



جمعية حماية العمال الوافدين
Migrant Workers Protection Society
(MWPS)

MIGRANT VOICE

EMPOWERING COMMUNITY

NEWSLETTER | VOLUME 01 | EDITION 11 | NOVEMBER 2024

MISSION STATEMENT

**TO CREATE A COMMUNITY
WHERE EXPATRIATE
RIGHTS ARE PROTECTED
AND TO RAISE AWARENESS
OF THESE RIGHTS AND
RESPONSIBILITIES**

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FROM THE CHAIRPERSON...

As I was driving the other day, I noticed a migrant worker sitting by the side of the road, enjoying the weather and speaking to his family on a video call. The smile on his face was genuine and heartwarming, a testament to the small yet significant moments of happiness that connect us all, no matter where we are.

These smiles are incredibly important. They remind us of the human connections that sustain us and the shared experiences that bind us together. Every smile, every moment of joy, reflects the resilience and spirit of our migrant community, who contribute so much to our society.

At the Migrant Workers Protection Society (MWPS), we are committed to nurturing an environment where these smiles can flourish. We strive to create a community where every migrant worker feels valued, supported, and connected.

As we move through November, let us take the time to celebrate these moments of happiness and acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our migrant workers. Together, we can build a more inclusive and supportive community, where every individual can thrive and every smile can shine brightly.

Thank you for your continued dedication and support. Let's continue to work together to make a positive impact.

MONA ALMOAYYED

CHAIRPERSON, MIGRANT WORKERS PROTECTION SOCIETY

"Do not mention me.
Thanks is not needed.
Just pay it forward."

FAROUK ALMOAYYED (LATE)
CHAIRMAN

Y K ALMOAYYED GROUP OF COMPANIES





SPOTLIGHT

EDITORIAL

MEET THE TEAM

Get to know the exceptional individuals behind the MWPS scenes in this segment.



#teammwps

PASSION FOR ADVOCACY

JOSEPH MULLEAGUE

Joe has been a member of the Migrant Workers Protection Society for six years. Prior to formally joining, he participated in fundraising initiatives to support the society's vital mission. His involvement with MWPS began through his activity with the Labour Safety and Welfare Group, where he assisted with Labour Camp distributions.

He was born in the UK to Irish parents and has had the privilege of working in a range of countries before moving to Bahrain in 2006. His teaching career has taken him to the UK, the Czech Republic, Brunei, and Thailand. At St Christopher's School in Bahrain, he serves as a Senior School Art teacher and is the school's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Lead, fostering an inclusive and supportive community. His wife, Kerrie, also works at the school, and together they have two sons, Louis and Cormac, who are currently studying in the UK.

Being part of the MWPS allows Joe to align his passion for social justice and advocacy with tangible actions that support the well-being of Bahrain's migrant worker community.

On November 25, we bid farewell to Farouk Almoayyed, a towering figure in the business world who passed away at 80. For those of us in the expatriate community, his kind-hearted nature and humility left an indelible mark. I vividly remember his swift action in providing financial assistance to a blind expatriate, showcasing his profound empathy and generosity.

Throughout my career as a journalist, I had numerous interactions with Mr Almoayyed. His genuine smile and approachability made him a beloved figure. He found joy in helping others, living by the principle of "paying it forward" without seeking recognition. His support was a testament to his commitment to the well-being of expatriates in Bahrain.

One of my fondest memories is my latest interview with Mr Almoayyed when he was honored by the Thattai Hindu Mercantile Community for his contributions. During the interview, his modesty and genuine desire to make a difference stood out. He spoke about the importance of community support and his vision for a more inclusive society.

Mr Almoayyed's life exemplifies how true generosity can transcend social and economic divides. His dedication to others, especially expatriate workers, sets a powerful example for us all. His actions align with the vision of the Migrant Workers Protection Society, which advocates for the rights and welfare of expatriates. His legacy inspires

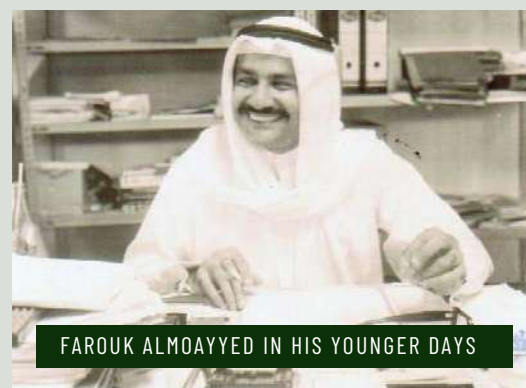
us to continue fostering a compassionate and inclusive society.

I dedicate this editorial to the fondest memories of Farouk Almoayyed, who will be sorely missed.

#RIP Sir, your kindness and humility will never be forgotten.

RAJI UNNIKRISHNAN

EDITOR - MIGRANT VOICE



FAROUK ALMOAYYED IN HIS YOUNGER DAYS

BULLETIN

HONOURING FAMILY CAREGIVERS

November is National Family Caregivers Month in US, a time dedicated to recognising the incredible contributions of over 50 million family caregivers. This observance highlights the invaluable support they provide and underscores the need for greater societal recognition and assistance.

