



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

August 23-28, 2011

Highlights

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

Crackdown: The procuratorate has sent back the “creating a disturbance” case against Beijing lawyer **Ni Yulan** (倪玉兰), who was also charged with fraud, and her husband **Dong Jiqin** (董继勤). Their daughter further reports that her parents are in fragile states in detention.

Sichuan Activist From “Chained Gate” Case Released: On August 27, **Huang Xiaomin** (黄晓敏), a Sichuan-based organizer for the China Pan-Blue Alliance, was released from prison on August 27. Now home in Chengdu City, Huang is in good spirits but has various physical ailments after getting poor medical treatment in prison.

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Arbitrary Detention

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

Ni Yulan, Dong Jiqin Case Sent Back for Investigation, Couple Suffering in Prison

CHRD has learned that, on August 2, the Xicheng Procuratorate sent back to the police for further investigation the “creating a disturbance” case against Beijing lawyer **Ni Yulan** (倪玉兰), who was also charged with fraud, and her husband **Dong Jiqin** (董继勤). The two have been held in the Xicheng Detention Center since April, and their daughter, **Dong Beibei** (董贝贝), said that Ni is in low spirits and Dong Jiqin is not doing well physically. Ni's lawyer had requested she be released on medical parole due to her health—Ni cannot walk and has medical problems due to past torture suffered in detention—but authorities have not responded. Dong Beibei also indicated she has not received several letters her father has written and that she is being closely monitored by the Beijing police. (CHRD)^[i]

Anhui Police Issue Administrative Detention to Online Journalist

On August 21, police from Xinzhan District, Hefei City, Anhui Province, took into custody a journalist who goes by the name **Bingyu** (宾语), and issued him a 10-day administrative detention for allegedly “fabricating facts to disrupt public order.” Earlier this month, Bingyu had posted articles on his blog that focused on violent forced eviction and demolition in Hefei City reportedly conducted under the direction of local officials. The day he was taken into custody, Bingyu was called in for questioning to the Xinzhan branch of the Hefei Public Security Bureau (PSB). After he told the police that he would not speak to them unless they produce a written summons, officers filled out a summons that evening. Bingyu was then taken away and went out of contact. On August 22, his family received a call from police indicating he had been detained. When they arrived at the police station, they were told that nobody, including lawyers, was allowed to visit Bingyu. (CHRD)^[iii]

Sichuan Activist Released From Prison, In Good Spirits But Poor Health

On August 27, **Huang Xiaomin** (黄晓敏), a Sichuan-based organizer for the China Democracy Party originally from Xinjiang, was released from Leshan Prison and returned to his home in Chengdu City. Although he's reportedly in good spirits, Huang is dealing with various physical ailments, including muscle atrophy in his left leg, and has said he did not receive good medical treatment in prison. He was released a few days before the end of his original sentence was due to expire. Huang was criminally detained in February of 2009 in the “chained gate” case, so called because 10 activists chained themselves together in peaceful protest over what they believed to be unfair rulings by the Chengdu City Intermediate People's Court. Huang was

sentenced that September to two-and-a-half years in prison for “assembling a crowd to disrupt social order,” though it is believed that he, like a number of other defendants in the case, were convicted because they documented and reported on human rights violations, particularly to foreign media. (CHRD)^[iii]

Xi’an Villagers Demand Release of Petitioners

On August 23, more than 200 villagers from Zhangbagou Subdistrict in Xi’an City, Shaanxi Province, went to the provincial government building to demand the release of two fellow residents who remain detained after being taken into custody on July 22. On that day in July, Zhangbagou villagers petitioned at the Shaanxi Provincial government building over compensation for requisitioned land and home demolitions. Officials from Gaoxin District and the Zhangbagou Subdistrict as well as many police officers came to disperse the crowd. Six villagers were taken directly to the Zhangbagou Police Station on suspicion of “disrupting social order.” Four of them were released by early August, but **Zhang Shao’e** (张少鄂), who has diabetes and heart disease, is still being held at the Xi’an Ankang Hospital, and **Liang Shuixia** (梁水霞) is being detained the Xi’an No. 2 Detention Center. (CHRD)^[iv]

Hubei Authorities Detaining Teacher in Black Jail for Nearly Four Months

Authorities have held **Yao Xueyuan** (姚学元), a 70-year-old teachers’ representative from Yicheng City, Hubei Province, for nearly four months in a “black jail.” Yao, who has presented grievances on behalf of fellow teachers at “*minban* schools” (schools not operated by the state), is being held at the former tax office in Nanyun Township in Yicheng City. Two others, petitioners **Xiong Zhongyou** (熊忠友) and **Jing Minguo** (景民国), are believed to be detained with Yao. (CRLW)^[v]

