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PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Correction to the Eighth Anniversary of the 1989 Massacre - Those Who Have Been Silenced

19 May 1997

AI Index: ASA 17/20/97/cor

Action Ref: CHIRAN 2/97

Distr: CO/GR/SC

Please note that there has been a correction made to the addresses for Yu Zhenbin. The information and addresses below should replace the entry included in The Eighth Anniversary of the 1989 Massacre - Those Who Have Been Silenced, ASA 17/20/97 dated April 1997.

YU ZHENBIN

Yu Zhenbin, a prisoner of conscience, and civil servant from the Qinghai Provincial Archives Bureau was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment in January 1991.

Yu Zhenbin was apprehended on 27 June 1989 in Xining, the capital of Qinghai province, and charged with "organizing a counter-revolutionary group". He was accused of setting up the Democratic Opposition Parties' Alliance in Xining. The authorities alleged at the time that this organization was "counter-revolutionary" and

aimed at overthrowing the ruling Chinese Communist Party (CCP). Yu Zhenbin was also accused of having made three public speeches in Xining criticizing CCP policies and state leaders and distributing leaflets calling for a revised Constitution, a new central government and an end to one-party rule.

Yu Zhenbin, aged 35, is being held at the Haomen Farm, Detachment No. 3, in Beizhou, Qinghai Province. Very little information is known about Yu Zhenbin, probably partly because relatively little information leaked out of Qinghai during the time of the 1989 pro-democracy protests as compared with other parts of China. He is due for release in June 2001.

Amnesty International is concerned that Yu Zhenbin, a prisoner of conscience, is being held for the peaceful exercise of his right to freedom of expression and association and is appealing for his immediate and unconditional release.

ADDRESSES

Governor of the Qinghai Provincial People's Government

TIAN Chengping Shengzhang
Qinghaisheng Renmin Zhengfu
66 Xi Dajie
Xiningshi 810000
Qinghaisheng
People's Republic of China
Salutation: Dear Governor

President Qinghai Provincial High People's Court

MA Youngong Yuanzhang
Qinghaisheng Gaoji Renmin Fayuan
Xiningshi
Qinghaisheng
People's Republic of China
Salutation: Dear President

Chief Procurator Qinghai Provincial People's Procuratorate

LIU Xiao Jianchazhang
Qinghaisheng Renmin Jianchayuan
Xiningshi
Qinghaisheng
People's Republic of China
Salutation: Dear Sir

Please send telegrams/telexes/express and airmail letters in English, Chinese or in your own language, urging



Please send appeals to:

Title of Addressee

Name of Addressee

Address

People's Republic of China

Telexes:

Faxes:

(Please forward to ...)

(Salutation: Dear ...)

Title

Name

Address

People's Republic of China

Telexes:

Faxes:

(Please forward to ...)

(Salutation: ...)

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PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

THE EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1989 MASSACRE

THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN SILENCED

April 1997

AI Index: ASA 17/20/97

Action Ref: CHIRAN 2/97

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Eight years after the 4 June 1989 massacre of pro-democracy protesters in China, the Chinese Government has still not officially accounted for those killed, injured or arrested. The authorities still justify the events as the "suppression" of a "counter-revolutionary riot", and have taken no steps to publicly investigate the circumstances of the killings and bring to justice those found responsible for human rights violations. Eight years on Amnesty International maintains records of over 300 people who are still imprisoned and serving long sentences for their activities in connection with the 1989 protests.

The protests, which started in Beijing in mid-April 1989, spread quickly to many major cities in China's provinces. The protesters demands included an end to official corruption and calls for political reforms. Their demands drew wide public support, and millions joined peaceful demonstrations as the pro-democracy movement developed.

Following the crackdown on the night of 3-4 June in Beijing, hundreds of unarmed civilians were killed by the army, there were thousands of arrests and many were injured.

Amnesty International considers that many of the killings in Beijing on or after 3 June 1989 were extra-judicial executions: deliberate and targeted killings of peaceful demonstrators by government forces. Many other people were killed apparently as a result of troops firing at unarmed protestors and bystanders who posed no threat to army personnel. Troops used excessive force in a manner contravening international standards for

the use of force and firearms. As a result, many civilians who were simply onlookers or local residents were killed or injured.

