

Trafficking in persons Report hero of the year 2009

By
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STATEMENT


- Early 2006 I applied to a recruitment agency in Jakarta to be a migrant worker in Dubai
- On 22 October 2006, I was flown to Dubai. Arriving in Dubai, I faced my first problem as my passport number and visa were different
- 1 month in Dubai working as secretary
- 2 months in Dubai working without any salary. In addition, I was sexually harassed and abused. No one would also stay near me
- 18 December 2006 my employer sent me to Kurdistan without telling me where I was going to
- Arriving in Kurdistan Airport, I was so afraid as no one picked me up

- Two hours later one of the Kurdistan agency staff came and picked me up and other migrant workers from Bangladesh, Philippines, and Ethiopia.
- Two weeks in Kurdistan, I kept asking where was I, but no one told me that Kurdistan is part of Iraq, until I had shown them the Indonesian money and they had shown me the Iraqi money. I was so surprised when I read “the bank of Iraq”
- Then I started working for an Iraqi Family for 5 months until I found some lumps on my right breast and I had gotten a surgery.
- After the surgery I went back to work to the same Iraqi family for another eight months, but my health became worst, I asked my employer to send me back home, but they didn't agree because I had signed a three years contract. I protested by sitting in front of the door without eating or drinking for 2 days until my employer send me back to the agency.




- Two months in the agency office I called many Indonesia Government from Indonesian embassy in Dubai and Jordan also Ministers in Indonesia, but none of them gave responses about my case.
- I was abused, kidnapped, event threatened with a shotgun by the director of the agency.
- Until I heard about IOM,I took three of my friends sleeping on the road for there days because we had to wait IOM Kurdistan director to return from a meeting in Amman. When I met him I told him that I and three friends needed to go back to Indonesian as soon as possible, because my surgery wound got infected and also my friend didn't want to work in Iraq.






On 5 November 2007 one of the agency's staff told me that my document had already been sent to IOM, and on 6 November 2007 IOM sent me to the Erbil International airport. On 7 November 2007 i reached Jakarta, and until now my case doesn't finish, and still in police head office.



I joined Migrant CARE Indonesia soon after that, to help migrant workers who are still trapped in Kurdistan, Iraq, and after that helped 16 migrant workers who were my friends returned from Kurdistan, Iraq.



I am willing to help Indonesian migrant worker in many countries with many different problem.



Activities

- Keeping in touch with Indonesian migrant workers in Iraq
- Giving information and pushing Indonesian government to give protection for all Indonesia migrant workers in Iraq and also in other countries
- Sharing my experience in discussions, seminars, FGD, etc.
- Monitoring Terminal Four (Special terminal at Jakarta Airport for Indonesian Migrant Worker)
- Demonstration to fight human trafficking, etc.

