URGENT ACTION

FALUN GONG PRACTITIONER MISSING IN CHINA

Falun Gong practitioner Jiang Feng went missing in Shanghai on 18 February and is believed to be detained by the Chinese authorities. He is at risk of torture and other ill-treatment.

On 18 February, Jiang Feng went missing at Shanghai’s Pudong International Airport. He checked in for his flight to New York, but never boarded the flight. Airline staff said he was taken away by public security officials after passing through the security check point. The authorities have not told Jiang Feng's family where he is held, and their efforts to obtain information from police in Shanghai about his whereabouts have failed. Friends in China believe he may have been taken to his home city of Hefei in Anhui province, hundreds of kilometres from Shanghai.

Jiang Feng had previously been imprisoned for three years from 1999 to 2002 for his Falun Gong spiritual practice. When he went missing, he was on his way to join his wife, Mei Xuan, a musician with the New York-based Shen Yun Performing Arts group. She fled to the United States in 2006, following her release from four years' imprisonment in China for practising Falun Gong. Jiang Feng may have been detained in order to pressure her to cease her involvement with the Shen Yun Performing Arts group, as some of the group's performances include artistic representations of the persecution of the Falun Gong.

PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY in English, Chinese or your own language:

- Urging the authorities to reveal Jiang Feng's whereabouts;
- Calling for his immediate release unless charged with an internationally recognized crime;
- Calling for a guarantee that he will not be tortured or otherwise ill-treated while he remains in custody.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 21 JUNE 2010 TO:

Director of the Anhui Provincial Department of Public Security
XU Liquan Tingzhang
Anhuisheng Gong'anting
282 Anqinglu
Hefeishi 230061
Anhuisheng
People's Republic of China
Fax: +86 551 2801208
Salutation: Dear Director

Director of the Hefei City Public Security Bureau
Shouqunlu 290
Hefeishi 230041
Anhuisheng
People's Republic of China
Salutation: Dear Director

And copies to:

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

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives of China accredited to your country. Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Falun Gong is a spiritual movement that gained large numbers of supporters in China during the 1990s. After it staged a peaceful gathering in Tiananmen Square in July 1999, the government outlawed the group and launched a long-term campaign of intimidation and persecution, directed by a special organization called the 610 Office. Tens of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners have been arbitrarily detained since the spiritual movement was banned as a "threat to social and political stability". Practitioners have been held in psychiatric hospitals, in Re-education Through Labour (RTL) facilities, a form of administrative detention imposed without charge, trial or judicial review, or sentenced to long prison terms. Torture and other ill-treatment are endemic in all forms of detention, despite China’s ratification of the UN Convention against Torture in 1988. Falun Gong sources report numerous deaths of practitioners in custody, many caused by torture, in a variety of state institutions, including prisons, RTL facilities and police detention centres.

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