

Wu Aiyong
Minister of Justice
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People's Republic of China
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Dear Minister Wu,

I am writing to express my grave concern regarding the continued detention of 76-year-old petitioner and activist **Shuang Shuying**, now held in Beijing Women's Prison. I am also very concerned that her application for medical parole was denied, despite continued reports that her health is in decline.

Shuang Shuying is an active petitioner and has spoken out against the system of Reeducation-Through-Labor. Shuang saw her Beijing home demolished in 2002 to make way for redevelopment ahead of the Olympic Games. After the demolition, her family had to relocate eight times and she has petitioned the government for compensation, to no avail. Shuang has been imprisoned since February 2007 on trumped-up charges after appealing for her son's release. During her imprisonment, Shuang's family continues to face harassment by Chinese authorities. Her son, house church pastor Hua Huiqi, was told last year that he must cooperate with police by providing information to them in order to see his mother.

I believe that Shuang Shuying has been imprisoned because of her petitioning and activism, which have all been undertaken peacefully. Her actions are protected by international human rights laws and she is therefore in detention arbitrarily.

I am adding my voice to international calls for Shuang's immediate and unconditional release, or at a minimum, to release her on medical parole due to her poor health.

Yours sincerely,