



*The training program of DTP as it aims, help me build the knowledge and skills to protect and promote the human rights of migrant workers. It enables me to do more and effectively use internationally agreed standards and mechanisms for the human rights of migrant workers in the Middle East.*

**Kawi Kawayan, Executive Director for Human Rights, Meanfid Qatar – Middle East African Network of Filipino Diaspora. President and CEO of We Care Outreach Ministry, Qatar, Head Pastor of Savior and King Church International, Bacoor, Cavite City , Philippines.** An Alumnus of DTP Program: Capacity Building Program on Human Rights Advocacy and Migrant Workers in the Middle East. Currently handling many cases of abused Migrant Workers (Filipinos) and some come from other nationals.

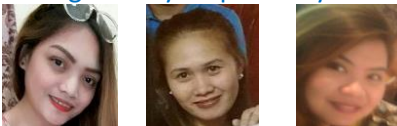


Joe resigned after 4 years but was given only one way ticket without any valid reason. We provided guidelines and he received his End Of Service Benefits through the Labor Department. On his way to travel, he was intercepted and barred at the airport to fly because his company filed a fabricated case of absconding after paying his EOSB. He was convicted of Runaway, detained for 10 days. We secured his appeal, drafted his defense without any lawyer involve and quoted UN UDHR and Labor Law and defended him at the proper court and we won. We opened a labor case, exposing the abuses of the company and planned a civil case but he has to go home due to the death of his sister.



Shin (L) horrible experience with the human traffickers caused us to gather evidence and submitted to our embassy for their intervention. 2 companies here were suspended and case sheet is prepared for the origin Agent.

Alma (C) work for a couple but she was serving 9 people plus and old man who keeps harassing her. Her mobile was confiscated but luckily she was able to send SOS and live video requesting help through their driver. A community group requested my assistance. For 2 months we push our embassy through emails and personal follow up to take immediate action before any serious problem will happen. Now she is rescued and back home safe to her family in the Philippines. We visited Cler (R) on 25 December 2016 and January 1, 2017 after she was convicted of usual fabricated case of Absconding then we secure a release on 03 January 2017. We lost the 2 appeals but we raise the case to Supreme Court through a very helpful lawyer and a Power of Attorney was executed. She flies back home last August 08, 2017.



In November 2016 there were about 8 of them we assisted with the embassy as the guarantor. The 6 were sexually harassed by their employer prompting them to call the police. Their employer who stayed and sleep at their accommodation was jailed for 02 weeks.

They filed a labor case for contract violations. After the detention of their employer he was able to file a fabricated case and the three were jailed. We defended them at the police station and assert our rights to appeal while the employer has provided a one way ticket and have tried to influence the authorities not to release them. Finally, we secure their release and fought at the proper court and won. Thanks God that they also won their Labor and Sexual Harassment cases, They were able to obtain and NOC from MOI Human Rights and Ana (L) and Mars (C) transferred already while Carm (R) is in the process. As of August 2017 two were restored to their jobs under new company.



Queenie at my left a Document Controller who was assaulted by one of the key staff of an engineering company. She was assaulted and defamed at their office. Case was brought to the police station prompting them to jail to accuse. Many attempts by the company by offering her a higher position if she withdraws the case. She did not give in as per the advice of the policewoman. I was with her at the court as coach and defender. She was terminated by her company without notice this prompted her to file a Labor Case. After this, her company filed a Fabricated Case of Absconding.

She lost the Assault for lack of witness but she won the Defamation, the Labor Case and finally cleared her Absconding Case at the Prosecutors Office. Justice was restored and MOI is now working here immediate release. Her determination to fight and defend her rights was fully supported by her Church organization here and in coordination with We Care Outreach Ministry which I lead and our Philippine Embassy, we are proud to say: much can be accomplish if we know our rights such as those taught to us by DTP team while we opt to work together. Thank you DTP and MFA!

What the media says: *Excerpts from a journalist of **Pilipino Star Ngayon** – PSN and **Balitang Q** (Filipino Media) Known to his circle of friends as “Shake” Kawi or Pastor Kawi, he is just about everywhere actively supporting the Filipino community organizations. More importantly, he is also constantly present in detention areas where most of our distressed Kabayans (countrymen) end up. Whenever he would visit them to console, listen to their stories and pray for them, he would take worthy legal cases to assist. About 75% of the cases he would pick up and fight for have won the legal battle. Justice exists in this beloved country as Pastor Kawi has proven many times over. It is just about going through the proper process and channels in order to succeed.*

Pastor Kawi’s efforts and good deeds did not fall on deaf ears as he becomes one of the nominees for “Huwarang OFW”.

Now on its 3rd year, CBN Asia honors overseas Filipino workers through its search for Huwarang OFW 2017, in partnership with iRemit, KAMPI, and Kabalik ng OFWs.

To know more about Pastor Kawi’s advocacy, you may check out the 700 Club facebook page for his featured video entitled “God will rescue you”.

Voting for Pastor Kawi, may be done via the CBN Asia website. You can also vote through The 700 Club Asia Facebook page. Just click the ‘Vote Contest’ tab and then look for his profile. You may also type this link on your browser : <https://www.wishpond.com/lp/2166837/entries/159274506>. Voting for Pastor Kawi ends on Friday, 23 June 2017.

#### **In all the cases that you handled, which one is the most significant so far?**

*I handled one Female Cleaner with 3 cases: jailed by employer for fabricated Absconding case, legal disputes against their employer involving sexual harassment and labor Case. We have intensified our defense or protection plans so she won’t be harassed outside the court. Finally, she won all of them and she was given NOC by the MOI Human Rights. Now she works in a new company. **This is justice.** When someone lost his right to work and it was restored back to him in the legal or judicial means, this is very significant! Can you imagine the agony of defending your rights for months without income and far from home? Can you imagine of not being able to sending any support to your loved ones? Can you imagine the humiliation and sufferings of our Kababayan? (Countrymen)*

#### **Was there any case that was not won? How do you deal with that?**

*Out of 15 Cases I handled, 11 won and the rest we lost. When we handled 5 with same case and company, two won and 3 lost. That was sad. We have to elevate the cases to the Supreme Court and as normal procedure in any country, it is a long wait. Whatever the final verdict of the court we leave it to God and we dispose ourselves to just be ready to accept whatever the outcome.*

*Since i became an Alumni of DTP 03 years ago, my passion to help distressed Migrant Workers has escalated with many outstanding results.*

Court case references are available upon request.