

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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UA 303/94 Medical Concern/Ill-Treatment in detention/Prisoner of Conscience

17 August 1994

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Ulaanshuvu
(Wulan Shaobu)
male, aged 39

Amnesty International is concerned that Ulaanshuvu, a former lecturer at Inner Mongolia University, has been ill-treated in detention and has been denied medical attention for a number of serious health problems. Amnesty International believes that Ulaanshuvu is a prisoner of conscience detained solely for the peaceful exercise of his right to freedom of expression and opinion.

According to information just received from Inner Mongolia, as of last week Ulaanshuvu, who has been detained since 31 July 1991, is in poor general health, suffers from recurrent kidney trouble, a heart complaint and a number of other ailments for which he has not receiving any medical attention. He is also reportedly not receiving adequate food and has lost a lot of weight.

Ulaanshuvu only has one kidney (one was removed in an operation several years before his detention) and is said to have been ill before he was imprisoned in 1991. Since then the condition of his remaining kidney is said to have deteriorated and he is reported to have had severe problems with his heart. He is also believed to have had trouble with his feet and back and to have needed the assistance of a stick to walk when he left the courtroom after being sentenced in April 1994.

Amnesty International believes that Ulaanshuvu has been ill-treated both in police custody prior to being sentenced, and also in the Yiguangzhaoming No.5 Prison where he is currently detained. After his arrest in July 1991, Ulaanshuvu was detained in the Inner Mongolia Public Security Bureau [Police] Political Prisoners Jail where he is reported to have been verbally abused, subjected to long periods of interrogation and deprived of sleep by the use of continual bright lights. From 31 July 1992 to the autumn of 1992 Ulaanshuvu is reported to have been kept handcuffed in a windowless cell which was too small for him to stand up in.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Before his detention in 1991, Ulaanshuvu was a lecturer and researcher at the Institute of Modern and Contemporary Mongolian History at Inner Mongolia University in Hohhot. His arrest in July 1991 was on the grounds that he allegedly passed confidential documents to a British journalist.

Some time in 1993 Ulaanshuvu is believed to have been brought to a preliminary court hearing but was not actually tried until 15 April 1994 when he was brought before the Hohhot Hui People's District Court in Inner Mongolia. After a trial lasting less than half an hour, Ulaanshuvu was sentenced to five years' imprisonment on charges of "counter-revolutionary incitement and spreading subversive propaganda". The charges relate to accusations of participating in the pro-democracy events of June 1989, participating in an "illegal World Mongolia Conference", "... wickedly promoting opposition to the [Chinese Communist] Party's nationalities policy", and of "promoting separatism ...". On 8 January 1994 the Chinese authorities reportedly produced an internal document, which described Ulaanshuvu as being "number one enemy" in Inner

Mongolia.

In June 1989 Ulaanshuvu took a leading role in pro-democracy activities in Inner Mongolia, as a result of which he was suspended from work and placed under investigation. In 1990 and 1991 he was involved in the Youth Mongolian Culture Revival Movement and he is also said to have been a key member of the Inner Mongolian Alliance for the Defence of Human Rights, an underground group founded in 1986 to promote awareness of human rights within Inner Mongolia and to publicise abroad the Chinese authorities' suppression of human rights.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes and airmail letters:

- urging the authorities to release Ulaanshuvu immediately and unconditionally;
- expressing concern that Ulaanshuvu is a prisoner of conscience arbitrarily detained for the peaceful exercise of his right to freedom of expression and opinion;
- expressing concern that Ulaanshuvu has been ill-treated in detention resulting in a serious deterioration in his health and that he has been denied medical treatment.

APPEALS TO

Premier of the People's Republic of China

LI Peng Zongli

Guowuyuan

9 Xihuangchenggenbeijie

Beijingshi 100032

People's Republic of China

Telexes: 210070 FMPC CN or 22478 MFERT CN

Faxes: + 86 1 512 5810 (via Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Telegrams: Premier Li Peng, Beijing, China

Salutation: Your Excellency

Chairman, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Regional People's Government

Wuliji Zhuxi

Nei Menggu Zizhiqu Renmin Zhengfu

1 Xinhua Dajie

Hohhotshi 010055

Nei Menggu Zizhiqu

People's Republic of China

Telegram: Chairman of the People's Government Wuliji, Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear Chairman Zhuxi

Director, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Regional Department of Justice

Ha Si Tingzhang

Sifating

1 Xinhua Dajie

Hohhotshi 010055

Nei Menggu Zizhiqu

People's Republic of China

Faxes: + 86 471 668313

Telegram: Director of the Department of Justice Ha Si, Hohhot, Inner Mongolia,

People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear Sir

and to diplomatic representatives of the People's Republic of China accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 28 September 1994.