



Canadian Coalition
on Human Rights in China

Coalition Canadienne
pour les droits humains en Chine

Prisoners of Conscience in the People's Republic of China August 2016

The Canadian Coalition on Human Rights in China* submits this list of jailed prisoners of conscience to the Government of Canada. The information has been compiled from various sources and not exclusively by the individual organizations noted beside each prisoner name. The cases are presented as a representative compilation and there is no significance to the order of the list. We are advocating immediate and unconditional release for each of the prisoners listed. We request a report back from the Government of Canada.

*The coalition currently includes Amnesty International Canada-English, Amnistie internationale Canada-francophone, Canada Tibet Committee, Canada-Hong Kong Link, Falun Dafa Association of Canada, Federation for Democratic China, Students for a Free Tibet Canada, Toronto Association for Democracy in China, Uyghur Canadian Society and the Vancouver Society in Support of Democratic Movement.

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13.	Druklo (Chinese name 珠洛 Shokjang also 周卡加 or 雪江)

Case Card 1

Name of Individual	WANG Bingzhang 王炳章
Present Location	Guangdong Province Shaoguan Prison (Beijiang)
Age; Gender; Ethnicity	68; male; Han Chinese
Occupation	Doctor, pro-democracy activist, founder of China-Spring Movement & Chinese Alliance for Democracy
Key Dates	In solitary confinement since July 3, 2002
Sentence	20 years
Charges	Trumped –up charges on espionage and terrorist activities
Additional Details / Background	<p>Wang Bingzhang, a permanent U.S. resident and longtime dissident, is currently serving a life sentence at a prison in Shaoguan, Guangdong province. A medical doctor by training, Wang traveled to Canada in 1979 and established the pro-democracy magazine China Spring in 1982. In 1998, he was arrested and deported after he returned to China and attempted to organize an opposition party. In June 2002, Wang disappeared while traveling in Vietnam. Numerous reports allege that he was abducted by Chinese agents and held incommunicado in southern China. In December 2002, the Chinese government announced that it had been holding Wang since July and that he had been formally arrested on espionage and terrorism charges. Wang was tried on January 22, 2003 in a closed trial in Shenzhen. His conviction and life sentence was announced on February 10, 2003. An appeal was rejected on February 28, 2003. The UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention has ruled that Wang’s detention is arbitrary. The Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs & International Trade (37th Parliament, 2nd session) called upon Chinese govt. to release Dr Wang Bingzhang from prison.</p> <p>In 2009, the Royal Thai Police Head Quarter testified that Dr. Wang Bingzhang did not carry out any terrorist act in Thailand to attack the Chinese Embassy. In December 2013, the Taiwanese Security Bureau issued statement, refuting any espionage activity by Dr. Wang. Wang is kept under solitary confinement and suffers from phlebitis and respiratory problems. He has also suffered from a severe stroke. In May 2009, authorities prevented Wang’s daughter Ti-Anna from entering China to visit her father despite having granted her a visa. Since then, she was never allowed to enter China. When permitted, his family is allowed one visit per month which lasts 30 minutes. Most of them live in US or Canada and have difficulty obtaining a visa to China. He suffers from mental anguish and is incoherent in his letters and speech. Two months ago, the family hired Ms. Liu Zhengqing (刘正清), another Guangzhou lawyer. But Guangdong province’s Justice Department has so far barred Ms. Liu from visiting Dr. Wang.</p>
Known Health Situation	His health has deteriorated due to lower food quality, harsher physical and mental abuse. Wang is kept under solitary confinement and suffers from phlebitis and respiratory problems.
Proposed Questions to ask	To release unconditionally
Case Represents?	Democratic Rights
Websites to visit in compiling info on this case	http://ppdcecc.gov/QueryResultsDetail.aspx?PrisonerNum=4650 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wang_Bingzhang www.wangbingzhang.org
Case well-known?	Yes.

Case Card 2

Name of Individual	LI Chang 李昌
Present Location	Qianjin Prison at Chadian, Tianjin City.
Age; Gender; Ethnicity	77 year old; Male; Chinese
Occupation	Former high-ranking government official in the Ministry of Public Security.
Key Dates	Arrested on July 20, 1999 Show trial on December 26, 1999 (on Christmas day to avoid international scrutiny)
Sentence	Sentenced to 25 years but decided to enforce an 18-year imprisonment on December 26, 1999
Charges	Illegally charged "organizing a cult to undermine the implementation of laws," "organizing a cult to undermine to cause death," "Illegally obtaining state secrets."
Additional Details / Background	<p>Li Chang was a former high-ranking government official in the Ministry of Public Security. His show trial and illegal sentencing in 1999 is one of the most widely publicized and high-profile prosecutions of a Falun Gong practitioner to date.</p> <p>Li Chang held a volunteer coordinator position in the Falun Dafa Research Society.</p> <p>On April 25, 1999, Li Chang and Wang Zhiwen of the Falun Dafa Research Society and three other Beijing practitioners, acting as representatives of Falun Gong, entered the State Council to have talks with the government officials.</p> <p>On July 20, 1999, two days before Falun Gong was officially banned, Li Chang was coercively summoned by authorities and put under residential surveillance for three months. He was illegally arrested on October 19, 1999.</p>
Known Health Situation	Very healthy before the arrest.
Proposed Questions to ask	His current where about, and health situation. Demand release unconditionally.
Case Represents?	Show trial & China's contempt of rule of law as described by reports from HRW.
Websites to visit in compiling info on this case	<p>1. Congressional-Executive Commission on China (2007 ANNUAL REPORT) http://www.cecc.gov/publications/annual-reports/2007-annual-report</p> <p>2. AI: The crackdown on Falun Gong and other so-called "heretical organizations" http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/ASA17/011/2000/en/7a361a8e-df70-11dd-aaaa-7d9091d4638f/asa170112000en.html</p> <p>3. Incorporating Responsibility 2008: About the individual: Li Chang. http://www.ir2008.org/11/about.php</p> <p>4. Falun Dafa Info. Center: Behind the April 25 Incident http://faluninfo.net/article/518/Behind-the-April-25-Incident/</p> <p>5. http://www.chinaaid.org/2015/04/li-chang.html</p>
Case well-known?	Yes. The case is very well-known internationally, and intensively reported on many media & human rights organizations.