Bereaved relatives of the victims still await an official explanation for the reasons behind the deaths. Those responsible for these killings have not been held accountable and no compensation is known to have been given to the families of those killed or injured. Instead, families who have attempted to openly mourn their dead or seek redress have suffered harassment and intimidation.

COMMEMORATIONS

Every year the 4 June anniversary becomes a focus for those directly affected by the crackdown against the 1989 pro-democracy movement. The families of those killed or injured have marked the occasion by urging the authorities to account for the deaths of their family members. Dissidents and other activities in China also regularly commemorate this date by making appeals and submitting petitions urging the authorities to re-assess the military crackdown, to release those still imprisoned for their activities relating to the 1989 protests and to account for those killed or missing. Overseas, large scale commemorative gatherings continue, including in Hong Kong and other Chinese communities.

Retired professor **Ding Zilin's** son Jiang Jieliang, aged 17, was one of those shot dead on the night of 3 June 1989. Despite harassment, economic sanction, intimidation and periodic detention, Ding Zilin and her husband Jiang Peikun have continued searching for relatives of other victims.

Assisted by friends and supporters, they have documented nearly 200 victims, and helped many bereaved families in difficulties. The authorities have reportedly accused the couple of "tarnishing China's image overseas" for their activities, but Ding Zilin has always insisted "I am doing nothing illegal...It is what the government should be doing, but if they won't do it, then I will". As well as calling on the National People's Congress to carry out an independent and fair investigation into the events of 4 June, the couple have signed petitions calling for greater official tolerance and the release of prisoners of conscience.

Another concerned citizen who attempted to monitor the fate of those imprisoned following the 4 June crackdown is currently serving a nine-year prison sentence for his efforts. **Li Hai**¹ was sentenced on 18 December 1996 to nine years' imprisonment for "prying into" alleged state secrets. The trial was held in secret and his family were excluded. Li Hai had been detained incommunicado for nearly 18 months during which time an initial charge of "hooliganism" was dropped and a replacement charge of "leaking state secrets" was rejected by the court. According to information received by Amnesty International, the charge of "prying into state secrets" was based solely on accusations that Li Hai had attempted to gather information about political prisoners jailed since the 1989 crackdown on the pro-democracy movement, including details of their cases and places of detention. Such information can in no way be construed as constituting a "state secret". Amnesty International considers that Li Hai was convicted and sentenced on this charge for attempting to monitor human rights violations in China and that he is a prisoner of conscience jailed in violation of international human rights standards. Li Hai had also joined other political activists signing petitions, such as the one reproduced below, to commemorate 4 June. Petitioners have called for the establishment of the rule of law, the implementation in practice of rights enshrined in the constitution, and action against continued human rights violations.

¹Li Hai was previously detained in June 1990, accused of activities relating to the first anniversary of the 1989 pro-democracy movement and released several months later.

Draw Lessons from the Sixtynine Democracy Movement of 1989

"June 4 1989 is a date indelibly engraved upon the memory of the Chinese people. Six years ago, Chinese university students and city residents took an epoch-making stand by expressing to the government their strong concern with public affairs, and voiced positive recommendations for advancing reforms, anti-corruption measures, freedom of speech, political democracy and the rule of law. Then people were horrified when roaring tanks pulverized these sincere tears and the rattle of machine guns drowned out these heartfelt cries...

We honour June 4th, for the souls of those who died wrongful deaths.

We commemorate June 4th, so that such a bloody tragedy will not happen again.

In looking back at the events of June 4, we find that one of the main reasons for this bloody tragedy was the inability of the rulers to face and adapt to the world trend toward openness, pluralism and democratization. Never having solved Chinese social problems through democratic procedures or the rule of law, they still viewed popular political participation from an antagonistic, authoritarian perspective...

The tragedy of June 4th was a warning to those in power that the government must not only respect the Constitution promulgated in 1983, but must formulate a series of laws and regulations on the basis of this Constitution... We feel that China urgently needs to formulate or revise the following constitutional provisions, laws and regulations: (1) regulations on the press and publishing; (2) regulations on association; (3) a declaration of human rights and freedoms; and (4) a constitutional court.

