

CHINA

Ni Yulan: Evicted and harassed for defending housing rights

Women human rights defender Ni Yulan has braved years of violent harassment for standing up for people evicted from their homes. She was once beaten so badly that she now uses a wheelchair. That hasn't stopped her activism.



Artwork © Rebecca Hendin

The former lawyer has supported scores of people forced from their homes by profitable construction projects. Ni Yulan has experienced the same herself. In one example, she was among thousands whose homes were demolished in the lead-up to the 2008 Beijing Olympics. In an attempt to stop her work, the authorities have, for nearly 20 years, harassed, monitored, arrested and repeatedly evicted her. Ni Yulan's family members have also been affected. They have endured harassment, threats, surveillance and even eviction from several of their homes.

Nothing has stopped Ni Yulan from championing the right to housing.

While filming the demolition of a Beijing home in 2002, officers took Ni Yulan to a police station. The torture she experienced over several days broke her feet and kneecaps, confining her to a wheelchair. In March 2016, the authorities refused to issue a passport for Ni Yulan to travel to an event in the USA at which she was to accept an international prize celebrating her courage. In April 2017, men descended on her rented apartment, grabbed Ni Yulan, her husband and daughter, and threw them out of their home. After being forced to sleep on the streets, the couple now live in temporary housing within constant sight of the police.

Women human rights defenders like Ni Yulan are often at particular risk of persecution in China, where taking a stand in the public sphere is not considered appropriate behavior for a woman.

Ni Yulan has no plans to stop helping people stand up for their rights. It's our turn to stand up for her. Tell China to stop harassing Ni Yulan.

Everyone has the right to
an adequate standard of
living,
including...housing...

Article 25,
Universal Declaration
of Human Rights

**WRITE
FOR
RIGHTS**

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



To take action, go to the next page.

Unleash your pens and keyboards!

Please write to the Director of Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau.

- ◆ Start with Dear Director.
- ◆ Describe who you are and what concerns you about the constant harassment of Ni Yulan and her family.
- ◆ Ask him for effective and prompt steps to end the harassment of them.

Mail your letter to

Wang Xiaohong
Director of Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau
No.9 Dongdajie
Qianmen
Dongchengqu
Beijingshi 100740
People's Republic of China

Postage: \$2.50

Please send a copy to

His Excellency Shaye Lu
Ambassador for the People's Republic of China
515 St. Patrick Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5H3

Postage: \$.85
Fax: (613) 789-1911

Human rights defenders like Ni Yulan are at risk around the world. Join Amnesty's efforts to protect the rights of those who defend our rights. www.amnesty.ca/wedefend #WeDefend



Ni Yulan in a 2017 photo. © Private

Support Ni Yulan!

Ni Yulan can't receive mail, so please post a photo of yourself with a message of support on social media, for example:

You are so brave #NiYulan – I stand with you!
#倪玉兰，你真的很勇敢！我们会与您同心面对！
#NiYulan

We are thinking about you and support your work.

我们记挂着你，支持你的工作！

May our joint struggle for human rights bring social change and justice one day

愿我们共同为人权奋斗，终有一天会带来社会改变和正义

Ni Yulan loves birds so you might like to include one in your message.

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