

HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

29 JANUARY - 4 FEBRUARY 2024



Human Rights are inherent to all human beings, regardless of the nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, language or any other status without discrimination. These rights are all universal, inalienable, interrelated, interdependent and indivisible.

The articles shared in this brief are the liability of their respective news outlets and do not reflect the views of CLDH.



LEBANON

Monday
29 Jan 2024

Phosphorus shells on the Dhour area in Kafr Kala

According to the National News Agency, the Dhour area in the town of Kafr Kala was under Israeli shelling with phosphorus shells, on January 29, 2024.

Protest in Shatila refugee camp rejects the suspension of UNRWA funding

According to the National News Agency, the Popular Committee in Shatila refugee camp rallied in front of the UNRWA clinic in the camp on January 29, 2024, in protest of the "suspension of funding for UNRWA by at least nine countries, in a step that threatens the lives of thousands of Palestinians." The suspension of funding for UNRWA has been a major concern. UNRWA provides essential services to Palestinian refugees, including education, healthcare, and social services. The suspension of funding could have a devastating impact on the lives of Palestinian refugees.

The Contractors Movement in Lebanon Demands an Immediate Increase in Hourly Wages and Salaries Before Going on Strike

On January 29, 2024 the National News Agency reported that Hamza Mansour, coordinator of the Contractors Movement, wrote a letter to the Finance and Budget Committee, its chairman, MP Ibrahim Kanaan, the Parliamentary Education Committee, and the government, demanding that they "not forget to prepare a new salary formula for contracted and permanent teachers, which would adjust the difference between economic and tax inflation, and between the value of the hourly wage and the salary, which has become abysmal."

Access Center for Human Rights Report: What happens after the forced deportation of refugees from Lebanon?

On Monday January 29, 2024, the Access Center for Human Rights (ACHR) issued an investigative report revealing the details of the ongoing random security campaign implemented by the Lebanese authorities that aims to forcibly deport Syrian refugees from Lebanon during 2023. ACHR has documented 1,080 cases of arbitrary arrest, and 763 cases of forced deportation to Syria since the beginning of 2023 until December 30. The report focused on monitoring the arbitrary security campaign launched by the Lebanese army last April on a large scale, which targeted the homes and camps of Syrian refugees in several Lebanese regions. The report showed that the number of individuals forcibly deported and documented by Access Center for Human Rights (ACHR) increased by up to 496% in 2023, compared to 2022 when 154 people were documented to have been deported.

Tuesday
30 Jan 2024

Transparency International report: Lebanon – Two steps back

Transparency International released its annual report for 2023 on January 30, 2024, in which it publishes its Corruption Perception Index for countries worldwide. In its 2023 report, Transparency International discusses Lebanon, stating a significant decline in its CPI, having dropped six points since 2012. The report explains that this drop is due to rampant corruption, and insufficient anti-corruption efforts. The report also suggests some solutions such as adopting a holistic approach to governance where prioritizing prevention, tackling root causes, and involving all sectors of society take place.

Wednesday
31 Jan 2024

Lebanese Army prevents crossing attempts into Lebanon

On January 31, 2024, a statement was issued by the Lebanese Army in which it mentions that it has foiled attempts by about 900 individuals to illegally cross the border between Lebanon and Syria during the month of January 2024. The statement also mentions that the army has been conducting operations to combat smuggling across the border, and these operations have prevented many people from crossing the border.

Bou Habib: Cutting off aid to UNRWA is a historic mistake and constitutes a threat to regional security

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and in the caretaker government, Dr. Abdullah Bou Habib, confirmed during his meeting with the Ambassador of the United States of America, Lisa Johnson, that "cutting off aid to UNRWA is a historic mistake that will lead to depriving Palestinian refugees of any hope for a better life and future and will constitute a threat to regional security and to the security of host countries and donor countries."

Thursday
1 Feb 2024

Judicial assistants announce general strike, and cancellation of court hearings

According to the National News Agency, the Committees of Judicial Assistants in Lebanon released a statement on January 31, 2024. The statement declared a general sit-in, and the cancellation of all types of court hearings, as well as the refusal to accept any requests or inquiries, except for those related to the last day of legal deadlines, starting February 1, 2024.

Sit-in of the judicial assistants paralyzes the palaces of justice

According to the National News Agency, the sit-in of the judicial assistants that began on February 1, 2024 in all palaces of justice succeeded in paralyzing the judicial departments at all levels. The public prosecutor's offices refused to register lawsuits and requests, and refused to give permits to confront detainees and prisoners. The trial sessions at the criminal and civil cassation courts have also been stopped, as well as the courts of criminal, appeal and first instance. The investigation departments were disrupted and no interrogation sessions were held, with some exception of urgent reviews.

Friday
2 Feb 2024

Raid on Jebbayn, Tayr Harfa and shelling of the town of Al-Dhayra Al-Fouqa with phosphorus shells

The National News Agency reported that on February 1st 2024, warplanes raided the Triangle of Al-Jabal and Tayr Harfa, and artillery bombarded the town of Al-Dhayra Al-Fouqa with phosphorus shells.

Tallet Al-Hamamas targeted with artillery shells, and a smoke bomb fell between houses in Khiyam

According to the National News Agency, the vicinity of Tallet Al-Hamamas in Sarda was targeted with artillery shells. A smoke bomb also fell between houses in the town of Khiyam, on February 2, 2024.

Saturday and Sunday
3 and 4 Feb 2024

UN experts concerned at slow progress in investigation and continued impunity for killing of prominent intellectual Lokman Slim

A press release issued by the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner on February 2, 2024 stated that UN human rights experts reiterated their call for effective investigations into the killing of Lebanese intellectual Lokman Slim, expressing their deep concern at the lack of progress by the authorities to ensure accountability two years after his assassination. "Two years following the killing of Mr. Slim, no one responsible for his assassination has been identified and there is little prospect that current investigations will be successfully completed within a reasonable timeframe," the experts said.

Complete closure of all public administrations in Tripoli

On February 2, 2024 the National News Agency reported that various public administrations in Tripoli and the surrounding area witnessed a complete closure in compliance with the strike announced by the administrative body of the association of employees.

Red Cross ambulance teams headed to Dhayra after shelling with phosphorus shells

A reporter for the National News Agency in Tyre reported that Red Cross ambulance teams headed to the town of Dhayra after it was shelled with phosphorus shells on February 3, 2024.

REPORTING A VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS TO CLDH

If you wish to report an incident that may potentially constitute a violation of human rights, kindly send an email to the following address: [**violations@cldh-lebanon.org**](mailto:violations@cldh-lebanon.org)

You can also report an incident anonymously through our [**website**](#).

When making a report, please ensure to include the following information:

- **WHERE:** City/village, governorate, additional details (e.g. what prison)
- **WHAT:** Nature of the violation
- **HOW:** A narrative description of what happened
- **WHEN:** Date of the episode (at least the year, if day and month are unknown)
- **TO WHOM:** Information regarding the victim (name, nationality, gender, date of birth, city of origin, phone number). Only share this information with the consent of the person.
- **WHO** is the person reporting (name, phone number) and how were they identified (e.g., victim him/herself, family member, eyewitness, journalist, humanitarian worker...)

The information referred will remain completely private. It will be fact-checked and registered into CLDH's internal system. No action will be undertaken without the explicit and written consent of the reporter.



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