



Chinese Human Rights Defenders (CHRD) 维权网

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Promoting human rights and empowering grassroots activism in China

China Human Rights Briefing

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Highlights

- **Updates on Detentions and Disappearances Related to the “Jasmine Revolution” Crackdown:** Guangzhou-based lawyer **Liu Shihui** (刘士辉), who went missing in February and was released on bail in June, reveals the torture he suffered while in police custody. Also, the “inciting subversion” cases against Sichuan activists **Chen Wei** (陈卫) and **Ding Mao** (丁矛) have been transferred for a second time to the procuratorate, while Beijing netizen and writer **Hu Di** (胡荻) was recently found to be held in a psychiatric hospital.
- **AIDS Activist, Activist-Writer Released:** Two prominent activists, **Tian Xi** (田喜) and **Lü Gengsong** (吕耿松), were released over the past week after completing prison sentences. An AIDS activist from Henan Province, Tian went home on August 18 after a one-year sentence during which he endured grim prison conditions. Lü, a prolific writer and democracy activist from Hangzhou, was freed on August 23 after serving four years in prison for “inciting subversion.”
- **Closure of Beijing Schools Jeopardizes Migrants’ Children:** The Beijing Municipal Education Commission has ordered the closure of about 30 local schools for children of migrant workers. Guidelines issued to remaining schools will make it difficult for thousands of children to become enrolled, and there is concern that many affected children won’t be able to continue their studies despite the government’s plans to arrange for them to access education.

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Arbitrary Detention

Updates on Detentions and Disappearances Related to the “Jasmine Revolution” Crackdown

Sichuan Activists’ Cases Submitted to Procuratorate for Second Time

The cases of two Sichuan activists who have been formally arrested for “inciting subversion of state power,”* **Ding Mao** (丁矛) of Mianyang City and **Chen Wei** (陈卫) from Suining City, have been submitted to the local procuratorates for the second time, according to their families. After the local public security bureaus first submitted their cases to the procuratorate, the cases were sent back for further investigation due to insufficient evidence. Under Chinese law, a procuratorate can only review a case twice before either dismissing it or transferring it to a court.

The two activists are among 10 people documented by CHRD to have been formally arrested as part of the “Jasmine Revolution” crackdown. Ding, who was seized from his home on February 19 and formally arrested on March 25, is being held at the Mianyang City Detention Center. Chen was criminally detained on February 20 and formally arrested on March 28, and is being held at the Suining City Detention Center. (HRCC)[i]

Guangzhou Lawyer, Released in June, Reveals Torture During Disappearance

Liu Shihui (刘士辉), a Guangzhou-based human rights lawyer released on bail on June 12, has spoken openly for the first time about torture he suffered during his disappearance. On February 25, Guangzhou police searched his home and confiscated a number of items before taking him into custody. Once in police control, Liu was deprived of sleep and repeatedly interrogated for five straight days. His left leg, which was broken by a group of unidentified individuals while Liu was waiting at a bus stop to participate in the February 20 “Jasmine Revolution” protests in

Guangzhou, had become swollen. Though already very thin, he reportedly lost weight while he was held. From what he endured, Liu is now in poor health and has trouble sleeping. Also, against Liu's repeated wishes, police took his wife, who is originally from Vietnam, into custody without producing any legal documentation. Police held her illegally for 17 days before sending her back to Vietnam. (CHRD)[ii]

Netizen-Writer Hu Di Now in Psychiatric Hospital; Police Seize Visitor

CHRD learned on August 19 that the Beijing netizen and writer **Hu Di (胡荻)**, who had been missing since March, is currently being held in a psychiatric hospital. After rumors spread that Hu is being held in the Hefei No. 4 Hospital (a psychiatric hospital), netizen **Zheng Tao (郑涛, aka @LuoFee [罗非])** went to the hospital on August 19 and saw Hu for a very short time before a doctor accompanying him demanded Zheng leave and finally dragged him away. Zheng reported that Hu was in good spirits but had grown thin, and that Hu indicated he had been held in the hospital for more than 10 days by the time of the visit. It remains unknown why Hu is being held at the institution, whether his family can visit him, or what happened to Hu during his months of disappearance.

On August 21, officers from the Hefei City Public Security Bureau (PSB) took away Zheng, and he cannot be contacted at the time of writing. Before being seized and driven off in an unmarked vehicle, Zheng sent a Twitter message out indicating that the police had contacted him and were coming to get him, presumably since he had visited Hu. (CHRD)[iii]

Authorities Dismiss Appeal, Lawsuits Pursued on Behalf of Chongqing Resident in RTL

CHRD learned on August 17 that Chongqing authorities dismissed an administrative appeal and administrative litigation lawsuit pursued by the family of **Huang Chengcheng (黄成诚)**, a Chongqing resident issued two years of Re-education through Labor (RTL) in April. In the administrative appeal, Huang's family argued that he was only responsible for some of the speech described in the decision. The Chongqing Municipal RTL Committee dismissed the appeal on August 4, and then made corrections to the text in the decision on August 5 without lifting the punishment. On August 8, Huang's family went to the Chongqing No. 1 Intermediate People's Court to file the lawsuit against the RTL committee, contending that the legal provisions in the RTL decision were applied incorrectly, but the court refused to file the case.

