Dr Hans-Gert Poettering,
President, European Parliament

Dear President,

VICTIMS OF RELIGIOUS REPRESSION IN CHINA

Further to your exchange of letters of 20 May and 21 July 2007 with Jose Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, about the victims of repression I had contact with in Beijing in May 2006, while preparing a report on human rights and democracy for our Foreign Affairs Committee, this is to advise you that all were arrested, two remain in prison and we have recent reports of their torture (Annex I).

I write in light of the EU-China Human Rights Dialogue taking place in Beijing on 15 October 2007 and the visit to the European Parliament of the delegation of the National People's Congress on 24-28 September.

After meeting me, Mr Cao Dong (36) was arrested and convicted of "accepting an illegal interview". He is in Tianshui prison, being tortured to recant his religious convictions and to denounce his meeting with me.

Mr Niu Jinping (52), appealed at the same meeting on behalf of his wife Zhang Lianying (46) who has been in Beijing Forced Women's Labor Camp since June 2005. She is routinely tortured and in March 2007 was beaten into a coma (http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/articles/2007/4/26/84925.html).

The third case concerns the noted Christian human rights attorney, Gao Zhisheng (44), who has advised a number of Falun Gong practitioners, like the above, and investigated their persecution. We spoke at length on the telephone. He was arrested on 15 August 2006 and convicted of 'subversion'. He has been under house arrest since, although I have maintained contact with him. On 16 September, police spent the day in Gao's flat, harassing him and his family; on 20 September he published an Open Letter to the US Congress (attached http://www.humanrightstorch.org/newslink/Others_GaoZhisheng_9_23.htm) and on 22 September, police removed him. There are concerns that the regime may manipulate him.

My concern for the welfare of these individuals has been reinforced by my meetings with many other torture victims in China (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mh0xitZVFvE) and the publication on 14 September of the US State Department's "International Religious Freedom Report 2007" (see summary at Annex II http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2007/90133.htm), which is highly critical of the continuing repression of all religions in China - Christians, Muslims, Tibetan Buddhists - but especially Falun Gong:

'Religious adherents and members of spiritual movements have been beaten, and some have died in police custody after being detained in connection with their religious belief or practice.'

On 23 September, I met Manfred Nowak, UN rapporteur on torture, whose report on China (see www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/docs/62chr/ecn4-2006-6-Add6.doc) concluded that two-thirds of those in 'administrative detention' are Falun Gong prisoners. Gao Zhisheng, who also met Nowak, believes that there are some 250,000 Falun Gong currently in such camps: records exist of more than 3,000 who have been tortured to death since 1999. The repression of this 100-million strong 'Buddha School' movement - once encouraged by Beijing for the wellbeing reportedly experienced by its adherents - amounts to genocide.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

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Annex 1 - REPORTS OF TORTURE OF CONTACTS OF EDWARD MCMILLAN-SCOTT

Since May 2006 Edward McMillan-Scott has met many former Falun Gong torture victims. He is Vice-President of the European Parliament, founder of the €140 million EU Democracy and Human Rights Instrument and rapporteur on its reform 2005-2006. Usually they are imprisoned under 'administrative detention' and as members of a banned 'evil cult' suffer particularly harsh treatment, often at the hands of other prisoners and even 'recanted' Falun Gong (to demonstrate their rejection of the practice). Most suffer total sleep deprivation for a period of weeks, then may be forced to stand motionless for several days, being prodded with sharp objects to keep them awake, followed by progressively brutal treatments involving electric prods - always including the genitals - excrement and general beatings. Former security officials have told the MEP that no-one is punished if a Falun Gong prisoner dies under torture.

Only Falun Gong - who neither smoke nor drink - are routinely blood-tested and blood-pressure tested in prison: they thus become prime subjects for the Peoples' Liberation Army's lucrative live organ transplant trade: more than 40,000 additional unexplained transplants have been recorded recently in China.

Cao Dong - Extracts from a report dated August 13 2007

Mr Cao Dong met with Vice-President of the European Parliament Edward McMillan-Scott in May 2006. He provided evidence of the 'organ harvesting' of Falun Gong practitioners [he saw the cadaver of his Falun Gong friend in the prison hospital after body parts had been removed]. After the meeting, he was arrested by State Security agents and transferred to the Gansu Province State Security Division in September 2006.

On 8 February 2007, Cao Dong was charged with "colluding with overseas anti-CCP forces" and "accepting an illegal interview", and sentenced to five years imprisonment.

Cao Dong and Mr. Xu Feng - another Falun Gong practitioner - are both being tortured in the Gansu Province Third Prison (also called Tianshui Prison). They are locked up in separate cells for brainwashing, with each cell containing 4 to 5 prisoners who closely monitor and torture them. Cao Dong and Xu Feng are both very weak.

The torture used in Tianshui Prison on Cao Dong and Xu Feng (who was arrested in Qingyang City on 21 August 2002 and sentenced to 17 years in prison) are very cruel and follows the pattern applied to most Falun Gong prisoners to get them to reject their beliefs.

Prisoners are used by the prison administration to torture practitioners. In this prison, they are mostly murderers, gangsters, and prisoners serving life sentences. There are five such prisoners monitoring Cao Dong and four monitoring Xu Feng.

The prison administration offers a ten thousand yuan bonus if a Falun Gong practitioner is successfully brainwashed to recant.

Persons involved in the torture: Tianshui City Prison Director Wei Xinggang (male), Deputy Director Chu Zhiyong (male), CCP Director Zhang Zhanhai (male): 86-938-8279097, Prison Clinic Chair Zhang Xiping (male), Prison Deputy Office Chair Liu Jiangtao (male): 86-13139382077 (Cell)

Mrs Zhang Lianying (wife of Niu Jinping) - Extracts from a report dated June 6 2007

Ms Zhang Lianying (46) was arrested at her home on 14 June 2005, while taking care of her infant daughter who was still nursing. She was sentenced to two-and-a-half years of forced labor.

Mrs Zhang is detained in the Tiantanghe Women's Forced Labor Camp (also known as Beijing Women's Forced Labor Camp), and routinely tortured both mentally and physically.

