

URGENT ACTION

LAWYER ARRESTED FOR “SUBVERSION”

Jiang Tianyong, human rights lawyer detained under “residential surveillance in a designated location” for over six months, has been formally arrested for “subverting state power”. Held incommunicado and without access to a lawyer, he is at risk of torture or other ill-treatment.

Jiang Tianyong has been formally arrested for “subverting state power” according to a notification received by his father from the Changsha City Public Security Bureau. His father, who resides in Jiang Tianyong’s hometown Xinyang, Henan province, only received the notification, issued on 31 May 2017, at the local post office on 5 June 2017. He was taken to the police station by the police right after returning home from the post office, warned not to disclose the details about Jiang Tianyong’s formal arrest to the outside world and was later released the same day. If convicted, the maximum punishment for the charge of “subverting state power” is life imprisonment. Jiang Tianyong is now detained at the Changsha City No.1 Detention Center.

Jiang Tianyong’s lawyers, **Qin Chenshou** and **Chen Jinxue**, have requested a meeting with Jiang Tianyong for the ninth time since he was detained. The Changsha City Public Security Bureau rejected all previous meeting requests on the grounds of “obstructing investigation” and “endangering national security”. To date, Jiang Tianyong has had no access to a lawyer. Jiang Tianyong was accused of “inciting subversion of state power” when he was placed under “residential surveillance in a designated location” in December 2016.

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:

- Calling on the authorities to immediately release Jiang Tianyong as he has been charged solely for peacefully exercising his human rights;
- Urging the authorities to ensure that while detained Jiang Tianyong 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 26 JULY 2017 TO:

Director
Changsha City No.1 Detention
Center
1736 Yuandaerlu
Quantang Zhen
Changsha Xian, 410131
Hunan Sheng,
People’s Republic of China
Salutation: Dear Director

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

And copies to:
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)
Email: premier@mail.gov.cn

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, 020 7299 4049, press_uk@mfa.gov.cn

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

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Jiang Tianyong, last heard from on 21 November 2016, was placed under “residential surveillance in a designated location” on suspicion of “inciting subversion of state power” according to a notification received by his father-in-law on 23 December 2016 from the Changsha City Public Security Bureau.

Lawyer Jiang Tianyong went missing on 21 November 2016 on the way back to Beijing after visiting Xie Yang’s wife. He had accompanied her and three other lawyers to Changsha City No.2 Detention Centre to try to arrange a meeting with Xie Yang. Mainland Chinese media released interviews and video-recorded “confessions” of Jiang Tianyong in February 2017, claiming that he was the one who fabricated Xie Yang’s account of torture, and labelling the foreign media reports about Xie Yang’s account of torture as “fake news”.

Following an unprecedented government crackdown on human rights lawyers and other activists, almost 250 lawyers and activists have been questioned or detained by state security agents since 9 July 2015. In addition to the raiding of many offices and homes, family members of those detained were also subjected to police surveillance, harassment and restriction of their freedom of movement.

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.

Prior to his current detention, Jiang Tianyong was most recently detained 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.

Name: Jiang Tianyong

Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 141/17 Index: 17/6491/2017 Issue Date: 14 June 2017