

# ACTION PAGE

COMPILED BY CAROL K. WANG

In an attempt to silence the voices of dissent and unrest, Hu Jintao's government has moved to ban the once-honored term "public intellectual," and has increased suppression of scholars and activists who advocate ideals inconsistent with China's party line.

## APPEAL FOR IMPRISONED ACTIVISTS

**Huang Jinqiu** (b. 1974), a graduate of Luxun Literature Institute in Beijing and the University of Lincoln in the United Kingdom, was arrested in Lianyungang, Jiangsu Province, on September 13, 2003 after posting essays on the Internet and stating his intention to organize the China Patriotic Democracy Party. A freelance writer, reporter and editor, Huang contributed regularly to the Boxun Web site under the *nom de guerre* Qing Shuijin, or "Lord Clearwater." He was arrested days after returning from Malaysia, where he had been studying journalism under a scholarship from the Central Academy of Art. Huang was convicted of "incitement to subvert state power" by the Changzhou Intermediate People's Court on September 27, 2004. Sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment and 4 years' deprivation of civil rights, Huang is currently being held at the Changzhou Detention Center in Jiangsu Province. He is appealing his sentence.

**Zhao Yan** (b. 1962), a researcher at the Beijing Bureau of the *New York Times* and former editor of *China Reform* magazine, was detained on September 17, 2004 and arrested on October 20, 2004. He is accused of disclosing information regarding Jiang Zemin's resignation to the *New York Times*. While at *China Reform*, Zhao investigated and published articles advocating the rights of peasants. After repeated police harassment in 2004, Zhao was forced out of his position at *China Reform*, and was hired by the *New York Times* in May 2004. Charged under suspicion of illegally providing state secrets to foreigners, Zhao is being held at the detention center of Beijing's National Security Bureau without access to his lawyer. U.S. State Department officials have questioned the Chinese government on Zhao's detention, but the Chinese government has labeled this case a domestic issue in which "outside forces should not interfere." Zhao has not yet been sentenced.

**Yu Dongyue** (b. 1967), a graduate of the Xiangtan Teachers College and former editor of *Liuyang Daily*, was detained after throwing red paint-filled eggs at the 30-foot tall portrait of Mao Zedong in Tiananmen Square on May 23, 1989. He had been active in the democracy movement in his hometown of Changsha, Hunan Province prior to the Tiananmen movement. Along with Yu Zhijian and Tang Decheng, Yu was convicted in August 1989 on charges of "counter-revolutionary propaganda, sabotage and incitement" by the Beijing Intermediate People's Court and was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment, with an additional five years' deprivation of civil rights. He is now being held at Chishan Prison in Hunan. It is reported that Yu suffers from extreme psychological disturbance as a result of torture he has suffered in prison. Yu's sentence was reduced to 18 years in January 2001 on the grounds of his "regret and a willingness to reform." He is due to be released on May 21, 2007.

**Join the international community in calling for the immediate and unconditional release of these and other democracy activists.** Please send letters to the designated addresses below, emphasizing the need for the rule of law, free flow of information and the right to exercise freedom of expression. Where necessary, express concern for medical conditions and demand immediate and appropriate treatment.

**Huang Jinqiu:** held at Changzhou Detention Center, Jiangsu Province

**Governor Liang Baohua**

Jiangsu Provincial People's Government  
29 Xikanglu  
Nanjingshi, 210024, Jiangsusheng, PRC

**Zhao Yan:** held at the detention center of Beijing's National Security Bureau

**Mayor Wang Qishan**

Beijing Municipal People's Government  
2 Zhengyilu, Dongchengqu  
Beijingshi, 100744, PRC

**Yu Dongyue:** held at Chishan Prison, Yuanjiang City, Hunan Province

**Governor Zhou Bohua**

Hunan Provincial People's Government  
69 Wuyizhonglu  
Changsashi, 410011, Hunansheng, PRC

**Send copies of above appeals to:**

**President Hu Jintao**

Chinese Communist Party  
Yongdingmenjie  
Beijing, 100032, PRC

**Minister of Justice Zhang Fusen**

Sifaju (Ministry of Justice)  
10 Chaoyangmen Nandajie  
Chaoyangqu  
Beijingshi, 100020, PRC  
Fax: 86-10-6529-2345  
Email: minister@legalinfo.gov.cn

**Ambassador Jiechi Yang**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China  
2300 Connecticut Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
Fax: 1-202-328-2582

**Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations**

New York, NY 10017  
Fax: 1-212- 634-7626  
E-mail: chinamission\_un@mfa.gov.cn

**Send letters expressing concern for prisoners' medical conditions to:**

**Chinese Medical Association**

42 Dongsi Xidajie  
Beijing, 100710, PRC  
Fax: 86-10-6512-3754  
email: cmafrd@public3.bta.net.cn.