On 20 March 2007, the guards ordered other inmates to tighten a rope around Zhang Lianying's neck and punch her head until she had nearly suffocated, all in an attempt to make her give up Falun Gong. Zhang Lianying suffered a widespread intra-cranial hemorrhage and fell into a coma. She was taken to the Renhe Hospital in Daxing District of Beijing for emergency treatment and was in a critical condition for more than ten days. This was the ninth time the guards at this labor camp had subjected her to this torture. Twice before she was nearly suffocated and beaten until she became incontinent.
During ten months of detention at the Beijing Forced Labor Re-education Dispatch Division, guard Zhang Dongmei ordered eight inmates to whip her for more than ten hours a day. She was not allowed to wash herself or use the restroom. She had to relieve herself in her clothing, even during menstruation. She was deprived of sleep for extended periods of time, and she was hung up with her feet barely touching the ground. She was also tied to a wooden bench, with her torso twisted in a painful position. She was beaten all day long until her body was covered with wounds, she bled from her eyes, she lost her hearing, and she was near mental collapse. She could barely move. The abuse again escalated after she was transferred to the Beijing Women's Forced Labor Camp. She was locked in a two-square-meter solitary confinement room at the Group Drill Division where she ate, slept and relieved herself all in this tiny place.

After the camp authorities' violent treatment of Zhang Lianying was exposed, the officials tried to cut off her connection with the outside world and secretly transported her to the Tiantanghe Hospital affiliated with the labor camp while she was still in a critical condition.

**Persons involved in the torture and their telephone numbers:** Beijing Women's Forced Labor Camp: 12 Weiyong Road, Tiantanghe, Huangcun Town, Daxing District, Beijing - Section Chief of the Management Section Shi, 86-10-60279755 ext. 5819; Training Unit: 86-10-60278899 ext. 5810; Head of the Xiangheyuan local 610 Office, Chaoyang District, Yang Yiguo: 86-10-64671059; Police from the Xiangheyuan Police Station, Chaoyang District, in charge of persecuting Falun Gong: Deputy Director Wang Qing and Policeman Zhang Weimin: 86-10-64660050 (office), 86-13501066384 (mobile); Head of the Liufangnanli Street Committee, Chaoyang District, Zhao Yuwang: 86-10-64645203
Preface

The Chinese Communist Party officially recognises five main religions: Buddhism, Taoism, Islam, Catholicism and Protestantism. In a Chinese Government White Paper of April 2005 it was estimated that there were 16,000 Buddhist temples and monasteries and 200,000 Buddhist monks and nuns. There are more than 20 million Muslims, 45,000 imams nationwide and 10 Islamic schools. The number of Christians has reportedly reached 130 million by the end of 2006, including about 20 million Catholics.

The Falun Gong is a self-described spiritual movement that blends aspects of Taoism, Buddhism, and the meditation techniques and physical exercises of qigong (a traditional Chinese exercise discipline) with the teachings of Falun Gong leader Li Hongzhi.

During the period covered by this report, the Chinese Government continued its repression of groups that it designated as "cults," which included several Christian groups and the Falun Gong. The Government has never publicly defined the criteria which it uses for designating a religious group a "cult."

Falun Gong practitioners continued to face arrest, detention, and imprisonment, and there were credible reports of deaths due to torture and abuse.

Practitioners who refuse to recant their beliefs are sometimes subjected to harsh treatment in prisons, reeducation through labor camps, and extra-judicial "legal education" centers.

Some (Falun Gong) practitioners who recanted their beliefs returned from detention. Reports of abuse were difficult to confirm within the country and the group engaged in almost no public activity.

There were continuing reports that the Government's '610 office,' a state security agency implicated in many alleged abuses of Falun Gong practitioners, continued to use extra-legal methods of repression.

Religious adherents and members of spiritual movements have been beaten, and some have died in police custody after being detained in connection with their religious belief or practice. Citizens may be sentenced by a nonjudicial panel of police and local authorities to up to 3 years in reeducation-through-labor camps.

Falun Gong practitioners are being held these in administrative centres and are being tortured.

In December 2006 Gao Zhisheng was convicted of "inciting subversion". Gao received a 3 year sentence, suspended for 5 years, and 1 year deprivation of political rights. After suspending his sentence, the Government placed Gao under house arrest in Beijing. His wife and two children continued to be harassed and detained by authorities. In December 2005 Gao sent an open letter to President Hu Jintao highlighting abuses of Falun Gong practitioners. The letter described torture of Falun Gong practitioners and the extra-legal activities of the '610 office'.

There were credible reports of torture and deaths in custody of Falun Gong practitioners in past years, and overseas Falun Gong groups claimed that such incidents continued. According to Falun Gong practitioners in the United States, since 1999 more than 100,000 practitioners have been detained for engaging in Falun Gong practices, admitting that they adhere to the teachings of Falun Gong, or refusing to criticise the organization or its founder. The organization reported that its members have been subject to excessive force, abuse, rape, detention and torture, and that some of its members, including children, have died in custody.

Hundreds of Falun Gong adherents were also incarcerated in legal education centers, a form of administrative detention, upon completion of their reeducation-through-labor sentences. Government officials denied the existence of such "legal education" centers.

According to the Falun Gong, hundreds of its practitioners have been confined to psychiatric institutions and forced to take medications or undergo electric shock treatment against their will.

In March 2006 U.N. Special Rapporteur on Torture Manfred Nowak reported that Falun Gong practitioners accounted for 66 percent of victims of alleged torture while in government custody.'
Dear ladies and gentlemen from the Senate and the Congress of the United States,

Most respectful greetings from Gao Zhisheng! Allow me to express my sincere gratitude for your kind consideration and support in the past year to me and the values I am pursuing.

In the past two months, I have twice read the *Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787* by James Madison, and admired the freedom and democratic constitution which China has not been able to enjoy.