Respecting individual freedom, equality and dignity, guaranteeing indivisible inalienable, inviolable human rights, are the marks of social progress, mutual concern and human dignity. They are also the driving force and necessary requirements for progress toward modern democracy and the rule of law. Learning from the lessons of June 4th and the current human rights situation in China, we propose formulating a "Declaration of Human Rights and Freedoms" based on the present Chinese constitution, in order to let all the world know that China is approaching human rights issues with a new attitude...

The "Declaration of Human Rights and Freedoms" should state that human rights are the highest value which all governments should protect and guarantee. The declaration should specify that all human beings were born free and equal. It should lay down detailed principles for the realization and protection of human rights and freedoms...It should also specify the social obligations and responsibilities borne by each citizen, such as respecting the rights and freedom of others while exercising one's own.

The Chinese people have experienced many hardships on the road toward a modern democratic society, and June 4th was yet another great hardship. However, if we have enough conscience, wisdom, courage, confidence and will-power to face and reexamine our painful wounds, then hardship becomes the most treasured of possessions, for a people who have undergone hardships are a people of wealth, depth and great hope.

We firmly believe: Those who have suffered greatly, are greatly enlightened!"

(Translation reproduced from *China Rights Forum*, Summer 1995)

INITIATORS: Wang Zhihong, **Wang Dan**, Bao Zunxin, **Liu Nianchun**, **Liu Xiaobo**, Jiang Qisheng, Wu Xuecan, Sha Yuguang, Chen Xiaoping, Zhou Duo, Lin Mu, Huang Xiang, Liao Yiwu, Jin Cheng.

SIGNATORIES: Mang Ke, Li Xianting, Jiang Yue, Wang Donghai, Ma Shaohua, Wu Shuangyin, Yang Kuanxin, Liu Xianbin, Jin Yanming, Gou Qinghui, Xu Yonghai, Chen Quan, Song Xumin, Wang Qing, Li Zhiying, Wang Zhixin, Zhang Ling, Huang Tingjin, Ji Xiao, Li Guoping, Li Jinfang, He Depu, Hou Zongzhe, Wang Sufang, **Li Hai**, Qian Yumin, Xiao Yun, Li Jinyan, Hai Lan, Li Aimin, Yang Jing, Wang Yongqing, Gao Junsheng, Deng Huanwu, **Zhang Zongai**, Zhang Jiankang, Liu Jian, Wang Ziqiang.

Political activists who initiate or sign such petitions have put themselves at risk: some are detained and assigned to labour camps, others are regularly detained for questioning, subjected to surveillance and harassed as a result.² Last year Amnesty International recorded at least 50 arrests around the seventh anniversary of the pro-democracy protests. Several of those arrested have included students and workers involved in the 1989 pro-democracy protests who have already served terms of imprisonment and who have been re-arrested after signing petitions or participating in commemorative events around 4 June.

Wang Dan, a prisoner of conscience, and leading student activist, was imprisoned for four years for his involvement in the 1989 pro-democracy protests. After his release on parole in February 1993, he continued to call for democratic reforms and faced short-term detention and harassment as a result. Wang Dan was re-arrested in May 1995 after signing petitions calling on the authorities to respect human rights and re-assess the events of 1989. For 17 months Wang Dan was held arbitrarily and illegally, incommunicado and without charge until he was sentenced to 11 years' imprisonment for "conspiring to subvert the government".

Wang Dan's trial, which Amnesty International condemned as a parody of justice,³ was held at the Beijing Intermediate People's Court on 30 October 1996 and took only four hours to complete. Wang Dan was defended by his mother and a defence lawyer. No witnesses were called. A lengthy and obviously pre-prepared interview with the chief judge giving details of the trial was published in English by the official New China News Agency (NCNA) just one hour after the hearing ended, reinforcing the impression that the proceedings had been little more than a show trial and the verdict prepared in advance.

According to the indictment issued against Wang Dan, the charge of "conspiring to subvert the government" was based on accusations of writing articles critical of the government which were published overseas; having contacts with Chinese organizations and exiles in the USA; accepting financial assistance from overseas, drafting a petition to the authorities signed by over 80 and published overseas; keeping contact with other dissidents in China; and setting up a mutual assistance fund to help prisoners of conscience and their families.