Case Card 3

Name of Individual	Tohti Ilham
Present Location	Urumqi, Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region
Age; Gender; Ethnicity	47 (born Oct 1969), Male, Uyghur
Occupation	University Professor, Founder of Uighur Online website
Key Dates	Sentenced on 23 September 2014
Sentence	Life imprisonment
Charges	Separatism

<p>Additional Details / Background</p>	<p>Ilham Tohti, an economics professor at Central University for Nationalities in Beijing, the founder of “Uighur Online” website, and a well-known critic of China’s ethnic and religious policies in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (XUAR), was sentenced to life imprisonment on 23 September 2014. He was first taken away from his home in Beijing on 15 January, and his wife received the arrest warrant on 25 February telling her that he was being charged with “separatism”, a charge that has often been used against Uighurs who speak out against human rights violations. He is a prisoner of conscience, who was held incommunicado for over five months, and according to his lawyers he was denied food for 10 days and has had his feet shackled in detention.</p> <p>Ilham Tohti’s lawyers Li Fangping and Wang Yu were only able to meet him at the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region Detention Centre in Urumqi for the first time on 26 June 2014 since he was detained on 15 January 2014.. Li Fangping said that Ilham Tohti has lost 16kg in detention. Ilham Tohti staged a hunger strike from 16 to 26 January after he was not provided with food compatible with his Islamic dietary requirements. After the train station attacks in Kunming, Yunnan Province, on 1 March which left 29 people dead and for which Chinese authorities blamed Uighur groups, Ilham Tohti was not given any food for ten days, and his feet were shackled for more than 20 days. Wang Yu was later forced to stop representing him due to pressure from the authorities. Beijing human rights lawyer Liu Xiaoyuan later took up his legal representation.</p> <p>During a meeting with his lawyers on 5 August, Ilham Tohti maintained that he opposes violence and separatism and said that he only highlighted concerns about social and political issues as a Uighur academic. During another meeting on 4 September, Liu Xiaoyuan discovered that Ilham Tohti’s feet were again being shackled with leg cuffs. Ilham Tohti told the lawyer that he feels heavy on his right waist and pain on his right abdomen, and he seemed to have a cataract. He has not been given a medical examination and is not receiving any treatment. Ilham Tohti also told the lawyers that he was harassed and punched by two inmates, and he cried when he talked about his children.</p> <p>Ilham Tohti’s wife Guzelnur is constantly under surveillance, and at certain times has not been allowed to leave her home.</p> <p>According to Amnesty International, “Tohti is a prisoner of conscience and the Chinese authorities must immediately and unconditionally release him.”</p> <p>Through his work as an academic and writer, Tohti has tried to build mutual understanding between Uighurs and Han Chinese in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (XUAR), amid rising ethnic tensions in the region. He founded the website Uighur Online and is an outspoken critic of Beijing’s policies in the XUAR. Police arrested Tohti, along with seven Uighur students, in January this year. He has been tortured in detention, was denied food for 10 days and shackled for more than 20 days.</p> <p>Ilham Tohti's family was able to visit him in October 2015. They were only allowed to meet him for less than an hour. His wife was sad to see that he looked much thinner and older even though he said that he was fine and asked for books to read. Since then no news has been available.</p>
<p>Known Health Situation</p>	<p>He seems to be in fine health even though he has lost weight</p>
<p>Proposed Questions to ask</p>	<p>To release unconditionally and be allowed unconditional freedom of expression</p>
<p>Case Represents?</p>	<p>Imprisonment of a Human Rights Defender, violation of freedom of expression</p>
<p>Websites to visit in compiling info on this case</p>	<p>Contact Amnesty International</p>

Case well-known?	Yes. Amnesty launched a signature campaign amongst University Professors. 400 University professors from around the world jointly signed a letter of solidarity asking for his unconditional release. This letter was sent to various authorities in China.
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Case Card 4

Name of Individual	Abdukiram ABDUVELI; 阿不都克热木*阿不都外力
Present Location	No. 3 Prison of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous region
Year of Birth; Gender; Ethnicity	September 1955, Male, Uighur
Occupation	Religious Leader
Key Dates	Detained 1990, Sentenced 6 may 1993, scheduled release date 16 Nov 2002, sentence extended on 16 Nov 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011,2014 (see details)
Sentence	Originally 12 years; but sentence keeps getting extended by three years every time.
Charges	"organizing a counter-revolutionary group" and "carrying out counter-revolutionary propaganda and inciting the overthrow of political power [of the dictatorship of the proletariat and the socialist system]".
Additional Details / Background	<p>Abdukiram Abduveli, a religious leader, has now spent over 24 years in prison. He has been repeatedly held in solitary confinement and routinely denied access to his family. He is in critical ill-health</p> <p>Prior to his imprisonment Abdukiram often travelled within the region speaking openly about the Uighur right to practice Islam freely and advocating for economic equality between Han Chinese and Uighurs.</p> <p>On his scheduled release date of 16 November 2002 his mother and brother travelled from Kucha to Urumqi to collect him. When they arrived prison guards told them Abdukiram's sentence had been extended by three years. They requested a written court statement justifying his sentence extension but were refused. Prison guards simply told his mother and brother that Abdukiram had been 'uncooperative'. Prison guards also told his family that 'if he did what we wanted him to do..this would be easier'.</p> <p>On each proposed release date his family arrived to collect him and were again told that his sentence had been extended. This happened three more times on 16 November 2005, 16 November 2008 and on 16 November 2011. Each time his family were forced to return home without Abdukiram. In February 2014, he was given an additional five-year prison sentence. He has been on hunger strike since and is in ill – health. His family has not been allowed to see him since April 2014.</p> <p>The family received a written court statement explaining these 'extensions' only in 2009. The statement explains that Abdukiram was uncooperative by 'breaking prison administrative rules'. <u>One of which was praying and refusing prison 'education'</u>.</p> <p>During his imprisonment Abdukiram's family have frequently tried to visit him but have been often refused. Abdukiram's family would arrive at the prison but would be turned away, with prison guards stating the reason for this as 'special prison administrative rules' or Abdukiram's bad behaviour.</p>

