

URGENT ACTION

DEPORTED CHINESE ACTIVISTS AT RISK OF TORTURE

Two Chinese activists recognized as refugees by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) are at risk of torture and other ill-treatment after being deported from Thailand, most likely to China.



Chinese activists **Jiang Yefei** (left) and **Dong Guangping** are at grave risk of torture and other ill-treatment, as well as unfair trials in China after having been deported from Thailand by local authorities. They had been arrested by Thai authorities on 28 October 2015 for not having valid visas. Their families have not received official notice of their deportation, which took place between 12 and 16 November, and neither have their families been able to contact them since 5 November.

Both men had previously been detained in China for their peaceful activism. **Jiang Yefei**, was detained and tortured in China in May and August of 2008 after criticizing the official response to the 2008 earthquake in China's Sichuan province. He fled to Thailand with his wife shortly after and in April 2015, was granted refugee status by the UNHCR.

Dong Guangping was detained by Chinese authorities from May 2014 to February 2015 after participating in an event commemorating victims of the 1989 Tiananmen Square crackdown. He arrived in Thailand with his wife and daughter in September this year to escape harassment. At the time of his arrest, he had a pending request for refugee status with UNHCR. This has since been approved.

For violating immigration laws and failing to pay fines related to this, Jiang Yefei and Dong Guangping were supposed to be held in a Bangkok prison until 20 November and 25 November respectively, during which the UNHCR could handle their resettlement to a third country that would ensure their protection. Unidentified individuals unknown to either men or their families made unsolicited payments of the fines on 6 November. This led to the men being transferred immediately to the immigration detention centre and their deportation a few days later.

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

- Demanding that the Chinese authorities immediately disclose the whereabouts and legal status of Jiang Yefei and Dong Guangping;
- Urging the authorities to release them immediately and unconditionally unless they are formally charged with an internationally recognizable criminal offence.
- Pending their release, urging the authorities to provide immediate guarantees for their safety and to ensure that they are not subjected to torture or other ill-treatment in detention;
- Calling on the authorities to ensure without delay that they have regular, unrestricted access to their families and lawyers.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 28 DECEMBER 2015 TO:

Minister of Public Security
Guo Shengkun Buzhang
Gong'anbu, 14 Dongchang'anjie
Dongchengqu, Beijingshi 100741
People's Republic of China_
Salutation: Dear Minister

Minister of Foreign Affairs
Wang Yi Buzhang
No. 2, Chaoyangmen Nandajie,
Chaoyangqu, Beijingshi 100701
People's Republic of China
Salutation: Dear Minister

And copies to:
Premier
Li Keqiang Guojia Zongli
The State Council General Office
2 Fuyoujie,
Xichengqu, Beijingshi 100017,
People's Republic of China
Fax: +86 10 65961109

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.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

South East Asian countries are increasingly violating the non-refoulement principle following diplomatic pressure by China. A number of countries have forcibly returned dissidents and ethnic minorities fleeing China to authorities. On 8 July 2015, the Thai authorities returned to China some 100 individuals, mainly Uighurs who were at risk of torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment. In December 2012, Malaysia forcibly returned six Uighurs, whose claims for asylum were pending with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). In December 2009, the Cambodian authorities forcibly returned 20 ethnic Uighur asylum seekers. Of these 20, five are reported to have been sentenced to life imprisonment, while eight others are reported to have been sentenced to prison terms ranging from 16 to 20 year, after closed trials.

Amnesty International has also documented Chinese officials' direct intervention to remove human rights defenders to China from South East Asian countries. On 6 October 2015, 16-year-old Bao Zhuoxuan, the son of Chinese lawyer Wang Yu, and Chinese activists Tang Zhishun and Xing Qingxian were taken away from a guesthouse in Mong La, a town in Myanmar close to the Chinese border, by uniformed officials and plain-clothed individuals. After several days during which there was no information about their whereabouts, Bao Zhuoxuan was returned to his grandparents' home in Ulanhot, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, in northern China, where he is being held under house arrest. State media in China have denounced the actions of the two men travelling with him, and activists who are advocating for their release believe they are being held by Chinese authorities.

Names: Jiang Yefei, Dong Guangping
Gender m

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