

A Letter to President Hu Jintao from Pastor Zhang Mingxuan, President of Chinese House Church Alliance

12:50 a.m., November 20, 2007

Dear respectable President Hu Jintao,

How are you? We appreciate your hard work.

Greetings from Pastor Zhang Mingxuan, son of God, follower of Jesus Christ and servant of the Lord!

President Hu, the Holy Spirit has moved me to write this following letter to you at 23:00 near midnight. I know you are sitting far away in the Central Party Committee and I would like to know if you know what is going on in the rest of China under your leadership, and if you know the hardship among the common people. I would also like to know if you know how the subordinate government officials, at all levels, knowingly violate and defy the laws of the land.

I used to be a barber. After I believed in Jesus Christ, God treated me well and let me become a pastor. Now I am the president of the Chinese House Church Alliance and a servant working for God and doing the duty of the sons and daughters of God. In such a position, I am making my contribution to the prosperity, strength and harmony of China. We do charities and accept homeless orphans and help Christians in misery. However, these good deeds become reasons for your subordinates at all levels of government to persecute us. I believe this is not your idea, but I also believe that China has promised the United Nations in various policies that Christians at house churches may hold an assembly without registration and other policies on religious freedom. It is my belief that this persecution is a result of the corruption of officials subordinate to the central government, failure to enforce the law in a strict way, distortion of facts and evildoings and collusion between the local despots and the officials.

President Hu, are you aware that the officials under you arrest, beat and drive away the Christians from their homes? Our brothers and sisters are being detained because they do not bribe the officials. Do you not think their souls will tell God about their sufferings? Is it true that President Hu has not heard anything about this after you have made so many overt and covert trips in China? Are you really apathetic to all of this?

President Hu, I was selected by God 21 years ago. Belief in Jesus has changed my life. A sinner became the son of God and I no longer sinned. All the glory in this belongs to our Lord Christ. Two months and three days after I accepted the Lord, I was illegally beaten by Tanghe County Public Security Bureau of Nanyang Municipality, Henan Province. I was imprisoned for 185 days. I had very good lessons in law in the prison for over half a year. Finally, I was released on no charges on March 22, 1987. After I went to Beijing, I sued director of the court for Tanghe County Public Security Bureau and I was recompensed for the wrongs I suffered. From that time on, I went all over China in 1998, on a bike, to preach the Gospel, save the people, help the people and pray for China. In a period of four months, I traveled over 30,000 li of distance through cold winters and hot summers. After I came back, I sold all my properties to preach the Gospel and arrived in Beijing on January 20, 1999.

In the ten years I lived in Beijing, I preached the Gospel and built churches, for which I was arrested, beaten, robbed and driven away by the public security agencies. I then realized that the change of this country not only needs external reform, but the key is the updating of the soul as

“the result of a lifetime comes from the heart.” In 1999, I was again taken to a mental hospital and was confined there for 13 days because of preaching the Bible.

On February 21, 2002, we had a meeting of testimonies at the residence of Beiqi in Changping. At the time, US President Bush was visiting China for the first time. Changping Public Security Bureau took away 47 of us Christians, including three of whom were blind (two of whom were over 80 and one whom was only seven.)

After that, I resided in a rental house in Dongbai Township in Chaoyang District where I was often threatened by the public security people who tried to scare me away. Since they could not find any fault with me, they threatened my landlord and told him to make me move. As a result, they made it impossible for me to earn a livelihood. So, I moved with my family five times in half a month. Later, we moved back to the suburb of Sanheyan in Hebei Province where we lived for over two years.

On May 20, 2005, the Chinese House Church Alliance was established. Our hopes were to help the Christians and Churches in China. We did not have any political goals. In a tavern deep in the mountains of Gezhuang, Laishuigou in Baoding, over 40 of us Christians were arrested by Bureau of Religious Affairs and the police. They interrogated me for over five hours. Again, I was released with no charges.

