



Iranian Workers' Solidarity Network  
شبکه همبستگی کارگری

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11 بهن ۱۳۸۴

نامه اعتراضی آلن وودز دبیر سراسری کمیته برای بین الملل مارکسیستی  
به احمدی نژاد در باره دستگیری های اخیر کارگران ایران و منصور اسانلو



Mahmoud Ahmadinejad  
President  
The Presidency  
Palestine Avenue, Azerbaijan Intersection  
Tehran  
Islamic Republic of Iran

31 January 2006

Mr President

I write to bring to your attention to the violent outcome of a peaceful strike in Tehran on Saturday 30 January. The strike by the workers of the Vahed Bus Company of Tehran and Suburbs was with the following basic demands:

- For the release of Mr Ossanlou and their other leaders,
- signing a collective contract,
- union recognition,
- for better pay and conditions.

Instead of granting these demands the authorities in Tehran have further escalated the cycle of violence that began in May 2005 - when 'Labour House' and 'Islamic Labour Council' members were allowed to attack the Vahed activists trying to set up an independent trade union. During this attack, which was led by the Secretary of the 'Islamic Labour Council', an attempt was made to cut out the tongue of Mr Ossanlou (the leader of the union). Many of the trade union activists were injured and their office was ransacked by these government-sanctioned 'labour' officials.

This time the attack on the union began in the workers' homes! On the night before the strike the security forces attacked their homes and even took some of their wives and young children into custody. On the day riot police, factory security, uniformed and plain clothes officers, were used to

beat and intimidate drivers back to work. Hundreds of arrests were made, including students from various universities in Tehran who had gone to Area 6 to support the workers.

I hope that you can bring the authority of your office to put pressure on the relevant police and security bodies to release all arrested workers, their families, students and other supporters. I believe that they should be released immediately and unconditionally. I trust that you can also assist in dropping all charges against all workers and students.

I look forward to hearing about your positive intervention in this regard in the international media.

Yours sincerely

Alan Woods

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**Dr Mahmoud Ahmadinejad**

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Please send a copy of your protest letters to:

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