As "proof" of Wang Dan's aim and activities to subvert the government, the verdict presented highly selective and distorted quotations from Wang Dan's articles, and cited his involvement in petitions including the one reproduced above. The verdict failed to take account of the fact that petitioning the authorities is a legitimate exercise of peaceful political expression enshrined in the Chinese constitution. Nowhere do the petitions call for the overthrow of the government.

It is clear that the "crimes" imputed to Wang Dan amounted to no more than the peaceful exercise of his fundamental right to freedom of expression and association, and that his activities did not present a threat to legitimate national security interests. No evidence was provided that his activities involved in any way a threat of the use of force or violence. Amnesty International believes Wang Dan is a prisoner of conscience and calls for his immediate and unconditional release.

²See *Detention and Harassment of Dissidents before 4 June Anniversary, AI Index: ASA 17/63/96, New Crackdown on Dissidents before 4 June Anniversary, ASA 17/31/95 and Update on Dissidents Detained around 4 June 1995, ASA 17/69/95.*

³See the News Service on China: Amnesty International Condemns Wang Dan's Trial as a Parody of Justice, ASA 17/94/96, dated 30 October 1996.

DEVELOPMENTS

Rapid economic change has continued in China since 1989, leading to increased freedoms for many and some relaxation of social controls. At the same time dissent and any activity perceived as a threat to the established political order continue to be repressed, and serious human rights violations continue. The handling of the legacy of 1989 is a stark illustration of this trend. Hundreds of prisoners of conscience remain incarcerated for their activities during the protests. Those whose activities are perceived as a challenge to the official version of the events of 1989 continue to be harassed, and imprisoned. They fall victim to the authorities growing use of state secrets and state security legislation to prosecute individuals who peacefully exercise their rights to freedom of expression and association, on the grounds that their activities "threaten" national security. Procedures enshrined in China's own laws are frequently disregarded in political cases, where different standards are often applied.

Such trends run counter to the Chinese government's international claims that it is working to improve human rights protection in China. They undermine official assertions that this is a new era of the "rule of law", "equality before the law". The Chinese authorities must show willingness to give substance to such statements by ensuring that human rights violations are treated as seriously as other violations of the law, and that the perpetrators are punished. "Equality before the law", reaffirmed during recent legal reforms, should also apply to all victims of 4 June 1989. They are entitled to equality of redress for human rights violations. They should have the same entitlement to express their views as the political elite. They should have equality with all citizens in exercising their right to freedom of association.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amnesty International calls on the Chinese Government:

- ◆ To launch an impartial and public enquiry into the killings of unarmed civilians and protestors by the army in Beijing on and after 4 June 1989 and to bring to justice those found responsible for human rights violations;
- ◆ To release all prisoners of conscience immediately and unconditionally;
- ◆ To review the cases of all other political prisoners and grant them a new trial, held in accordance with international standards for fair trial or to release them;
- ◆ To introduce effective safeguards to prevent torture and ill-treatment, as well as procedures to ensure that all reports and complaints of torture and ill-treatment are impartially investigated and those responsible made accountable;
- ◆ To ensure that all those who are in detention and in poor health receive proper and adequate medical care in accordance with the provisions set out in the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners;
- ◆ To take measures to ensure that all restrictions limiting the freedom of movement and association following the release of political prisoners are lifted and that the family and friends of those released are not harassed or tightly surveyed as a result.

ILLUSTRATIVE CASES OF PRISONERS IMPRISONED SINCE 1989

Amnesty International has records of over 300 cases of political prisoners or prisoners of conscience who are believed to be still imprisoned for their 1989 pro-democracy activities. These are only a fraction of the true figure detained for their involvement in the protests, and every year previously unknown cases come to Amnesty International's attention. For further details of these cases, see *List of 1989 Prisoners - Eight Years On*, ASA 17/21/97, dated April 1997. All these prisoners face long prison sentences after unfair trials. Many have been ill-treated or tortured and many are in poor health. Even after release, such prisoners often face restrictions on their freedom of movement and association, discrimination and continued harassment or surveillance by the authorities.

The six cases described below represent a cross section of prisoners who have received long prison sentences for their activities during the 1989 pro-democracy protests. They illustrate concerns typical in many more cases recorded by Amnesty International including: arbitrariness, unfair trials, political interference and disregard for the rule of law, and violation of international standards.