During President Bush’s visit to China, he invited several of us Christians in a morning prayer. On November 18, 2005, as soon as my son and I arrived at the West Railroad Station of Beijing, we were taken away by the police for no apparent reason. We were escorted to Sheqi County in Henan Province where we stayed for four days. For no apparent reason, they refused to let me process my passport and prohibited me from processing entry and exit papers for two years, claiming that I was prohibited by law from leaving the country. They deprived me of my freedom as a citizen. Petitions on several occasions produced no results. In the meantime, they also unreasonably seized our identification cards and detained them for a year and a half.

The 17th National Congress of your party was held on October 15, but we did not know your date at all beforehand. Your congress was held on the same day as the ordination service of our Chinese House Church Alliance. Again, because of this, we attracted a high level of attention from government officials at all levels subordinate to you who want to ensure your peace and the delegates of central government officials. To achieve this, they stalked us Christians and placed us under their supervision and control. They raided our orphanage and school at Yanjiao Village in Hebei Province and threatened the students there. They also persecuted the brigade in the village and threatened by saying that if we did not move in three days, they would cut off our water, electricity and road access. They said I was illegally adopting orphans and now they make threats to two of my sons and want them to move. The public security bureau has driven us to desperation of homelessness and the orphans will be driven to the street. Do we still call this a sign of a harmonious society? You are high above there and have you really not heard of these: corruption, bribery, collusion between the officials and the local despots in doing evil deeds, cheating their superiors and covering up from their subordinates and currying favor with their superiors? I implore you to seriously consider the misery of the common people and urge the officials subordinate to you to stop persecuting Christians and implement their promises in the constitution on religious freedom. I also implore you to bring about a government that keeps its promises and initiate a new period of harmony between the government and the masses. The reason for this is because just as you said, we can have a harmonious society when we build it on the foundations of love, friendship, fairness and justice.

President Hu, please forgive me if I offended your dignity. At the time I began to write this open letter to you, I had already fully prepared to die because of this. However, I believe both my life and your heart are in the hands of God Jehovah and He will bring peace both to you and me. Our desire is to win justice for the common people in China so that the Chinese society is full of love and care and that China can become free and prosperous and a real powerful country in the 21st

century in soul and in social system. We sincerely pray to the Lord to punish the evil and promote the good so that the common people can receive blessings and that China will have real religious freedom. I believe this is also the wish of President Hu. I hereby pray to God to bless you and all the officials in power, to give them more wisdom in ruling China. I sincerely invite Christians both in China and abroad to pray with me and may the kingdom of God come to us soon!

Pastor Zhang Mingxuan
Pastor Xie Fenglan
Chinese House Church Alliance

Issued by CAA on November 28, 2007.

Pastor Zhang Mingxuan's Second Open Letter to President Hu Jintao

Dear Respected President,

Merry Christmas! Today is Christmas Day. It is on this day that Jesus, the savior of the world, was born, which brings peace to China and around the world. Moreover, today is a momentous and joyous day all the world over. However, driven to desperation, I wrote you a second letter. Although I am not sure whether you can read it, I am sure that you will not be ferocious with me, an uneducated hairdresser. I would like to speak to you about the truth of the harmonious society that you have consistently advocated. Some corrupt political officials, who are always deceiving their superiors and subordinates, bring disgrace to you and our Party. I am determined to sacrifice my life for Jesus and our peaceful nation, even though I may be imprisoned or sentenced to death, if only for the hope that China will be really harmonious, strong, prosperous, free in religion, and full of love.

My orphanage was forced to move out of its building on Christmas Day. I am shocked as to how people would be able to drive these orphans out of their school and force them to be homeless. I have been preaching the Gospel and have done well for more than ten years in Beijing, but as of now I have become an opponent to the Party and our State. The police office, the Religion Bureau and the United Front Work Department in Sanhe City, have disregarded what they have heard at the conference of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on the 18th of December. Instead they have struck the Chinese Home Church Alliance and have begun persecuting Christians even worse than before. What's more, you have been emphasizing that our Party give fundamental consideration to the people's interests, and unite the religious believers at large in hopes of achieving a better society. We are always trying our best to fulfill these goals. Why are they always treating me as an enemy?