Additional Details / Background (continued)	<p>On 15 January 2011 his mother was able to visit him and found him in extremely poor health. He was suffering from malnutrition and was only able to stand with the help of two prison guards. In September 2011 Abdukiram began a hunger strike to protest to his many extensions. In response, prison guards repeatedly subjected him to solitary confinement where he would be held in a small, dark cell for 15 days at a time.</p> <p>This same punishment was also used in response because he was openly praying. His brother reports that this has happened approximately 16 times.</p> <p>His family report that during a period of 270 days he was fed through an IV. His hunger strike ended in June 2012.</p> <p>On 16 November 2011 his mother came to collect her son but was refused yet again. Instead she was given a video tape of him. His mother described him as having the appearance of an 80 year old man and being unable to hear or see. He was also in a wheel chair. Later doctors and guards at the prison informed his mother that he had developed bone cancer.</p> <p>Soon after this date his mother sent an appeal to the courts pleading for his release and asking for the reasons for such repeated extensions. She describes the severe depression she has suffered and asked only to be reunited with her son. Abdukiram's two brothers and mother have made significant efforts, at great risk, to ask for international help in calling for the release of Abdukiram.</p> <p>Abdukiram Abduveli was included in the list of cases as part of Amnesty's submission to the EU-China human rights dialogue (13 June 2013)</p> <p>Abdukiram Abduveli's family have not been allowed to visit him since April 2014, and we have been unable to get any information about his health situation. Although we realise this lack of information can make it difficult to keep activists engaged, but it also increases concern about his well-being, and makes it even more critical that we keep up the pressure on the authorities calling for his release. He does not always have access to any medical treatment he needs and and to have regular access to his lawyer and family.</p> <p>Update: His family has still not been allowed to visit him.</p>
Known Health Situation	Extremely poor health, Bone cancer, UPDATE: He continues to have health problems
Proposed Questions to ask	To release unconditionally. Why is his religious freedom of expression being punished? Why is his family not allowed to visit? Has he been receiving medical care for his health problems?
Case Represents?	Religious freedom of expression
Websites to visit in compiling info on this case	http://ppdcecc.gov/QueryResultsDetail.aspx?PrisonerNum=5550
Case well-known?	yes

Case Card 5

Name of Individual	YANG Tongyan 杨同彦 (alternate name: Yang, Tianshui 杨天水)
Present Location	Nanjing Prison, Jiangsu province
Year of Birth; Gender; Ethnicity	April 12, 1961, Male, Han,
Occupation	Online journalist and freelance writer
Key Dates	Detained from December 23 rd , 2005, Indicted on April 25, 2006
Sentence	12 years
Charges	"subversion of state power," a crime under Article 105(1) of China's Criminal Law
Additional Details / Background	<p>- The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) reports that public security officials in Zhenjiang city, Jiangsu province have arrested freelance writer Yang Tongyan (also known as Yang Tianshui) on suspicion of. Yang wrote articles for Web sites based outside China, which were "strongly critical of authoritarian rule in China," and advocated for the release of imprisoned writers Zhang Lin and Zheng Yichun. According to the Independent Chinese PEN Center, Yang was detained in Nanjing on December 23, 2005 and formally arrested on January 20, 2006. CPJ reports that authorities are holding Yang at the Dantu District Detention Center and have denied him access to a lawyer on the grounds that the case involves state secrets. Yang previously served ten years in prison from 1990-2000 for his involvement in the Tiananmen democracy protests. In 2004, Yang was imprisoned for 15 days due to his writings that commemorated the 15th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square democracy movement.</p> <p>Yang Tongyan continues to be in poor health. While he still suffers from chronic diseases, overall his health appears to be improving. His diabetes and arthritis can not be cured and are still serious, but the hydrocephalus (or 'water on the brain') has improved. His sister said the prison will sometimes accept the medication that the family brings, but not always.</p>
Known Health Situation	Known to be seriously ill since Sep 2009
Proposed Questions to ask	To release unconditionally
Case Represents?	
Websites to visit in compiling info on this case	http://ppdcecc.gov/QueryResultsDetail.aspx?PrisonerNum=5189
Case well-known?	Yes.

