Congressional Testimony

美国国会外交关系委员会"非洲、环球卫生、全球人权和国际组织委员会" 关于"保护宗教自由----对存在宗教迫害的特别关注国的有效制约" 的国会听证会

Hearing of the Committee on Foreign Affairs held by the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations

SUBJECT: Protection of religious freedom – effective constraints on countries of particular concern due to religious persecution

中共政权全面打压基督教和其它宗教,宗教自由形势急剧恶化
The Chinese Communist Regime Launches across-the-board Suppression on
Christianity and Other Faiths; the Environment of Religious Freedom Declines
Dramatically

尊敬的委员会主席,尊敬的国会领袖和议员先生,尊敬的各位来宾: Dear Honorable Chairman, members of Congress, and distinguished guests,

今年以来,中共政权加大了对中国家庭教会的打压和逼迫。即使是在政府登记注册的"三自教会",也受到了严重的打压和全面的限制。从四月份开始,中共浙江省委部署并实施对三自教会和家庭教会的严厉打压措施,在全省范围内强拆所谓的违章建设教堂,强制拆除教堂十字架,并强制家庭教会停止所谓的"非法聚会",引发了中国各地基督徒和全世界基督徒的关注和愤怒。中共浙江政权实施的对基督教会的严厉整肃行动已经开始向其它省份蔓延,据对华援助协会统计:北京市、广东省、贵州省、河南省、山东省、江苏省、安徽省、陕西省、山西省、新疆维吾尔族自治区、内蒙古自治区、四川省、西藏自治区、广西壮族自治区等地已经全面开展整肃家庭教会的行动。地方公安部门、宗教管理部门和地方行政机关取缔家庭教会的聚会点、没收圣经和宗教书籍、没收教会财产等,甚至对牧师和传道人实施行政拘留等处罚。中共当局还对一些教会和地方政府的冲突采取刑事化处理方式,以刑事罪抓捕和判决教会成员。西藏和新疆地区的宗教迫害更加严重,对于法轮功修炼者群体的打压和强制转化也未停止。习近平执政以来特别在最近的半年内,中国宗教自由的政策大大退步。面对中国急剧恶化的宗教自由形势,急需美国及其它西方国家高度关注事态的发展,并迅速采取有力和有效的方式向中共领导人传递国际社会

的严重关注和不安,敦促中共政府切实履行有关宗教信仰自由的国际法和国际公约, 迅速停止对各类宗教群体的迫害,保障中国人民有依法宗教信仰自由的权利。 Since the beginning of this year, the Chinese Communist government has intensifies its suppression and persecution of house churches in China. Even government-sanctioned "Three-Self" churches have been subject to severe suppression and across-the-board restrictions. Since April this year, the Chinese Communist Committee Zhejiang Province has planned and implemented some harsh suppressive measures against "Three-Self" churches and house churches, forcibly demolishing so-called "illegally constructed church buildings" and the crosses on the roof of churches throughout the province, and forcing house churches to stop the so-called "illegal gatherings," which has aroused the concern and anger of Christians across China and overseas. The harsh suppression of Christian churches by the communist government of Zhejiang Province is spreading to other provinces. According to ChinaAid's statistics, suppressive measures against house churches have been carried out across the board in Beijing, Guangdong, Guizhou, Henan, Shandong, Jiangsu, Anhui, Shanxi, Shanxi, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, Sichuan, Tibet Autonomous Region, and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Local public security departments, religious affairs management agencies and local administrative organs outlawed the meeting places of house churches, confiscated bibles, religious books, and church properties, and even imposed penalties such as administrative detention on pastors and evangelists. The Chinese Communist government also criminalizes some churches' conflicts with local governments, seizing and sentencing church members on criminal charges. Religious persecution is the worse in Tibet and Xinjiang. The suppression and compulsory conversion of Falun Gong practitioners have never stopped. Since Xi Jinping took the office, particularly in recent six months, China's the policy on religious freedom has significantly regressed. The rapid decline of the environment of religious freedom in China urgently demands the attention of the United States and other western countries. Strong and effective methods are needed to convey the serious concerns and worries of the international community to the Chinese Communist leaders, urging the Chinese government to take practical measures in fulfilling international laws and covenants on religious freedom, to stop the persecution of various religious groups right away, and to safeguard the Chinese people's right of religious freedom prescribed by the law.

一: 中共政权今年全面实施对基督教信仰的限制,加大力度试图钳制乃至消灭家庭教会

- I. The Chinese Communist government has imposed across-the-board restrictions on Christian faith this year and intensified its grip on and its efforts to wipe out house churches.
- 1: 中共加大力度对城市或农村的家庭教会实施全面打压
 - 1. The Chinese Communist government intensified its comprehensive suppression of urban and rural house churches

北京市守望教会继续在绝望中抗争。2014年的5月4日,是守望教会进入户外敬拜的第四个年头,也是今年的第16个主日。当日,有30位弟兄姊妹因参加户外敬拜而被公安机关强行带走并短暂拘押。其中陈佑伟弟兄、兰小方弟兄和代丽樱姊妹被北京市海淀区公安分局行政拘留五天。金天明牧师和教会其他几位长老继续被软禁在家里。中共当局对守望教会的持续打压就是想通过彻底打垮这个中国最有影响力的家庭教会,从而为全国各地政府打压家庭教会树立一个标杆,并起到震慑其它家庭教会的目的。因此,北京官方用一切手段让守望教会无法拥有聚会敬拜场所,无论租赁、购买或者建堂。北京市锡安教会也是有影响力的家庭教会,今年以来,警方以各种方式破坏该教会的聚会,金明日牧师几乎每周要被公安和宗教部门"喝茶",这样的喝茶其实就是警告和恐吓。公安甚至以便衣的身份混进信徒里,威胁普通信徒不要参加"非法聚会"。

