

CHINESE PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS

FROM THE PAGES OF HUAXIA DIANZI BAO AND REN YU REN QUAN

Huaxia Dianzi Bao and *Ren Yu Ren Quan* are HRIC's online Chinese-language publications. *Huaxia Dianzi Bao* is a weekly online newsletter sent to 250,000 subscribers in mainland China, providing uncensored and underreported news on rights defenders, the environment, and other pressing issues. *Ren Yu Ren Quan* is a monthly online journal that publishes analysis, research, and commentary by independent scholars, writers, and activists. As part of its editorial commitment to introducing English readers to diverse Chinese voices, *China Rights Forum* translates and publishes works by Chinese contributors. Additional translations can be found online at <http://www.hrichina.org>.

Translations by Victoria Kwan

HUAXIA DIANZI BAO

<http://www.huaxiabao.org>

Each issue of HRIC's weekly e-newsletter, *Huaxia Dianzi Bao*, includes several short articles and a series of news briefs. New installments, published each Thursday, and archived issues are available on the *Huaxia Dianzi Bao* website.

From Issue No. 231, published on February 14, 2008

ARTICLES

- **He Qinglian**, Chinese Government Urged to Fulfill Promises to Improve Human Rights Situation at Reporters Without Borders Conference in Washington, D.C. [敦促中国政府履行改善人权的国际承诺—2008年2月13日在华盛顿记者无疆界会议上的呼吁]
- **Minjian Observer**, An Investigation: Rural Residents Evicted to Make Way for Olympic Venues [北京2008年奥运主场馆地区失地农民调查]
- **Hu Kunming**, Three Gorges Residents Refuse to Yield in the Face of Suffering [三门峡移民的悲苦遭遇和不屈抗争]
- **Zhang Tian**, Yu Huafeng Released from Prison, Becomes Center of Media Attention Again [喻华峰获释出狱 再度成为新闻热点]
- **Zhang Heng**, Hu Jiwei's Admonition of Hu Jintao [胡绩伟谏言胡锦涛]

NEWS IN BRIEF

- Over 1,000 "Yilishen" Victims in Liaoning Attempt to Take Part in Creditor's Meeting, Driven Away by Police [上千辽宁“蚁民”参加债权人大会遭警方驱赶]
- Steven Spielberg Resigns as Artistic Advisor for Beijing Olympics [美国著名导演斯皮尔伯格辞去北京奥运艺术顾问]
- Over 100 U.S. Legislators, Eight Nobel Peace Prize Winners Sign Letter Urging Hu Jintao to Pressure

Sudanese Government over Darfur [八位诺贝尔和平奖得主、美国上百议员致信胡锦涛促向苏丹施压]

- British Olympic Association Bans Athletes From Speaking on Politically-Sensitive Issues [英奥委会要求运动员不得对敏感议题表态惹风波]
- Reporters Without Borders Issues Annual Report, Criticizes China For Failing to Honor Olympic Commitments [“无国界记者”发布年度报告，指中国未兑现奥运承诺]
- Amnesty International Holds Rally in Front of White House, Urges U.S. Government to Pay Close Attention to Human Rights Situation in China [“大赦国际”华盛顿白宫前集会，吁布什关注中国人权状况]
- China Aid Association Releases 2007 Persecution Report Detailing Repression of House Churches [美国“对华援助协会”发布2007年度中国家庭教会受迫害报告]
- Burma Announces Schedule for Constitutional Referendum [缅甸宣布宪政公投日期]
- Chen Shuqing Forced to Work Extra Hours, Subject to Heavy Surveillance in Prison [陈树庆狱中被迫超时劳动并被严管]
- Jilin Petitioner Zhang Jiebei Sentenced to One and a Half Years of Reeducation-Through-Labor [吉林访民张洁被判处劳教一年半]

REN YU REN QUAN

<http://www.renyurenquan.org>

New and archived issues of HRIC's online journal are available at the *Ren Yu Ren Quan* website on the first of every month.

From the February 2008 issue on "Peasant Workers and the 2008 Beijing Olympics"

Whose World, Whose Dream? [谁的世界，谁梦想?]

By Jiang Fuzhen

Shandong writer Jiang criticizes the Chinese government for spending vast sums of money on the repression of Falun Gong, dissidents, and internet freedom, while failing to protect the basic rights of peasant workers. In Jiang's opinion, large-scale, expensive projects such as the Olympics and the Three Gorges Dam should not take precedence over more urgent matters, such as alleviating the plight of the poor. China's political system ensures that only the "dreams" of a small group of policymakers are fulfilled—dreams that are very different from those of the peasant workers. In the words of one construction worker who was offered a ticket to see the Olympics: "I don't want it. We don't have enough warm clothes to wear or food to eat. How can we even begin to discuss seeing the Olympics?"

The Fate of Peasant Workers Ahead of the Beijing Olympics [点击北京奥运前的农民工命运]

By Mou Chuanheng

In this essay, Mou argues that the fate of China's peasant workers should be taken into serious consideration in the lead-up to the Olympics. Particularly worrisome for Mou is the authorities' practice of forcing part of this "floating population" out of Beijing in preparation for the Olympics. This, according to Mou, "goes entirely against the spirit of the Games." The author believes that the Chinese government should properly welcome the Olympics by respecting the fundamental human rights of all citizens, including peasant workers.

Urban Administrators: Symbols of a Degraded Society [城管—恶劣社会形态的象征]

By Liao Shuangyuan

First-time Ren Yu Ren Quan writer Liao Shuangyuan exposes the savagery of urban administrators in Tianmen, Hubei Province. Liao describes a recent

incident in which a passerby using his cell phone to film a violent conflict between administrators and residents was beaten to death on the spot by one such official. Liao notes that urban administrators' use of their power to intimidate and plunder is not uncommon in China, asking, "Who entrusted them with such great power? These officials govern the masses, but who governs them?"

Hong Kong's Right to Civil Disobedience

[香港民众有公民抗命的权利]

By Chu Han

Chu Han explores the ideas behind Hong Kong legislator Cyd Ho Sau-Lan's recent speech, in which she asked Hong Kong residents to consider using tactics of non-cooperation and civil disobedience as part of the fight for universal suffrage in the territory. Chu contends that Hong Kong's progress toward democracy is currently stalled, and that, faced with the reality of the situation, many residents have become disillusioned or apathetic. Since the government has ignored the public's demands and purposely delayed making any substantive steps towards universal suffrage, Hong Kong residents now have the right to engage in civil disobedience.

Also featured in this issue:

- **Wang Bo** takes a comprehensive look at the living situation of China's peasant workers, examining the difficulties they face with regard to unpaid wages, health care, and their children's education.
- **Chen Xi** reports on the Guizhou authorities' obstruction of the 2007 Third Annual Human Rights Symposium and their ban on all activities marking Human Rights Day.
- In lucid, richly-drawn prose, **Bei Ming** pays tribute to the over two hundred Kuomintang officers who perished in the 1937–1945 Sino-Japanese War.

To receive the English-language highlights and original Chinese-language issues via e-mail:

- English-language highlights of *Ren Yu Ren Quan* and *Huaxia Dianzi Bao*: E-mail communications@hrichina.org with "HXB/RYRQ – SUBSCRIBE" in the subject heading.
- Chinese-language full issues of *Huaxia Dianzi Bao*: E-mail huaxiabao@hrichina.org with "HXB – SUBSCRIBE" in the subject heading.
- Notification of new Chinese-language issues of *Ren Yu Ren Quan*: E-mail communications@hrichina.org with "RYRQ – SUBSCRIBE" in the subject heading.