Case Card 6

Name of Individual	<p>Gendhun Choekyi NYIMA Gen deng qu ji ni ma (chinese name 更登確吉尼瑪) Gendhun Choekyi དགོ་འདུན་ཚེས་ཀྱི་ཉི་མ། (Tibetan characters) Panchen Lama བན་ཚེན་ལྷ་མ། (Tibetan characters)</p>
Present Location	Unknown
Age; Gender; Ethnicity	27; Male; Tibetan
Occupation	Has been held incommunicado since age 6 . No further information.
Key Dates	Detained at age 6 on May 17, 1995
Sentence	There has not been a trial or sentence.
Charges	No charges have been disclosed.
Additional Details / Background	<p>On May 15, 1995, the Dalai Lama announced that 6 year-old Gedhun Choekyi Nyima had been recognised as the 11th Panchen Lama. The Government of China rejected the Dalai Lama statement as "illegal and invalid" and on May 17, 1995, authorities abducted the child and his family. Neither the Panchen Lama nor his parents have been seen or heard from since.</p> <p>In May 1996, China admitted that Gedhun Choekyi Nyima and his family were being held at a secret location. China's ambassador to the UN claimed that, "<i>(Gedhun) has been put under the protection of the government at the request of his parents.</i>"</p> <p>In May 1996 Chinese delegates at the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child admitted that the boy and his family were being held in custody "for their own protection".</p> <p>In September 1996, delegates of the Chinese "Ethnic Affairs Commission" confirmed during a meeting in Montreal, that authorities were holding Gendhun Choekyi Nyima and his family and that he was "healthy and studying to become a monk".</p> <p>In February 1998, American clerics visiting Tibet were told that Gendhun Choekyi Nyima was in Beijing, but in March 1998, the vice governor of Tibetan Autonomous Region Yang Chuantang told Austrian delegates that he was actually living in Lhari - the place of his birth. In April 1998, a third location was put forward when a British journalist was told that the child was studying, possibly in Gansu Province.</p> <p>In 2000, during a bilateral dialogue meeting on human rights, European Union and British officials were shown 2 photographs of a young boy allegedly proving that he was alive and well. Forensic analysis later confirmed that the photographs were not of Gendhun Choekyi Nyima.</p> <p>In August 2001, Chinese authorities promised photographs to a Polish delegation to Tibet but the delegation was later told that the boy was "far away" from Lhasa and so the pictures could not be obtained immediately.</p>

Additional Details / Background (continued)	<p>In October 2001, an Australian delegation was told that the parents of Gendhun Choekyi Nima were insisting that no foreign delegations be allowed to meet with him.</p> <p>In a statement made on September 6, 2015, Chinese officials again acknowledged that the Panchen Lama, now 26 years old, was living under China’s control. “The reincarnated child Panchen Lama you mentioned is being educated, living a normal life, growing up healthily and does not wish to be disturbed,” said Norbu Dunzhub, a member of the Tibet autonomous region’s united front work department.</p> <p>UN special procedures have raised this case in numerous examples without result. Most recently, on September 27, 2013, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child inquired about the location of the Panchen Lama during China’s periodic review. China refused to respond to the question which was the follow-up to a 2005 query regarding the Panchen Lama’s education while in detention.</p>
Known Health Situation	Unknown
Proposed Questions to ask	<p>What is the current location of Gendhun Choekyi Nyima and his parents?</p> <p>What level of education has Gendhun Choekyi Nyima completed?</p> <p>When can international monitors visit Gendhun Choekyi Nyima? for example: UN High Commissioner for Human Rights; UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion and Belief; UN Special Rapporteur on Arbitrary Detention; Canada’s Ambassador for Religious Freedom</p> <p>What is the expected release date for Gendhun Choekyi Nyima?</p>
Case Represents?	Fundamental right to live free
Websites to visit in compiling info on this case	<p>http://www.freepanchenlama.org/ http://www.tibetpolicy.eu/ict-calls-upon-china-to-reveal-the-whereabouts-of-the-panchen-lama/ http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/06/china-says-panchen-lama-living-a-normal-life-20-years-after-disappearance https://petitions.parl.gc.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-431 https://www.savetibet.org/?s=panchen+lama&submit.x=0&submit.y=0 Research on file.</p>
Case well-known?	<p>High-profile case.</p> <p>At the time of his detention, Amnesty International named the Panchen Lama “the world’s youngest political prisoner”. Since then, many international human rights organizations have championed the case. The United Nations has highlighted the case in numerous treaty body reviews of China.</p>
Government of Canada involvement	<p>Since 1995, the Government of Canada has consistently raised the Panchen Lama case with Chinese authorities. In 1998, the Canadian Embassy in Beijing delivered to Chinese counterparts 1000 birthday cards for the Panchen Lama from Canadian children. In 2016, Canadian Member of Parliament Randall Garrison posted an e-petition on the Parliamentary website called for active Canadian involvement in the case.</p>