There is a saying in China, “a bite when hungry is better appreciated than a feast when full.” Likewise, your persistence is especially precious given the almost total silence, or even subservience, of the mainstream international world in the past few years in front of the tyranny of Chinese communist regime, a parvenu government that stops at no evil. Your persistence is a symbol of the light of humanity. The persistence you and many others show in refusing to collaborate with this fascist government is a strong wall that the overbearing communist regime can not stride over. This persistence is a buoy that keeps the oppressed from being completely drowned by darkness, and it is the hope and source of strength for the downtrodden Chinese people who are struggling for human rights. It will keep us going with our peaceful protest. You and other people of conscience are an important force that makes it possible for Chinese people to peacefully abandon the tyranny and to establish a free, democratic and civilized new China.

I am not a politician. I promise that you won’t see any rhetoric, distortion, or pretence in this letter. Experience teaches us that though the world can be very critical, people often favor counterfeited virtues. This rule is brought to extremes in my country by those who vilify the good and glorify evil. In the past two years, the Chinese communist regime has demonstrated every vile act one can and cannot imagine during their efforts to silence me. As if to prove their determination to destroy human feelings and conscience at all cost, the regime ordered at least four secret police to maintain continuous intimate man-to-man surveillance on my 3-year-old son. My 12-year-old daughter was “privileged” to an even higher level of treatment with six to ten male and female secret police at her heels day and night, month after month, even when she was in the classroom. All my family members have been followed around by secret police and have been illegally detained many times. During this period, my wife and children suffered repeated brutal assaults. The regime is determined to stop at nothing to persecute me, only because I stick to my conscience and responsibility as a human being. Behavior that is commonly considered to be too degrading for human beings is enforced in my country as political tasks.

Today, as we approach the Beijing Olympic Games, I ask you to pay attention to the ongoing human rights disaster in China, and wish you to forward my appeal to the whole world. I ask to you to seriously consider the true value of morality, justice, and humanity, as well as to what extent such values are undermined in China. More and more Chinese people are speaking out against the coming Olympic Games in China, which they often refer to as “the bloody Olympics” and “the handcuff Olympics.” They are protesting the need for human rights, not the Olympic Games. Recently Mr. Jacques Rogge expressed to the Chinese media that he would not be moved by these “desperate and indignant” voices. Meanwhile, Mr. Rogge asked people not to politicize the Olympic Games. Though I have very positive feelings about the Olympic Games, I am not willing to rebuke Mr. Rogge for his dereliction of duty to defend the ethical values of the Olympics. But it is necessary to remind Mr. Rogge that the Chinese communist regime treated the application and hosting of the Olympic Games exactly as an important political task. Everything related to the Olympics is regarded as a political issue. Liu Qi, China’s key person in charge of these Olympics, himself said that it is a “supreme political task” to ensure that every need of the Olympic Games is met. This is a simple and commonly recognized fact in China. What the Chinese authorities failed to predict is how wildly the corrupted officials are taking advantage of the Olympics. Under the name of securing the success of the Olympic Games, all kinds of evils have been committed in broad daylight, including forced eviction, illegal arresting and persecution people who petition to the authorities, and suppression of religious people. It is plain as day to all Chinese people that, with successes in hosting the Olympic Games, the communist regime is trying to achieve two goals. First, it tries to prove to Chinese people that the world is still acknowledging the Party as a legal government despite all the tyranny and all horrible crimes against humanity the Party has committed during the past decades at the cost of at least 80 million Chinese lives. Second, it wants to prove to the world the Party still has the power over China and still enjoys people’s full support. As more Chinese people are waking up and rising to demand the end of tyranny, the call for human rights is louder and louder. Under such circumstances, the Chinese communist regime has developed a twisted but fragile mentality and a freakish obsession to maintaining stability and ensuring the Olympic Games at all costs.

A recent incident in Beijing reflects the regime’s fear for the people. An old man persevered in petitioning against forced eviction that robbed him his home till his last breath. At his funeral, Beijing police sent
hundreds of policemen and unidentified personnel in 59 police vehicles (mostly buses) to surround the old man’s residence to prevent people from attending the unyielding old man’s funeral that was held there. Such shameful crimes against people of conscience have been going on for decades. A Heilongjiang farmer, Yang Chunlin, was robbed of his land. He was arrested for “inspiring” after he cried out, “We want human rights, not the Olympic Games.” In recent years, the illegal arrests of innocent people have gone out of limits.

Dear friends, as a Chinese I cherish profound love for my homeland and our suffering people. I also long to see the day when Olympic Games is held in China. But when I remember the social environment of China, and how the Olympic Games will be used here, my conscience and sense of justice make my heart ache. As you know, today in China those who connect Olympic with human rights are immediately hunted down by the communist regime and its gang as “the enemy of the state”, “the sinner of the people”, and “the destroyer of social harmony”.

We don’t support, nor pretend to support Olympic Games that is used as a political tool. Nor can we support or pretend to support Olympic Games that has no consideration for human conscience, justice and morality. In a world where the mainstream political forces value profit above everything else, where morality is sneered at, we tried in vain to urge the Olympic Games to perform its duties. But still, I choose to voice myself in a way that almost led to the annihilation of my whole family. I choose to present to the international community what’s happening in China, things that are totally against Olympic spirit, though at this moment people are busy congratulating themselves on what they have gained in the coming Olympic Games. I choose to do so despite the danger I may bring to myself, because I consider it my obligation as a human being and a Chinese.

The Chinese Communist Party is a criminal group that operates under the protection of national political powers. It is essential to realize its criminal nature so that we can make the right decisions. I know clearly that due to the greed for profit not many people would publicly acknowledge this observation while too many people will just pretend they don’t believe it. It is widely agreed that for any legal government, it is a nature and a basic moral standard to carry out the constitutional law. But in China, this rule is publicly abandoned, and the government that has been tirelessly violating the constitutional law has become the obstacle to people’s basic rights. People rights by constitutional law have become an eternal catch. The only law that the communist regime treat with any seriousness is “the constitutional law ensures the permanent reign of the Chinese Communist Party in China”.