Bejing Shouwang Church continues its fight in dire circumstances. May 4, 2014 marked the fourth year of Shouwang Church's outdoor worship service and it was the 16th Sunday of this year. On that day, 30 brothers and sisters were taken and briefly detained by public security agents for attending outdoor worship service, among whom, Chen Youwei (male), Lan Xiaofang(male) and Dai Liying(female) were administratively detained for five days by Beijing Haidian District Public Security Bureau. Pastor Jin Tianming and a few elders of the church are still under house arrest. Attempting to break down this church, which is the most influential one in China, through continuous suppression, the government wishes to set an example for the suppression of house churches by local governments across China and deter other house churches. Therefore, the Beijing authorities have spared no means at their disposal to prevent Shaowang Church from owning a meeting place, be it through renting, purchasing or building a church. The meetings of another influential house church, Beijing Zion Church, have been sabotaged by police in various ways since the beginning of this year. Pastor Jin Mingri has been "invited" to "drink tea" with public security and religious affairs agents, which meant to warn and intimidate him. Public security agents even disguised themselves as believers and mingled with lay church members, and scared them out of "attending illegal church gatherings."

事实上,由于政府通过不同手段剥夺或限制家庭教会的聚会场所,在广州、山西、 河南、浙江等地也屡屡发生基督徒去户外公共场所敬拜的事件。广州市广福家庭教 会继续被警方以"非法集会"而禁止聚会。山东济南、东营、淄博、临沭、胶州和四 川阆中、新疆乌鲁木齐、黑龙江齐齐哈尔、陕西西安、榆林等二十几个省、市数百 家家庭教会遭到政府强制取缔并没受教产。自 2013 年到现在,新疆地区的沙雅等 几个县就有近20名家庭教会成员受到行政拘留的处罚并罚款。今年4月9日,在 四川省甘孜藏族自治州巴塘县,家庭教会基督徒张峰和他的藏族妻子及另一名传道 人王悦被行政拘留。2 月 23 日,河北省保定市五一家庭教会被封,教产被抢走。2 月 18 日,广州市良人家庭教会下属广西柳州市基督徒幼儿园园长程洁和同工莫息 柳被刑事拘留,不久转为逮捕。仅仅因为她们使用了含有基督教内容的品德教材。 2014年1月,黑龙江省伊春市西林区苔青镇家庭教会教产被当地政府强占,教会 失去聚会场所。新疆乌鲁木齐一水泥厂家庭教会 2014年1月1日举行新年感恩聚 会,在场的九名信徒遭到警方驱散及关押,其中传道人郭姊妹在派出所关押期间, 怀疑受到不人道对待,导致肺气肿病复发,1月3日去世。其余人还遭到警方罚款 的处罚。2014年1月21日,四川阆中家庭教会同工李明波因组织基督徒举行圣诞 聚会,被警方行政拘留 15 天。2014年 3 月起,家庭教会慈善机构深圳基督教关爱 中心的多个地点的机构受到政府强制关闭和驱赶。2013年下半年到现在,河南省 开封、郑州、安阳多地的三自教会教产被地方政府强占,引发数万名基督徒抗议。 In fact, because the government used various means to deprive of or limit house churches' meeting places, it was not a rare occurrence in provinces like Guangzhou, Shanxi, Henan and Zhejiang that Christians had to resort to outdoor worship service. Guangfu House Church in Guangzhou is still banned by the police from meeting together on the charge of "illegal meetings." In more than 20 provinces and cities including Jinan, Dongying, Zibo, Linmu, and Jiaozhou of Shandong Province, Langzhong of Sichuan Province, Urumqi of Xinjiang, Qiqihar of Heilongjiang Province, Xi'an and Yulin of Shaanxi Province, over a hundred house churches were outlawed and church properties were confiscated by the government. Since 2013, close to 20 house church members in Shaya and a few other counties in Xinjiang haven been subjected to administrative detention and fine. On April 9 this year, in Batang county of Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan Province, house church believer Zhang Feng, his wife of Tibetan ethnicity, and a church evangelist named Wang Yue were administratively detained. On Feb. 23, Wuyi House Church in Baoding, Hebei Province, was shut down and church properties were taken by force. On Feb. 18, Chen Jie, the director of a Christian kindergarten (a subsidiary of Liangren House Church in Guangzhou) in Liuzhou,

Guangxi Province, and her coworker Mo Xiliu were criminally detained, and arrested soon after simply because they used books on character building with Christian content. In Jan. 2014, the properties of Taiging Town House Church in Xilin District of Yichun. Heilongjiang Province, were forcibly appropriated by the local government the church lost its meeting place. The New Year Thanksgiving Service held by the house church of a cement factory in Urumqi, Xinjiang, was dispelled by police and nine believers were detained, including a female evangelist with the surname Guo, who was suspected to be treated badly during her detention, which caused the relapse of her pulmonary emphysema and death on Jan. 3. And the rest of the detained were fined by the police. On Jan. 21, 2014, Li Mingzhong, staff of Langzhong House Church in Sichuan, was administratively detained by police for 15 days because he had organized Christians in staging Christmas services. Since March, 2014, multiple locations of a house church charity organization, i.e. Shenzhen Christian Care Center, have been forcibly shut down and dispersed by the government. Since the second half of the year 2013, the properties of multiple "Three-Self" churches in Kaifeng, Zhengzhou and Anyang of Henan Province were forcibly seized by the government, which trigger the protests of as many as ten thousand Christians.

