



Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines in Amman
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Press Release



Ambassador Akmad A. Sakkam (center) together with Consul General Maria Agnes Cervantes (second from right), Labor Attaché Jun Rasul (leftmost) and Ms. Juhura Adjaraman, a Filipina from Lamitan, Basilan (third from left), next to a relative who is also an overseas worker in Jordan.

**FILIPINA RESCUED AFTER 10 YEARS
UNPAID SALARY AND RESTRICTED TRAVEL**

Recruited at age 11, Juhura endured 10 years of unpaid work without contract and disallowed to leave Jordan by her employers until her rescue in early March after a tip from Facebook which had since gone viral, apart from her own effort of tossing handwritten notes out of her room window for any unsuspecting passersby near her employer's home.

In a clear landmark case of human trafficking involving a Filipino national in Jordan, Basilan native Juhura Pusalan Adjaraman was finally rescued on 03 March 2019 through the combined efforts of the Philippine Embassy in Amman led by Ambassador Akmad A. Sakkam, Philippine Labor Attaché Jainal Rasul and the composite team from the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (HTU) and Public Security Unit of the Jordanian Ministry of Interior.

Juhara, then merely a child aged 11 years old, arrived in Jordan sometime in 2010 under a tourist visa using spurious identity including travel documents and was deployed to her first employer before she was transferred to her last employer in Amman.

On 21 February 2019, Ambassador Sakkam received a Facebook tip regarding the state and whereabouts of Juhara, and immediately ordered the verification of the information from the POLO database, the recruitment agency deployment records and police files.

On 28 February 2019, HTU headed by Major Fayez Al Khawaldeh ordered the surrender of Juhara by her employers to his office for temporary custody and debriefing. During her surrender and interview, HTU compelled her employers to release her accrued salaries for the past ten years in two tranches, which, upon full receipt, Juhara will decide to finally leave Jordan.

Juhara, working continuously for 10 years without receiving her actual salary from both of her employers, was restrained from leaving Jordan despite her repeated pleas to be allowed to return to the Philippines following the death of her father in Basilan.

Her last employers, who were reportedly associated with her recruiters, are likely to face cases of human trafficking, labor violations and other related offences.

The Embassy is currently working on her expeditious repatriation to Manila where she will finally meet her family from Basilan and officials of the Government.

In a separate follow up meeting, Ambassador Sakkam reiterated his personal gratitude to the HTU leadership for the quick and decisive response on the case and maintained that such cooperation reflects the excellent and outstanding relations between the Government of the Philippines and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.



Follow us at @PHLinJordan -
www.ammanpe.dfa.gov.ph