Jiangsu Petitioner Seized & Reportedly Tortured, Still Out of Contact

CHRD has learned that, on August 19, authorities seized **Ji Dawu** (吉大伍), a petitioner from Jiangning District, Nanjing City, Jiangsu Province, and have tortured him, according to his wife, **Ma Shijuan** (马士娟). On the day he was taken away, Ji was able to contact Ma and said he was seized by a number of individuals claimed to be policemen from Donghai County and was being held and monitored in a local guesthouse. His cell phone cut off while he was talking, and Ji has since been out of contact. Ma made several inquiries and learned that her husband had reportedly been deprived of sleep for five nights and forced to write a guarantee saying he would stop petitioning. The couple has petitioned over the 2002 demolition of their home, which took place without advanced notice or compensation having been arranged. (CHRD)^[vi]

Fujian Rights Defender Detained for Seeking Justice for Crewmen’s Families

On August 26, authorities formally arrested **Li Xiangmou** (李祥谋), a ship captain from Quanzhou City, Fujian Province, on suspicion of “organizing others to secretly cross the national border” in a case tied to a 2008 maritime accident off the coast of Indonesia. On August 24, authorities reportedly demanded families whose loved ones died in the incident sign a settlement. But the agreement failed to spell out the Yuanyang Fishery Group Company’s responsibility for

mistakes that led to the mishap, so the families have been preparing to petition. Li, the captain when the incident took place, has repeatedly approached various agencies to seek a just settlement and accountability for the families. Due to his efforts, Li had been detained for over a year before being released on bail in April of 2010, and then was subjected to residential surveillance for six months. Suspecting him of organizing the family members to petition, police had placed him under 24-hour surveillance in a hotel since July 21 before arresting him on August 26. Li is now being detained at the Shishi City Detention Center in Quanzhou City. (CHRD)^[vii]

Anhui Police Detain Family Members Opposing Work at Residential Land

CHRD has learned that, on August 24, police from the Baohe branch of the Hefei City PSB criminally detained three family members in Binhexin District, Hefei City, Anhui Province, for “sabotaging production or business operations.” That day, **Hu Xianzheng** (胡先正), **Hu Shaocai** (胡召才), and **Hu Shaochun** (胡召春) attempted to block construction work by a real estate company near where their demolished home once stood. Police who came to the scene saw the disruption and took the men to the police station. The three are being held at the Hefei PSB No. 2 Detention Center. Family members had previously petitioned the local government after their home was destroyed in 2008—contending the demolition and relocation were illegal and the compensation inadequate—and since then the government has left the land unoccupied. (CHRD)^[viii]

Harassment of Activists

Guangdong Petitioner Freed After 6-Month Black Jail Detention

On August 27, **Yang Yamei** (杨亚美), a petitioner from Wujiang District, Shaoguan City, Guangdong Province, was released from a black jail after being illegally detained for nearly six months. Authorities have not returned her *hukou* book and identification card, however, and directors of the local Letters and Visits Office and justice bureau have threatened her, warning her not to leave her home, and for her and husband to stop petitioning. Yang was initially detained in early March, when she and her husband, **He Mingzheng** (何明政), were trying to present a grievance to the State Bureau for Letters and Visits in Beijing over a land requisition issue from 2006 involving corruption by local officials. After being intercepted and taken back to Guangdong, Wang was held in a room which belongs to the Wujiang District government until her release. Authorities also detained her husband for nearly two months, but he was let go after suffering a heart attack. (CHRD)^[ix]

Fuzhou Authorities Seize Wang Lihong Supporters

On August 23, authorities in Fuzhou City, Fujian Province took away several individuals from a group of nearly 20 who had gathered in support of Beijing activist **Wang Lihong** (王荔蕻) in front of the Fuzhou Intermediate People’s Court and also in the city’s May 1st Square. Chengmen Town officials blocked the supporters at the square and then took some away, including **Lin Lanying** (林兰英), **Lin Xiangguan** (林祥官), and **Lin Yigen** (林依银), while the fates of others could not be confirmed. Earlier this month, Wang was tried on a charge of

“creating a disturbance” that stemmed from her role in leading protests outside the Fuzhou court’s sentencing hearing of the “Fujian Three” netizens in April 2010. Others supporters on hand include **Lin Xiuying** (林秀英), the mother of **Yan Xiaoling** (严晓玲), who was raped and killed in 2009 by thugs allegedly linked to the Fujian police, and **Wu Huaying** (吴华英), one of the Fujian netizens imprisoned for defamation after publicizing Yan’s case online. (CHRD)^[x]

Anhui Student Netizen Released After Questioning, Risks School Expulsion

CHRD has learned that the university student and netizen **Zheng Tao** (郑涛, aka @LuoFee [罗非]), from Hefei City, Anhui Province, has returned home and is safe after being questioned by police earlier this week, according to an activist who has been in touch with him. According to Zheng, Hefei City Public Security Bureau (PSB) officers took him away on August 21 in relation to a netizen friend of his who is now in prison. (Zheng himself had suspected police questioned him because of his April 19 visit with the Beijing netizen-writer **Hu Di** [胡荻], who is being held at a psychiatric institution in Hefei.) The activist believes that Zheng is still under some police pressure. A student at the Anhui Institute of International Business, Zheng has nearly been expelled after being questioned numerous times by officers since March for promoting ways to evade China’s “Great Firewall” and participating in events involving the Beijing artist **Ai Weiwei** (艾未未). (CHRD)^[xi]

