



**International PEN  
NGO in Consultative Status with ECOSOC**

**Appendix to the Contribution to the Universal Periodic Review Mechanism  
4<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Group of the UPR (2 – 13 February 2009)  
Submission on the People's Republic of China**

1 September 2008

**Case samples**

International PEN has been monitoring repression of writers and journalists in China, and concludes, as evidenced by the case samples, that rather than improving, freedom of expression in China continues to be disregarded by the authorities. The following are a list of International PEN's main cases of writers imprisoned in China as of 29 August 2008

**CHEN Daojun:** Dissident writer and journalist, arrested on 9 May 2008, and charged with 'inciting splittism', apparently for an article he published following the Tibetan democracy protests in March 2008 which condemned the Chinese government's violent crackdown on protesters that month. Chen is currently being held at the Detention Centre of the Public Security Bureau of Jintang County.

**CHEN Shuqing:** Dissident writer and leading member of Zhejiang Branch of the banned Chinese Democratic Party (CDP), arrested on 14 September 2006 and sentenced to 4 years in prison for 'inciting subversion of state power'. The conviction is reportedly based on sentences quoted from various articles published and posted on the banned magazine of the Chinese Democratic Party, and overseas Chinese websites including *Boxun*, *Epoch Times*, *China Affairs Forum*, *China E Weekly* and *Duowei News*. His appeal was rejected by the Zhejiang High People's Court

**DU Daobin:** Dissident writer and member of the Independent Chinese PEN Centre, arrested on 21 July 2008, at his workplace by National Security police who also searched Du's home and confiscated two computers and some letters. Du Daobin was on probation for "inciting subversion of state power", and was re-arrested for allegedly violating the terms of his probation. Police alleged that, while on probation, Du published more than a hundred essays on overseas websites, failed to report to the police regularly and did not notify the police when he travelled outside of his hometown and when he hosted guests at home. He is now required to serve the remaining two years and four months of his sentence.

**GUO Qizhen:** Internet writer, arrested on 12 May 2006 and sentenced to 4 years imprisonment, and three years' deprivation of political rights, for 'inciting subversion' on 17 October 2006. The charges were based on his 34 articles attacking at the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and government that were published on overseas websites.

**HADA:** Owner of the Mongolian Academic bookstore and founder and editor-in-chief of the underground journal *The Voice of Southern Mongolia*, arrested on 10 December 1995 for founding the Southern Mongolian Democracy Alliance and publishing the underground journal. Sentenced to 15 years in prison and 4 years deprivation of political rights on charges of "inciting separatism and espionage".

**HU Jia:** Leading activist and dissident writer, arrested on 27 December 2007 and sentenced to three and a half years in prison for ‘inciting subversion of state power’ for his critical online writings and dissident activities. Evidence presented against him in court included five articles published on banned overseas Chinese websites and two interviews given to the foreign media. He is also believed to be targeted for an open letter he signed, "The Real China Before the Olympics," which demanded an end to human rights abuses in the run-up to the Olympic Games to be held in Beijing in August 2008.

**HE Depu:** Dissident activist/writer, arrested on 4 November 2002 and sentence to eight years in prison and two-year deprivation of political rights, for collaborating with the banned Chinese Democratic Party (CDP) and publishing essays on the Internet.

**HU Shigen**

University lecturer, political activist and dissident writer, arrested on 27 September 1992 or ‘leading a counterrevolutionary organisation’ and ‘counterrevolutionary propaganda’. Sentenced to 20 years in prison and five years’ subsequent deprivation of political rights. He reportedly received a seven-month reduction to his sentence on 16 December 2005, after being interviewed by the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture

**HUANG Jinqiu (aka Qing Shuiju):** Internet essayist, writer and journalist, arrested on 13 September 2003 and sentenced to 12 years in prison and four-year deprivation of political rights for ‘organising, planning and performing subversion of state power by publishing a large number of reactionary articles on the Internet in his capacity as member of the preparatory committee of the China Patriotic Democratic Party’.

**HUANG Qi:** Internet writer, and director and co-founder of the Tianwang Human Rights Centre in Chengdu, arrested on 10 June 2008, reportedly after criticising the Chinese government’s handling of the 12 May 2008 earthquake in Sichuan province. There are reports that he was last seen being forced into a car by alleged plainclothes police and may be held incommunicado.

