

Ms. Chen Guiqiu has previously served as a visiting professor at a university in Houston and is now devoting much of her time speaking out against the imprisonment of her husband, who is Christian human rights attorney Xie Yang.

Xie Yang focused his professional life on helping those victimized by the Communist regime's forced demolitions and migrations, as well as impoverished people whose rights were trampled on by the Chinese government.

Because of his work, he was taken away on July 11, 2015, as part of a nationwide crackdown on human rights defenders.

During his captivity, he was deprived of sleep, suffocated, pushed face first to the ground, forced to sit on stacks of plastic stools until he was unable to walk, and physically beaten by authorities to the point of concussions.

His account of torture during his detention gained worldwide attention, but was dismissed as "fake news" by Chinese state media, apparently as part of the official response to an eleven-nation diplomatic letter protesting his and others' mistreatment.