- 2: 去年下半年到现在,严重迫害基督徒和家庭教会的教案频发 中共不仅加紧实施对家庭教会的全面打压,而且采取行政拘留、罚款、没收教产、 刑事审判等法律手段对基督徒进行逼迫,导致教案频发。
 - 2. From the second half of last year to present, religious cases of severely persecuting Christians and house churches have happened frequently. The Chinese Communist government not only took comprehensive measures to suppress house churches, but also persecuted Christians with legal means such as administrative detention, fine, confiscation of properties and criminal trial, which caused the frequent occurrence of religious cases.

山西恩雨书房教案-----2013年6月17日,山西太原恩雨书房教案一审宣判,以非法经营罪判处任拉成弟兄五年,并处罚金一万五千元,以同样罪名判处李文习弟兄有期徒刑两年,并处罚金六千元。此教案表面上看是因为恩雨书房"非法经营"赞美诗歌本及福音书(经山西省新闻出版局鉴定,查扣的《赞美诗歌》等4557册和《盼望》等4308张光碟均属非法出版),实际上是山西当局对基督教的蓄意迫害和直接歧视,是为了惩罚任拉成弟兄向山西大学生等民众宣教、李文习弟兄开基督教书店传播基督教文化而实施的。

The Enyu Bookstore Religious Case in Shanxi

On June 17, 2013, a court decision regarding Enyu Bookstore's (located in Taiyuan, Shanxi) case was made. The court sentenced brother Lacheng Ren to five years in prison plus a fine of 15,000 yuan, and brother Wenxi Li to two years in prison plus a fine of 6,000 yuan on the charge of "illegal business operations." On the surface, this case is about Enyu Bookstore's "illegal operation" of hymn books and Christian books (Shanxi News and Press Bureau identified the confiscated 4,557 copies of "Worship Songs" and 4,308 copies of the "Hope" DVD as illegal publications). But the truth is that it is an act of Shanxi authorities' deliberate persecution of and blatant discrimination against Christianity. It is for the purpose of punishing brother Ren Lacheng for evangelizing college students and brother Li Wenxi for running a Christian bookstore to spread Christian culture.

河南平顶山教案----2013年9月27日,在河南省平顶山市叶县所谓"呼喊派"邪教教案二审开庭。此案源于2012年4月14日,河南省平顶山市叶县动员了上百人的警力,以"呼喊派"邪教名义,对叶县任店镇大营村基督徒聚会处(也称"地方召会"、"小群")的家庭聚会点进行了围捕,当场抓走了52人。之后,叶县检察院对其中7位基督徒批准逮捕,叶县法院一审判决韩海等7人犯利用邪教组织破坏法律实施罪,并被判3年-7年6个月不等的有期徒刑。由李柏光、张凯等二十多名基督徒维权律师组成的一审、二审律师团出庭辩护。

The Pingdingshan Religious Case in Henan Province

On September 27, a court had a second trial of "The Shouters" as a cult in Ye county, Pingdingshan, Henan Province. The case started on April 14, 2012, when Ye county in Pingdingshan, Henan Province, mobilized more than 100 police officers, citing the alleged charge of "the cult of the Shouters", surrounded a Christian meeting place (also called "local church" or "Little Flock") and seized 52 believers. After that, the Ye county procuratorate approved the arrest of seven of them and the first trial of the Ye county court decided to sentence the seven believers, including Han Hai, to prison time ranging from three years to seven years and six months on the charge of "using a cult to undermine law enforcement." Delegations of more than Christian rights defense lawyers including Li Baiguang and Zhang Kai defended the accused believers at the first and second trial.

河南南乐教案-----2013年11月16日上午,由于教产纠纷和伸张社会公义,河南南乐县三自会主席张少杰牧師被警方抓捕,教会的20多名信徒也在当天被抓,张牧师的办公室和家庭被查抄。事发后,夏钧等基督徒维权律师组成律师关注团前往当地,但受到当地政府部门的殴打、围攻和无理阻挠,无法与当事人见面。对于公

安机关践踏法律的野蛮行径,当地检察院也不受理控告。当地政府还雇佣当地众多 男女流氓,野蛮地围攻、殴打和围困前去南乐参访的媒体记者、前去参与信仰活动 的三自会牧师、各地信徒和维权律师。深圳传道人曹楠被殴打后还被当地公安行政 拘留。张少杰牧师被当地法院以莫须有的"诈骗罪"、"聚众扰乱社会秩序罪"开庭审 理,一审判决还未宣布。同时,还有被逮捕的教会骨干 6 人即将开庭。张少杰牧师 一案的重要证人李彩忍被当地警方非法绑架关在黑监狱,至今没有下落。

The Nanle Religious Case in Henan

In the morning of Nov. 16, 2013, as a result of disputes over church property and pursuit of social justice, Pastor Zhang Shaojie, president of Nanle County's Christian Three-Self Patriotic Movement Committee, was taken into police custody along with more than 20 believers from his church. Zhang's office and home were searched. Following this incident, Pastor Zhang's lawyer Xia Jun and other Christian lawyers formed a delegation of lawyers and went to Nanle, but they were beat up, surrounded and illegally interfered with by the local government agencies, and were not able to meet with their clients. The local procuratorate refused to handle accusations against the brutal law-trampling behaviors of the public security department. The local government also hired many male and female thugs to violently surround, beat up and block journalists attempting to interview people concerned with the case, "Three-Self" church pastors attempting to attend religious activities, believers from other places, and rights defense lawyers. Cao Nan, an evangelist from Shenzhen, was beat up and administratively detained by the police. The local court held a trial of Pastor Zhang Shaojie on the unsubstantiated charges of "fraud" and "assembling a crowd to disturb public order." The decision of the court has not been announced. Meanwhile, there will be a trial on six other core church staff members in police custody. Li Cairen, a key witness in this case, was illegally abducted by police and throw in "black jail". To date his whereabouts are still unknown.

