

PETITIONERS IN CHINA

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中国人权
HRIC
HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHINA

On International Women's Day 2008 sign a petition expressing your support for Mao Hengfeng and petitioners in China!

Government officials, police and hired thugs use a number of tactics in order to restrict petitioners in China:

- **Detention in “black jails”** – Inmates in these extralegal prisons suffer in cramped, unhygienic environments suffering beatings and even torture from guards.
- **Intercepting petitioners** – Petitioners are detained by officials and hired thugs from their local province and forcibly returned home.
- **Surveillance of petitioners** – Petitioners are heavily monitored, subject to police raids, and can be placed under house arrest if deemed a threat.
- **Detention of family members** – The families of petitioners are often detained as a form of punishment for their actions.
- **Reeducation-Through-Labor** – Officials avoid the checks and balances of the court system by sending petitioners to heavy labor as a punishment for their actions.
- **Forcible placement in psychiatric institutions (RTL)** – Petitioners are silenced by being sent to psychiatric hospitals, where they suffer shock therapy and are forced to take powerful drugs.

All of these tactics increase in frequency in the lead up and during major political, social and sporting events.

The Olympics provides another threat to petitioners who are exercising their lawful rights.

Take action and support the lawful rights of petitioners in China as the 2008 Beijing Olympics approach.