which came to participate and to endure the retirees' will to create their union, which is in line with many of the western nations in unleashing the retirees' determination to create and organize their union and its representatives, and the introduction of the national legislations which organize and motivate this. So, what is the role of the Ministry of Labour on this subject? Why did the ministry of labour not participate in the founding conference despite receiving an official invitation? Was it a burden on their budget? Isn't it shameful that although many of the international and Arabic unions and federations came to participate while the Ministry didn't bother itself to meet them even out of courtesy? Does that not mean that the Ministry of Labour opposes the National Union of the Bahraini Pensioners (NUBP) without any reason? And if its reason is that there are no legal legislative for creating a Pensioners' union, then it is enough to know that it is one of its assignments and duties to update the legislative proposal so that the retirees will not be left or forgotten under the mercy of the legislative void. This is a fact which is open to everyone and we need to deal with it and not let it remain just as an agenda or as slogans on the election campaigns of candidates, or to ignore the fate of the retirees by the responsible authorities, led by the Ministry of Labour and escape from dealing with it seriously. Nothing shall stop the pensioners from proceeding towards achieving their goal of supporting and maintaining their union, representing in the National Union, which was founded by the strong determination of their brotherly unionists, and this struggle is part of working class to realize their ultimate goals.