陕西子洲教案----2013年12月9日,陕西省子洲县家庭教会带领人封天栋、姜河和 张宝林及其它两位基督徒被当地警方逮捕。起因是警方在两年前暴力取缔他们教会, 并把教会财产和封天栋的私人财产抢劫一空。封天栋带领十几名基督徒去当地派出 所索要财物,反被当地警方以"聚众冲击国家机关罪"逮捕。这个案子将要开庭审理。

The Zizhou Religious Case in Shaanxi

On Dec. 9, 2013, Feng Tiandong, Jiang He and Zhang Baolin, who are leaders of a house church in Zizhou county, Shaanxi Province, were arrested by the local police along with two believers from their church. It all started two years ago when the police outlawed this church by force and robbed the church of all its properties and Feng Tiandong of his personal properties. Feng Tiandong went to the local police station with over a dozen

Christians to demand the return of properties, only to be arrested by the police on the charge of "assembling a crowd to assault state organs." The case will soon be tried by a court.

北京通州教案----2014年1月24日,北京市家庭教会"圣爱团契"的15名基督徒因集体看望生病的弟兄张文和,被北京市通州区警方全部抓到通州区梨园派出所。25-26日两天,除天津的两位基督徒被送回天津外,其余13名基督徒徐彩虹、于艳华、杨秋雨、杨敏、居小玲、吕动力、王素娥、王春艳、康素萍、张海彦、张文和、杨靖和徐永海被北京警方以涉嫌"非法集会罪"刑事拘留。虽然他们在关押三十多天后得以获释,但这起教案是典型的警方滥用"任意拘押"的案例。

The Tongzhou Religious Case in Beijing

On Jan. 24, 2014, fifteen believers from a Beijing house church named "Sheng'ai Fellowship" were seized by the police of Tongzhou district, Beijing, and taken to Liyuan Police Station in Tongzhou because they collectively went to visit a sick brother, Zhang Wenhe. On 25 and 26, except for two believers from Tianjin who were sent back to Tianjin, the remaining 13 believers, i.e. Xu Caihong, Yu Yanhua, Yang Qiuyu, Yang Min, Ju Xiaoling, Lu Dongli, Wang Su'e, Wang Chunyan, Kang Suping, Zhang Haiyan, Zhang Wenhe, Yang Jing and Xu Yonghai, were criminally detained by Beijing police for allegedly "assemble illegally." Although they were released after being detained for more than 30 days, the incident showcases how "random detention" is abused by police.

內蒙古呼和浩特教案---- 2013 年 7 月 25 日,内蒙古呼和浩特市基督徒胡功弟兄、温卫红弟兄和刘爱英姊妹,仅仅因为信仰了有争议的基督教地方召会"呼喊派",拥有"呼喊派"书籍并散发了数百份福音资料,就被呼和浩特市玉泉区法院,以刑法第三百条"组织和利用邪教破坏国家法律实施"罪,重判了 8-9 年的有期徒刑。

The Huhhot Religious Case in Inner Mongolia

On July 25, 2013, simply because they follow a controversial Christian sect called "The Shouters", possessed publications by "The Shouters", and distributed several hundred copies of gospel tracts, brother Hu Gong, brother Wen Weihong and sister Liu Aiying from Huhhot, Inner Mongolia, were sentenced to 8-9 years in prison by the court of Yuquan district in Huhhot on the charge of "organizing and using a cult to undermine the state's law enforcement" (Article 300 of the Criminal Law of PRC).

二: 从浙江省开始,中共政权开始在全国范围打压基督教信仰群体

II. Starting from Zhejiang Province, the Chinese Communist government started a nationwide crackdown on Christian groups.

2014年4月28日整整一天,中国政府出动大量武警,对温州市永嘉县雄伟高大的三江教堂强行拆除。为了保卫三江教堂不被强拆,温州基督徒与当局进行了近一个月的和平抗争。三江教堂由基督徒捐款集资三千万元、历时12年建成。这个教堂的被强拆,宣告了中共政权全面打压和限制基督教发展的开始。不到一个月,浙江省各级政府在全省范围内以强拆违章建筑的名义,全面拆除家庭教会的教堂,强拆各地教堂的户外十字架。并在全省范围内排查和取缔家庭教会。强拆十字架和教堂的行动实际上从今年年初就开始了,2月27日,杭州余杭区黄湖镇黄湖基督教堂门顶上的十字架被拆除,当地政府派人并动用专用起重机拆除;同日,浙江舟山市定海区白泉镇白泉基督教堂得到当地政府方面的紧急通知,要求在2月28日、3月1日一定要把十字架拿下来,否则责任自负。浙江当局同时要求全省各教堂将矗立于屋顶的十字架移到教堂内,挂在墙上,成为"上改下"及"大改小",但不能立在教堂顶上。

Throughout the day of April 28, 2014, the Chinese government mobilized a large number of paramilitary police officers to forcibly demolish the big and imposing Sanjiang Church in Yongjia county, Wenzhou. To protect the church from demolition, Christians in Wenzhou staged a peaceful protest which lasted nearly a month. Sanjiang Church was built over a span of 12 years and cost 30 million yuan donated by believers. The demolition of this church declared the onset of the Chinese government's all-rounded suppression and containment of Christianity. In less than a month, citing the excuse of "demolishing illegal structures," governments of all levels in Zhejiang Province tore down house church buildings and demolished the crosses on the root of church buildings across the province, as well as screening and outlawing house churches. Actually, the campaign of demolishing crosses and churches started at the beginning of the year. On Feb. 27, the cross above the gate of Huanghu Christian Church in Huanghu county, Yuhang district, Hangzhou, was demolished by people sent in by the local government with a professional crane. On the same day, Baiquan Christian Church in Baiquan town, Dinghai district, Zhoushan, Zhejiang Province, received an emergent notice from the local government, requesting the church to remove its cross between Feb. 28 and March 1 and claiming that failure to comply will have consequences. In the meantime, Zhejiang authorities asked churches all over the province to move their crosses from the roof to the inside of church buildings and hang them on walls. Taken down and made smaller in size, crosses are not allowed to stand on top of church buildings.

