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Aan: Veerle Solia
Onderwerp: Equal Times newsletter: Turkey, Pakistan, Fiji and more



= THE WEB OF REPRESSION

What does a French-Algerian footballer in Doha have to do with a Pakistani teacher in Islamabad? And what do tear-gassed labour activists in Istanbul have in common with assaulted workers in Suva, Fiji? This edition of the Equal Times newsletter comes out just a few days after International Workers Day. Even though it comes 127 years after [workers in Chicago died](#) to ensure the eight-hour work day, we are still a long way off from celebrating universal labour and human rights. In Turkey, those marching on May Day and protesting against new anti-union measures were attacked by the police, leaving over 200 injured.

This happened while a French-Algerian footballer threatened to go on hunger strike to reclaim his documents and escape from Qatar with his family; meanwhile, a young Pakistani teacher struggles to ensure girls' education for even the poorest members of her community; and elsewhere, workers try to organise and oppose the regime in Fiji.

What's at stake, in all these stories, are the fundamental rights to organise, to freedom of movement, to an education. What's at stake, simply, is democracy.

Vittorio Longhi
Editor

= HIGHLIGHTS



TURKEY: BREAKING DOWN THE BARRICADES

Posted on May 2, 2013

On 1 May, workers in Istanbul came under a brutal police attack that left over 200 injured. They were asking for core trade union rights and better working conditions. ITUC Secretary General Sharan Burrow reports from the frontline.

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QATAR: FRENCH FOOTBALLER THREATENS HUNGER STRIKE UNLESS FREED

Posted on April 26, 2013

As we launch a new campaign telling Fifa to Rerun the Vote for the 2022 World Cup, a French-Algerian football player trapped in Qatar reveals his plight to Equal Times.

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PAKISTAN: THE WOMEN AND GIRLS WHO WON'T STOP GOING TO SCHOOL

Posted on April 22, 2013

Chand Bibi runs a one-room informal school for girls in a slum on the outskirts of Pakistan's capital city, Islamabad. She explains why, against all odds, she continues to fight for girls' education.

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= CAMPAIGN

DESTINATION FIJI: A VACATION FROM WORKERS' RIGHTS



Thought Fiji was paradise? Think again.

Since a military dictatorship led by Commodore Frank Bainimarama seized power of the South Pacific island nation in 2006, human and workers' rights have been under attack. Over 60 per cent of Fijian wage earners now live below the poverty line, many workers earn less than \$3 an hour, and those speaking out against the regime are threatened and assaulted. Join the international call

for change today and help the people of Fiji get their paradise back.

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= COMING SOON

PALESTINE: FISHERMAN UNDER FIRE

In February, Israel reduced the fishing zone for Palestinians in Gaza from six to three miles following a rocket attack. Since then, despite complying with the new order, Palestinian fisherman have been under attack from Israeli gunboats. We report on the situation from Gaza.

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