BAO TONG

"I know that even though I have left that prison, Qincheng, I have been thrown into this pen, the Western Hills..." **Bao Tong** said. *"In this pen, there is no law, there are no lawyers, there is no phone, there are no doctors."*

Bao Tong, a prisoner of conscience, sentenced to seven years' imprisonment and two years' deprivation of political rights, was the most senior official of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) imprisoned after the 1989 crackdown. His prison sentence, mostly spent in solitary confinement, expired over a year ago. Instead of being released, he has remained confined under "house arrest" in a government compound ever since.

Bao Tong, aged 65, was a member of the CCP Central Committee and a close assistant of the former CCP General Secretary, Zhao Ziyang, who resigned shortly before the imposition of martial law in Beijing on 20 May 1989. He was first arrested on 28 May 1989 a few days before the pro-democracy protests were crushed by the army in Beijing on 4 June 1989. Imprisoned in Qincheng prison, he was later placed under house arrest in May 1990. On 15 January 1992, Bao Tong was re-arrested and charged with "leaking state secrets" and counter-revolutionary incitement". He was sentenced on 21 July 1992 to seven years' imprisonment by the Beijing People's Intermediate Court. The trial was held in secret and lasted three hours. His family was refused entry to the court. Bao Tong appealed against the verdict but this was rejected.

According to the court verdict, the charge that Bao Tong had "leaked state secrets" was based solely on a private conversation he had on the evening of 17 May 1989 with another senior CCP official, who was also a researcher in the Research Centre which Bao Tong headed. The verdict gives no indication of the nature of the "important state secret situation" which Bao Tong allegedly leaked to his colleague, but information from other sources indicates it related to the impending declaration of martial law and the resignation of Zhao Ziyang as CCP Secretary General, both of which were made public on 20 May 1989. The second charge, "counter-revolutionary propaganda and incitement", was based on the accusation that he had "indicated agreement" to having the transcript of part of a private conversation with a senior official on 20 May 1989 made available to others.

When his sentence expired on 27 May 1996, Bao Tong was not released, but again placed under house arrest. He is now held at a work unit belonging to the State Council at Xishan, (the western hills), a distant suburb of Beijing. Bao Tong is prevented from leaving the heavily guarded work unit or from receiving any visitors other than his wife and two children. Amnesty International believes such restrictions amount to a disguised form of continued detention which has no legal basis.

Earlier this year, Bao's family stepped up their appeals for Bao Tong. His son Bao Pu sent an urgent appeal to the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention in March this year stating that his father's health had deteriorated considerably during his 10 months of house arrest and that he was being denied food and access to a lawyer. Bao's wife, Jiang Zongcao, also announced that her husband remains in one room, has no access to newspapers and until recently has been unable to see a doctor. Recent reports indicate that the authorities have now allowed Bao Tong to see a doctor and he is no longer being denied food.

His family have recently announced that the authorities will only release Bao Tong if his wife and daughter agree to leave their official apartment in Beijing. The family have so far refused to do this saying there are no grounds for Bao's detention but as soon as he is released anything can be negotiated.

Bao Tong's continued confinement is reported to be the result of decisions taken at the highest political level. It has no legal basis. Similarly, the original decision to sentence Bao Tong, nearly three years after his arrest, was considered to have been pre-determined by senior CCP leaders. Amnesty International believed that the charges against Bao Tong, brought in the context of the brutal repression of a pro-democracy movement, were not brought for legitimate reasons of protecting national security. The organization believed the charges were brought for political reasons, namely his association with Zhao Ziyang and pro-reform policies.

Bao Tong, a prisoner of conscience, has been in poor health since his arrest in 1989. Repeated calls have been made for his unconditional release and for proper medical treatment. His son, Bao Pu, in the letter to the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention in March, said, *"I am convinced that the totality of these insults form a deliberate pattern to force my father to accept arbitrarily imposed conditions for his release....Please understand that this is urgent and I am writing to you out of desperation. We ask no more than Bao Tong's unconditional release in accordance with Chinese law"*.

Amnesty International is concerned that Bao Tong remains under house arrest following the completion of his prison sentence over a year ago and that he is in poor health.

