

Stop the repression of the Egyptian workers movement

Sunday 27 April 2008, by [Collective / Multiple signers](#) (Date first published: 18 April 2008).

Egyptian workers are leading a strike movement demanding higher wages as prices spiral out of control. Millions of ordinary people are facing hunger because of the lack of affordable food.

In response to a call for a strike on April 6th by the workers in the Mahallah textile complex, the biggest factory in Egypt, the Mubarak regime decided to occupy El-Mahalla complex with security forces, abduct strike committee leaders Kamal El-Faioumy and Tarek Amin and arrest political activists of every political tendency in Cairo and other cities.

Not able to suppress the protests, the Mubarak security forces used rubber-bullets, tear-gas, and live ammunition against the Mahallah people who decided to protest on the streets of the city and in different villages, leaving at least two dead and hundreds injured and around 800 arrested. We send our solidarity to the Egyptian workers and their supporters.

We call on the Egyptian dictatorship to release the 800 detained on 6th April including more than 150 political activists (socialists, liberals, and Islamists), more than 600 protestors from Mahallah (mainly women and children) and Mahallah strike Committee leaders.

Update 22 April - The Egyptian interior ministry has issued detention orders against Textile Workers' League activists and strike organisers Kamal El-Faioumy, Tarek Amin and Karim El-Beheiry, and five other residents of Mahalla al-Kubra despite a judge ordering that they should be set free. We call for the immediate release of these and all the other detainees.

Jeremy Corbyn MP; George Galloway MP; Bob Crow, General Secretary RMT Union; Mark Serwotka, General Secretary PCS Union; Lindsey German, Stop the War Coalition; John Rees, Cairo Conference; Clare Solomon, President, SOAS Student Union; Francisco Louçã, Member of Parliament, Portugal; China Miéville writer, Britain; Susan George, France; Mike Davis writer and academic, USA; Prof. Esther Leslie, Britain; Michael Löwy, sociologist, France; Prof. Moshe Machover, Britain; Prof. Jacques Bidet, France; Prof. Claudio Katz, Argentina; Prof. Jonathan Nitzan, Canada; Prof. Craig Brandist, Britain; Prof. Colin Sparks, Britain; Prof. Alex Callinicos, Britain; Jim Wolfreys, President, King's College London UCU; Michael Lavalette, Preston City Council, Preston Respect; Linda Smith, Chair, Respect; Hanif Abdulmuhit, Respect councillor, Newham; Sarah Creagh, Chair, Bristol Respect; Geoff Brown, Secretary, Manchester TUC; And many others

Add your name in support. Leave us your email if you'd like us to keep in touch with you about the campaign.

Name	Organisation and position	Address	Email
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Send protests to: Minister of the Interior General Habib El Adly, El Sheikh Rihan St.Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, Phone no. 00202 - 27957500, Fax 00202 -2 5792031, E-mail Moi1_idsc.gov.eg with copies to the Egyptian Embassy in London, 26 South Street,London W1K 1DW

[Email: etembuk@hotmail.com](mailto:etembuk@hotmail.com)

Return signatures to and, for more information about the solidarity campaign contact, [cairoconference stopwar.org.uk](http://cairoconference.stopwar.org.uk)