



## Chinese Human Rights Defenders (CHRD) 维权网

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Promoting human rights and empowering grassroots activism in China

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### China Human Rights Briefing Weekly

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#### *Highlights*

- **After Video Detailing House Arrest is Released, Police Beat Chen Guangcheng and Wife:** CHRD learned this week that human rights defender Chen Guangcheng (陈光诚) and his wife Yuan Weijing (袁伟静) were beaten by police after a video the couple recorded detailing their lives under house arrest was posted to the internet. A reliable source called the beating “not light,” but also not life-threatening; further details remain unavailable as of the time of writing.
- **Young AIDS Activist, Detained since August 2010, Sentenced to One Year in Prison:** Twenty-three year-old AIDS activist Tian Xi (田喜) was sentenced to one year in prison this week by the Xincui County Court in Zhumadian City, Henan Province. Tian was detained in August 2010 and charged with “intentional destruction of property” following a dispute with the director of the hospital where he contracted AIDS as a young boy following a tainted blood transfusion.

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### **Arbitrary Detention**

#### **Chen Guangcheng and Wife Beaten by Police in Retaliation for Video**

CHRD learned on February 10 that human rights defender Chen Guangcheng (陈光诚) and his wife Yuan Weijing (袁伟静) were beaten by National Security officers from Linyi City and police from Shuanghou Town at their home in Yinan County, Shandong Province, in the evening of February 8. According to a reliable source, the beating was "not light" but not life-threatening either, but Chen and Yuan are being prevented from going to a hospital for treatment. It is believed that the beating is related to a videotape, recorded by Chen and his family and later released internationally by the group China Aid, which details the illegal house arrest to which they have been subjected after Chen was released from prison in September 2010. Further details regarding Chen and Yuan's condition are not currently available. (CHRD)<sup>i</sup>

#### **AIDS Activist Tian Xi Sentenced to One Year in Prison**

On February 11, the Xincai County Court in Zhumadian City, Henan Province, sentenced AIDS activist Tian Xi (田喜) to one year in prison for "intentional destruction of property." Liang Xiaojun (梁小军), Tian's lawyer, reported that Tian appeared very physically weak in court, but that he was in good spirits. Tian, who is 23 years old, contracted AIDS as a boy as the result of a tainted blood transfusion at Number One People's Hospital in Xincai County. He was detained in August 2010 after an argument with the director of the government hospital, and was tried on September 21, 2010. Prior to his arrest, Tian was working to defend the rights of AIDS patients in Beijing. (CHRD)<sup>ii</sup>

#### **Hubei Activist Yao Lifa Seized at His Home, Whereabouts Unknown**

On the evening of February 12, Qianjiang City human rights defender Yao Lifa (姚立法) was seized at his home by teachers from the school where he is employed and forced into a waiting vehicle. He was then driven away; his current whereabouts are unknown. It is believed that Yao's

"disappearance" is related to upcoming elections of the People's Congress and the People's Political Consultative Conference at the county and township levels across China. Yao, an elections expert, has been actively organizing independent candidates and observers to run for and monitor these elections. Yao was most recently "disappeared" for a period of two days at the beginning of February 2011. This is the fifth time he has gone missing since October 2010. (CHRD)<sup>iii</sup>

### **Officials in Sichuan Seek to Delay Hearing for Detained Activist Liu Xianbin**

CHRD has learned that the Sichuan Provincial Bureau of Justice contacted Wang Wei (王伟), lawyer for dissident and activist Liu Xianbin (刘贤斌), shortly before Spring Festival to request that Wang apply to defer a court hearing for Liu's case. Wang reportedly rejected the government's request. According to relevant regulations, a hearing must soon be held for Liu, who has been detained since June 28, 2010, and charged with "inciting subversion of state power." He remains in Suining City Detention Center in Sichuan Province. Liu originally hired human rights lawyers Ma Xiaopeng (马小鹏) and Mo Shaoping (莫少平) as his lawyers, but the authorities have barred his access to them since mid-November, while forcing a third lawyer believed to be more susceptible to government pressure, Wang Wei, to take over as Liu's lawyer. (CHRD)<sup>iv</sup>

### **Zhejiang Dissident Placed under Soft Detention to Prevent Gathering to Celebrate Mubarak's Ouster**

CHRD has learned that Zhejiang-based dissident Wei Shuishan (魏水山) has been held under "soft detention" in a Hangzhou City hotel since the morning of February 12. Wei had planned to meet with friends in Hangzhou on February 12 to celebrate the news that protestors in Egypt had succeeded in ousting President Mubarak. He is reportedly being guarded by three National Security officers and two security guards. A number of other activists and dissidents who had planned to attend the gathering along with Wei were similarly placed under "soft detention" or summoned for questioning on that day. (CHRD)<sup>v</sup>

