

URGENT ACTION

CHINESE ACTIVIST SENTENCED TO NINE YEARS

Chen Wei, an activist detained in February 2011 during a crackdown to prevent "Jasmine Revolution-inspired" demonstrations in China, was sentenced to nine years in prison on 23 December 2011 on charges of "inciting subversion of state power". **Ding Mao** was put under residential surveillance on 1 December 2011. **Liang Haiyi** remains detained incommunicado.

Chen Wei's trial by the Suining Intermediate People's Court in Sichuan province on 23 December lasted two hours. The Court announced the verdict immediately following the trial. Previously, his case had been sent back twice to the police for further investigation because of lack of evidence. According to the indictment, seen by Amnesty International, Chen Wei's charge stemmed from essays he allegedly posted online and "sent to overseas organizations," including New York-based human rights group, Human Rights in China.

On 1 December 2011, **Ding Mao** was taken from Mianyang City Detention Centre, Sichuan Province, to a relative's home for residential surveillance. According to the relatives, he had lost weight during his nine months in detention. Before his release from police custody, the prosecution had referred his case back for investigation three times because of lack of evidence.

There is no update on the situation of **Liang Haiyi**. She was detained on 19 February 2011 in Harbin, Heilongjiang province. The details of possible charges against her remain unknown.

Ran Yunfei was put under residential surveillance on 9 August 2011 and **Hua Chunhui** was sent home to serve his 18 month term in "Re-education Through Labour" there on medical grounds.

Please write immediately in English, Chinese or your own language:

- Urging the authorities to immediately and unconditionally release Chen Wei and Liang Haiyi.
- Urging the authorities to guarantee that they have access to their families, legal representation of their choice and any medical care they may require.
- Urging the authorities to guarantee that they are not tortured or otherwise ill-treated in custody.
- Urging the authorities to lift all restrictions on Ding Mao, Ran Yunfei and Hua Chunhui.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 16 FEBRUARY 2012 TO:

Minister of Public Security
MENG Jianzhu Buzhang
Gong'anbu, 14 Dongchang'anjie
Dongchengqu, Beijingshi 100741
People's Republic of China
Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Justice
WU Aiyong Buzhang
Sifabu, 10 Chaoyangmen Nandajie
Chaoyangqu, Beijingshi 100020
People's Republic of China
Fax: +86 10 65292345
Salutation: Your Excellency

Premier
WEN Jiabao Guojia Zongli
The State Council General Office
2 Fuyoujie, Xichengqu,
Beijingshi 100017,
People's Republic of China
Fax: +86 10 65961109 (c/o Ministry of
Foreign Affairs)
Salutation: Your Excellency

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the third update of UA 50/11. Further information:

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA17/010/2011/en>, www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA17/017/2011/en and
<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA17/041/2011/en>

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ding Mao, Chen Wei, Hua Chunhui, Liang Haiyi and Ran Yunfei were among the more than 130 activists detained after the U.S.-based news site, Boxun, reported an anonymous appeal for people to stage protests across China in February 2011. The online call to protest, inspired by the uprisings across the Middle East and North Africa and the "Jasmine Revolution" in Tunisia, led to one of the harshest crackdowns on dissent in China in recent years.

Chen Wei was detained on 20 February 2011 and Ding Mao and Liang Haiyi were detained on 19 February 2011. Ran Yunfei was detained at midnight on 19 February 2011 and Hua Chunhui on 21 February 2011.

Chen Wei's nine-year sentence is the longest sentence given to anyone who was arrested and charged during this "Jasmine" crackdown. It is also among the longest sentences given to a pro-democracy activist in China in recent years.

This is Chen Wei's third prison term. He took part in the 1989 pro-democracy movement and was detained in 1989, and released in January 1991. In 1992, he was imprisoned for five years for having commemorated the victims of the crackdown on the 1989 pro-democracy movement.

Name: Ran Yunfei, Hua Chunhui, Ding Mao, Chen Wei and Liang Haiyi

Gender m/f: Ran Yunfei, Hua Chunhui, Ding Mao and Chen Wei are all male; Liang Haiyi is female

Further information on UA: 50/11 Index: ASA 17/002/2012 Issue Date: 6 January 2012