Case Card 7

Name of Individual	Huseyin CELIL
Present Location	Xinjiang Province, Urumchi (in various prison locations)
Date of Birth; Gender; Ethnicity	March 1,1969; Male; Uighur
Occupation	Religious leader
Key Dates	Detained in Uzbekistan in March 2006 and extradited to China. Tried in August 2006 and sentenced in April 2007
Sentence	Life imprisonment
Charges	Splittism; terrorism
Additional Details / Background	<p>As a religious leader and student activist, Huseyin Celil spoke out publicly in the early 1990's on behalf of the right of his people (the Uighur people of Western China) to freely live according to their religion and culture.</p> <p>Arrested in 1994 by Chinese authorities, he spent considerable time in jail, and was beaten and tortured.</p> <p>He came to Canada in 2001 as a refugee. In Canada, he applied for and received Landed Immigrant status.</p> <p>Became a Canadian citizen in 2005, Huseyin Celil settled in Burlington, Ontario with his wife Kamila and their young children whose ages now range from 5 to 11 years.</p> <p>He was tried in August 2006. Amnesty International has called this an "unfair trial" because Huseyin Celil was not allowed to speak in his own defense, his lawyer was prevented from presenting more than 30 pages of first-hand evidence prepared on his behalf, and Canadian consular officials were barred from attending.</p> <p>The Canadian government has raised this case repeatedly with Chinese officials, most notably in November 2006 when Prime Minister Stephen Harper spoke directly with Chinese President Hu Jintao.</p> <p>More recently, Huseyin Celil's mother and sister were able to visit him in prison (November 2010, January 2011, June 2011). They reported an important change in his situation, namely that for the first time since his arrest, the solitary confinement which he had been subjected to since his arrest is being very gradually relaxed. He is occasionally being allowed out of his cell into other areas of the prison where he has contact with other prisoners. This is a small but very important step. The conditions of his health has not changed: he is not getting enough food, he has very little opportunity for exercise, and his medical complaints have been not been adequately attended to.</p>
Known Health Situation	deteriorating - he is held mostly in solitary confinement, with inadequate nutrition and medical attention; persistent kidney problems
Proposed Questions to ask	Canadian government should insist, for humanitarian reasons, on 1) An end to solitary confinement? 2) Adequate food/nutrition? 3) Proper medical attention? 4) Unlimited visiting rights for his family? Canadian government request (again for humanitarian reasons) that he be released to house arrest in Canada? He has 4 young sons (one severely handicapped), and his wife is all alone trying to raise and provide for them.

Case Represents?	Arbitrary Detention of a Canadian citizen
Websites to visit in compiling info on this case	Amnesty International Canada website. www.amnesty.ca
Case well-known?	Very well known in Canada, esp. in Greater Toronto Area. Family lives in Burlington. Prime Minister has received upwards of 10,000 post cards asking government to take action on this case. Canadian, UK, and US governments have been active on this case

Case Card 8

Name of Individual	Liu Ping 劉萍
Present Location	Jiangxi Nanchang Women's Prison
Year of Birth; Gender; Ethnicity	1964, Female, Han Chinese
Occupation	Unknown; She is a grassroots activist
Key Dates	Arrested in June 2013, sentenced on 19 June 2014
Sentence	Six years & half
Charges	"picking quarrels and provoking troubles" (寻衅滋事), "gathering a crowd to disturb order in a public place" (聚众扰乱公共场所秩序), and "using an evil cult to undermine law enforcement" (利用邪教组织破坏法律实施),
Additional Details / Background	<p>Grassroots activist Liu Ping was sentenced to six and a half years in prison for "picking quarrels and provoking troubles" (寻衅滋事), "gathering a crowd to disturb order in a public place" (聚众扰乱公共场所秩序), and "using an evil cult to undermine law enforcement" (利用邪教组织破坏法律实施), on 19 June 2014. According to her, she was tortured in pre-trial detention in June 2013, and has been denied adequate medical care. She is currently appealing her conviction and sentence. Liu Ping is a prisoner of conscience.</p> <p>The prosecutions against Liu Ping appear to be politically motivated as part of a wider crackdown on the 'New Citizens Movement', a loose network of activists which aims to promote government transparency and expose corruption. Although there was no mention of the New Citizens' Movement by name in the indictment and court verdict, she is among dozens of people who have been detained and persecuted for holding activities linked to the New Citizens Movement.</p> <p>On 21 April 2013, Liu Ping organized a demonstration along with two other activists demanding that high-ranking officials disclose their wealth as a way to promote greater transparency of the government. Shortly afterwards, on 27 April, Liu Ping was taken away by security officials in her hometown of Xinyu in Jiangxi Province.</p> <p>Liu Ping and the two other activists were held in pre-trial detention for more than six months, despite the fact that China's Criminal Procedure Law only allows for a maximum of three months pre-trial detention. The judges claimed that the maximum period of pre-trial detention was recalculated as the prosecutor added new charges to the original indictment.</p> <p>Liu Ping's trial was held in Yushui District Court in Xinyu City, Jiangxi Province in December 2013. Liu Ping stated in court that she was tortured and ill-treated while in detention in June 2013. A female police officer gripped her hair, lifted her head, and banged her head against metal bars during an interrogation. Another officer forcibly bent her wrist to take a blood sample from her.</p>

**Additional Details /
Background (continued)**

The court changed the charge from “illegal assembly” to the more heavy charge of “picking quarrels and provoking troubles” on 17 June, six months after the trial took place and just days before the sentencing. In addition, her lawyers were only informed of the date of the sentencing two days in advance, which violated the legal requirement of three days advance notice, forcing the lawyers to be absent at the sentencing due to other court appearances.

In the verdict, the court supported Liu Ping’s conviction for “picking quarrels and provoking troubles” based on eyewitness testimonies that, between October 2012 and April 2013, Liu Ping and several others held gatherings to discuss politicized social issues, posted photographs on websites of the gathering and of themselves holding banners, and during one of the gatherings, Liu Ping took part in a phone interview with foreign media. The court also maintained that by making a public speech at a park and distributing materials to bystanders on 11 May 2011, she was guilty of “gathering a crowd to disrupt order in a public place”. The evidence cited by the court in support of Liu’s conviction for “using an evil cult to undermine law enforcement” consisted of a list of QQ and Skype chats from 18 August 2012, in which Liu “gave information that a Falun Gong practitioner had been ‘persecuted’”. Liu Ping has consistently maintained that she is innocent, and was simply exercising her rights lawfully. An appeal was filed with Xinyu Municipal Intermediate People’s Court, but this was rejected on 11 August.