I. The ongoing bloody religious persecution

The virtues taught by true beliefs means only disaster to the evil. Though the freedom of belief is regulated by China’s constitutional law, the communist regime has never stopped fighting people’s right in choosing their own beliefs, a right that is justified by human nature. On the other hand, without a court that can enforce the constitutional law, the law has no effective bonding. Even so, the communist regime takes pains to make sure the constitutional law is completely suffocated with numerous orders and regulations (for example the Regulation on Religious Affairs issued by State Council of China) The bloody persecution of Falun Gong starting from 1999 has surpassed all evils ever done. In the past eight years, over 3000 Falun Gong practitioners have been confirmed to be killed, and countless injured. Hundreds of thousands of practitioners have been sent to labor camps. Millions were illegally detained in the countless brainwashing camps established in every corner in China by the notorious 610 Office, an agency founded to lead the persecution of Falun Gong. Such brainwashing camps require even simpler entrance procedures while the methods used to “educate” the practitioners are shockingly cruel. Tens of millions have been persecuted in various forms. A large number of children have been expelled from school only because their parents practice Falun Gong. Some of the children were left unattended or even homeless after their parents were arrested. (Since last August my daughter has met many such children who lingered at the gate of her school. The children, though homeless, came up to my daughter to express their condolence and support. Our hearts ached for these children.) The eight year long suppression of Falun Gong is so far the most long-lasting and the most serious humanity disaster in China and in the world. This is why I am emphasizing it early in this letter. As for proof of this persecution, I’d like to recommend the investigative report I composed after doing investigation myself. To report recorded the legally acceptable evidences that I collected as an attorney. One of the cases in the report involves 28-year-old Liu Boyang, a medical degree holder, and his mother, who were both Falun Gong practitioners. The mother and son were tortured to death within less than ten days in the same building. The last nights before their deaths, the two could hear each other’s painful cries during the torture. Before the cries died with them, the police never stopped torturing them. What the Chinese police did to them is a record of shame in human history. By the time I was writing my third open letter to the Chinese leaders, the corpses of the mother and son were still kept by the 610 Office that killed them. Some other victims are still alive to testify the persecution.
So today I’d take the liberty to ask you, and ask the entire mankind, the following questions.

1. Are the eight year long persecution of Falun Gong and the crimes against humanity committed by the Chinese Communist Party only a problem for the victims? Or are they problems for the mankind?

2. Are the CCP’s genocide and crimes against humanity a threat only to the victims, or to the moral values of the entire human society?

3. Is mankind capable of dealing with such state-run crimes against humanity? Here three sub questions may be asked:

   1). Does today’s society have the courage and conscience to stand up against the genocide?
   2). If yes, do we have the capability to stop it?
   3). Judging by the definition of crimes of humanity and genocide given in the international laws, a large number of CCP officials meet all the criteria for both crimes, including Jiang Zemin, Luo Gan, Zhou Yongkang and Liu Jing. As for evidences, they are nothing but ample. So after all it’s a question of whether the mainstream society around the world has the sense of responsibility and courage to honestly face these evidences. The evidences include,

      A. For each of the over 3000 confirmed cases who were persecuted to death (the number is still growing thanks to our inaction), we have:
         a. their full name, date of birth, ID and addresses
         b. detailed account of how they were tortured to death
         c. documents to prove their deaths
         d. their corpse, ashes and tombs
         e. testimony from their living families or friends
         f. evidence for their arrests in most cases
         g. for those whose organs were removed, the sewing stitched on the body and the telephone conversation record with involved hospitals
         h. large number of photos of the dead bodies
         i. the people responsible for the killing are still alive and can be investigated

      B. Many Falun Gong practitioners were never heard from since their arrest. Their families can testify.

      C. Over 100 thousand survivors who can testify over the tortures they suffered, such as electric shock, torture by particularly made tools, and pricked by sharp bamboo sticks.

      D. Tens of thousands of surviving Falun Gong practitioners who were detained in labor camps

      E. those who are still jailed in labor camps

      F. millions who used to be detained in the brainwashing camps

      G. those who are still detained in the brainwashing camps

      H. a large but unidentified number of children who were expelled from school and left homeless.

      I. tens of millions who lost their jobs and financial sources, who were confined freedom and denied leaving China

      J. people of conscience within the CCP system

4). The issue all of us has to face is whether to pursue punishment [of the criminals]. Is China an exception when it comes to Public International Law for its crimes against humanity and genocide? We should not ignore difficulties to start this process due to the power of the CCP, but it is feasible, possible, and necessary from the perspective of International Law to pursue criminal procedural punishment [against the criminals].

I have written a lot about the Falun Gong issue, as the persecution of Falun Gong is the worst disaster to human nature in this era. It does not mean, however, that the rights of other religious groups in China are not violated. The CCP’s continuous suppression of Christian family churches is comparable to the shocking persecution of Falun Gong. Except for large cities such as Beijing and Shanghai, where people strongly oppose the persecution and force the dictator to lower the level of persecution, the persecution in townships and villages toward family church members are no different from the disaster suffered by Falun Gong practitioners. In my hometown, a small county, the number of arrested, detained, and robbed family church members each year is far beyond persecuted Falun Gong practitioners, and this illegal persecution has been going on for a long time. Based on my research on the persecution toward family church members in Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region, the CCP has trained a group of police to focus on harassing, persecuting, and suppressing family church members. Just recently Mr. Zhou Tong and others in Xinjiang were illegally detained. The CCP’s persecution of Christians is an open secret.

In recent years, the CCP has also escalated the level of brutality and cruelty of its persecution toward Tibetan Buddhists.
II. Brutal Persecution of People’s Freedom and Rights

Freedom is one of the most important spiritual factors of a human being. In addition to physical needs, man also has his equally important spiritual needs, which is a blessing given by God. However, the Chinese people are ruthlessly deprived of this blessing. In China, freedom is not only a luxury item, but it also regarded as a dangerous item by the dictators. The suppression of people’s longing for freedom is against human nature and against heavenly principles.