由于全世界基督徒的反对,浙江当局年初拆除十字架一度暂停。但是进入 4 月份后,浙江全境强拆教会十字架和教堂的行动愈演愈烈。杭州、舟山、台州、奉化、萧山、宁波、丽水、海宁等地教会都被要求拆除十字架和教堂。据不完全统计,自今年一

月以来浙江省内基督教会接到"拆十字架及教堂"通知的除了温州永嘉三江教堂,还有:杭州地区乔司教堂、古楼教堂、三墩教堂、黄湖教堂、舟山白泉镇教堂、乐清张家桥教堂、湖上岙教堂、白象前潘教堂、苍南灵溪镇沪山教堂和五爱教会、瑞安沙河聚会处、光明堂和仙降镇新渡桥教堂等等。温州平阳县箭岙教堂与台州临海水洋教堂的十字架已被拆除。4月24日,舟山市白泉教会的十字架被拆除。4月25日,台州市椒江得恩堂的十字架被拆除。截至到5月18日,据不完全统计,在浙江几个地区就有64个教会被强拆,十字架被强制或威胁下被摘除或挪移。详细见我们附件的统计数字。

Due to worldwide protests from Christians, Zhejiang authorities put a halt to the demolition of crosses. But since April, the campaign of demolishing crosses and churches throughout Zhejiang Province resumed with a vengeance. Churches in Hangzhou, Zhoushan, Taizhou, Fenghua, Xiaoshan, Ningbo, Lishui, Haining and other places were all required to demolish their crosses and church buildings. According to incomplete statistics, since Jan. this year, other than Sanjiang Church in Yongjia, Wenzhou, Christian churches in Zhejiang Province that have received the notice on "demolishing cross and church" are as follows: Qiaosi Church, Gulou Church, Sandun Church and Huanghu Church in Hangzhou area, Baiguan Town Church in Zhoushan, Zhangjiaqiao Church in Yueqing, Hushangao Church, Qianpan Church in Baixiang, Lushan Church and Wu'ai Church in Lingxi town, Cangnan, Meeting Place and Guangming Church in Shahe, Rui'an, Xinduqiao Church in Xianjiang town, etc. The cross of Jian'ao Church in Pingyang county, Wenzhou, and the cross of Shuiyang Church in Linhai, Taizhou, have been demolished. On April 24, the cross of Baiguan Church in Zhoushan was demolished. On April 25, the cross of De'en Church in Jiaojiang, Taizhou, was demolished. According to incomplete statistics by May 18, sixty-four churches in a few areas in Zhejiang have been forcibly demolished and their crosses have been removed or relocated by force or as a result of threat. Refer to the statistics attached for details.

一些教会的牧师和同工受到拘捕:

温州三江堂郭云华长老和另外同工被抓,传道人荣华被刑拘,三江堂多名信徒被抓 温州 10 多信徒,因发图片、现场维权行政拘留 7 天

温州乐清的赵弟兄、尚弟兄维权被拘留

傅刚巧 4 月 23 日被传唤多次。吴迦勒传道也被传唤,手机则被公安扣留 乐清白象教会负责人的儿子赵千俊被政府带走拘留十天 永嘉瓯北牧区会长赵仁弟、瑞安教会传道严晓洁被公安人员传唤

Pastors and coworkers of some churches were detained.

Elder Guo Yunhua and some coworkers of Sanjiang Church in Wenzhou were taken into police custody. Evangelist Rong Hua was criminally detained. Many believers from Sanjiang Church were taken into police custody.

More than 10 believers in Wenzhou were administratively detained for posting photos and defending their rights at the scene of incident.

Brother Zhao and brother Shang from Yueqing, Wenzhou were detained for rights defense.

On April 23, Fu Gangqiao was summoned multiple times. Evangelist Wu Jiaole was also summoned and his cellphone taken by the police.

Zhao Qianjun, the son of the leader of Baixiang Church in Yueqing was taken and detained for 10 days by the government.

Zhao Rendi, director of Oubei Parish in Yongjia, and Yan Xiaojie, an evangelist of Rui'an Church, were summoned by police.

温州三江堂被强拆不是偶然的、孤立的、地方性的事件。种种迹象表明,被誉为"中国的耶路撒冷"的温州教会被强拆十字架和教堂的逼迫正在全浙江省开展,更有迹象表明,此宗教逼迫的决策并非止于浙江省,而是中共政权有意展开的对基督教的新一轮全国性逼迫。事实上,根据消息,除了浙江全境很多教会收到需要拆除十字架和教堂的通知外,东北各省、安徽、河南、四川等省份的教堂也收到了类似的通知。从全国的此种局面和温州作为中国基督教象征性城市受到的逼迫来看,2014年开始的这场对全中国基督教和基督徒的迫害和压制,已经以拆除十字架和教堂、侵犯教产权利的方式,无法避免地开始了。

The forced demolition of Sanjiang Church in Wenzhou is not an accidental, isolated, and local event. All sorts of evidence show that the persecution of churches in Wenzhou, which is known as "China's Jerusalem", manifested in the forced demolition of crosses and churches, is taking place throughout the Zhejiang Province. There is more evidence indicating that the policy behind such religious persecution is no confined to Zhejiang Province, but rather, this is a new round of nationwide persecution. As a matter of fact, it is reported that other than many churches in Zhejiang Province, churches in China's Northeastern provinces, Anhui Province, Henan Province, and Sichuan Province have also received notices demanding the demolition of crosses and churches. The circumstances nationwide and the persecution imposed on Wenzhou, a city representing Christianity in China, indicate that the round of persecution and suppression of Christianity and believers across China, taking the form of demolishing crosses and churches as well as infringing upon the right of religious property, has inevitably started since the beginning of 2014.

