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of the participants of the 6th Central Asian Media Conference

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Dushanbe

The Tajik tax authorities closed *Jienkhon* printing house for alleged financial violations on 17 August 2004. As a result, the publication of *Ruzi Nav*, *Nerui Suhahn* and *Nadjot* newspapers was ceased.

Simultaneously, the auditing of *Sanadvora* printing house was conducted. This was followed by the suspension of the publication of *Odamu Olam* newspaper.

Later, in the same manner, the publication of *Adolat* and *Zindagi* newspapers was suspended at *Karimdjon Kodiri* printing house.

Formally, the Tajik authorities explained the papers' suspension by purely economic reasons, denying any political background.

However, the analysis of the situation of the concurrent suspension of six newspapers, disloyal to the authorities, suggests that there is a political factor present. Typically, loyal publications do not face such difficulties.

Having studied the situation, the participants of the conference express concern over their colleagues' fate and call on the journalistic community and human rights organizations to express solidarity with the journalists who cannot publish their newspapers.

At the same time, we call on the Tajik authorities to do all in their power to help facilitate solving these problems.