In Bahrain, many expatriates work tirelessly as caregivers, offering crucial support to families and individuals in need. Their dedication and hard work parallel the efforts celebrated during National Family Caregivers Month. It's important to acknowledge and appreciate the significant role these expatriate caregivers play in our community, ensuring the well-being of those they care for. Just as in the US, raising awareness and providing support for these caregivers is essential for their continued success and well-being.



OUTREACH

In November, MWPS addressed numerous cases, providing crucial support and advocacy for expatriate workers in Bahrain. Highlights include five cases, four of which involved African nationals, and one involved an Indian national.

Case 01

A Nigerian worker employed in a company for two years on 12 hour shifts without overtime payment, having only minimal holidays and delays in payment of salary wanted to leave the job. However, his visa was renewed without his consent and he submitted a resignation letter. When he approached the employer for his salary pending for two months, he was asked to stop working. The employer refused to pay his pending salary and the statutory dues. He approached MWPS for assistance. MWPS guided with the procedure for resignation and also assisted him in pursuing with the court the claim for his dues.

Case 02

An Indian national was living in Bahrain with his wife and four children since 2014. Although the wife was also employed, she developed health complications during the premature birth of their twin daughters and was forced to leave her job and the sponsor filed a runaway case against her. He also lost his job and had to take up a low paying job where he was not entitled for family visa. Consequently, since 2021 the wife and children did not have a valid visa. Due to the runaway complaint the wife was not able to get another job. The family managed to get an extension of stay for the lady in July 2024. The wife had serious health issues requiring urgent surgery. Although the children had passports, they were not enrolled in the immigration system. The family was struggling to provide education for the children due to their irregular status and the financial problems. He decided to send the family home and sought assistance from the MWPS to pay the children's immigration fines. MWPS supported the family by assisting in completing the paper work for their departure, providing financial assistance to cover the immigration fines and enabling the wife and children to leave the country.

Case 03

A Cameroonian national has been stranded in Bahrain after completing a one-year employment contract with a security services company. His visa was not renewed, leaving him unemployed and without a valid visa for the past 11 months. His passport expired, preventing him from securing new employment. With limited resources, the individual faced homelessness, health issues, and a recent police case due to a dispute over unpaid rent. He had no proper accommodation or income to meet basic needs. The original sponsor agreed to cover the cost of a return flight, but the individual was in need of BD75 to obtain an out pass from the Cameroonian embassy located in Saudi Arabia. He requested assistance to cover the out-pass cost and short-term accommodation. The MWPS provided the required financial assistance and the individual successfully returned to his home country.

Case 04

A Ugandan national was wanted by the police in a runaway case filed by his employer as he was unable to secure another job following his departure from his employment. He was subsequently engaged in domestic work and his new sponsor was covering the government fees required to legalise his status. This has been facilitated with the legal assistance provided by MWPS. As of October 31, 2024, he has received a new visa and the police case against him is being resolved.

Case 05

A Cameroonian national was held in police custody after being accused as a runaway, prompting his family to seek assistance from MWPS. The case was referred to the MWPS lawyer, who attended the court hearing on November 19, 2024 and was successful in facilitating his acquittal and release.

CASH DONATION FOR A FAMILY IN NEED

A BD 250 donation from the Sri Sathya Sai Global Council was utilised to pay the immigration fine for a mother and her four children.

In November, the earth is growing quiet. It is making its bed, a winter bed for flowers and small creatures. The bed is white and silent, and much life can hide beneath its blankets.

CYNTHIA RYLANT



IN FOCUS

DONATIONS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

FOOD DONATION



Food donated by the Sri Sathya Sai Global Council, in collaboration with MWPS, benefited 51 jobless and low-salaried individuals.

WOMEN'S HEALTH IN FOCUS

The MWPS - LSW (Labour Safety & Welfare Committee) organised and conducted a Women's Health Checkup event, generously supported by American Mission Hospital (AMH) management, to provide essential healthcare services to unemployed, low-income domestic workers. Held on November 8, 2024, from 9am to 2pm at Zwemer's Clinic, AMH in Manama, the medical camp offered basic medical checks and breast cancer awareness and screening.

One of our esteemed donors, the Sri Sathya Sai Global Council generously provided delicious, cooked food packages for all beneficiaries. Hundred beneficiaries, randomly selected from various nationalities participated.



DRY RATION DISTRIBUTION



45 dry ration bags were distributed to jobless and low-paid individuals.

DONATIONS IN KIND

Dry rations were generously donated by several schools: Britus Special Education School, ASB High School, Nadeen International School, Ibn Khuldoon National School, and Quest School. These items, collected and delivered to the MWPS office, were packed into dry ration bags by MWPS members.



WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Check out our website for the link to our membership form.
Tel & WhatsApp: 00973 17827895 Email: mwpsbah2@gmail.com



www.mwpsbahrain.com