

# HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

5 FEBRUARY - 11 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** 5 Feb 2024

Tuesday

6 Feb 2024

#### Mobile Operators Syndicate: Complete work halt until full salary is paid in fresh dollars and the collective work contract is signed

The National News Agency reported on February 5, 2024, that the Syndicate of Employees and Users of Cellular Companies announced in a message sent to employees today, "a complete work halt starting from February 5, 2024, until the salaries of employees are corrected and paid in full in fresh dollars, in addition to signing the collective work contract."

### The founding body of the Association of Retired Engineers called for a strike to achieve demands

The national news agency reported that a statement was released on February 5th, 2024 by the founding body of the Association of Retired Engineers which called upon all retired engineers to attend a sit in the Beirut Engineers' Union on February 7, 2024 as a response to the rejection of their demands by the Pension Fund Management Committee. The statement also called for a new, and equitable budget for the year 2024 that takes into account the improvement of pensions, and involves the Association of Retired Engineers in the decision making process. The association also called for financial assistance to contribute to the payment of part of the hospitalization fee for the new fiscal year, and additional sources of funding for the pension fund's future sustainability.

#### "Retired Soldiers" gathered in front of the port entrance and the TVA building

The National News Agency reported on February 6, 2024 that "retired military personnel" gathered in front of the entrance of the Port of Beirut and the TVA building as part of their move to close public administrations, protesting against the Government's failure to fulfill their rights and grant salaries that "allow them to live with dignity and decency."

#### A hostile raid targeted a house in Tayr Harfa

The national news agency reported on February 6, 2024 that a hostile raid targeted a house belonging to the "Al Ataya" family in the vicinity of the state school in the town of Tayr Harfa. Artillery shelling in the town of Houla was also reported. UNRWA: "the agency will no longer have funding as of the end of February" On February 6, 2024 the UN News Centre published an article describing the effects of the funding crisis on UNRWA. "The agency will no longer have funding as of the end of February, so that means our operations would come to a halt during March," said Dorothee Klaus, UNRWA Director in Lebanon, describing the "severe impact" of fresh budget cuts. According to the article, UNRWA in Lebanon employs around 3,500 staff, which also contribute to the incomes of an estimated 10 to 15 percent of the Palestine refugee population that is relying directly on the investments that UNRWA makes in the country, a total that amounts to, on average, about \$180 million every year. The article also stated the expected negative effects on education and health services.

#### <u>"Retired Soldiers" requested that the Government not delay in deciding on salary</u> increases

The National News agency reported on February 7, 2024 that the Assembly of Retired Military Personnel confirmed its previous decision to gather and demonstrate on February 8, 2024 and close the entrances to the Council of Ministers and prevent it from convening until further notice. The assembly of Retired Military Personnel had gathered previously on February 6, 2024 in front of the entrance of the Port of Beirut and the TVA building as part of their move to close public administrations, protesting against the Government's failure to fulfill their rights and grant salaries that "allow them to live with dignity and decency."

### One person was killed and two others were injured in an Israeli airstrike on the Lebanese town of Khiam

The National News Agency reported on February 7, 2024 that two civilians were injured and a third was killed in an Israeli drone strike on a house in the Lebanese town of Khiam. Israeli warplanes also flew over the towns of Qlayaa and Burj al-Muluk, dropped thermal bombs, and carried out mock raids, breaking the sound barrier in the skies of the district of Tyre.

#### Israeli drone strikes water pumping station in Lebanon

The National News Agency reported on February 7, 2024 that an Israeli drone raided the Wazzani water pumping station in the Wazzani plain at dawn.

#### "Retired Soldiers" protest in Lebanon for 'social justice'

The National News Agency reported on February 8, 2024 that dozens of retired soldiers gathered in Riad al-Solh Square and at other entrances leading to the Grand Serail, coinciding with the Cabinet session. The protesters tried to prevent a number of cars belonging to the ministers from passing towards the Grand Serail, and they also closed the entrance to a garage used by the ministers.

#### Drone strike targets a house in Ayta ash Shab

The National News Agency correspondent in Tyre reported on February 9, 2024 that an Israeli drone launched a raid at around 8:30 a.m. on a house in the Maabour neighborhood in the town of Ayta ash Shab - Bint Jbeil district, and fired a guided missile at it, causing extensive damage.

#### Farmers in Akkar protested the government's neglect of their needs

On February 9, 2024, the National News Agency reported that farmers in Lebanon's Akkar Plain staged a symbolic protest in response to devastating floods that destroyed greenhouses and the newly planted potato crop. The mukhtar of the village where the protest took place, Muhammad Sayed Fayyad al-Gharib, decried the "complete absence" of government officials and called on the Minister of Agriculture to visit the region and assess the damage. He urged authorities to curb smuggling, tighten border controls, and implement an agricultural calendar to protect local harvests.

#### Wednesday 7 Feb 2024

**Thursday** 8 Feb 2024

#### **Friday** 9 Feb 2024

### Saturday and Sunday 10 and 11 Feb 2024

#### A drone targeted an uninhabited house in Markaba

The National News Agency on February 9, 2024, reported that a hostile drone targeted an uninhabited house on the main road in Markaba, causing a fire, with no injuries reported.

#### One killed and nine wounded in the shelling of the town of Houla

A National News Agency correspondent reported that on February 9, 2024 one person was killed and nine were wounded in the shelling of the town of Houla. The Israeli army fired artillery shells of caliber 155 and a rocket from a drone at a nearby mosque.

#### Committee of the judicial assistants decide to continue their strike

The National News Agency reported on February 10. 2024, that the committees of the judicial assistants in Lebanon decided to continue the sit-in and the forced work stoppage. They said in a statement:"...the committees of the judicial assistants in Lebanon decided to continue the sit-in and the forced work stoppage in all courts of justice palaces, public prosecutions, investigative judges, and all criminal courts, as well as civil courts in all their degrees, with the only exception being the last day of the legal deadline until Friday, February 16, 2024."

#### Airstrike targets a house in Chihine

A correspondent for the National News Agency reported on February 10, 2024, that enemy warplanes launched an airstrike on Chihine, targeting a house and causing injuries.

## 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** 

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.



FUNDED BY THE UNITED NATIONS DEMOCRACY FUND