



# NEWSLETTER

June 2018

## MUSAWA Calls for Holding Decision-Makers Accountable for Repressing Peaceful Demonstrations



MUSAWA express their deep concern and shock at the passiveness of decision makers regarding the severe assault against the citizens participating in the peaceful demonstration held on 13/06/2018 in Ramallah to express their opinion on an issue which concerns the general public. The assault involved physical and psychological harassment against women; dragging and deliberate bodily harm inflicted on dozens of citizens, who had to be transferred to hospital due to their injury; detaining dozens of the demonstrators; and firing gas and sound bombs at the crowd by members of the security services and others in civilian clothing.

MUSAWA is shocked to witness the recurring suppression of peaceful movements -by security forces and others in civilian clothing, as what happened in Ramallah- against citizens who were fed up with the division and its repercussions, leading them to arrange a peaceful demonstration in Gaza to express their opinion, only to be suppressed and to have their basic right violated.

MUSAWA is extremely traumatized by the level of violence and the excessive, reprehensible, and condemnable use of force by official bodies; assaults with batons, tear gas, sound bombs, severe beatings, and the detention of dozens of citizens during their peaceful assembly to demand the lifting of sanctions against our people in Gaza at a time when the majority of world representatives raised their hands in favor of providing protection to our people.

In addition, it should be noted that Civil Society Organizations, including MUSAWA, had [demanded Dr. Rami Hamdallah, the Palestinian Prime Minister, in his capacity as Minister of Interior, and the Palestinian Police to provide the necessary protection for the demonstrators.](#)

Here is a list of the statements MUSAWA has published individually and in partnership with CSOs:

- [A Shameful Night ... The Government Suppresses Peaceful Demonstration with Violence. The security forces, in uniform and civilian clothing, repress the peaceful assembly "Lift the Sanctions against Gaza" by force, and detain a number of demonstrators.](#)
- [MUSAWA's Statement on the PA's Suppression of "Lift the Sanctions against Gaza" Demonstration.](#)
- [MUSAWA's Statement on Suppressing Peaceful Demonstration in Gaza.](#)
- [Urgent Demands to Apologize to Citizens and Hold the Perpetrators Accountable.](#)

Furthermore, the media published [article 1](#) & [article 2](#) on MUSAWA's position in this regard.

## MUSAWA Organizes Training Course: “Arbitration as an Alternative to Dispute Resolution”



On 28/06/2018, MUSAWA conducted a training in arbitration as an alternative solution for resolving disputes. The training was held at MUSAWA's office in Ramallah for lawyers who are licensed as well as those who are still under training. Seventeen lawyers, including 10 women, received the training. At the end of the workshop, they recommended that more trainings of this kind be conducted, as there are certain topics which trainee lawyers do not get the chance to expand their knowledge on during the period of their training. The training was facilitated by Dr. Mohammad Abu Rmeileh.



## MUSAWA Withdraws from the Civic Coalition for the Reform and Protection of the Judiciary

As of 24/06/2018, MUSAWA announces its withdrawal from the Civic Coalition for the Reform and Protection of the Judiciary, in expression of our rejection of the work methodology of individualism by some of the Coalition's members, given that they did not abide by the common standards of teamwork which naturally requires that a mutual agreement be reached in advance regarding all measures to be taken.

## Legal Memos

10/06/2018 – [memo](#) about “the failure to implement a judicial ruling in violation of the Basic Law, the Judicial Authority Law, and the Anti-Corruption Law”, sent to the Anti-Corruption Commission in response to a complaint MUSAWA had received from a citizen after the competent authorities had failed to implement a final ruling in his favor.

20/06/2018 – [memo](#) to the President about the offensive statements of Nablus' governor, which contained verbal threats and inappropriate words in violation of the rights of Palestinian citizens and their human dignity.

## Position Paper

05/06/2018 – [MUSAWA Warns of Deciding to Change the Name of the Security Committee Instead of Dissolving It.](#)

## MUSAWA's Interventions

During June, MUSAWA received five complaints: 1) the failure to implement a judicial ruling rendered by the High Court of Justice; 2) falling short of the duties ought to be performed by the Police and Public Prosecution; 3) detention and beating of a lawyer; 4) arbitrariness in investigation by a Deputy-Prosecutor; 5) inadequate procedures issued by the Public Prosecution, which led to causing damage to the complainant.

MUSAWA sent a legal memo to the Anti-Corruption Commission regarding the first complaint, and gave legal advice on the second complaint. In terms of the rest of the complaints, MUSAWA will meet with the Attorney General in Gaza, Adviser Dia' Al-Din Madhoun, to follow-up on these complaint.

## MUSAWA's Mobile Legal Clinic

Strengthening its oversight role on the performance of the justice sector and raising the awareness of marginalized groups about their rights, as well as building the capacities of young lawyers and law students, MUSAWA along with its volunteers' network conducted awareness workshops in the Gaza Strip (Deir Al-Balah, Al-Zawaideh, and Al-Maghazi). Legal advice was given mainly on matters related to the Personal Status Law, marriage contracts, and the Palestinian child rights. The number of beneficiaries reached 70, including 31 women and 10 students.



## Radio Interviews

- 05/06/2018 – [“What does the dissolution of the Supreme Security Committee Actually Mean on the Ground?”](#) / Mawwal FM.
- 03/06/2018 – [MUSAWA's Intervention Stops Issuance of Decision Threatening Fate of UNRWA Students in Gaza](#) / Alam FM.
- 03/06/2018 – [Even Children Get Detained upon Orders from Governors!](#) / Alam FM.
- 10/06/2018 – [Death Penalty](#) / Alam FM.
- 22/06/2018 – [The High Judicial Council Convenes against the Law, and Statements of a Judge Offensive to CSOs](#) / Mawwal FM.

## Other Activities

**Participating in a meeting with EU representatives** on 20/06/2018 about the reality of human rights and justice in Palestine, following the day of the opening of the new EUPOL COPPS headquarters in Ramallah. MUSAWA had met with a group of European researchers on 04/06/2018 to discuss the justice sector's most important issues. MUSAWA was represented by its General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi.

**Taking part in a workshop about minimum wage levels**, at the invitation of the Palestinian Working Women Society for Development. The workshop was held at Al-Carmel Hotel in Ramallah on 06/06/2018. MUSAWA was represented by the Legal Training & Awareness Officer Shurooq Abu-Qare' and the Monitoring & Evaluation Officer Ruba Bakeer.

**Giving a lecture as part of a training program on the performance of the judiciary for members of the Public Prosecution.** The lecture was held on 26/06/2018, and was facilitated by MUSAWA's General Manager, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi.

**Participating in the activities of the opening ceremony of the Fourth General Conference of the Union of Postal Service Workers - Palestine**, which was held under the title "Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Palestine" on 29/06/2018. MUSAWA was represented by its Legal Monitoring Officer, Adv. Angham Mansour.