Amnesty International considers Bao Tong to be a prisoner of conscience and is appealing for his immediate and unconditional release.

ADDRESSES

Mayor of Beijing Municipal People's Government

JIA Qinglin Shizhang
Beijingshi Renmin Zhengfu
2 Zhengyilu
Dongchengqu
Beijingshi 100744
People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear Sir

Chief Procurator of Beijing Municipal People's Procuratorate

Jianchazhang
Beijingshi Renmin Jianchayuan
39 Dongjiaominxiang
Dongchengqu
Beijingshi 100006
People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear Sir

Minister of Justice of the People's Republic of China

XIAO Yang Buzhang
Sifabu
Xiaguangli
Beijingshi 100016
People's Republic of China

Salutation: Your Excellency

LI WANGYANG

Li Wangyang, , a prisoner of conscience, aged 43, was sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment for his involvement in the 1989 pro-democracy protests. He was a factory worker and comes from Shaoyang, Hunan Province.

Hunan was among the areas most active in rallying support for the 1989 pro-democracy protests and as a result protesters suffered retaliation by the authorities. On 20 May 1989 in response to the imposition of martial law, a number of workers decided to establish their own independent labour unions. Li Wangyang became chair of the independent Shaoyang Workers Autonomous Federation. He reportedly organized strikes and demonstrations, gave speeches and was a popular and influential figure locally in Shaoyang. Independent or autonomous workers' groups remain illegal in China and their members are at risk. The All China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU) is the only officially recognized trade union. It is government-controlled and maintains a monopoly on representing workers' interests in China. Workers involved in the 1989 pro-democracy movement received very lengthy sentences compared to other political activists.

Li Wangyang was arrested on 9 June 1989 a few days after the crackdown against civilians in Beijing. According to a report in the *Hunan Ribao*, Li Wangyang was accused of putting up banners, issuing leaflets, carrying out liaison trips, spreading rumours, uttering reactionary slogans, inciting workers to go on strike and founding the independent and autonomous workers organization in Shaoyang. He was charged with "counter-revolutionary propaganda and incitement" and tried by the Shaoyang City Intermediate People's Court in early 1990.

Li Wangyang was reportedly first sent to Longxi Prison, transferred to Yuanjiang Prison and then moved to the Yueyang Labour Reform Farm. Li Wangyang has reportedly been severely ill-treated. Torture and ill-treatment are frequently reported by prisoners in China. Hundreds of political detainees were reportedly tortured in the months following the government's crackdown on the 1989 pro-democracy movement. Prisoners are expected to conform to standards of behaviour which involve total obedience however arbitrary. This may be enforced by inmates appointed as "cell bosses" as well as by prison officers themselves. Prisoners have reported being tortured or ill-treated when they complain, do not fulfil work quotas, disobey orders or "resist reform". Since Li Wangyang's case has become known abroad, the authorities have reportedly offered to release him provided he "confessed to his crimes". Li Wangyang has so far refused to do so. He is due to be released in June 2002 aged 54.

Amnesty International is concerned that Li Wangyang, a prisoner of conscience, is being held for the peaceful exercise of his right to freedom of expression and association and about the reports of his ill-treatment.

Amnesty International is appealing for Li Wangyang's immediate and unconditional release and for the allegations of ill-treatment to be impartially investigated and for those responsible to be brought to justice.

ADDRESSESGovernor of the Hunan Provincial People's Government

YANG Zhengwu Shengzhang
 Hunansheng Renmin Zhengfu
 7 Wuyizhonglu
 Changshashi 410011
 Hunansheng
 People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear GovernorDirector of the Hunan Provincial Department of Justice

WU Zhenhan Tingzhang
 Sifating
 2 Shaoshanlu
 Changshashi 410011
 Hunansheng
 People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear DirectorYueyang Labour Reform Farm

Jianxin Laogai Zhidui
 Jianxin Nongchang
 Maosipu
 Yueyangshi
 Hunansheng
 People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear Director

NIU SHENGCHANG

Niu Shengchang, , a prisoner of conscience, described as a villager from Yunshan in Dongping County, Shandong Province, is serving a 12-year sentence for his involvement in the 1989 pro-democracy protests.