Detained on March 19 and currently held at the Xishanping RTL facility, Huang was sent to RTL for "inciting subversion of state power" for allegedly sending "Jasmine"-related messages in February and March that invited others to meet around the Chongqing People's Liberation Monument, where he would be carrying flowers or drinking "jasmine tea." (CHRD)^[iv]

Read more about individuals affected by the crackdown, as documented by CHRD, at: http://chrdnet.org/2011/06/17/jasmine_crackdown/

Writer-Activist Lü Gengsong Released, Others' Face Restrictions in Movement

On August 23, the writer and democracy rights activist **Lü Gengsong** (吕耿松), from Hangzhou City, Zhejiang Province, was released from Xijiao Prison after completing a four-year sentence for “inciting subversion of state power.” Prior to his release, authorities attempted to restrict the freedom of dissidents who had planned to receive him outside the prison. **Wei Zou** (邹巍) was forcibly taken by Hangzhou National Security officers on a “trip” to nearby Lin’an City. In addition, dissident **Wu Yilong** (吴义龙) was taken away for “tea” by the police.

A member of the China Democracy Party, Lü Gengsong was initially detained for “inciting subversion” in August 2007, convicted in a closed trial in January 2008, and later sentenced the to four years in prison. (CHRD)[v]

AIDS Activist Tian Xi Freed, Subjected to Grim Conditions in Detention

In the early morning of August 18, **Tian Xi** (田喜), an AIDS activist from Xincui County, Henan Province, was released and taken back to his home by authorities after completing a one-year sentence for “intentional destruction of property.” Tian was reportedly held in very poor conditions at the Shangcai County Detention Center, as he was kept in an unheated cell and not provided adequate nutrition. Tian suffers a myriad of illnesses due to complications from AIDS, including hepatitis B and C, and due to his ongoing fragile health, his lawyer had previously requested he be released on medical parole, but authorities refused.

Tian, who has worked for years to defend the rights of AIDS patients, was detained and then arrested in August of 2010 after a dispute with the director of the Number One People’s Hospital in Xincui County, where he contracted AIDS as a young boy from a tainted blood transfusion. His trial was held last September, and the Xincui County People’s Court eventually convicted him in February. (CHRD)^[vi]

Heilongjiang Farmer Sentenced, Had Advocated for Son Disabled by Vaccines

Yang Yukui (杨玉奎), a farmer from Tieli Town, Tieli City, Heilongjiang Province, was sentenced on August 15 to five months for “creating a disturbance” by the Xicheng District People’s Court in Beijing. The case stemmed from Yang’s efforts to seek accountability and treatment for his five-year-old son, who Yang believes was made ill by faulty vaccinations given by a Tieli hospital on the day he was born. On July 27, officers from the Xicheng District Public Security Bureau took Yang into custody after he went to the Beijing Children’s Hospital to obtain medical care for his son. After an argument broke out between Yang and the doctors, the officers came and took him away under the pretext of mediating the situation, but then arrested him. The judge at Yang’s trial ignored requests from Yang and his attorney to view hospital surveillance video that could have proven his actions hadn’t constituted a crime.

In June, security personnel from the Beijing hospital beat Yang and his wife, **Zhou Suying** (周素影) on three separate trips they made there to address their son’s situation. Yang had also approached the Ministry of Health about his child’s problems, only to be beaten by ministry security officers and drivers from the local health bureau. (CHRD)^[vii]

Hebei Petitioner Sent to RTL, Whereabouts Unknown

CHRD has learned that **Ma Lijun** (马丽君), a petitioner from Shijiazhuang City, Hebei Province, who was seized in Beijing in early August, has been sent to 18 months of Re-education through Labor (RTL) for “disrupting public order,” according to her husband, **Jin Qi** (金琪). Jin received a notice on August 22 from the Shijiazhuang RTL Management Committee outlining the punishment, which began on August 9. But the notice does not reveal where she is being detained and, in violation of RTL regulations, her family was never told of a hearing before she was sent to RTL. Jin contacted the local police chief about the situation, but the chief told Jin that the matter was out of his hands. Jin then was unable to contact the RTL committee to find out about his wife, as the committee’s number was not listed in the telephone directory. According to Jin, various local authorities have reprimanded and threatened him for giving media interviews about his wife’s case. (CHRD)[viii]