Freedom of speech and freedom of the press are basic indicators of a civilized society, are the main factors in modern world freedoms, and they are also the basic part of social freedom. For a country without rule by law, freedom of speech and freedom of the press are the only ways to ensure people’s rights and safety. Without this freedom, one can imagine how unabashed the dictators are and how helpless the suppressed groups are. The CCP has always taken the control of media as a key political task. It focuses on using technology to control the media, and ignores the factor of morality. Recently, especially in the past three or four years, along with people waking up to pursue their rights and freedom, the CCP has been paranoid and has tried to use every method to control the media. It has created shocking incidents suppressing people who practice their rights of freedom following the law. In the past two years, Mr. Zheng Yichun, Mr. Yang Tianshui, Mr. Guo Qizhen, Mr. Guo Feixiong, Mr. Yang Zhengxue, Mr. (Wang) Lihong and a large number of other renowned online writers were illegally detained, and more recently, the CCP illegally arrested Mr. Lu Gengsong and harassed his family.

Recently, the CCP’s Ministry of Public Security issued an urgent notice to order LDC (LDC服务商???) to shut down all forums, blogs, and other online information exchange platforms before the 17th National Congress. If one center is found to have more than seven sites of online platforms, it will be shut down and heavily fined. This is another evil campaign to illegally suppress the media.

Freedom of association is regarded as a threat by dictators. In a country without freedom of association, people have no way to defend themselves from the brutal dictatorship. How can a group of people without any connection, as a result of lack of freedom of association, challenge a regime fortified with wealth and weapons? The feeling of fragility and frustration of Chinese people is beyond imagination for those in a democratic country. In China, the whole nation is subdued by a small group of criminals focusing on attacking and persecuting people, one group after another. Even the thought and speech about establishing another political party is regarded as a first-level terrorist event and illegally suppressed.

III. Furious Suppression of the Rights Defense Movement

In recent years, the CCP has furiously suppressed the Chinese peoples’ rights defense movement to the edge of lunacy. A typical example is the case of Chen Guangcheng. When Chen Guangcheng, a blind man and a human rights defender, learned of family planning abuses in Linyi City, Shandong Province through his own investigation, he made public the CCP’s practice of forced abortions and sterilizations. Chen voiced that a human being should be allowed to come out, to the country and the world. However, his single voice caused the whole Chinese communist regime to panic. Their reaction was not to stop the continuation of these crimes committed throughout the entire country, but to exert brutal persecution against the upright and brave hero Chen Guangcheng, along with his innocent wife, young son, and elderly mother in her seventies.

The CCP’s birth control policy is the largest genocide in the history of mankind. Millions of unborn each year have lost of their lives simply because a few dictators made such a policy. (The Chinese regime officially released figures that the birth control policy has helped prevent 400 million births in the last 20 years). Common people who have not obeyed the policy have received extremely harsh punishment. The startling evidence of these excessive crimes by the CCP that blind Chen Guangcheng happened to “witness” and expose to the public-- these are just a small fraction of the long list of the CCP’s countless crimes.

In such cruel and inhuman ways, the CCP suppresses and persecutes the populace. Since Chen helped local villagers in their attempt to sue the local authorities in Linyi city for carrying out an illegal policy of forced abortions and sterilizations which reportedly affected thousands of local women, Chen has suffered severe beating, illegal detentions, false accusations, and his family has also encountered endless harassment and persecution. The CCP has been criticized as being completely insane and inhumane, which is very true. The CCP has no regard for consequences and commits crimes at all costs. The CCP knows clearly to what an excessive and heinous extent it has committed crimes against humanity, the people, and the country, and that the atrocities are startling. On one hand, they continue to deceive people and commit crimes. On the other
hand, the CCP covers its lies and crimes at any cost. The whole Party focuses its effort into covering up its lies and crimes, which is labeled as “political awareness” among all levels of government organizations and CCP committees.

Here I want to remind the ladies and gentlemen of the open letter to Hu Jintao, written by the prominent human rights defender Guo Feixiong’s wife, which contains a detailed account of Guo’s horrifying experience in a year-round prison. Guo is a human rights defender of complete integrity in both personality and conduct. His firm determination and persistence in his human rights work threw the communist regime into panic. In two years, Guo was detained three times, during which he had his first hunger strike for 40 days and second for 59 days. The letter revealed how the communist dictatorial system had blatantly tortured Guo against humanity and civilization:

According to Guo’s attorney Mo Shaoping, during a prison visit on September 29, 2006, Guo told Mo that he was subjected to around-the-clock interrogation for 13 days. Guo had gone on hunger strike for 15 days in protest against the torture he had received since his detainment on September 14, on suspicion of ‘illegal business activity.’

During his detention, he was subjected to physical abuse and was handcuffed and shackled to his bed for 42 days. Guo experienced the worst treatment after being transferred to a detention center in Shenyang City, Liaoning Province. There interrogators heavily beat him, shackled his hands behind his back, and sat him on a tiger bench or stool. As a result, overpressure from the torture damaged his shoulder joints. Even more brutally, the police, headed by Tao Zhongge and Yang Naixin, applied a high-voltage electric baton to his genitals. On August 7, Guo told his attorney that this brutality of viciously and continuously striking his genitalia damaged his health and lead to incurable injury on his body.

All of these to us are just like nightmares that we cannot get away from. In the past two or three years, the precipitous, cruel reality around us has become the main theme of our lives. How can the world become so absurd, and where on earth will it drive people to? If we hadn’t personally experience the suffering and pain, we could not believe such incomprehensible things happen around us.

President Hu Jintao, what I have seen is this: your face looks calm and smiling, shown along the headlines of major newspapers; your manner of statesmanship plays well in domestic and international news; moreover, you are often found to be associated with bright events and warm scenes. But here, at this moment, I have to tell you a story that one cannot bear to listen, as if it had happened in some other world.

“What is actually going on in my life? Why have all of these happened? Does the harmonious society people dream about and long for exist? How far is it from my life? How far are true human rights away from us? To the wrath and indignity of all, on February 12, 2007, they extorted a confession from Guo after they used electric batons to beat his genitals, but they were not quite satisfied. On the night of March 19, police officers dragged him into the secret place where he was interrogated the last time and reportedly beat him. They tortured him the same way they would treat a death prisoner-- with his face covered up and hands tied, they beat him fiercely; moreover, they reached the electric baton into his pants and struck his genital for approximately five or six minutes continuously.”