Niu Shengchang, aged 45, was reportedly an active member of the Beijing Peasants Autonomous Union and was officially reported to have been arrested on 16 June 1989 by Tengzhou city police for writing "reactionary" posters and posting "counter-revolutionary" leaflets in other localities in

Shandong Province. He reportedly went to Beijing on 18 May 1989 and "asked" to participate in the Beijing Autonomous Peasants' Federation. Together with students, he allegedly "resisted" the martial law troops in Beijing and returned to his home after 4 June the day of the crackdown by the

authorities in Beijing. He is said to have had a record of dissatisfaction: between 1984 and 1986, he reportedly went to Beijing eight times to present unspecified "appeals" to the higher authorities there.

Niu Shengchang is serving his sentence at Shandong Prison no. 3 in Weifang County. He is being kept in a segregated part of the prison along with other prisoners involved in the 1989 protests some of whom are reportedly serving sentences of 18 years for nonviolent counter-revolutionary offences relating to the 1989 protests.

Niu Shengchang will be 50 years old when he is released in June 2001.

Amnesty International is concerned that Niu Shengchang, a prisoner of conscience, is being held for the peaceful exercise of his right to freedom of expression and association.

Amnesty International is appealing for Niu Shengchang's immediate and unconditional release.

ADDRESSES

Governor of the Shandong Provincial People's Government

Li Chungting Shengzhang
Shandongsheng Renmin Zhengfu
193 Jinger Lu
Jinanshi
Shandongsheng
People's Republic of China
Telegram: Governor, Jinan, Shandong Province, China
Salutation: Dear Governor

Director of the Shandong Provincial Department of Justice

JIANG Renbao Tingzhang
Sifating
9 Jinshilu
Jinanshi 250014
Shandongsheng
People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear Director

Director of Shandong Prison no. 3

Shandongsheng di san jianyu
Weifang Shengjian Jixie Chang
128 Shengli Dajie
Weifang Xian
Shandongsheng
People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear Director

SUN CHUANHENG

Sun Chuanheng, aged 27, an unemployed worker was sentenced to life imprisonment on 14 August 1990 for "participating in armed mass rebellion", in accordance with Articles 90 and 95 of the Criminal Law.

Sun Chuanheng was apprehended in Beijing on 19 September 1989 and charged with arson. Almost a year later he was sentenced by the Beijing Intermediate People's Court to life. This sentence was later reduced to 20 years' imprisonment. The reason for the reduction in the sentence is not known nor is the date when the sentence was reduced.

According to the court verdict, Sun Chuanheng entered Tianamen Square in May 1989 and acted as a leader in one of the picket lines. On the night of 3 June when the 1989 pro-democracy protests were violently put down by the army, Sun Chuanheng was alleged to have distributed molotov cocktails to other protesters and to have thrown these at armoured personnel carriers. On 7 June 1989, Sun Chuanheng left for Tianjin where he was later apprehended and taken back to Beijing for trial.

He is serving his sentence with other prisoners held for their activities relating to the 1989 protests in Beijing no. 2 Prison. Sun Chuanheng has also reportedly suffered from severe back pain as a result of torture and he is in poor health and has stomach and eye problems.

Sun Chuanheng who was only 19 years old at the time of the offence, now faces another 20 years of imprisonment. This is a particularly harsh sentence against a young man who, in the climate of the crackdown, would have been presumed guilty before the trial began and who faced a trial which would not have been in accordance with agreed international standards of fairness. Amnesty International does not have any further information which disproves or confirms the accusations against Sun Chuanheng. However, given the turmoil and confusion which prevailed on the night of 3 June 1989, and the pressure exerted on participants to "confess" and denounce others in order to escape harsh punishment, the organization doubts whether the statements of the witnesses could accurately reflect the true situation at the time.

Sun Chuanheng will be 40 years old when he is due for release in June 2019.

Amnesty International is concerned that Sun Chuanheng may not have received a fair trial in accordance with international standards; that he has reportedly been ill-treated and is in poor health.

Amnesty International is appealing for a new and open trial in accordance with agreed international standards for those political prisoners detained during the 1989 crackdown, and that the allegations of ill-treatment be impartially investigated and those responsible be brought to justice.