Liu Ping is detained at Jiangxi Nanchang Women's Prison, and there are fears that she is not receiving the medical treatment she requires. She had an operation to remove her gallbladder not long before she was taken away by the police. While in detention, she has been suffering from chronic diarrhoea and stomach upset but she has not been given medical treatment. Her daughter Liao Minyue has raised this concern to the authorities several times, but she is still being denied treatment and there are fears for her health.

Members of Liu Ping’s family have also faced constant harassment. Her daughter, Liao Minyue, was prohibited from attending the sentencing hearing and Liu Ping’s mother’s permission to attend was revoked on 19 June 2014. On 22 June 2014, Xinyu City Public Security Bureau Exit-Entry Administration Department notified Liao Minyue that she is not allowed to leave the country because she is “picking quarrels and provoking troubles”, and ordered her to surrender her passport otherwise it would be invalidated. Also, a security bureau official visited them after the sentencing warning them that if they did not cooperate, her mother might not be able to see Liu Ping. This harassment and intimidation is believed to be as a punishment for Liao Minyue speaking out about her mother’s case and to deter them from further activities. This is an example of the frequent restrictions faced by family members of activists.

In December 2014, Liu Ping’s daughter, Liao Minyue, was able to visit her in prison. She had previously been denied permission, despite other family members being allowed to visit her.

Update (nov 2015): She has ongoing health problems

Background Information/ Liu Ping's activism

Liu Ping began her activist life when she was forced to retire from her work at the state-owned Iron and Steel plant at age of 45. She and other retirees petitioned in Xinyu and in Beijing about the compulsory early retirement and inadequate pension. She gained widespread support for her advocacy of workers' rights and the rights of those forced to retire. In 2011, Liu Ping attempted to run for the local People’s Congress in Yushui District as an independent candidate. She faced different obstacles and harassment when seeking to stand for the election. Local authorities reportedly followed her, disrupted her campaigns, called her in for questioning, detained her arbitrarily, intimidated her supporters and cut off electricity to her home. She was eventually disqualified by the local authorities from running in the election.

In recent years she has been active in various areas of human rights work. Since late 2012 she has been pushing for Communist Party officials to make public their assets in an effort to battle corruption and promote transparency. She was frequently intimidated, beaten, and detained illegally for participating in these activities.

Known Health Situation	Chronic diarrhoea and stomach upset and has not received medical treatment. Update: She has ongoing health problems and is now also having vision problems to the point that she has become almost blind. She has not been given any medical care
Proposed Questions to ask	Liu Ping is released immediately and unconditionally and her family are free from harassment and intimidation and are not under any form of surveillance and that she receives whatever medical care she needs.
Case Represents?	Freedom of Expression
Websites to visit in compiling info on this case	Amnesty International
Case well-known?	Yes

Case Card 9

Name of Individual	Su Changlan 苏昌兰
Present Location	Nanhai District Detention Centre in Foshan city
Year of Birth; Gender; Ethnicity	1971, Female, Han Chinese
Occupation	Former School Teacher until she lost her job
Key Dates	Arrested on 3 December 2014, sentenced on 19 June 2015
Sentence	Not yet sentenced. Date of trial not known; Risk of up to 15 years imprisonment
Charges	Inciting subversion of State Power
Additional Details / Background	Married with one son (studying at high school)

**Additional Details /
Background (continued)**

Chinese women's rights activist Su Changlan could be facing 15 years imprisonment after being formally arrested and charged with 'inciting subversion of state power' on 3 December 2014. The charges against her are believed to be a result of online posts she made in support of the pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong in September 2014, and due to her activism on women's rights issues. Her family has not been able to visit her since she was first detained in October 2014, despite repeated requests, and she was only allowed to see her lawyer for the first time in May 2015. She is at risk of torture and other ill-treatment.

Su Changlan was questioned by police in Nanhai district, Foshan city in central Guangdong province, on two occasions in September 2014. According to friends, the police warned her not to continue posting material about the pro-democracy protests that were taking place in Hong Kong. However, after making further comments about the protests on social media, she was taken away from her home by police on 27 October.

Following her detention, her family and lawyers have repeatedly been denied information about her whereabouts, the exact charges against her, and permission to visit her. It was not known where she was being held until 3 December, when her family received a notice which stated that she was detained at the Nanhai District Detention Centre in Foshan city. Her lawyer applied to meet with Su Changlan several times but the authorities have turned down the requests until 6 May, on the grounds that the case involves "state security", which is permitted in China's draconian state security laws and regulations.

On 10 February 2015, Su Changlan's husband received a notification that her case had been transferred to the security unit at Foshan City Public Security Bureau in Guangdong province, presumably for further investigation. On 30 April, her case was transferred to Foshan City People's Procuratorate (Prosecutor) which then should make a decision on whether to prosecute Su Changlan within one month, with a possible extension of half a month. However, the Procuratorate also has the power under Article 171 of the Criminal Procedure Law to remand the case to the police or the Procuratorate itself for further investigation. Without clear information from the Procuratorate or the police, it is difficult to determine where in the process her case is currently. At the earliest the Procuratorate should have made a decision to prosecute her at the end of May 2015 but if all the extensions are given, it could be as long as the middle of November before she is brought to trial. It is also possible that Chinese authorities will ignore the deadlines as outlined in the Criminal Procedure law and her trial could be even later.

On 6 May, right after her case was transferred to the Foshan City People's Procuratorate, Su Changlan was able to meet with her lawyer for the first time since she was taken away on 27 October. He learned that Su Changlan was completely isolated from the outside world. She wrote approximately eight letters to her husband who also wrote a few to her, but neither of them received any correspondence from each other.

Su Changlan told her lawyer that the conditions of her detention in Nanhai District Detention Centre were terrible. The size of her cell is approximately 80 square meters, but it accommodates 50 to 70 inmates. The sleeping space is as large as the table of a meeting room (about 60 cm wide). Because of the limited space, she can seldom fall asleep.

