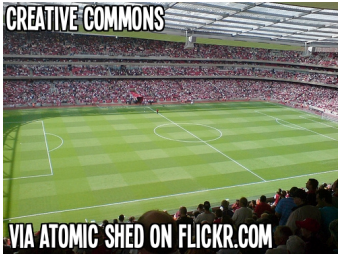


4,000 could die building Qatar World Cup

29th September, 2013



An organisation called the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) looked at the working conditions of builders in Qatar. It is worried about the workers. It said they receive very low pay and their work is very dangerous. Sometimes employers do not give the workers their salary. The construction companies take away the worker's passports. The men do not get free drinking water, even though they work in temperatures of up to 50 degrees Celsius. Nepal's embassy in Qatar's capital city, Doha, said 44 Nepalese workers died in two months this summer. Most of the men died from heart attacks or workplace accidents. The ITUC says that up to 4,000 workers could die before the World Cup starts in 2022.

Many people are shocked about the treatment of workers in Qatar. The ITUC said that what is happening at the World Cup building sites is like modern-day slavery. The Nepalese ambassador to Qatar, Maya Kumari Sharma, said the country was like "an open jail" for workers. Aidan McQuade, director of Anti-Slavery International, said the World Cup is being built using slave labour. Qatar's government also said it was shocked. A spokesperson said: "There is no excuse for any worker in Qatar to be treated in this manner. The health, safety, well-being and dignity of every worker that contributes to staging the 2022 FIFA World Cup is of the utmost importance."

Sources: *The Mirror* / *The Guardian* / *Gulf News*

Writing

The head of world football (FIFA) should decide salaries and working conditions for workers building the stadiums, roads, hotels, etc. in Qatar. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

organization / trade union / working conditions / low pay / passports / heart attack / shocked / modern-day slavery / jail / no excuse / health / safety / 2022 World Cup

True / False

- Qatar's government looked at the working conditions of builders. T / F
- The workers are not paid so well. T / F
- Workers are not allowed to keep their passports. T / F
- The article says 4,000 workers could die in the next three years. T / F
- An organization said the workers are being used like slaves. T / F
- An ambassador said construction bosses should go to prison. T / F
- Qatar's government said it was not shocked by this news. T / F
- The government said the health of every worker was important. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. conditions | a. concerned |
| 2. worried | b. way |
| 3. receive | c. upset |
| 4. construction | d. situation |
| 5. heart attacks | e. reason |
| 6. shocked | f. self-respect |
| 7. excuse | g. building |
| 8. manner | h. cardiac arrest |
| 9. dignity | i. greatest |
| 10. utmost | j. get |

Discussion – Student A

- Should construction company bosses go to jail?
- How can slavery exist in the 21st century?
- Would a boycott of the 2022 World Cup work?
- Will this all be forgotten when the 2022 World Cup starts?
- What should Qatar's government do now?
- Is money more important than the health, safety, well-being and dignity of the workers?
- What advice would you give to the workers in Qatar?
- What questions would you like to ask Qatar's World Cup leader?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. working | a. work is very dangerous |
| 2. they receive very low pay and their | b. ambassador to Qatar |
| 3. temperatures of | c. starts in 2022 |
| 4. Most of the men died | d. excuse |
| 5. before the World Cup | e. and dignity |
| 6. The Nepalese | f. up to 50 degrees Celsius |
| 7. the World Cup is being built | g. importance |
| 8. There is no | h. conditions |
| 9. health, safety, well-being | i. from heart attacks |
| 10. of the utmost | j. using slave labour |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- Do you think the workers are slaves?
- Is it wrong for companies to take away workers' passports?
- What should happen to companies that do not pay workers?
- Should the World Cup be taken away from Qatar?
- What do you think it's like to work in 50-degree heat?
- How bad is this news for the World Cup?
- Is the World Cup more important than the life of the builders?

Spelling

- the working dnictooisn of builders
- they ievreec very low pay
- their work is very erouasgdn
- ntcutcnosrio companies
- temperatures of up to 50 resedeg
- workplace nscdtcae
- shocked about the trntemeat of workers
- modern-day avrsyel
- The Nepalese aramsaosbd to Qatar
- Qatar's negrnmvoet
- There is no xescue
- health, safety, well-being and iintdgy

Answers – Synonym Match

1. d	2. c	3. j	4. g	5. h
6. c	7. e	8. b	9. f	10. i

Role Play

Role A – Soccer World Cup

You think the soccer World Cup is the greatest sporting event. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their event. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): the Paralympic Games, the Winter Olympics or the Summer Olympics.

Role B – The Paralympic Games

You think the Paralympic Games is the greatest sporting event. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their event. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): the soccer World Cup, the Winter Olympics or the Summer Olympics.

Role C – The Winter Olympics

You think the Winter Olympics is the greatest sporting event. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their event. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): the Paralympic Games, the soccer World Cup or the Summer Olympics.

Role D – The Summer Olympics

You think the Summer Olympics is the greatest sporting event. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their event. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): the Paralympic Games, the Winter Olympics or the soccer World Cup.

Speaking – Good job

Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the most important things in a job at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| • good salary | • can learn a lot |
| • nice boss | • lots of overtime |
| • job security | • good chances of promotion |
| • chance to travel | • can work at home |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	T	d	F	e	T	f	F	g	F	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.