Fuzhou Petitioners Issued Detentions for Leafleting in Front of U.S. Embassy

On August 11, Beijing police issued five-day administrative detentions to eight petitioners from Cangshan District, Fuzhou City, Fujian Province, who had passed out leaflets outside the U.S. Embassy after their grievances over home demolitions hadn’t been resolved through petitioning. In Beijing, officers from the Chaoyang District PSB took into custody and ordered detentions for, among others, **Zhang Xiuping** (张秀屏), **Lin Dongfa** (林东发), **Zheng Borong** (郑伯榕), **Hu Shuyuan** (胡淑媛), and **Lin Hong** (林鸿). In addition, Zhang was taken to the Chengmen Police Station once she was back to Cangshan and ordered to serve a 10-day administrative detention for the same offense. (HRCC)[ix]

Shandong Petitioners Seized in Beijing for Contacting “Hostile” Websites

CHRD learned on August 19 that Beijing police officers recently seized a group of five petitioners from Danxian County, Shandong Province, according to a friend of the petitioners. The friend called the emergency number several times, but police responded they did not know where the petitioners were being held and were unable to help. Reportedly, the group was being held because they allegedly had “contacted websites run by hostile foreign elements.” The petitioners, who include **Guo Nana** (郭娜娜), had gone to Beijing after experiencing violent demolitions of their homes, and had unsuccessfully pursued their grievances in Beijing for a week by the time they were seized. At the time of writing, the fate and whereabouts of the petitioners could not be confirmed. (CHRD)[x]

Police Take Away Heilongjiang Petitioner From Tiananmen Square

On the evening of August 15, police at Tiananmen Square seized **Chu Dongfang** (初东方), a petitioner from Yanjiang Township, Jiamusi City, Heilongjiang Province, as she distributed leaflets about a life imprisonment sentence issued to her brother, according to a fellow Jiamusi petitioner. Chu, who had escaped on August 11 after 11 days of detention in a black jail for petitioning, was taken back into custody by police when she went to Tiananmen to pass out petitioning materials. Police on the scene questioned Chu and then handed her over to the

Tiananmen Square branch of the Beijing Public Security Bureau. After being held at the branch station until around midnight, Chu was handed over to interceptors from the Heilongjiang Provincial government, who took her to a black jail.

Chu's petitioning stems from a life sentence given to her elder brother in 2000. According to Chu, the director of the Yanjiang Police Station framed her brother in the incident, and he fabricated evidence that the Jiamusi City Intermediate People's Court weighed heavily in its verdict. For petitioning on her brother's behalf, Chu had previously been imprisoned for three years and has been detained in a black jail several times. (CHRD)^[xi]

Harassment of Activists

Authorities Take Away Anhui Activist for Questioning, Search Home

CHRD has learned that, on August 19, police questioned **Li Wenge** (李文革), an activist from Bengbu City, Anhui Province, and also searched his home. After producing a search warrant and summons, members of the local national security division entered Li's residence, confiscated a camera and the hard disk from his computer, and threatened his wife. Li came home later that evening after being interrogated, but without his property. A longtime rights activist, Li has recently been subject to heightened harassment for expressing support online for fellow Bengbu activist **Wu Yuebao** (吴乐宝), who was criminally detained in July for "inciting subversion of state power" after sending out messages on Twitter that allegedly "abused" leaders of the Chinese Communist Party. (CHRD)[xii]

Guizhou Officers Break Up Rights Activity, Take Away Key Participants

On August 20, authorities broke up a public activity organized by members of the Guizhou Human Rights Forum in Guiyang City, Guizhou Province, and took away several participants. The activity, where members of the Forum read aloud a list of citizens' political rights and distributed copies of political news downloaded from dongtaiwang.com, a website blocked in China, was held at the main entrance of Qingling Park. Guiyang national security officers and up to 60 public security officers interfered with the activity, which had attracted many people. Police took away five organizers and participants of the activity, including **Mi Chongbiao** (糜崇标), **Li Renke** (李任科), and **Fan Houcheng** (范厚成). They were released on August 22. (CHRD)[xiii]

Shenzhen Security Personnel Harass, Restrict Freedom of Petitioners Around Summer Universiade

CHRD learned on August 16 that, around the time of the Summer Universiade in Shenzhen City, Guangdong Province, police have harassed several petitioners and restricted their movement and personal freedom. On the morning of August 15, seven or eight police officers from the Shenzhen PSB and personnel from the Futian Subdistrict Office went to the Citic Tower and tried to take petitioner **Yuan Peiwei** (袁佩玮) away, but she broke free, returned to her office, and locked the door. Officers threatened her and continued to keep watch outside her office and only left after 10 p.m. The next day, Yuan was monitored by personnel from the Huaqiang

Subdistrict Office, who constantly warned and threatened her while following her to a Universiade soccer match.