Su Changlan told her lawyer that she was not tortured to extract a confession, but the police threatened that her case was serious enough to require a severe punishment. Su Changlan said she is in a good spirits.

Su Changlan is a well-known activist in southern China. She was a primary school teacher from 1990-2001, and began her social activism working with rural women in Sanshan District, Hainan Province to defend their rights to inheritance, and to ensure profits derived from community properties were shared. In recent years, she has been focusing on women's and children's rights issues such as trafficking of children, child brides, family planning and violence against women related to the one-child policy. She has also focused on migrant children's rights, land rights, forced eviction, and democracy. She was forced to resign from her job as a teacher in Hainan and has been detained several times previously due to her peaceful activism and outspokenness.

UPDATE: After almost one year, she has still not received her sentence. On 9 August 2016, her lawyer was informed that the Supreme Court has extended the request from Intermediate court to delay the verdict until November.

Known Health Situation	Suffers from Hyperthyroid heart disease and sinus arrest syndrome, regularly feels numbness in her hands and feet and experiences headaches % tearing in her right eye
Proposed Questions to ask	When will she be allowed regular family visits, medical treatment when necessary while in detention and asking for her release because she is a prisoner of conscience
Case Represents?	Freedom of Expression; Punishment for activism for women's rights
Websites to visit in compiling info on this case	Amnesty International
Case well-known?	Yes

Case Card 10

Name of Individual	Yeshe Choedron (Yixi Quzhen 益西曲珍 Chinese name) ཡེ་ཤེས་ཚོས་སྒྲོན་ (Tibetan characters)
Present Location	Believed to be held at TAR Prison (Drapchi)
Age; Gender; Ethnicity	66, Female, Tibetan
Occupation	Retired Medical Doctor
Key Dates	Arrested March 2008, Sentenced Nov 7, 2008
Sentence	On November 7, 2008, the Lhasa Intermediate People's Court sentenced Yeshe Choedron to 15 years imprisonment.
Charges	Convicted for "espionage" (Criminal Law, Art. 110) for allegedly providing "intelligence and information harmful to the security and interests of the state" to "the Dalai clique's security department." (Source: Lhasa Evening News)
Additional Details / Background	Yeshe Choedron was one of thousands arrested, secretly tried, and sentenced during the 2008 uprising in Tibet. There has been little new information about her case since sentencing, and her advanced age is cause for health concerns. Other prisoners detained in 2008 have reported torture and ill treatment while in prison. In one prominent case, Tenzin Delek Rinpoche died this year while in custody.
Known Health Situation	Unconfirmed reports that she is in poor health
Proposed Questions to ask	In which prison Yeshe Choedron is being held What is her health situation? How many times has her family visited since she has been imprisoned? Would authorities consider releasing Yeshe Choedron on humanitarian grounds because of her age ?
Govt. of Canada involvement	Case first submitted to Govt of Canada in Sep 2015 by our organization and again by Canada Tibet Committee by letter to Minister Dion in March 2016
Websites to visit in compiling info on this case	http://ppdcecc.gov/QueryResultsDetail.aspx?PrisonerNum=7191 https://tibetnetwork.org/yeshe-choedron-awarded-the-inaugural-tenzin-delek-rinpoche-medal-of-courage/
Case well-known?	Has not received sufficient attention The case has been documented by the US Executive Commission on China and in July 2016, Choedron was awarded (in absentia) the <i>Tenzin Delek Rinpoche Medal of Courage</i> by the International Tibet Network

Case Card 11

Name of Individual	Jiang Yefei
Present Location	Not known
Age; Gender; Ethnicity	48, Male, Han Chinese
Occupation	Cartoonist
Key Dates	Arrested 13 November 2015 in Thailand
Sentence	
Charges	Human trafficking offense ?
Additional Details / Background	<p>Jiang Yefei had previously been detained in China for his peaceful activism. Jiang Yefei, was detained and tortured in China in May and August of 2008 after criticizing the official response to the 2008 earthquake in China's Sichuan province. He fled to Thailand with his wife shortly after.</p> <p>When the Thai government forcibly returned him to China on 13 November 2015, he had already been accepted for rapid resettlement in a third country and was scheduled to depart on 18 November. The UNHCR and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) voiced strong concern about the forced return of Jiang Yefei and his risk of torture and other ill-treatment.</p> <p>He was last seen on 26 November 2015 on state media news agency CCTV "confessing" to human-trafficking offences and "admitting" that Jiang Yefei had assisted Dong Guangping to cross the border "illegally" into Thailand. After viewing the footage, his family raised the allegation that he has been subjected to torture or other ill-treatment. They found that his facial expressions and tone of voice was suspiciously different from usual, and showed signs of pain and stress.</p> <p>South East Asian countries are increasingly violating the non-refoulement principle following pressure from the Chinese government. This principle prohibits the transfer of people to any country or jurisdiction where they would be at risk of serious human rights violations or abuses. It is enshrined in numerous international instruments, and has achieved the status of customary international law, binding on all states regardless of whether they have ratified the relevant treaties, such as the UN Refugee Convention, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, or the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment</p>
Known Health Situation	Unknown
Proposed Questions to ask	<p>Confirm prison or detention centre as to where he is being held</p> <p>What is his health situation?</p> <p>How many times has his extended family visited since he has been imprisoned?</p> <p>Ask for his release on humanitarian grounds since his family is in Canada</p>

