

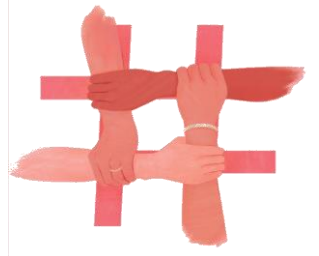


# NEWSLETTER

November | 2019

## MUSAWA Supports the Picket of Former Prisoners Deprived Of Their Salaries

Acting from its principles based on justice, equality and the rejection of discrimination, MUSAWA- the Palestinian Center for the Independence of The Judiciary and the Legal Profession has issued a position paper, in which it calls for establishing a climate of freedom, where the rights to citizenship, human dignity, and equality in duties and rights are protected and guaranteed, by responding to the protesters' demand to cash their paychecks suspended since 2013, by implementing the Prisoners Law No. 19 (2004), and by adhering to the principles of the Basic Law and Human Rights, in order to remedy any physical harm that could affect the protesters, who have been on a hunger strike for 20 days now, not to mention that on Thursday, six of them has shut off water intake, while others threatened to burn themselves along with their families in the event of failure to comply with their legitimate demands, raising the alarm and making the immediate response a maximum priority that does not accept any postponement or ignorance. [Read More.](#)



## MUSAWA Condemns Placing Two Judges Under investigation for Expressing Opinions



As part of the Palestinian Body, MUSAWA- the Palestinian Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession has joined the cyber storm ignited after placing two judges under investigation in connection with expressing their opinions on matters of public interest. Such treatment reveals the policy and vision adopted by the Transitional Council concerning the judges' scope of freedom and limits imposed over their professional execution of duties, turning judges into service officers, and depriving their work of its judicial nature, which is hardly surprising, given that this result is a natural extension of the policies followed by the successive judicial administrations codified in 2005, when the current president of the Transitional Council was occupying the presidency of the High Judicial Council. [Read More.](#)

## MUSAWA and Lawyers for Justice Organize Workshop Entitled “Guarantees of Fair Trial in Cases of Freedom of Opinion and Expression”

In collaboration with Lawyers for Justice, MUSAWA organized a workshop on the guarantees of fair trial in cases of freedom of opinion and expression. The workshop was held on 6/11/2019 at MUSAWA’s office in Ramallah, and it was attended by 13 lawyers, 11 among them were female lawyers. The training material was presented by the lawyers for Justice’ members, Adv. Mohannad Karajah and Thafer Sa’aydah, who jointly introduced the definition of the fair trial guarantees, their essence, regulations, legal and constitutional grounds, and the available approaches to remedy any violations committed against those guarantees. After that, the instructors extensively introduced the prisoners’ rights from the moment of apprehension through to trial. The workshop material was communicated through elaborating videos and examples from the real life practice. [Read more](#).



### Position Papers | Legal Memos | Legal Interventions

6/11/2019 – [Legal Memo](#) sent to the Head of the Judicial Inspection Department at the Sharia High Judicial Council in Gaza, entitled “Observations On the Judicial Professionalism of the Sharia Judicial System in Gaza”.

13/11/2019 – Reminder sent to Mr. Prime Minister concerning MUSAWA’s [memo](#) entitled “The Right to Citizenship is a Constitutional Right that Shall Not Be Restricted Nor Prejudiced”.

19/11/2019 – [Position Paper](#) entitled “Do Former Palestinian Prisoners Need to Set themselves on Fire to Achieve Their Demands?”

### MUSAWA’s Interventions

During November, MUSAWA received two memos regarding 1) [The abuse of power and position](#); 2) [Unlawful detention, torture and ill-treatment](#). Based on which, MUSAWA sent two legal memos to the competent authorities.



## Mobile Legal Clinic

Strengthening its oversight role on the performance of the justice sector and raising the awareness of marginalized groups about their rights and the available mechanisms to attain them, MUSAWA, along with its volunteering groups and partner CBOs, conducted 5 workshops in the West Bank (Al-Mghayyer Secondary Schools for Boys and Girls, The Bedouin Compound of Arab Al-Jhalin) and in the Gaza Strip (Gaza's Co-School), on the following topics: [CEDAW and bullying among children](#), [Cyber Crimes in Palestine](#), [Women Rights and an Introduction to Gender](#). 157 participants attended the aforementioned workshops, 107 of them were women. On the margins of these workshops, several legal consultations were provided to the participants.



