

Committee on Foreign Affairs
Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations
2172 Rayburn House Office Building
December 5, 2013 11:00 a.m.
The Daughters Appeal to Beijing: "Let Our Fathers Go!"

Testimony of Bridgette Liu

Dear Honorable friends,

My name is Bridgette, today I want to simply introduce the current situation of my father, Liu Xian Bin, as a daughter and a witness. My father has been in prison three times which totals up to 14 yrs because of his political views. Like every other parent, my dad has always wanted to take care of me as I grew up, yet he was absent from my childhood until I was 11. When he was released from prison in 2008, it was so hard for him to believe that I had already grown up. However, he was once again taken away from my life by the policemen in June, 2010. Therefore, I came to the US, and the distance between my dad & me was lengthened. Moreover, my mom was unable to leave China since the government would not grant her a passport. Because of this, my family was separated in three different places: my father is in an actual prison, and my mom is in an invisible prison. As a daughter, all I want is the reunion of my family, and the completion of my parents' marriage. However this simple wish became unrealistic in China, and my dad was convicted of Subversion of State Power just because he has told the truth and done what is righteous and just.

Life in prison must have been really hard for my dad, but fortunately we can still encourage each other by mailing. In the newest letter from my dad, he wrote, " My child, your complaint of your ugly handwriting has made me feel guilty, for if I was with you when you were little , I would have taught you a beautiful cursive. The absence of me has made this family incomplete, and it must has been difficult for both you and your mom when I'm not by your side. So I can only express my love through theses letters so that you would still feel my love for you even when I'm not here with you...never stop being virtuous and kindhearted, for even though kind people has always been treated unjustly in this chaotic world, they will be blessed and remembered eventually..." At the end of the letter, he writes, " your happiness and confidence in the United States has comforted me. You know what, all a parent want is to see his children live happily, healthily, and peacefully. Praise The Lord, and may he keep blessing and protecting you!"

Like my dad mentioned in this letter, kind people will be blessed eventually. I hope and believe, one day my dad, and those who have suffered for human rights and justice in the world as china 18, will eventually receive the freedom they deserve, the freedom of both their bodies and souls. Therefore, I sincerely ask the US Government, Mr. Biden, and the President to concern more of the families of prisoners of conscience and help us to free our fathers! And I ask for an Oval office meeting with President Obama for a more direct and detailed conversation in order to reunite our families. And dear friends, please keep helping us to free all the prisoners of conscience and to keep truth and justice for every human being! Just like Thomas Jefferson wrote in the Declaration of Independence, everyone deserves the rights of Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of happiness! Thank you!