**KONG Youping and Ning Xianhua:** Internet writers and factory workers, arrested on 13 December 2003 and sentenced to 10 and 8 years in prison respectively, for ‘subverting state power’. Kong Youping was reportedly arrested after posting five articles and seven poems on an overseas website challenging the official version of the “Beijing Spring” and alleging official corruption. The pair was also accused of posting online essays supporting the establishment of trade unions and the China Democratic Party (CDP).

**LI Zhi:** Internet writer and financial official in the Dazhou municipal government, Sichuan Province, arrested on 11 August 2003 and sentenced to 8 years in prison and four-year deprivation of political rights, for ‘subverting state power’. The court verdict confirms that both Yahoo! Hong Kong Ltd and Sina Beijing supplied evidence to the prosecution.

**LU Gengsong:** Writer and human rights activist, arrested on 24 August 2007, following the on-line publication of articles critical of the authorities. He was sentenced to 4 years in prison for ‘inciting subversion of state power’.

**LU Jianhua:** Research Professor at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Deputy Director of Public Policy Research and Executive Director of the China Development Strategy. Arrested in April 2005, and sentenced to 20 years in prison for leaking state secrets to a Hong Kong reporter.

**LU Zengqi and YAN Qiuyan:** Falun Gong members and Internet writers/publishers. Sentenced on 19 February 2004 to ten years in prison each for writing and publishing respectively an online

publication which according to the court verdict “tarnished the image of the government by broadcasting fabricated stories of persecution suffered by cult members”. The newsletter alleged the ill treatment in prison of a fellow Falun Gong member.

**Abdulghani MEMETEMIN:** Writer, teacher and translator from the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (XUAR), arrested on 26 July 2002, and sentenced to 9 years’ imprisonment for “violating state secrets and sending them outside the country”. Charges against him are believed to have included translating state news articles into Chinese from Uighur, forwarding official speeches to the ETIC, which is banned in China, and conducting reporting for the ETIC.

**NARANBILIG:** Journalist, web editor and human rights activist, arrested on 23 March 2008. He was not allowed a lawyer for his defence, and was released on bail on 12 April 2008. He was sentenced to one-year of house arrest.

**QI Chonghuai and HE Yanjie:** Journalist and freelance reporter respectively, arrested on 25 June 2007 following the publication of an article alleging corruption in the Tengzhou Communist Party, which was published in June 2007 on the *Xinhuanet* website. Sentenced to four and two years in prison respectively.

**SHI Tao:** Journalist and poet. Member of Independent Chinese PEN Centre (ICPC), arrested on 24 November 2004 and sentenced to 10 years’ imprisonment and two-year deprivation of political rights for “revealing state secrets”. Information supplied by the Internet Service Provider Yahoo! Inc. was used to convict him.

**TAO Haidong:** Internet writer and editor, arrested on 9 July 2002. He was found guilty of having posted material on the Internet allegedly on a charge of “inciting subversion of state power”, and was sentenced to seven years’ imprisonment and three-year deprivation of political rights.

**Tohti TUNYAZ (pen-name MUZART):** Ethnic Uighur historian and writer, arrested on 1 April 1998 and sentenced to five years’ imprisonment for ‘stealing state secrets’ and seven years’ imprisonment for ‘inciting national disunity’, combined as eleven years’ imprisonment and two years’ deprivation of political rights.

**WANG Xiaoning:** Internet writer and dissident, arrested on 1 September 2002, and sentenced to 10 years in prison and two-year deprivation of political rights on 25. Thought to be specifically charged for articles published in the on-line journals *Democratic Reform Free Forum* and *Current Political Commentary* between 2000 and 2002.

**WEI Zhenling:** Freelance reporter for the *Zhejiang Qingnian Bao* (Zhejiang Youth Newspaper) and activist. Arrested on 25 July 2008 on suspicion of "inciting subversion of state power" for his online critical reports and activism.

**WU Yilong:** Internet writer and China Democratic Party (CDP) activist. Arrested for circulating pro-democracy articles on the Internet and for his work with the magazine *Zai Yedang* (*Opposition Party*). The CDP, founded in 1998, is an underground opposition party. Sentenced to 11 years in prison on charges of subversion.