2014年3月28日上午,浙江省召开推进"三改一拆"涉及宗教违法建筑处置工作电视电话会议,根据披露的会议记录,里面提到要"纠正宗教发展过快、场所过多、活动过热"、"要看清十字架背后的政治问题、抵御意识形态的渗透"、"掌控意识形态主导权"、"要培养狮子型领导"。在这样的大背景下,我们有理由相信:中央、浙江、温州等当局已经达成一致,借所谓"三改一拆"、违章建筑为幌子,通过铲除信仰的物理空间、破坏教会教产权利,来达到对整个浙江和全中国的方兴未艾的基督教的控制、打压和整肃。使基督教的发展,始终处于"非法化、隐蔽化、地下化、分散化、控制化"的弱势状态。

In the morning of March 28, 2014, the government of Zhejiang Province held a conference call to push forward the "three rectifications and one demolition" campaign regarding "illegal religious structures." According to disclosed conference memo, the government asked to "redress the problem of religion growing too fast, religious venues being too many, and religious activities being too popular", "identify the political issues behind cross and resist ideological infiltration," "maintain ideological dominance," and "foster lion-like leaders." In this context, we have good reasons to believe that the central government, the government of Zhejiang Province and the authorities of Wenzhou have reached a consensus: in the disguise of the "three rectifications and one demolition" campaign targeting so-called illegal structures, through wiping out the physical space of religious faith and undermining churches' right of properties, achieve the goal of controlling, suppressing and disciplining thriving Christian churches in Zhejiang and the whole country, and thereby thwart the growth of Christianity and cause churches to stay "illegal, in hiding, underground, scattered, and controlled."

众所周知,近年来,对基督教界(无论是家庭教会、还是基层三自教会)最为严重的逼迫就是对教产的迫害,无论对北京守望教会还是对温州三江教堂,践踏教产权利成为践踏宗教自由的主要形式:或强制拆迁、或禁止购买、或中断租赁、或拒不归还。当局对教产的侵犯成为侵犯宗教自由的主要切入点,他们在对灵魂无法禁锢的情况下,就开始对信仰活动的物质形式加以禁锢,他们以为掌控了空间就会除灭信仰、剥夺了教产就能消灭宗教。所以,当下的宗教自由共识,应该特别强调宗教活动的场所及其它物质形式是宗教发展的内在要素,宗教财产权利是宗教自由的必备要件。宗教财产权利与公民及法人的财产权一样应该受到国家的法律保护,不得被国家和其他社团侵犯。

It is well-known that in recent years, the most severe persecution against Christianity churches, either house churches or grassroots "Three-Self" churches, targets church properties. In both the case of Beijing Shouwang Church and Wenzhou Sanjiang Church,

trampling on churches' right of properties has become the main form of violating religious freedom, including forced relocation, forbidding churches to buy property, suspending lease contract, or refusing to return church property. Violation of church properties has become the main focus of the authorities' violation of religious freedom. Since they cannot lock up people's souls, they turn to putting restrictions on the material form of religious faith, thinking that controlling physical space will lead to the perish of religion and stripping of church properties will cause religion to disappear. Therefore, consensus formed nowadays on religious freedom must emphasize that the venue of religious activities and other material things are an internal factor for the development of religion, and religious property rights are an indispensable condition for religious freedom. Religious property rights should be protected by the law of the country, no different from the property rights of citizens and legal persons, and they shall not be subject to the violation of the state and other organizations.

值得注意的是:近两年来,中共政权迫害教会和基督徒一般不以宗教的名义,而是以各种刑事犯罪的名义来实施逼迫。并且,象判决法轮功学员一样,中共用刑法三百条即"利用邪教破坏法律实施罪"来判处众多的不是主流的基督教信仰派别,如基督教呼喊派、地方召会、基督教灵恩派等。我们知道,政府无权裁定所谓正教、邪教并作出惩处。这个权柄不属于任何世上的世俗政权。

It is worth noting that in the past two years, the Chinese Communist government have often used criminal charges rather than religious excuses to carry out persecutions against churches and believers. And, like the conviction of Falun Gong practitioners, the government used Article 300 of China's Criminal Law, i.e. "using a cult to undermine law enforcement", to convict many non-mainstream Christian denominations, such as "The Shouters," "Local Church," and "Characteristic churches," etc. We know that government has no right to distinguish between "orthodox faith" and "cult." That authority does not lie in any secular power on this earth.

三: 美国政府和国际社会必须立即行动,制止中共大规模的宗教迫害

III. The U.S. government and international community ought to take actions right away to stop the Chinese Communist government's massive religious persecution.