I’m not able to see your facial expressions after you hear these stories of how Hu’s regime treats people of conscience. Few people in China would be surprised about hearing such things. Indeed, this is because our government has conducted this savage behavior too much and for too long. Among both male and female Falun Gong practitioners I have been in contact with, the majority of them were tortured and humiliated through the assaulting or shocking of their reproductive organs with electric batons.

Since the beginning of this year, there have been large-scale forced abductions of appellants in Beijing, Shanghai, and other cities. The bloody violence occurring in broad daylight is shocking.

IV. Evil Conduct of Stealing People’s Private Property

The Constitution of Chinese Communist Regime also regards the protection of private property as a constitutional principle. However, for over half a century, the regime has conducted enormous and indescribable crimes against property owners. As stated by Jean-Jacques Rousseau, to build a country, people “need such a communion, use the group’s strength to protect every member’s life and property.” The United States is fortunate in that legislators came into being after the War of Independence. China’s disaster is that after the civil war, we became ruled under a militant, imperious regime that continues to steal people’s
property and whose evil habits have almost become its second nature.

Using property rental as an example, on January 18, 1956, the Secretary of the CCP Central Committee stipulated a policy called “Management and Leasing of Properties (by Government)” which ordered the private property owners to turn in their properties to the government. The government would then take control over the leasing and management of all these properties, giving a symbolic rent fee to the property owner at a shockingly low rate. This campaign affected 700 thousand households with the government taking over approximately 130 million square meters of private property. In Beijing alone, six thousand households were ordered to turn in their properties, which amounted to 199,147½ houses. It was later revealed that this round of plunder was another massive robbery of private properties after the Land Reform and the Socialist Reform. However, this round of robbery was different from the two previous ones in two aspects. First, the constitution was already in place at the time; second, the government had issued a property ownership certificate for all these confiscated properties. Therefore, this very government showed another aspect of itself—being a rascal and scoundrel regime. As of now, it still occupies these properties and refuses to return them to their rightful owners. Most of these property owners suffered tremendously from the “Management and Leasing of Properties” policy.

Jinglun Ning’s family used to own 18½ houses in Beijing, which were turned in to the government in 1958. When the official made a mistake when evaluating the rent, Jinglun, who was 17 at the time, voiced his opinion. As a result, he was branded as having “political problems” and was sentenced to four years plus four months’ forced labor. His mother was held in a detention center for five days. During the Cultural Revolution, his father and elder brother were beaten to death, due to the issues arising from government “leasing and managing” their houses. He himself was labeled as a counter-revolutionary, and was driven out of Beijing with his mother. These houses have not been returned to the family as of today. Lianfu Ma and his sister were two other residents in Beijing. Their parents passed away when they were still at a young age. They depended on the rental income from their inherited 16½ houses to make a living. After the “Management and Leasing by Government” campaign in 1958, the government only gave them 15.61 Yuan per year in rent. As a result, they became homeless. Staff from Tiantanghe Farm forcibly took them to perform labor. It was not until 1992 did they return to Beijing, jobless and houseless. These two elderly people had suffered all kinds of sad plights. Even today, the government periodically puts them under house arrest during major festivals and CCP celebration events. Today, hundreds of thousands of victims of the “Management and Leasing of Properties” policy and their heirs are still struggling with difficulty on their way to appeal year-in and year-out. On December 15, 2006, the CCP’s Construction Administration Department issued a No. [2006]208 document regarding housing, emphasizing that “properties confiscated under the ‘Management and Leasing of Properties’ policy are explicitly owned by the state. Ownership status must not be changed.” The document also instructed local authorities to pay attention to these properties as they are “political” issues and “sensitive” in nature. It reads: “For issues related to these properties, no one is allowed to conduct interviews or report these issues without approval from the Construction Administration Department.” Millions of people’s ownership rights to their properties were thus denied by part of an unconstitutional document.

In today’s China, those who are in power are indeed worthless in terms of virtue and conscience. More horrible than the fact that they are worthless in terms of virtue and conscience is that they gained power precisely due to their lack of virtue and conscience. The rich do not even spare a tiny portion of their wealth to benefit the society. They are more concerned about maintaining the status quo than to change it. They colludied into a political clique despised by all and respected by none. They use the excuse that their parent’s generation had made indescribable accomplishments to justify today’s dictatorship, grasping and protecting their privileges in a die-hard manner. The barrels of guns, police, and prisons are all that account for their “spiritual” wealth. Without virtue or conscience, they stop at no evil; they do not even have a bottom line when committing evil. They never concern themselves with how negatively people will evaluate them and hate them, because they can resort to the above-mentioned “spiritual” wealth. The massive and common hatred against this political clique constitutes another “possession” in their life, on top of all their existing evilness.

In the last 15 years, this political clique forcibly tore down civilians’ private houses to the extent of being completely irrational. They have forcibly torn down countless houses of the poor; it is no different than stripping the clothes of a person suffering poverty in the cold of winter. Their crimes do not just stop here.
For a long time, they have combated the appeal and accusation from the victims relentlessly by means of terror and duress.

