

November 10, 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

In this follow-up on the progress of the “12.26 Xiamen Gathering Case” as of September 30, 2021, I would like to update you with the latest as of October 31, 2021.

Ding Jiayi and Xu Zhiyong are being mistreated at the Linshu Detention Center

On October 20 and 25, lawyer Li Xiongbing and Peng Jian met with Ding Jiayi through video respectively and learned that the food in the detention center had been terrible with no nutrition. The clothes and quilts are moldy and of extremely low quality, the yard time is very short, there is no hot water and no basic hygiene. Ding Jiayi's diarrhea and arthritis remain, the swelling in his calves from torture persists, he lost one tooth and other teeth are getting decayed also. He lost many hairs and is balding. His skin is showing signs of pigment loss that lawyer Li fears that might be the onset of vitiligo. The detention center still does not provide paper, pens, books, and newspaper. Although being mistreated, Ding Jiayi remains optimistic and confident about future.

Lawyer Li requested again to copy the case files but was again denied, and his request to combine Ding's case with the cases of Xu Zhiyong, Chang Weiping, and Li Qiaochu has not been answered. Ding Jiayi believes that the charges in the indictment are completely baseless and said he will request that all the witnesses mentioned in the case files and the indictment be summoned to appear in the court for cross-examination.

On October 21, lawyer Zhang Lei met with Xu Zhiyong via video, Xu also said that he had been suffering from hunger in the detention center, and the daily yard time is less than 20 minutes. Xu Zhiyong believes that his detention and trial are totally unjust, and he too remains optimistic about the future of China which he envisioned in great details in his book “A Beautiful China” (《美好中国》). He hopes that his friends will continue to spread his ideas.

Lawyer Chang Weiping was badly tortured during RSDL

On October 15, Chang Weiping's lawyer met with Chang Wei Ping for the third time. Chang Weiping stated that the current illnesses he suffers, such as blood in the stool, varicose veins, and cervical pain, were caused by torture during the period of Residential Surveillance at a Designated Location (RSDL), and he provided more details about the torture and the names of those who perpetrated it.

On October 21, the Procuratorate returned Chang Weiping's case to Baoji Public Security Bureau for additional investigation due to insufficient evidence. On the same day, Chang Weiping's lawyer met with him for the fourth time and learned from him more details of his RSDL experience:

in addition to physical torture, he was constantly threatened and deceived by the interrogators, so much that he had suffered from paranoia of being killed. During the spring festival (or Chinese New Year), he wrote several letters to his family and gave them to the police for delivery, but none of them was ever delivered.

Li Qiaochu, Xu Zhiyong's fiancée, is still detained with no reason

On October 25, lawyer met with Li Qiaochu via video for the third time and learned that her hallucinations continued daily and were very painful when she had an attack. On October 28, Li Qiaochu's case was transferred from Linyi Public Security Bureau back to Linyi Municipal Procuratorate for prosecution. Li's lawyer tried to contact the prosecutors for more information but has gotten no response.

On October 6, the U.S. Congressional Executive Commission on China issued a statement demanding that the Chinese government release Ding Jiaxi, Xu Zhiyong, Chang Weiping, and Li Qiaochu unconditionally. On October 27, the Geneva Bar Association sent a letter to Xi Jinping requesting the immediate release of Chang Weiping.

I appreciate all the efforts made so far to speak out for the four detainees, and I hope that you continue pay attention to the case and exert pressure on the Chinese authorities as you see fit to stop them from persecuting these peaceful human rights advocates and to put an end to China's blatant violations of international laws and conventions.

Thank you,

Sincerely



Shengchun Luo, wife of Ding Jiaxi