《世界人权宣言》、《公民权利和政治权利国际公约》、《经济、社会及文化国际 公约》中所阐述的关于宗教信仰自由权利是所有人类的基本权利,也是当今世界公 认的普世价值。而中共政权持续实施的是大规模侵犯基本人权和反普世价值的行为。 根据美国在 1998 年通过的 International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (IRFA)法案,中国一直是存在严重宗教迫害的、需要特别关注的国家。可是,美国的对华政策和行政当局对此基本事实一直采取软弱的人权绥靖政策。美国给与中国贸易最惠国待遇不与人权状况挂钩,美国行政当局包括总统和国务卿等高级官员对于中共长久的愈演愈烈的宗教迫害并没有公开大声的呼吁,相反大多数时候保持沉默和忽视。我们的立国先父们是为了反抗宗教迫害、追求自由而来到新大陆,保护宗教信仰自由和其它天赋人权是我们的立国之本。也曾经是美国外交坚持的神圣原则。但今天的美国政府丧失了原则,丧失了对神圣信念的坚守。

The religious freedom and rights prescribed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights are basic rights of all humanity and universal values recognized by the world. But the Chinese Communist government has been persistently committing massive violations of basic human rights and universal values. According to International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (IRFA) passed by the US in 1998, China is a country with severe religious persecution and needs particular concern. However, America's policy towards China and the US government have always been characteristic of appearement regarding human rights. The US granted China Most Favored Nation trade status despite China's human rights record. The US administration, including the President, Secretary of State and other high-ranking officials do not publicly protest China's lasting and escalating religious persecution, but rather keep quiet or turn a blind eye. It was out of rebellion against religious persecution and pursuit of religious freedom that our Founding Fathers came to this New World. The protection of religious freedom and other God-endowed human rights is the foundation of our nation and once was a sacred principle adhered by the US government in diplomacy. Today, however, the US government has given up the principle and its adherence to the sacred belief.

作为专门关注中国宗教自由和人权法治状况的机构领袖,我在此提出以下呼吁:

1: 美国国会和美国政府必须立即行动起来,向中共政权发出清晰的、强有力的声音:中共政权必须立即停止一切形式的宗教迫害,真正实施其宪法承诺的公民有宗教信仰自由权利和其它基本人权,真正做到依法治国。中共政权如果不放弃错误的政策,将会为此付出代价。美国不会长期对一个塔利班式的反文明、反人权的独裁政权保持沉默;中美经济、文化和军事等领域的合作前景必须要和人权状况的改善联系起来;

As the leader of an organization specialized in monitoring the environment of religious freedom, human rights and rule of law in China, I appeal:

- 1. The US Congress and Administration should take actions right away and sent a clear, strong message to the Chinese government: The Chinese government should stop all forms of religious persecution rights away, truly implement what it promised in its constitution that citizens have the right of religious freedom and other basic rights, and truly govern China according to law; there will be consequences if the Chinese government refuses to drop its wrong policies; the United States will not stay quiet with a Taliban-like dictatorial regime which opposes civilization and human rights; the prospects of cooperation between China and the United States in economy, culture and military will depend on China's human rights conditions.
- 2: 建议美国国会和政府共同组成中国宗教自由和人权状况观察团,每年前往中国实地访问,全面接触和真正了解中国宗教自由及其它人权状况的实际情况。除了访问官方教会,还需要广泛接触家庭教会、藏区和疆区的宗教团体。应当立即任命总统宗教自由大使并让其真正履行职责;
 - 2. I suggest the US Congress and Administration jointly form an observatory group monitoring religious freedom and human rights conditions in China, and this group shall visit China each year to gain extensive and authentic understandings of the actual conditions of religious freedom and human rights in China. In addition to visiting government-sanctioned churches, this groups needs to extensively get in touch with house churches, and religious groups in Tibet and Xinjiang. A religious freedom ambassador of the President should be appointed and perform his/her duties right away.
- 3: 现在最紧急的是美国政府发出公开声明,呼吁中国政府归还以守望教会为代表的众多家庭教会的教产,立即恢复无论是软禁、逮捕或在服刑的教会领袖和基督徒的人身自由。立即释放众多教案中被关押待审的牧师和基督徒。呼吁中国政府立即停止强拆教堂和十字架的行为,并真正停止大范围的对于家庭教会的逼迫。
 - 3. The most urgent right now is for the US government to make a public statement, calling on the Chinese government to return the properties of numerous house churches represented by Shouwang Church, and to restore the physical freedom of church leaders and believers being placed under house arrest, under arrest, or serving prison time. Release the pastors and believers detained in numerous religious cases. The Chinese government should stop its forced demolition of churches and crosses right away, and truly stop its massive persecution of house churches.

- 4: 建议美国政府建立"侵犯宗教自由、实施宗教迫害中共官员名单"数据库,严禁 迫害者进入美国访问。并与其它国家、联合国等加强合作,建立遏止和制裁中共政 权侵犯宗教自由的国际联盟。
 - 4. I suggest that the US government establish a database of "Chinese Communist officials violating religious freedom and implementing religious persecution," and strictly barred them from visiting the U. S., and strengthen cooperation with other nations and the United Nations in establishing an international coalition towards containing and sanctioning the Chinese Communist government's violation of religious freedom.

附件:

Attachments:

浙江、温州教堂及十架教案涉拆清单

The list of demolished churches and crosses in Wenzhou, Zhejiang Province 对华援助协会 2013 年中国大陆对基督教迫害报告 China Aid Association's 2013 Annual Report on Chinese Government Persecution of Christians & Churches in Mainland China

List of people summoned or arrested in Zhejiang sanjiang church case

In April 2014, "sanjiang church case" broke out in Wenzhou city. Yongjia County government ordered sanjiang church to demolish the church building and the cross by themselves. To protect the church from being demolished, sanjiang church and other churches in Wenzhou launched a one-month apologetic movement

To prevent Christians from participating in the apologetic movement, the government took coercive measures to the participants with various excuses, including arresting 6 Christians from sanjiang church(Elder Guo Yunhua was detained for sure), and detained 2 Christians from Oubei district. The Public Security Bureaus of all counties summoned at least 23 Christians who took part in the movement(names of some of the captured are not clear, so these people were not counted) and detained at leat 5.