Take Shanghai as an example. For over a decade, courageous local citizens went to Beijing, one group after another, to expose the crimes of Ju Huang, Liangyu Chen, Zheng Han, Yungeng Liu, Zhiming Wu and others. Many of them lost their lives in doing so; many endured illegal surveillance, home-ransacking, detention, forced-labor, imprisonment, being sent to mental hospital, harassment, having their phones tapped, and all kinds of suppression. Recently, 215 courageous Shanghai citizens, including the renowned human rights lawyer Enchong Zheng, wrote an open letter to CCP’s chairman Hu Jintao, enumerating the crimes committed by the political clique in Shanghai that had harmed people’s personal rights and property rights to the extremes. They wrote in their open letter: “By hook or by crook, they drove 2.8 million Shanghai citizens from the center of the city to the suburban area, and forcibly confiscated the farm land and tore down the residences originally belonging to one million farmers in the suburb. For more than a decade, Shanghai has been the origin and center of forceful land appropriation and coercive residence tear-downs to force people to move. In the past two years alone, the city government of Shanghai organized 4,000 cadres from the appeals office to serve as a large-scale “blocking” force to prevent victims from appealing; the government also organized a “roughneck team” to commit violence against civilians in order to implement the city’s plan to appropriate land. Civilians’ bodies were brutalized; sometimes their lives were taken away; all channels to appeal were completely blocked. Since 2006, citizens beaten to death include Huimin Duan, Ronglin Du, Rong Dai, Xiaoming Chen, and others. Some were detained in mental hospitals where they suffered severe mental torture. In this two year period, civilians who have had their homes ransacked include Dahua Zhou, Yalian Ma, and 14 other families, including two anonymous families. Mentally sound individuals who were held in mental hospitals include Xinjuan Liu (detained six times), Chunxiang Lu (detained twice), and Lingling Hong (still detained as of now). So far in 2007, three people have been beaten to death. They were Huimin Duan, Xiaoming Chen, and Dahua Zhou.

V. The Environmental Disaster Will Block Chinese – One Quarter of the World Population’s Future

We do not ignore some of the economic success the Chinese Communist Party has “accomplished” in certain forms, but these “accomplishments” are at the cost of destroying human justice, morals and conscience. In 2005, the Environmental Bureau Director said, If our environmental protection measures could not closely follow economic developments, our economic miracle would end. The economic miracle is turning into real life disasters. The blue green algae incident in Taihu Lake (located in Wuxi City, Jiangsu Province) proved that the CCP does not care if there is water to drink tomorrow, as long as there is GDP today. The energy consumption for each 10,000 yuan of production in China, is seven times higher than that in Japan, and three times higher than in India. A quarter of the land in China has been turned into desert, at a rate of 1900 square miles more desert per year. According to a Xinhua News Agency report, ninety percent of the underground water is polluted in most cities. Seventy-five percent of the water flowing through the cities is not suitable for drinking, and the fish in it are not suitable for eating. The environmental protection measures are window dressing in form, just like the window dressing style economy. It is even more hopeless, that small rivers and lakes covering the whole country are all unbelievably polluted. These small bodies of water are the foundation of the nation’s environment, but they are not included in the protection list.

VI. Farmers

The economic development did not widely benefit the farmers. Most countrysides are still poor and are unimaginably underdeveloped. Even though there is no more farming tax, this tax was merely one of the reasons for the poverty. It's cancellation did not help reduce the degree of poorness. Chinese Law says that the farming fields all belong to the State or the Group, while the group is totally controlled by the State power. The logic is: “The State owns the fields, the CCP rules the State, and the CCP is run by the bureaucrats.” Therefore, the CCP bureaucrats are the biggest landlord, because they own all the fields in China. Billions of farmers in China labor all of their lives on these fields, but do not own any of it. This is extremely unfair.

Currently in China, there are 120 million city laborers who are countryside residents. They are the biggest slave group in human history. They are not treated with dignity. They have to do hard labor in very severe conditions and are only paid $1.50 or less per day. Even with such low salaries, payment is often delayed by employers. Although there are more than 100 million farmers laboring in the cities, they are deprived of the right to form unions and can only face the corrupted government powers individually. Obviously, they form an extremely weak social group in front of the strong government, which is the fundamental reason why they
are encroached upon.

After the June 4th massacre happened in 1989, corruption accelerated. The economic reform, lead by corrupted officials, followed a phenomenon of ignoring lower level people's benefits everywhere. The majority of Chinese are farmers, farmer city laborers, early retired workers, and other groups that are weak and helpless. During the “Medicare Reform,” seventy percent of Chinese were excluded from the system. Expensive medical costs deprived them of the possibility of visiting a doctor. Hence, tragedies happened in quite a lot of the countryside. Elderly people would commit suicide to solve their illnesses problems. The “Enterprise Education” after 1989, also manifested into severely harming the lower level people's rights. Even though there was supposed to be nine years of “free” education, there was a lack of State financial support in many regions. High tuition caused middle and higher education to become a nightmare to lower level people. The more and more corrupted State Power monopolized the education system and made education into a money machine of the academic bureaucrats. At the same time, in order to pay children's tuition, the lower level parents are squeezed out every last penny and down to their last drop of energy, many suicides happened to parents as soon as their children were admitted into a college. The government statistics showed that the bureaucrat group used 400 billion yuan of State funds each year on banquets, another 400 billion yuan on touring, and another 400 billion yuan on public owned vehicles.

VII. Extremely Unjust Legal System

Today, the unjust, extremely illegal behavior of the corrupted legal agencies and officials are seen, such as issuing documents to block citizens from safeguarding their human rights to echoing State powers to rob the people – The agencies are not allowed to accept cases regarding the forceful destruction of personal housing, not allowed to accept cases of farmers losing their fields, not allowed to accept cases about government managed private rental housing, not allowed to accept cases for retired military personnel, not allowed to handle early retirement cases, not allowed to process Falun Gong cases...There is no bottom line to safeguard legal matters. Typical examples are happening in Hebei Province and Inner-Mongolia Autonomous Region such as as Mr. Nie Shubin's murder. In order to cover the crime, the legal system refused to chase the true killer. The legal personnel's humanity and morals are lower than the murderer's.

