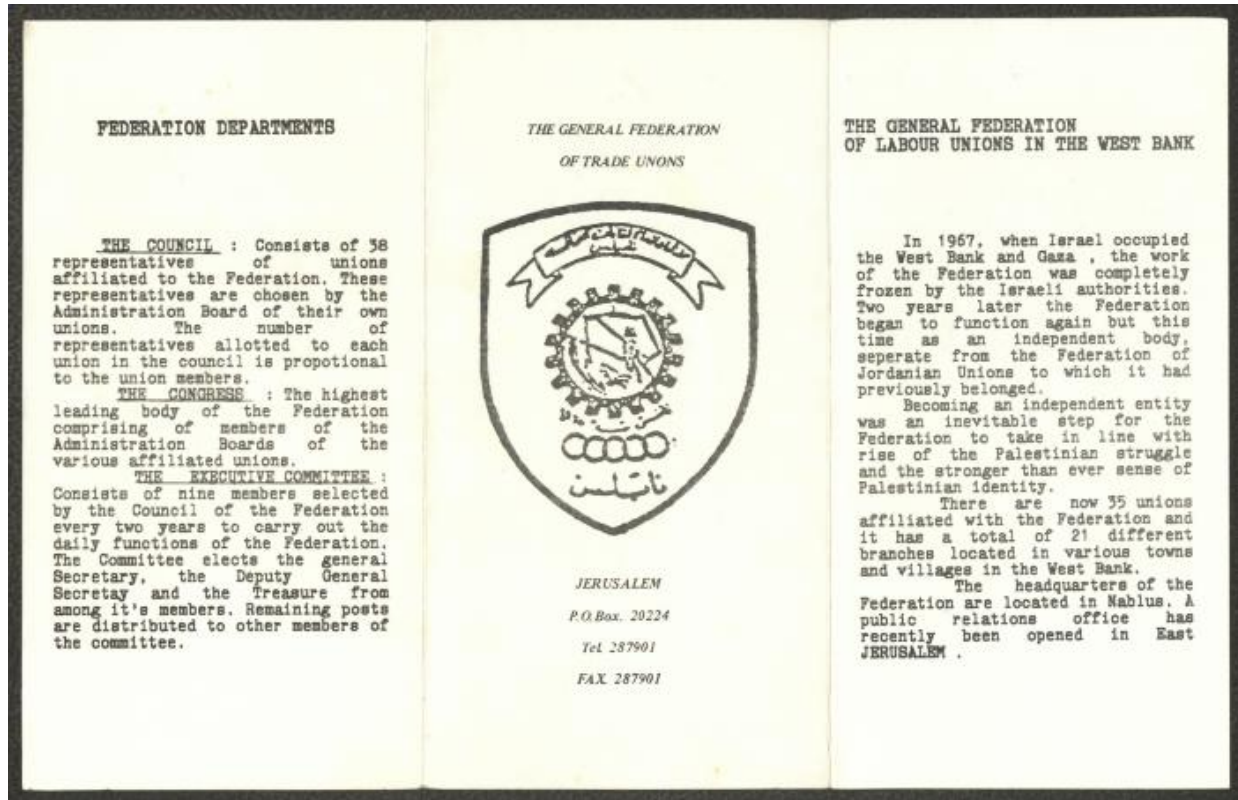


العمال، نشرة باللغة الانجليزية عن الاتحاد العام لنقابات القدس، ثمانينيات القرن العشرين

لنقابات العمال في نشرة تعريفية باللغة الانجليزية حول الاتحاد العام
العشرين في القدس، الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة صدرت في ثمانينيات القرن
المهام التي يقوم بها واحتوت على تعريف بالاتحاد ونبذة تاريخية عنه وأهم
والاعضاء، والخدمات التي يقدمها.



THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF LABOUR UNIONS IN THE WEST BANK

The Federation is the leading body of Palestinian workers in the occupied territories. It represents and defends workers interests in the face of the enormous obstacles which stand in our way at this present time.

The Federation was revived in 1969, two years after the Israeli occupation began. Since then scores of its members, including the first General Secretary and leading union activists, have been deported from the West Bank by the Israeli military authorities. Today in 1988, one member has already been deported and three members of the Executive Committee, together with 70% of representatives to the Council are in prison. Several affiliated trade unions have been closed down by military order for minimum of two years. The work of other unions has been severely impeded through the arrest of most of their administrative members.

In November 1973, the Federation was one of the first institutions in the occupied territories to declare publicly that the PLO <<< PALESTINIAN --LIBERATION ORGANIZATION >>>, is the sole,

legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. It was a step which, at that time, was viewed as both courageous and necessary.

The Federation has been forced to fight the military order known as Amendment to Article No. 83, through which the Israeli authorities can prevent unionists from running for union elections as well as deny them their right to membership of a union.

It must also struggle against the Israeli ruling which outlaws Palestinian unions, based in occupied East Jerusalem, from membership of the Federation. The ruling is based on the Israeli decision to annex East Jerusalem in contravention of international law and various UN resolutions.

In 1976, the Federation participated in the only proper municipal elections allowed to take place under the Israeli occupation. All three of its candidates were subsequently elected to municipal office.

Priority objectives of the Federation include:

- * Activating affiliated unions and enlarging their membership
- * Holding collective work agreement between unions and various Palestinian branches of

production in order to help regulate relations between workers and employers, thereby plugging many of the loopholes which exist in the present labour laws.

* Working to alleviate the problem of rising unemployment in the occupied territories. Here the Federation raises funds to establish co-operative projects which, by providing stable employment, helps Palestinian workers to remain on their native land.

* Pressurizing the Israeli authorities to pay back deductions which have been made from Palestinian wages over the years, into the benefit of the workers themselves.

* Working to establish a health and social security system for workers and their families.

* Supporting workers by helping to educate their sons and daughters. Financial assistance is offered to those of high merit who wish to higher education.

* Improving work conditions for Palestinian working women.

* Running training session and cultural workshops in co-operation with our friends in international trades union federations.