



Hua Huiqi & Shuang Shuying

Country : China

Hua Huiqi has been an active Christian in Beijing since the 1990's. A member of a Beijing house church, Huiqi has a long history of working to help persecuted Christians and the poor. Recently he has been appealing to the authorities on the issue of house churches being demolished and has been under police surveillance for several years. On January 26, hundreds of people staged an appeal outside the Beijing People's Congress Political Consulting Conference office. Police dispersed the crowd and then arrested Hua Huiqi. Hua and his mother Shuang Shuying, who is 75, were walking near a 2008 Olympics hotel site when seven police threw them to the ground and started kicking them. The police took them to the Olympic Police station for questioning.

Hua asked why they'd arrested him and appealed to them to let his elderly mother go. But for their answer, they beat him repeatedly. They poured cold water over him in the sub-zero temperatures, before taking him freezing and shivering to Zhaoyang Detention Centre. Following Hua Huiqi's arrest, his elderly parents Shuang Shuying and her husband Hua Zaichen went to every related office to appeal on behalf of their son. On February 7, Deputy Director Dong from the Chongwen District Recreation Centre Police Station went to Hua's mother Shuang Shuying and said: '*We arrested your second son [Hua]. You can bet that some day we will arrest your older son.*'

On the morning of February 9, when Shuang Shuying went into a district office to ask about her son, they arrested her too. They charged her with willfully damaging a car and a touch-screen computer

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EMAIL ALERT
for prayer & action
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Hua Huiqi with his mother Shuang Shuying

- charges she denies. Her trial was held on the first working day of the Chinese New Year - making it impossible for her lawyer to collect any evidence to defend her. The hearing was over in an hour, and Shuang Shuying was sentenced to two years in prison. She plans to appeal.

Observers say the charge is baseless, and is probably aimed at deterring the family from launching an appeal for Hua, who has been charged with intervening in public affairs, because of his protests against the demolition of house churches.

PLEASE PRAY

- ▶ Pray concerning the trial of Hua Huiqi that the charges will be dismissed
- ▶ Pray for safety and health for mother and son
- ▶ Pray for the Hua family including Huiqi's wife Wei Jumei
- ▶ Pray for the release of both Hua Huiqi and Shuang Shuying

'But while Peter was in prison, the church prayed very earnestly for him'
Acts 12:5

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PLEASE DOWNLOAD OUR NEW 1-MINUTE VIDEO

- and pass it to your friends

'Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow-prisoners, and those who are ill-treated as if your yourselves were suffering'

Hebrews 13:3

PLEASE JOIN OUR CAMPAIGN to help Chinese Christian prisoners 75-year-old mother Shuang Shuying, and her son Pastor Hua Huiqi.

Click on the links below to watch or download our new 1-minute video about Shuang Shuying (requires Internet connection) - or visit www.releaseinternational.org/videoalert. Please forward this to your church and Christian friends, so they can join the campaign too. Thank you.

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PRAY

Ask God to protect and bless Shuang Shuying and her son Hua Huiqi during their detention. Pray that Shuang's appeal would be successful, and her two-year sentence revoked.

Pray that Hua would have a fair trial and that the charges against him are dismissed.

Pray that the Chinese authorities would now make genuine efforts to clean up their nation's religious rights record.

WRITE TO THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT

Write to the Chinese authorities on Shuang Shuying's behalf. Address polite letters of concern to Ms Wu Aiyong, Minister of the Ministry of Justice of the People's Republic of China, No. 10, Nan Da Jie, Chaoyangmen, Beijing City, 100020, China. Tel:+86-10-65205114. Fax:+86-10-64729863. Please do not mention Release International when you write.

Please ask the Chinese authorities to:

- Release Shuang Shuying, so she can continue her peaceful duties as a respectful citizen
- Respect religious freedoms for all, in accordance with Article 18 of the UN Declaration on Human Rights

A sample letter may be downloaded from www.releaseinternational.org/videoalert