**XU Wei, JIN Haike, Yang Zili, and ZHANG Honghai:** Reporter for *Xiaofei Ribao* (*Consumer Daily*), geologist and writer, writer and computer engineer, and freelance writer respectively, arrested on 13 March 2001. Xu Wei and Jin Haike were sentenced to ten years in prison, and Yang Zili and Zhang Honghai to eight years. The trial focused on two essays circulated on the internet entitled ‘Be a new citizen, reform China’ and ‘What’s to be done’, which allegedly demonstrated the groups’ intention to “overthrow the Chinese Communist

Party's leadership and the socialist system and subvert the regime of the people's democratic dictatorship".

**XU Zerong:** Research professor at Zhongshan University, Guangzhou, arrested on 24 June 2000 and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment for leaking state secrets and five years' imprisonment for illegal business activities, combined as 13 years in prison. It appears that the first set of charges relate to his use of documents concerning Chinese military operations in the Korean War (1950-53), gathered in the course of his research; the second set of charges are thought to relate to the allegedly illegal publication of books and periodicals and the sale of book authorisation numbers since 1993.

**YAN Zhengxue:** Dissident writer and painter, arrested on 18 October 2006 and sentenced to 3 years in prison for 'inciting subversion of state power' for his critical writings published on-line on overseas websites.

**YANG Maodong (aka Guo Feixiong):** Dissident writer, independent publisher and civil rights activist, arrested on 14 September 2006, and sentenced to 5 years in prison, for illegal business practices for allegedly publishing and selling 20,000 books using false ISBNs (international standard book number).

**YANG Tongyan (aka Yang Tianshui)** Dissident writer and member of Independent Chinese PEN Centre (ICPC), arrested on 23 December 2005 and sentenced to 12 years in prison. Convicted of subversion for posting anti-government articles on the Internet, organizing branches of the (outlawed) China Democracy Party and accepting illegal funds from overseas.

**Nurehamet YASIN:** Freelance Uighur writer, arrested on 29 November 2004, and sentenced to 10 years in prison for "inciting Uighur separatism" in his book *Wild Pigeon (Yawa Kepter)*.

**Tsering WOESER (f):** Award-winning Tibetan writer and poet. Arrested on 10 March 2008, placed under house arrest in Beijing, after demonstrations began in Lhasa in early March 2008. Previous political imprisonment/ problems: In 2007 both of her weblogs were closed by the Chinese authorities. Woesser's second book *Xizang Biji (Notes on Tibet)*, a best-selling collection of short stories and prose published in Guanzhou in January 2003, was banned in September of that year for revealing opinions 'harmful to the unification and solidarity of our nation'.

**ZENG Hongling(f) (pen name: Shanshan):** Retired teacher at the Southwest China University of Science and Technology in Mianyang, arrested on 9 June 2008, and charged with 'inciting subversion' and currently being held incommunicado. Charges are believed to relate to a series of online articles about her personal experience of the 12 May earthquake, entitled "The Accounts of My Personal Experiences of the Earthquake". Her reports were published at the US-based Chinese website *observechina.com* on 23, 25, and 28 May 2008.

**ZHANG Jianhong (aka Li Hong):** Prominent writer, arrested on 6 September 2006, and sentenced to 6 years in prison for writing articles criticising the government.

**ZHANG Lin:** Dissident writer, pro-democracy advocate and member of Independent Chinese PEN Centre (ICPC), arrested on 27 January 2005 because of a number of 'subversive' articles he had written and subsequently posted on the Internet between August 2003 and January 2005. Sentenced to 5 years in prison for 'incitement to subversion'.

**ZHENG Yichun:** Poet, professor and freelance journalist, arrested on 3 December 2004 and sentenced to 7 years in prison for 'incitement to subversion of state power' for his critical writings, many of which were posted on-line on overseas web-sites.

*TIBET AUTONOMOUS REGION*

**Dawa GYALTSEN:** Studied banking and accountancy, and worked for a bank, arrested in November 1995 for writing pro-independence pamphlets which were posted in April 1995 as part of a widespread protest against the Chinese authorities. The pamphlets reportedly contained a brief history of Tibet as an independent nation and pro-independence slogans. Sentenced to 18 years imprisonment. for carrying out “counter-revolutionary propaganda”. a.

**Dolma KYAB:** Writer and teacher, arrested on 9 March 2005. for allegedly endangering state security in his unpublished book *Sao dong de Ximalayasha (The Restless Himalayas)*. In another book, Dolma Kyab reportedly gives sensitive information on issues such as the location and number of Chinese military camps in Tibet. He was charged with ‘espionage’ and ‘illegal border crossing’, and sentenced to ten and a half years in prison.