Several rights violations suffered by other individuals have also been reported:

- **Zhao Guoli (赵国莉)**, a petitioner and rights activist, was seized and then detained in an apartment in Xinxiu Village before the Universiade began. A friend of Zhao who had come to Shenzhen to see her was also locked up by hired thugs. **Li Xiaozhen (李小贞)** and her husband, petitioners from Guangzhou who had gone to where Zhao was held, called the police. But officers ignored Zhao's situation and instead took the couple to a police station, and a dozen officers later took them back to Guangzhou.
- **Luo Xiancai (罗贤才)**, a Shenzhen petitioner, was taken away on a "tour" of Yellow Mountain and Hangzhou after refusing to sign a letter of guarantee not to stir up trouble.
- Petitioners **Zeng Xiankai (曾宪开)** and **Zhou Xiufeng (周秀峰)** were taken to Sichuan Province and being held in a guesthouse. (CHRD)^[xiv]

Harassment of Human Rights Lawyers

Police Seize Rights Lawyer in Harbin

In the morning of August 18, police in Harbin City, Heilongjiang Province seized human rights lawyer **Wu Zhenqi (吴镇琦)**, who had come to Harbin from his home in Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province, to assist with the case of **Yu Yunfeng (于云峰)**, a petitioner sent to two years of RTL in late July. On August 18, after Wu had interviewed **Li Erping (李二平)**, a Harbin netizen connected with the case, seven or eight officers from the Northeast Forestry University Security Division came and took them in for questioning. Li was released that afternoon, but Wu continued to be held. Attempts to contact Wu by phone have failed. (CHRD)^[xv]

Forced Eviction and Demolition/Land Expropriation

Hundreds in Shanghai Protest for Days Over Land Requisition, Demolitions

Since August 17, several hundred residents from Anting Town, Jiading District, Shanghai Municipality, have protested over land requisition and demolitions. The residents, who reportedly have numbered more than 300, are demanding the Shanghai government look into possible illegalities in their local town government's process of property demolition and land requisition, and also investigate those responsible. Police officers and security guards have intimidated and threatened protesters, and security has been stationed around the Anting subway stop in an attempt to prevent residents from reaching the city center. A number of individuals have been taken away to local police stations after managing to reach the city to protest at the government building. To try to quell the protest, Anting's vice-mayor has ordered other local officials to forcibly hold between 20 and 30 Anting residents inside their homes. A staff member at the Shanghai Municipality Letters and Visits Office reportedly has told protesters that they would not accept any of their grievances. (CHRD)^[xvi]

Sichuan Authorities Beat Women, Elderly Opposing Evictions, Demolitions

On August 19, authorities beat women and elderly residents who had gathered to protest land expropriation and home demolitions in three villages in Shengdeng Township, Chengdu City, Sichuan Province. The previous day, 40 local residents went to the township government to protest, but the government refused to receive them. More than 20 women and elderly residents continued to wait into the early morning of August 19, when a total of about 50 police officers, security personnel, government personnel, and unidentified individuals came and beat the residents, who suffered various injuries. One elderly woman, **Chen Yunxiang (陈云香)**, was taken to a hospital for treatment. Local residents accuse the local government of expropriating their land without following legal procedures, compensation or resettlement, of threatening and beating them, and of hiring thugs to steal and damage their property. (CHRD)[xvii]

Right to Education

Closure of Beijing Schools for Migrant Workers' Children Ushers in Educational, Social Crises

On August 17, CHRD learned that approximately 30 schools in Beijing for the children of migrant workers have been ordered closed by the Beijing Municipal Education Commission. Currently, guidelines issued by district and county governments affected by the closures require that migrant workers' children who wish to attend public schools or approved private school in the vicinity must disclose the so-called "five cards": proof of absence of guardians in their place of origin, an urban worker permit, an urban temporary residence card, proof of registered permanent residence (*hukou*), and proof of residence. However, it is extremely difficult for rural migrants who have been in the capital for a short time to acquire all of these certifications. Further exacerbating difficulties in accessing education, many public schools make migrants pay a fee for their children to receive what should legally be free education, and so-called approved private schools are in fact quite rare. Activists following the situation are concerned that, despite the Beijing Municipal Education Commission's vow to ensure education for those affected, many of these children will be forced to discontinue their studies. (CHRD)^[xviii]

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[i] "Stay Tuned: Bengbu Human Rights Activist Li Wenge Taken Away by National Security, Has House Searched," (敬请关注：蚌埠人权活动人士李文革被国宝带走家被抄), August 19, 2011, http://rightscampaign.blogspot.com/2011/08/blog-post_1312.html (*shandong dianfu guojia zhengquan zui)

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