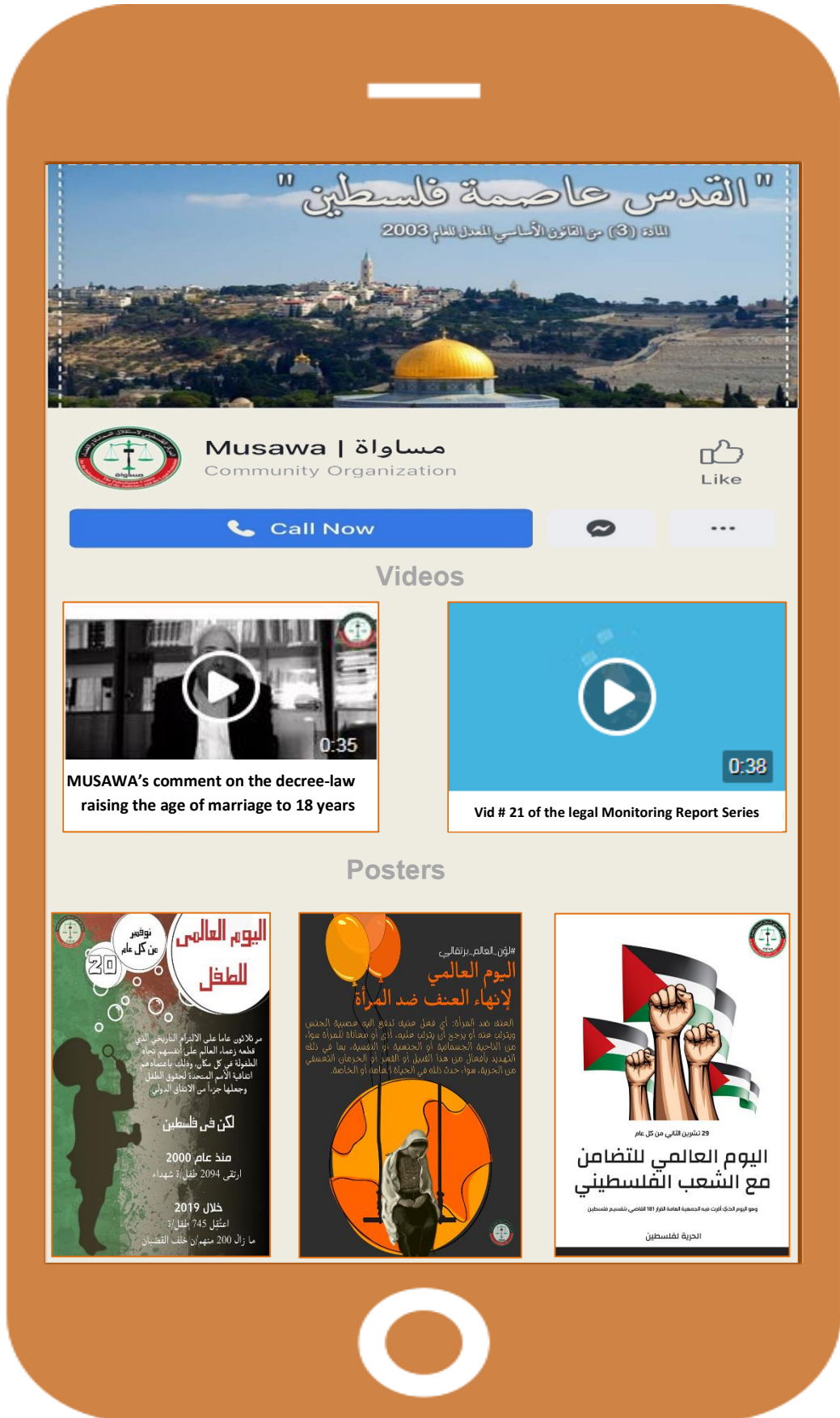
## Field Visits to the Pillars of Justice

In cooperation with the Lawyers for the Rule of Law Group (friends of MUSAWA), a series of field visits to the pillars of justice in the Gaza Strip was carried out, including the New Magistrate Court in Gaza, the Justice Palace, the Court of North Gaza, the Sharia Judiciary Bureau, Deir Al-Balah Municipal Court, and the office of the Attorney General, as part of MUSAWA's role in monitoring and documenting violations in promotion of the rule of law principle.



As part of an event held by MUSAWA's executive and administrative teams in Gaza, MUSAWA's Office was "oranged" in support of the 16-day campaign on violence against women.







Attending the final session on adopting the national cross-sectoral strategy to promote integrity and fight corruption 2020-2022. The session was held on 28/11/2019, and MUSAWA was represented by the Legal Monitoring Officer, Adv. Angham Mansour.

On 6 November, Wattan News Agency published An Article written by MUSAWA's GA member, Mohammad Khader, addressing the judges' freedom to express their views on matters of public interest. Press [here](#) to access the article.

Participating in a discussion session held on 26/11/2019, on the pensions of political officials and their impact on the state treasury.

Attending the civil society institutions meeting on the preparation for the fifth meeting of the community-based consultations to reform the Justice System.



Attending a training session on "Individual complaints procedures under international human rights conventions". The session was held on 18/11/2019, and MUSAWA was represented by the Legal Monitoring Officer, Adv. Angham Mansour.

Participating in a workshop held by Al-Haq Organization on the humanitarian international law under the Palestinian context. The workshop was held on 4-5/11/2019, and MUSAWA was represented by the Legal Awareness & Training Officer, Adv. Shurooq Abu-Qare'.



Attending the meeting of the European Parliament's Subcommittee on Human Rights on 14/11/2019. MUSAWA was represented by the General Director, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi.

Attending a round-table session on the legal aid in Palestine. The session was held on 27/11/2019, and MUSAWA by the Legal Monitoring Officer, Adv. Angham Mansour.



On 30 November, Wattan News Agency published An Article written by Dr. Issam Abdeen on the attempts to amend the Judicial Authority Act, including a commentary written by MUSAWA's General Director, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi. Press [here](#) to access the article.

The General Director, Adv. Ibrahim Barghouthi, and the Executive Director, Ahlam Tarayra, have visited Gaza to participate in a meeting to elect members of the expert committee of the project of strengthening the civil society efforts to support the reconciliation process, which is implemented in partnership with Sawasva II.

MUSAWA's Partners  
2019



The Netherlands Representative  
Office to the Palestinian Authority