The following are the preliminary statistics of the arrested Christians:

In April, Wenzhou Yongjia county government arrested from sanjiang church Elder Guo Yunhua(detained on April 22nd), Preacher Weng Lingguang, Ji Tong, Deacon Chen Daozhen, 6 church coworkers including Chen Shengguang, Shanliang and so on.(some said brother Chen Shengguang and Shanliang have been released)

In April, church coworker Zhu Jiale from Wenzhou Yongjia Oubei district. Due to his poor health, he is said to be detained in a hospital in Yongjia county.

In April, brother Zhou Xiaguang from Wenzhou Lucheng Tengqiao church was detained for 7 weeks

On April 22nd, Preacher Wu Jiale from Wenzhou Lucheng church was summoned by state security police and his mobile phone was withheld for 1 week

On April 22nd, Pastor Lin Xiaodong from Wenzhou Lucheng church was summoned by police through phone. He did not go to the police station because he was out of town

On April 23rd and the following day, Preacher Fu Gangqiao from Wenzhou Pingyang church was summoned twice by state security police. They even broke into the church at night to summon him.

On April 23rd, sister Chen Haiyan from Wenzhou Pingyang church was summoned by police in Aojiang town

On April 23rd, brother Zhao Qianjun from Wenzhou Leqing Baixiang church was summoned by police and detained for 1 week with the excuse of spreading rumors online

On April 23rd, Elder Zhou Chongguang from Wenzhou Lucheng Tengqiao church was summoned by police

On April 24th, church coworker Yan Xiaojie from Wenzhou Pingyang church was summoned by police

On April 24th, Elder Zhao Rendi from Wenzhou Yongjia Oubei district was arrested by police and is still detained in Yongjia detention center by now

On April 25th, church coworker Chen Yun from Wenzhou Lucheng Tengqiao church was summoned by police on the way to sanjiang church

On April 25th, Preacher Li Qihong from Wenzhou Lucheng church was arrested in sanjiang church and detained for 7 days with the excuse of disturbing public order. Together arrested were another 2 sisters whose names are not known.

On April 25th, brother Zhao Youzhong was arrested(not sure which church he belongs to)

On April 25th, Pastor Huang Yixing from Wenzhou Pingyang church and his wife were summoned by police

On April 27th, brother Wang(sister Wang Aifen's father) from Wenzhou Ruian church was arrested in sanjiang church

On April 27^{th} , brother Xu Ke from Wenzhou Lucheng Tengqiao church was summoned by police in sanjiang church

On April 27th, sister Li Suyan from Wenzhou Longwan Yongqiang church was arrested near sanjiang church and was detained for 8 days

On April 28th, coworker Lin Jianjian from Wenzhou Pingyang church was arrested when taking photos of the sanjiang church demolition site. Together arrested were some other brothers whose names are not known.

On April 28th, brother Shang Pengda from Wenzhou Leqing Baixiang church was arrested when taking photos of the sanjiang church demolition site and was detained for 1 week.

On April 28th, the following Christians from Wenzhou Ruian Feiyun district were arrested when taking photos of the sanjiang church demolition site. They are: brother Chen Lingguang, brother Cai Youshui, brother Chen Liguang, brother Chen Liliang, sister Zhou Liqing, sister Yu Jianqing, sister Wu Yulan, sister Wu Yuqin and sister Lijuan.

P.S.:

In April, Wenzhou Yongjia government took tough measures to persecute the Christians from sanjiang church and Oubei district. They summoned sanjiang church Christians day and night, and forced them to consent to the church building demolition. They threatened to liquidate the companies run by those Christians. They withheld the companies' account book(the specific information about the threatened companies is not known)

The government also took various measures to confine local Christians at home and restrict them from going out. They summoned the Christians who posted online the upto-date information about the sanjiang case. They threated to suspend the job of those Christians holding public office and forced them to stop their family from going to sanjiang church. They threatened to close some Christians' companies and agitate them to dismiss the gathered Christians.

The revenge to companies also happened in Wenzhou Leqing Baixiang town. The government threatened to liquidate and close the companies(the names of the companies are not listed here) run by the Christians and their family who participated in protecting sanjiang church. They also planed to demolish a Catholic Notre Dame and threatened to liquidate all the companies run by those Catholic to force them to compromise.

The Wenzhou government launched an atheistic education activity among civil service staff and asked them to promise not to get involved in Christianity. They distributed registration forms to all civil service staff and school teachers. Anyone who confess his belief in Christianity in public would lose his job.

Wenzhou city and the whole Zhejiang province have demolished at least 60 church buildings and crosses. Wenzhou has obviously shrunken Christians' living space. It is said that Wenzhou plans to close 85 house churches in the city. These churches have services in rent office buildings in the city. Some of them have been ordered to stop the service. In Yongjia County, many churches were ordered to stop their Sunday school.

In early May, a district-level government held a religious affair conference. The conference was hosted by secretary of the district and one member of Zhejiang religious affair committee spoke about sanjiang church case. According to him, Christianity has the trend of developing into a heresy and has brought harm to the Communist political power, and thus would restrain the development of Christianity.

Based on the government's actions against Christianity and the predictable religious freedom infringement, Christianity in Wenzhou and the whole Zhejiang province is facing with the most severe religious freedom crisis since the "Cultural Revolution" happened in last century. It is high time that people arouse awareness and attention to the issue.

The following photo is the detention notice for Elder Guo Yunhua from Wenzhou Yongjia sanjiang church:

Translation to the detention notice:

Yongjia County Public Security Bureau

Detention Notice

No. 626, 2014

Family of Guo Yunhua:

According to article 80 of the "criminal procedure law of the people's republic of china", we have detained Guo Yunhua at 5 pm, April 22nd, 2014, who is suspected to occupy agricultural land illegally. He is now detained in Yongjia County detention center.

Stamp of Yongjia County Public Security Bureau

