

URGENT ACTION

ACTIVISTS ARRESTED FOR COMMEMORATING JUNE 4

Four activists have been formally arrested for “inciting subversion of state power” for commemorating the 27th anniversary of the Tiananmen crackdown by promoting a Chinese alcohol with a June 4 label including a picture of the “Tank Man”.

On 5 July, **Fu Hailu, Luo Fuyu and Zhang Junyong** were formally arrested for “inciting subversion of state power” after being detained for approximately one month. They were arrested for posting an online advertisement for a *baijiu*, a popular Chinese alcohol, with a label that read, “Remember, Eight Liquor Six Four” echoing the date of June 4, 1989. The label also has the picture of the iconic “tank man”.

Another activist, **Chen Bing**, was first taken away at Shuangliu Airport in Chengdu on 21 June evening and was released on bail on 30 June. However, he was formally arrested on suspicion of “inciting subversion of state power” on 6 July.

During the month of May and June, authorities have hunted down activists who organized commemoration activities for the Tiananmen crackdown. In total, 12 were criminally detained and eight of them have been released on bail, except for the four mentioned above. **Ma Qing** from Sichuan was released on bail on 21 June after she was taken away on 27 May. **Luo Yaling** from Chongqing was released on bail on 3 July after being criminally detained on suspicion of “picking quarrels and provoking trouble” for 31 days. Four activists from Beijing, **Xu Caihong, Ma Xinli, Liang Taiping, Li Wei** were released on bail on 29 June. They were criminally detained on 31 May and 1 June on suspicion of “picking quarrels and provoking trouble” after their gathering in Beijing to commemorate the anniversary. Two other Beijing activists **Zhang Baocheng** and **Zhao Changqing**, detained for the same allegation, were released on bail on 7 July.

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

- Calling on the authorities to immediately and unconditionally release Luo Fuyu, Zhang Junyong, Fu Hailu and Chen Bing as they have been detained solely for exercising the rights to freedom of expression;
- Calling on the Chinese authorities to ensure that while detained they are protected from torture and other ill-treatment, and have prompt access to any medical treatment on request or as needed, and to their lawyers and family.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 30 AUGUST 2016 TO:

Director

Chengdu City Detention Centre
Zhengyilu
Anqing Town
Pi County, Chengdushi 611731
People's Republic of China
Salutation: **Dear Director**

Minister of Public Security

Guo Shengkun
No 14. Dong Chang'an Jie
Dongchengqu, Beijing 100741
People's Republic of China
Email: gabzfwz@mps.gov.cn
Salutation: **Dear Director**

And copies to:

Premier

Li Keqiang Guojia Zongli
The State Council General Office
2 Fuyou Jie
Xicheng Qu, Beijing Shi 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. This is the third update of UA 138/16. Further information:

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa17/4360/2016/en/>

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



URGENT ACTION

ACTIVISTS ARRESTED FOR COMMEMORATING JUNE 4

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In April 1989, protests led by some university students in Beijing who gathered initially to mourn senior Communist Party official Hu Yaobang quickly spread across the country. The students demanded an end to corruption by officials, and called for political and economic reforms. Their demands drew wide public support. Peaceful demonstrations took place in Beijing and throughout China. The authorities failed to persuade the demonstrators to return home. As tensions escalated in Beijing, martial law was declared on 20 May.

On the night of 3 June, heavily armed troops and hundreds of armoured vehicles moved into the city to 'clear' the pro-democracy demonstrators. Many individuals, including children and elderly people, were shot dead by troops. By 4 June, the troops took full control of Beijing.

An official report issued by the Chinese authorities at the end of June 1989 claimed that 'more than 3,000 civilians were wounded and over 200, including 36 college students, died during the riot'. The report also stated that several dozen soldiers died. While the exact figures remain unknown, it is likely the official figures are too low.

Immediately after the military crackdown, the authorities began to hunt down those involved in the demonstrations. Many civilians were detained, tortured, or imprisoned after unfair trials. Many were charged with 'counter-revolutionary' crimes. 'Counter-revolutionary' offences were removed from the Criminal Law in 1997, yet the cases of those already jailed for these offences such as those involved in the 1989 pro-democracy protests were not reviewed.

Among the detained activists in this year's crackdown on activists commemorating the 27th anniversary of the Tiananmen crackdown, Zhang Baocheng, Zhao Changqing, and Li Wei were part of the loose network of New Citizens' Movement led by legal scholar Xu Zhiyong which promoted suggested activities for "New Citizens" that included: practicing "New Citizen Responsibility" by rejecting corruption and by doing good for society; participating in civic life by holding meetings to discuss the political situation; helping the weak; and uniting to share and coordinate work. Li Wei and Zhang Baocheng were each sentenced to two years' imprisonment and Zhao Changqing to two and a half years in April 2014 for "gathering a crowd to disrupt order of a public place". Li Wei was released in April 2015, Zhang Baocheng in March 2015 and Zhao Changqing in October 2015 after finishing their jail terms.

Name: Fu Hailu (m), Luo Fuyu (m), Zhang Junyong (m), Chen Wei (m), Zhang Baocheng (m), Zhao Changqing (m), Xu Caihong (f), Ma Xinli (m), Liang Taiping (m), Li Wei (m), Ma Qing (f), Luo Yaling (f)
Gender m/f: both

Further information on UA: 138/16 Index: ASA 17/4483/2016 Issue Date: 19 July 2016