VIII. Daily Disasters Are Common

People suffer disasters on a daily basis. For instance reported on August 30, 2007, on Nanfang Zhoumo (Southern Weekends): On July 29, flooding in the Sanmenxia Coal mine in Henan Province, trapped 69 miners underground. On August 14, 2007, the Fenghunag Bridge in Hunan Province, which was still under construction, collapsed and killed 64. On August 17, flooding in the Huayuan Coal mine in Xintai City, Shandong Province, trapped 172 miners underground and they have still not been rescued today, more than 30 days later. They are given no chance to survive. On August 19, 2007, Zouping County Aluminum Factory had an explosion where 16 workers died. On August 30, 2007, a small coal mine in Fangshan District, Beijing City had a collapse, and the local government decided to stop all rescue efforts in less than 48 hours. Shockingly, the local government officials even ordered local people to stop their own rescue efforts. Mr. Liu Guojun and others, were locked up, to prevent them from conducting their own rescue, until two trapped workers walked out alive. These two survived after 132 hours by drinking each other's urine. Many people were sarcastic about the incident. It was good thing that these two workers did not know that the government decided not allow anyone to rescue them, otherwise, their escape under the “scientifically correct” decision to stop the rescue is illegal.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, the CCP government has deprived my right to speak or write for more than one year using the lowest possible means. I am filled with emotion now that I am finally holding my pen. I have a faith: The above crimes truly exist, and have violated the justice and freedom of the whole human race, including yours. I truly believe you all have the same faith, and believe whoever does nothing in front of such truth, has given up human sensibility and responsibility. I truly believe that you all know, like we do, that the western politics and economy are all sacrificing values in exchange for surface benefits. I truly believe, you are all like me, longing to work on uplifting human principles, change the tyranny, stop the evil, and end human's embarrassment. I truly believe you all, like myself, recognized the dictatorship and its special inheritance to later generations is equal to passing on Chinese people as their privately owned livestock. The reason they receive such inheritance is not due their ability or virtue, but their lack of virtue. If this reality does not change quickly, it is insulting to human rationality. You all must believe, like myself, that to satisfy the evil totalitarian's request to host the Olympic games, is a dark event on the history of the Olympics, and puts shame on the whole human race.

My dear ladies and gentlemen, writing this letter is a heavy thing. If these crimes only happened once or...
several times, I believe each one of you would be as angry as I am. In today's China, these inhuman tragedies have become a common situation that is happening all over the country, many people have become used to it, and are indifferent. The reason the CCP can sustain its power, is by purposely attacking our conscience with violence, and numbing our conscience with lies. It is eroding our virtue on a daily bases, to expand passive support from people's helpless minds. It lowered a portion of people's moral bottom line to defend its violence, so that its power is stabilized. Today, the CCP is expanding its moral corruption strategy to the whole world. If the Olympics are held by the CCP, it will mean the success of the CCP's global moral corruption.

My dear ladies and gentlemen, a society has its protection mechanism to avoid huge sin through morals, laws, media, checks and balances, supervision, etc., because everyone wishes to live in peace, and not in terror. When we witness those crimes against humanity happening all over the country, and those evil deeds challenging people's basic senses happening in the legal system, media, and environmental protection, we have no choice but to admit to our selves that our social protection mechanism is completely destroyed. The force destroying the mechanism and keeping it from rebuilding is the Chinese Communist Party. If you wonder about me, as a lawyer, from the stand point of the legal system, I must remind you directly, nobody is more eagerly longing the justice of the legal system, but every day the CCP exists is a day that is impossible to see justice.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." (Martin Luther King, Jr. Letter From A Birmingham Jail, April 16, 1963)

In the CCP's logic on this subject is backwards. For them, “Justice anywhere is a threat to injustice everywhere.” Even justice does not want to be hostile to the evil, the evil will take justice as its enemy, because the existence of justice will block the path of evildoers.

Dear ladies and gentlemen, there is both sadness and hope existing in China now. The sad part is, officials work together to rob common people's fortune, bribery is from bottom to the top, and the higher levels are protecting the lower level's crimes. The Chinese society is in a sick state like an ecological system, tolerating mistakes, self adjusting, self tolerating, and self organizing. This sick balancing ecological chain has become the support of CCP doing evil without being pushed down by the people yet. No matter what beautiful wishes Hu Jintao and Wen Jiabao have, they do not have the strength to change as individuals. The hopeful part is whether it is Falun Gong or Christians, they are rebuilding morals through their faith. They are changing the destiny of China through their peaceful protest of the CCP's tyranny, and becoming the foundation of the future China developing and becoming stable. Anyone wish to do business should not ignore this force.

Dear ladies and gentlemen, changing China seems very hard, because the CCP is carrying an unbearable debt of 80 million lives killed. It is more unforgivable than the Nazis. Just because it knows this, it killed those students who requested democracy around June 4, 1989. On the other hand, changing China is easy, that is, through the moral awakening in every person. You can do a lot in this regard. If you can use your actions, not just words, to support those free media outlets to expose the CCP's crimes, support those efforts to break the CCP's Internet blockade and send the truth to mainland China, support those organizations who peacefully bid farewell to the CCP to regain self conscience, China will change very soon.

My dear ladies and gentlemen, you have the ability to take action now to stop all of the CCP's crimes against humanity. Just like President Reagan said, “If not us, who? And if not now, when? ”

Finally, I want to quote the words from the 32nd President of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, in his 1941 State Address as the ending of my letter,

"In the future days, which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms.

The first is freedom of speech and expression - everywhere in the world.

The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way - everywhere in the world.

The third is freedom from want - which, translated into world terms, means economic understandings which will secure to every nation a healthy peacetime life for its inhabitants-everywhere in the world.
The fourth is freedom from fear”.

When I finished this letter, I heard President Bush decided to join the Olympics next year. Pardon my manner here, I want to shout out, Mr. President, What are you doing? Have you look at how President Reagan handled the 1988 Seoul Olympics? I want to remind my friends here as well, I hope my friends in the Congress, both the Senate and the House, can establish merit for human civilization like during the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

Jesus said, “Love others as well as you love yourself.” Those struggling in the CCP prisons, those crying under the CCP's tortures, those roaming around to avoid mistreatment need your help. When you light a candle, when you dress up, holding your cocktail or drink, I wish you will think of those suffering people. May God bless America, may God give each person justice, responsibility, and firm determination, may the light of freedom shine upon China proper, let evil have no place to hide, and may the mistreated no longer be in pain.

Sincerely,
Wishing ladies and gentlemen peace and health!

Gao Zhisheng
September 12, 2007