



**BANGLADESH CENTER FOR
WORKERS SOLIDARITY**

Tuesday December 18, 2012

RE: Letter to Block the Boat

Greetings from Bangladesh! Today you will make a historic stand for workers throughout the supply chain. By acting in solidarity with our workers across the world you are not only demonstrating that we share a common struggle but also helping to ensure that the nearly 120 Bangladeshi workers who were needlessly killed are not forgotten.

In the past, companies have only confronted the industry's issues when workers die but when the news quickly moves on so do the companies. Little has been done to create sustainable change for the safety or livelihoods of garment workers. We hope that this action will help paint a new picture and a new future, one where the deaths of mothers, husbands, brothers and sisters will not be quickly be forgotten. This action proves that carelessness and death in the workplace have repercussions—especially to those companies that expect their goods to be moved as usual despite the deaths of their own workers.

To make matters worse, companies like Walmart have refused to take responsibility by stating that they were not directly connected to the Tazreen factory. This is only a cruel joke to our workers in this moment. It is shameful that Walmart, the world's largest employer, would try avoid responsibility and any attempt to prevent a fire like this from happening again. Your action obstructs their attempt to ignore this tragedy and reaffirms the need for them confront the industry's issues in an honest way. You are helping to hold them accountable!

We not only thank you for this bold step you chose to make today, but applaud your determination and courage in doing so. To disrupt the movement of goods today will further prove workers' inherent power within the supply chain. Also, in acting in solidarity you are showing the potential of this power to work across the world and confirming that we are all in this fight together.

Thank you for standing in solidarity with us.

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