ADDRESSESMayor of Beijing Municipal People's Government

JIA Qinglin Shizhang
Beijingshi Renmin Zhengfu
2 Zhengyilu
Dongchengqu
Beijingshi 100744
People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear SirDirector of Beijing Prison no. 2

Beijing Di Er Jianyu
24 Fenxiang
2357 Xinxiang
Chaoyangqu
Beijingshi
People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear DirectorPresident of Beijing Municipal High People's Court

SHENG Liangang Yuanzhang
Beijingshi Gaoji Renmin Fayuan
215 Xiheyuan
Chongwenqu
Beijingshi 100051
People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear PresidentChief Procurator of Beijing Municipal People's Procuratorate

Jianchazhang
Beijingshi Renmin Jianchayuan
39 Dongjiaominxiang
Dongchengqu
Beijingshi 100006
People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear Sir

YU ZHENBIN

Yu Zhenbin, a prisoner of conscience, and civil servant from the Qinghai Provincial Archives Bureau was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment in January 1991.

Yu Zhenbin was apprehended on 27 June 1989 in Xining, the capital of Qinghai province, and charged with "organizing a counter-revolutionary group". He was accused of setting up the Democratic Opposition Parties' Alliance in Xining. The authorities alleged at the time that this organization was "counter-revolutionary" and aimed at overthrowing the ruling Chinese Communist

Party (CCP). Yu Zhenbin was also accused of having made three public speeches in Xining criticizing CCP policies and state leaders and distributing leaflets calling for a revised Constitution, a new central government and an end to one-party rule.

Yu Zhenbin, aged 35, is being held at the Haomen Farm, Detachment No. 3, in Beizhou, Qinghai Province. Very little information is known about Yu Zhenbin, probably partly because relatively little information leaked out of Qinghai during the time of the 1989 pro-democracy protests as compared with other parts of China. He is due for release in June 2001.

Amnesty International is concerned that Yao Zhenbin, a prisoner of conscience, is being held for the peaceful exercise of his right to freedom of expression and association and is appealing for his immediate and unconditional release.

ADDRESSES

Governor of the Qinghai Provincial People's Government

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People's Republic of China
Salutation: Dear Governor

President Qinghai Provincial High People's Court

MA Yougong Yuanzhang
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Salutation: Dear President

Chief Procurator Qinghai Provincial People's Procuratorate

LIU Xiao Jianchazhang
 Qinghaisheng Renmin Jianchayuan
 Xiningshi
 Qinghaisheng
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Salutation: Dear Sir

ZHAO JUNLU

Zhao Junlu, , a prisoner of conscience, from Dandong, Liaoning Province, is serving a ten-year sentence for his activities during the 1989 pro-democracy protests.

Zhao Junlu, aged 28, was officially described as a vagrant who pretended to be a university student. He reportedly joined the Beijing student protests in Beijing on 17 May 1989 and participated in the hunger-strike and marches and then returned to Fuxin city, in Liaoning Province on 31 May. There he reportedly "incited and led" more than 600 college students to "besiege" the Fuxin city public security bureau (police). He was also reported to have given lectures to over 1,000 college students in Fuxin city, collected donations in the streets and displayed photos of the Tiananmen protests to pedestrians. For this, Zhao Junlu was charged with "counter-revolutionary propaganda and incitement". The date of Zhao Junlu's trial is not known, nor is the date of his arrest, although it is believed he was arrested sometime in June 1989.

Zhao Junlu is believed to be serving his sentence along with others arrested for their involvement in the 1989 protests, at the Lingyuan No. 2 Labour Reform Detachment. He is due for release in June 2008.

Amnesty International is concerned that Zhao Junlu is a prisoner of conscience held solely for the non-violent exercise of his right to freedom of conscience and expression and is appealing for his immediate and unconditional release.

ADDRESSES

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Salutation: Dear Governor

Chief Procurator of the Liaoning Provincial People's Procuratorate

YANG Yeqin Jianchazhang
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Salutation: Dear Sir

Director of the Liaoning Provincial Bureau of Reform-Through-Labour Administration

ZHENG Yueshan Juzhang
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Liaoningsheng
People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear Director

Lingyuan No. 2 Labour Reform Detachment

Lingyuan di er laogai zhidui
Lingyuan zhen
Lingyuan xian
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People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear Director

