URGENT ACTION

MISSING LAWYER AT RISK OF TORTURE

Beijing human rights lawyer, Jiang Tianyong, has not been heard from since 21 November when he was due to board a train to Beijing from Changsha, Hunan. He has been previously detained and is at risk of torture or other ill-treatment.

Jiang Tianyong was on his way back from Changsha, Hunan on 21 November after visiting the wife of detained human rights lawyer, Xie Yang. During his visit, Jiang Tianyong accompanied the wife, and three other lawyers, to Changsha Detention Centre to try to arrange a meeting with detained Xie Yang. Jiang Tianyong has not been heard from since calling his wife, Jin Bianling, right before he was due to board the train back to Beijing.

Two days after he went missing, on 23 November, one of his family members reported Jiang Tianyong's disappearance to the Tongbolu Branch of the Zhengzhou Public Security Bureau. The officials refused to take up the case citing jurisdictional constraints because, although Jiang Tianyong's residential status ("hukou") is registered in Zhengzhou, it was unclear where he was last seen.

Jiang Tianyong is a well-known human rights lawyer, whose activism resulted in him being disbarred in 2009. He has since continued his work as a human rights defender, despite suffering ongoing harassment, detention and physical beatings.

Please write immediately in Chinese, English or your own language:

- Urging the Chinese authorities to order an immediate, impartial, independent and effective investigation into Jiang Tianyang fate and whereabouts, publicly disclose its findings and bring those responsible to justice;
- Insisting that, if Jiang Tianyang is in state custody, that he is immediately released, or, if credible evidence of a internationally recognized crime exists, is transferred to an official place of detention, charged promptly and remanded by an independent court, in line with international human rights standards;
- Urging the authorities to ensure that he is protected from torture and other ill-treatment, and that he is allowed access to his family, a lawyer of his choice and adequate medical care.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 6 JANUARY 2017 TO:

Minister of Public Security
Guo Shengkun
14 Dong Chang'an Jie
Dongcheng Qu,
Beijingshi 100741
People's Republic of China
Tel: +86 10 66262114 (Chinese only)

Email: gabzfwz@mps.gov.cn
Salutation: Dear Minister

<u>Director</u>
Tang Xiangyang
Changcha City Public Security Bureau
No. 140 Jiefangxilu
Changsha Shi,
Hunan Sheng
People's Republic of China
Salutation: Dear Director

Premier
Li Keqiang Guojia Zongli,
The State Council General Office,
2 Fuyoujie, Xichengqu,
Beijingshi 100017,
People's Republic of China.
Fax: +86 10 65961109 (c/o Ministry of
Foreign Affairs)

Salutation: Dear Premier

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country.

HIS EXCELLENCY MR LIU XIAOMING Embassy of the People's Republic of China 49-51 Portland Place W1B 1JL

Tel: 020 7299 4049

Email: press_uk@mfa.gov.cn

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.





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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Xie Yang, the detained lawyer whose wife Jiang Tianyong was visiting, is one of ten lawyers and activists who remain in detention on subversion charges following an unprecedented mass crackdown that started on 9 July 2015. Amnesty International is aware of at least 248 lawyers and activists who have been questioned or detained by state security agents since the crackdown began.

Jiang Tianyong has been involved in some high profile cases and has supported other human rights defenders, including human rights lawyer Gao Zhisheng, who was imprisoned and consistently harassed due to his human rights work, and blind legal activist Chen Guangcheng, who exposed forced abortion practices on villagers by local officials in Dongshigu Village in Linyi, Shandong.

The most recent detention of Jiang Tiangyong was in March 2014, after he and three other lawyers went to investigate a "black jail", or unofficial detention facility, in Jiansanjiang, Heilongjiang which allegedly detained Falun Gong practitioners. He was beaten while detained and had eight ribs fractured as a result.

Previously, in May 2012, Jiang Tianyong was detained by public security officers while on his way to visit Chen Guangcheng in Chaoyang Hospital, Haidian District, Beijing. Detained for nine hours, Jiang Tianyong was beaten so badly that his left eardrum was perforated and the hearing in his right ear was temporarily impaired.

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