Forced Eviction and Demolition/Land Expropriation

Beijing Authorities Take Away Shandong Dissident’s Mother

On August 24, authorities in Beijing took away **Wang Shuqing** (王书清), a petitioner and the mother of **Xue Mingkai** (薛明凯), Qufu City, a pro-democracy dissident from Qufu City, Shandong Province. Wang and her husband, **Xue Fushun** (薛夫顺), had been petitioning at the Letters and Visits Department of the Beijing Municipal Public Security Ministry when Wang was beaten and dragged off, and her fate and whereabouts remain unknown. They have actively petitioned over the detention of Xue Mingkai, who was formally arrested for “inciting subversion of state power” in February, and is being held at the Jining City Detention Center. The parents were also beaten in late June after trying to petition the Supreme People’s Procuratorate about their son’s criminal detention as well as beatings Wang endured during a stint in Re-education through Labor. (CRLW)^[xii]

Three Gorges Dam Refugees Uncompensated After Years of Petitioning

CHRD learned on August 24 that despite years of petitioning, more than 20 families from Wanzhou District, Chongqing Municipality, have gone uncompensated after their homes were demolished in 2005 as part of the Three Gorges Dam construction project, according to one of the individuals affected. In 2002, the local government demanded the Wanzhou residents leave their homes, and cut off their water and electricity, though regulations indicated that relocations should have started only in 2006. The families have not received compensation since their homes were demolished, and are now either renting apartments or living temporarily with relatives. They have repeatedly petitioned various agencies, including the State Bureau for Letters and

Visits in Beijing and the Three Gorges Project Construction Committee, but authorities have not assumed responsibility while instead monitoring, threatening and detaining them in black jails. (CHRD)^[xiii]

Freedom of Expression and of Access to Information

Chengdu Authorities Block Blog With Articles on Demolition Case

CHRD has learned that authorities have blocked a blog maintained by **Wang Hui (王慧)**, of Shuangliu District, Chengdu City, Sichuan Province, who was posting articles about the criminal case against her husband, **Huang Wenwei (黄文伟)**, which stems from the 2010 demolition of their home. On August 18, Wang saw a message when she tried to log on to her NetEase (网易) blog indicating that it contains content which breaches the relevant internet regulations, and is banned. It is suspected the local government has pressured the company to censor Wang's views, reacting to increased media attention to the case and fearing the backlash of public opinion.

On March 30, Huang Wenwei was criminally detained for “endangering public safety” after he tried to prevent government personnel from clearing remains of his family's home by driving a car into them. In late June, a court found the home's destruction was illegal, but the government has denied criminal responsibility while pursuing the case against Huang. (CHRD)^[xiv]

Local NPC Election Watch

Guangzhou Authorities Strip NPC Candidate of Electoral Qualifications

On August 24, when the list of preliminary candidates for the People's Congress election in Panyu District, Guangzhou City, was announced, independent candidate **Liang Shuxin (梁树新)** did not find his name on it, even though he met all the requirements to run in the election. This follows authorities' harassment of his recommenders in an effort to have them abandon their support of Liang. On August 23, the Lijiang Subdistrict Election Office demanded that Liang's recommenders re-sign a joint election form in-person, and also give information about their place of employment. Some who revealed where they work were told by superiors to rescind their recommendation of Liang. Two of Liang's recommenders even quit their jobs outside of Lijiang to safeguard his candidacy after a government notice was issued stating that individuals are ineligible to take part in an election if they work outside their electoral district. Despite the harassment, Liang still had 18 recommenders, thus exceeding the official requirement of 10. On August 25, Liang released an open letter about the harassment and electoral abuses that have taken place. (CHRD)^[xv]

Guangzhou University Obstructs Student's Candidacy

On August 24, student **Ye Ruili (叶瑞立)**, who had gathered more than 1,000 recommendations for his candidacy for the People's Congress election for Baiyun District, Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province, had his candidacy obstructed by his university. When Ye went to register for candidacy on that day, the Guangzhou University of Foreign Studies announced it would not accept his registration as they want “a non-partisan female elite intellectual” to get elected, thus

seemingly disqualifying Ye. But when Ye insisted to be registered, the school then demanded that at least 10 of Ye's recommenders come to the registration area by 10 p.m. to confirm their support, or else all the signatures gathered for his candidacy would be invalidated. Ye and his friends sent online messages about the obstacles they had faced, and after some recommenders came to register, the school abruptly required the recommenders go to their respective institutes to register instead, preventing them from confirming their support by the stated deadline. The status of Ye's candidacy was not clear as of the time of writing. (CHRD)^[xvi]

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