CHINESE PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS: EXPANDING SPACE FOR CHINESE VOICES

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. Additional translations can be found online at http://www.hrichina.org.

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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. 240, published on April 17, 2008

ARTICLES

- → **He Qinglian,** As Olympic Torch Passes Through San Francisco, Who Emerges the Real Winner? [旧金山奥运火炬传递是谁的胜利?]
- → Dong Yuan, Chen Liangyu Convicted of Taking Bribes, Pressure on Zheng Enchong Continues [陈良宇受贿定罪 郑恩宠受打压未了]
- → Hu Kunming, The Women Behind the "Shanghai Gang"["上海帮"的女人们]
- → **Zhang Cuiping**, Rights Defense (Weiguan) Petitioners Beaten Savagely, Detained and Imprisoned [维权上访遭毒打、拘留、牢狱之灾(上)]
- → Anonymous, The Eight Most Annoying, Overused Catchphrases in China Today [当今中国最令人恶心的八大词汇]

NEWS IN BRIEF

- → Famous Female Tibetan Singer Taken Away by Police, Still Missing [西藏著名女歌手被警方带走下落不明]
- → Hu Jia Prevented from Meeting with Lawyer, Swedish Prime Minister Calls for Hu's Release [胡佳被剥夺与律师见面权利 瑞典首相要求释放胡佳]

- → Tiananmen Mothers to Petition During Hong Kong Leg of Torch Relay ["天安门母亲运动" 将在奥运火炬 在香港传递期间请愿]
- → International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge: Beijing Olympics Facing "Crisis" [国际奥委会 主席罗格:北京奥运会陷入"危机"]
- → CNN Apologizes: Reference Aimed at Chinese Government, Not Chinese Citizens [CNN道歉: 指的 是中国政府, 而非中国人民]
- → Japan, Australia, and India Reject Use of Chinese People's Liberation Army Police to Accompany Olympic Torch During Respective Relay Legs [日、澳、印拒绝中国特警护卫奥运火炬]
- → Duke Student from China Threatened After Accusations of Taking Pro-Tibet Stance [大陆女留学 生被指支持藏独遭威胁]
- → Hu Jintao Once Again Labeled as Destroyer of Press Freedom [胡锦涛再度被评为新闻自由的杀手]
- → Lü Gengsong's Conviction Upheld [吕耿松案维持原判]
- → Imprisoned Author Yang Tianshui Wins 2008 PEN/Barbara Goldsmith Freedom to Write Award [狱中作家杨天水获"自由写作奖"]

REN YU REN QUAN

http://www.renyurenquan.org

New issues are available on Ren Yu Ren Quan's website on the first of every month. Archived issues are also available on the website.

From the April 2008 issue on "A New Era of Freedom of Thought"

Weighing Maoist Ideology on the Scales of Truth

[把毛泽东思想放在真理的天平上]

By Li Changyu

Shandong writer Li Changyu sharply criticizes the absurdity of Mao's class struggle, citing the calamities that such ideas brought upon China. One important question that persists in Chinese academic circles is whether Maoist ideology should be denounced. Even today, Mao Zedong stands as a symbol of the Communist Party of China's autocratic rule—a fact which makes the thorough refutation of his theories all the more necessary.

Thirty-Year Impasse Difficult to Overcome with "Freedom of Thought"

[解放思想难破30年改革僵局]

Bv Liu Shui

Liu Shui examines the Communist Party of China's speeches on its so-called "steps towards liberation." Liu finds that the government has no problem talking the talk, but identifies its problem as actually walking the walk. He argues that when it comes to democracy and constitutional rule, the government needs to stop making empty promises and start taking action.

When Dealing with China, Will Ma Ying-Jeou Dare to **Play the Democracy Card?**

[当选的马英九还敢向中共打民主牌吗?]

By Liu Xiaobo

Liu Xiaobo provides commentary on Ma Ying-Jeou's election to the Taiwanese presidency, observing that Ma's election has helped relieve cross-strait tensions. While the author sees this as a positive development, Liu does not believe that the Kuomintang Party should yield to China's autocratic regime. Rather, it should vigorously promote democratic development on mainland China, because it is only under a democratic China that a true sense of security can exist.

All Style, No Substance: Administrative Reforms Superficial, Lacking Real Change

[大部制华而不实, 行政改革乏善可陈]

By Yang Guang

Yang Guang analyzes the recent convening of the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, finding that the mergers and reforms that ministries and commissions underwent during the convening did not result in any real changes for human rights. Yang also discovers that the bureaucratic apparatus was not substantially reduced. If one-party rule is not ended in China, Yang writes, all administrative "reforms" will only involve the most superficial of changes, without bringing any meaningful progress to China.

Also featured in this issue:

- → Wen Fuluo uses the Shi Tao-Yahoo! case as a starting point for discussing ways in which governments around the world can safeguard Internet freedom:
- → Liu Yiming highlights recent media reports exposing a Harbin employer's abduction of 33 developmentally disabled people as slaves, pointing out that instances of slavery are not uncommon in China and that many slave-driven factories and organizations remain undiscovered;
- → **Hu Ping** takes an in-depth look at why the Chinese peasantry did not engage in mass revolts during the Great Famine, pinpointing the ruthless rule of the Communist Party of China and the advances in weaponry at that time as reasons why a popular uprising would not have been successful.

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- → 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.
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