Case Represents?	Freedom of Expression
Websites to visit in compiling info on this case	https://www.thestar.com/news/immigration/2015/12/09/canadas-rescue-of-two-chinese-dissidents-foiled-by-overnight-deportation.html http://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/china-deported-11182015121215.html ; http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/11/china-accused-tricking-dissidents-deportation-151129110204520.html https://cpj.org/blog/2016/03/chinas-overseas-critics-under-pressure-from-smear-.php http://cblf.org/2015/12/chinese-cartoonist-deported-from-thailand-jailed-in-china/ http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/canada-caught-in-middle-of-chinas-dissident-dragnet/article27655280/
Case well-known?	There was some coverage in Canadian media

Case Card 12

Name of Individual	Dong Guangping
Present Location	Chongqing Municipal No. 2 Detention Centre
Age; Gender; Ethnicity	58, Male, Han Chinese
Occupation	Policeman
Key Dates	Arrested 13 November 2015 in Thailand
Sentence	
Charges	human-trafficking offences ?
Additional Details / Background	<p>Dong Guangping had previously been detained in China for his peaceful activism. Dong Guangping was detained by Chinese authorities from May 2014 to February 2015 after participating in an event commemorating victims of the 1989 Tiananmen Square crackdown. He arrived in Thailand with his wife and daughter in September 2015 to escape harassment.</p> <p>When the Thai government forcibly returned him to China on 13 November 2015, he had already been accepted for rapid resettlement in a third country and was scheduled to depart on 18 November. The UNHCR and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) voiced strong concern about the forced return of Dong Guangping and his risk of torture and other ill-treatment. He was last seen on 26 November 2015 on state media news agency CCTV “confessing” to human-trafficking offences. After viewing the footage, their families raised the allegation that he may have been subjected to torture or other ill-treatment. They found that his facial expressions and tone of voice were suspiciously different from usual, and showed signs of pain and stress.</p> <p>South East Asian countries are increasingly violating the non-refoulement principle following pressure from the Chinese government. This principle prohibits the transfer of people to any country or jurisdiction where they would be at risk of serious human rights violations or abuses. It is enshrined in numerous international instruments, and has achieved the status of customary international law, binding on all states regardless of whether they have ratified the relevant treaties, such as the UN Refugee Convention, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, or the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment</p>
Known Health Situation	Unknown
Proposed Questions to ask	<p>Confirm prison or detention centre as to where he is being held</p> <p>What is his health situation?</p> <p>How many times has his extended family visited since he has been imprisoned?</p> <p>Ask for his release on humanitarian grounds since his family is in Canada</p>

Case Represents?	Freedom of Expression
Websites to visit in compiling info on this case	https://www.thestar.com/news/immigration/2015/12/09/canadas-rescue-of-two-chinese-dissidents-foiled-by-overnight-deportation.html http://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/china-deported-11182015121215.html ; http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/11/china-accused-tricking-dissidents-deportation-151129110204520.html https://cpj.org/blog/2016/03/chinas-overseas-critics-under-pressure-from-smear-.php http://cbl.df.org/2015/12/chinese-cartoonist-deported-from-thailand-jailed-in-china/ http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/canada-caught-in-middle-of-chinas-dissident-dragnet/article27655280/
Case well-known?	There was some coverage in Canadian media

Case Card 13

Name	DRUKLO (pen name: Shokjang)
Name in Tibetan characters	Druklo = འཇམ་ལྷོ་གཤམ་ལྷོ་། Shokjang = འཇམ་ལྷོ་གཤམ་ལྷོ་།
Name in Chinese characters	Druklo = 珠洛 (sometimes shown as 周卡加)/pinyin = Zhu luo Shokjang = 雪江 / pinyin = Shou jiang
Present location	Unknown
Age, Gender, Ethnicity	Approximately 30 years old; male; Tibetan
Occupation	Writer and blogger
Key dates	Detained March 16, 2015 Sentenced February 17, 2016
Sentence	3 years
Charges	No charges have been disclosed.
Additional details/ background	<p>Tibetan writer and blogger Druklo, also known by his pen-name Shokjang, is a prominent Tibetan writer and blogger known for his critical and thought-provoking articles about the current situation in Tibet, and specifically about the resettlement of Tibetan nomads.</p> <p>Shokjang was detained by Chinese authorities on 16 March 2015 by national security police officers from a hotel in Rebkong, Amdo Province (Chinese: Tongren County, Huangnan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai province). He had been previously detained in 2010 following accusations of involvement in the 2008 student protests.</p> <p>On 17 February 2016 Shokjang was sentenced to 3 years by the Malho Prefecture “Middle Court”; no details of the charge against him have been released by the Chinese authorities.</p> <p>In a written statement, Shokjang denied wrong-doing and claimed that the charges against him lack merit.</p>
Health situation	Unknown
Proposed questions	<p>What are the charges against Shokjang?</p> <p>Does Shokjang have access to legal counsel?</p> <p>What is the current health status of Shokjang?</p>
Web sources	<p>http://tchrd.org/tag/shokjang/</p> <p>http://freetibetanheroes.org/portfolio-items/druklo-pen-name-shokjang/</p> <p>http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/china-release-druklo-immediately-ua-8515</p> <p>http://www.rfa.org/english/news/tibet/tibetan-writer-sentenced-to-three-years-in-prison-in-chinas-qinghai-province-02192016134844.html</p>
Case well-known?	The case has been adopted by Canadian Journalists for Free Expression (IFEX); Amnesty International USA; Amnesty International Canada; PEN International; PEN Canada; PEN Quebec; and the Quebec Writers Union (UNEQ), among others. Canadian writer Louis-Philippe Hébert has dedicated his book ‘Marie Réparatrice’ to Shokjang.
Date this case card was	March 2016

updated