### **Freedom of Assembly**

#### **Police in Anhui Summon Netizens, Break up Gathering with Beijing Activist Butcher**

On February 10, well-known Beijing-based human rights activist "Butcher" (real name: Wu Gan [吴淦]) was seized by police after traveling to Bangbu City, Anhui Province, to meet with local netizens. Anhui Province-based netizens Wu Lebao (吴乐宝), Zhang Lin (张林), and Qian Jin (钱进) were also briefly detained by police. Police summoned the four for questioning, claiming they were suspected of taking part in "an illegal pyramid scheme." Wu, Zhang, and Qian were released after approximately six hours, while Butcher was released later that evening. (CHRD)<sup>vi</sup>

## Harassment of Activists

### **Beijing Activist Ni Yulan Visited by US Ambassador as Police Harassment Continues**

On February 11, United States Ambassador to China Jon Huntsman visited with Beijing-based activist and former lawyer Ni Yulan (倪玉兰) in the hotel room where she and her husband are currently living. February 11 marked the 54th day without electricity for the couple in their Yuxingong Guesthouse room, where police have pressured hotel management to turn off the internet and water intermittently as well in an attempt to force Ni and her husband out. Ni was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in 2008 for resisting the forced demolition of her home; since her release from prison on April 15, 2010, Ni and her husband have been forced to live on the street or in guesthouses because their home was forcibly demolished. (CHRD)<sup>vii</sup>

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### News updates from CHRD

Chinese Human Rights Defenders (CHRD) is a China-based, non-political, non-governmental network of grassroots and international activists promoting human rights and empowering grassroots activism in China. CHRD's objective is to support human rights activists in China, monitor human rights developments, and assist victims of human rights abuses. CHRD advocates approaches that are non-violent and based on rule of law. CHRD conducts research, provides information, organizes training, supports a program of small grants to human rights activists and researchers, and offers legal assistance.

*Chinese Human Rights Briefing* (CHRB) is a daily newsletter providing the latest information on China's human rights developments. Our information originates from Chinese human rights defenders and groups at the grassroots. CHRD is responsible for all information published in CHRB. A compilation of each week's CHRBs, updated daily, is available on our website.

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<sup>i</sup> "Special Alert: Chen Guangcheng and Wife Beaten by Police; Unable to Get out of Bed" (特别快讯: 陈光诚夫妇被国保及警察殴打致伤无法下床), February 10, 2011, <http://news.boxun.com/news/gb/china/2011/02/201102101722.shtml>

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<sup>ii</sup> "AIDS Activist Tian Xi Sentenced to One Year in Prison" (艾滋病维权人士田喜 被判刑一年), February 12, 2011, <http://www.peacehall.com/news/gb/china/2011/02/201102120112.shtml>

<sup>iii</sup> "Elections Expert Yao Lifa Taken Away from His Home; Whereabouts Unknown" (选举专家姚立法被从家中强制带走不知去向), February 12, 2011, <http://news.boxun.com/news/gb/china/2011/02/201102122331.shtml>

<sup>iv</sup> "Court Requests Lawyers for Liu Xianbin Apply for Deferral of Hearing" (法院要求律师主动申请刘贤斌案延期开庭), February 13, 2011, <http://news.boxun.com/news/gb/china/2011/02/201102132038.shtml>

<sup>v</sup> "Hangzhou Dissident Wei Shuishan Detained More than 30 Hours" (杭州异议人士魏水山 被关押超过 30 个小时), February 13, 2011, <http://news.boxun.com/news/gb/china/2011/02/201102132238.shtml>

<sup>vi</sup> "Human Rights Activist Butcher Summoned for 'Illegal Pyramid Scheme' in Qufu City" (维权人士屠夫在蚌埠 被以“非法传销”传唤), February 10, 2011, <http://news.boxun.com/news/gb/china/2011/02/201102102336.shtml>

<sup>vii</sup> "Human Rights Lawyer Ni Yulan Without Electricity for 54th Day; US Ambassador Huntsman Visits" (维权律师倪玉兰被断电 54 天 美国驻华大使洪博培看望), February 12, 2011, <http://www.peacehall.com/news/gb/china/2011/02/201102121354.shtml>