Is it not natural for Christians to celebrate Christmas Day? It is a normal religious activity, which should be protected by the Constitution. Unfortunately, on Christmas day many tragedies have taken place in the homeland: five Christians were arrested in Shangqiu city Henan province; three were arrested in Yichun city Helongjiang province; orphans were forced to leave school and leave their home in Sanhe City, Hubei Province. What's worse, the landlord was called and threatened not to let us spend Christmas Day in the home, by the Director of Security Order in the village. The plain-clothes police, head of police office, District of Dongba Town, Chaoyang Area, Beijing. The officials stated that if we spent Christmas Day in our church, they would confiscate the land contract. "The land is mine, and the house is yours; I will seize your contract, and dismantle your house; you will be put to prison by the Religious Bureau and police office and United Front Work Department", the district pretentiously said to the landlord. The landlord dared not to disobey their orders, and we had to spend Christmas Day in a hotel on the 23rd of December. President Hu, the Land belongs to the Nation, but the district tells us arrogantly that it is his. They intimidate the populace, which brings great crimes to the Party, our Nation and the People, and destroys the great blueprint of building a peaceful society. Unexpectedly, these orphans and students were driven out of the yard (20 rooms), which was rented for five years by Chinese Home Church Alliance in Beixiangkou, Yanjiao Town, Sanhe City, Hebei Province. These homeless orphans were driven out by the town government officials, police office, Religious Bureau and United Front Work Department in Sanhe City with their ulterior schemes. The school (main in English and computer) was attacked by them on the 14th of October, and I was taken to be questioned by the chief of Religious Bureau in Langfang City, but he found me blameless. My phone was inspected and my personal freedom was kept under close custody during the opening of the Seventeenth National People's Congress. A foreign teacher and some students were driven out by threatening students and orphans with their tricks on the 28th of October. The head of the village threatened to cut off the supply of electricity if we did not move out on the 18th of November. They cut off our electricity on the December 5; we had to buy a power generator, because the electrical engineer refused to help us. We had never gone against the electric energy consumption and paid our electric bill on time every month. Why would they cut off the electricity without permission? I

called to the electric power supply bureau in Sanhe City for the reason many times on the 9th, 10th and 12th of December. I have heard nothing from them to this day. I brought a lawsuit against the electric power supply bureau of Sanhe City on December 17. The court in Sanhe City did not handle the case, instead, they asked me to look for the help of the municipal government, and I went to meet the minister of the United Front Work Department and the director of the Religious Bureau, but they both did not care. "It is none of our business", they both replied. Around five o'clock in the afternoon, the landlord forced us to move. Liu Mingyi, the landlord, was threatened that his house would be demolished and he would become homeless, if I did not move in three days. These orphans were forced to give up school on December 20th. Children have rights to receive compulsory education, ensured definitely in article 2, 4 and 57 of "the Compulsory Education". These orphans were driven out for the reason that they had no fostering certificate and residence permit. These children cried to go to school. The five orphans are respectively only seven years old, eight years old, eleven years old, twelve years old, fourteen years old. They have no capacity to live and they now have had to suffer and starve on the pavement. Perhaps they will endanger the society one day, which is not good for building the well-off society. The law becomes these officials' means to persecute the common people. These officials are not the executors of the laws, but the bane of our nation and people. Is it not the peaceful society that we try our best to construct? "Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God." (Romans: 13/1). Therefore, we Christians stand on the right side of the law. However, it is written that on the Bible, "For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong" (Romans: 13/3). What these local officials do is in diametric opposition.

President Hu, I, Zhang Ming-xuan used to be a hairdresser, instead, today I have become God's son, the disciple of Jesus, a pastor. I have been always obeying the word of God, submitting myself to the authority according to the teachings of the Bible. The Bible tells us to love the world like loving yourself, how can I show no emotion to these orphans. I was arrested more than twelve times by the police office and the Religious Bureau, but I was found not guilty and released. They strike the Chinese Home Church Alliance with all means, which would awaken more people of good sense, which also makes me believe in love and conscience. I believe China will become a nation of laws and a developed and religiously free country under your leadership.

I will pray for you!

Jesus Christ bless you!

Peace to you!

God bless China and all Chinese authorities!

President of Chinese Home Church Alliance
Pastor Zhang Ming-xuan

A quarter to eight on the 25th, December, 2007