

His Excellency
Mr. Xi Jinping
President of the People's Republic of China
Via Botschaft der VR China
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Your Excellency;

Please forgive me for approaching you on behalf of the incarcerated Christian pastor, Ms. Hao Zhiwei, who was sentenced to eight years in prison by the District Court in the city of Ezhou (Province Hubei) for alleged fraud. This Christian minister had merely collected donations to support her congregation

Such activity is guaranteed in Article 36 of the "Constitution of the People's Republic of China," where it states:

"Citizens of the People's Republic of China shall enjoy freedom of religious belief. No state organ, social organization or individual shall coerce citizens to believe in or not to believe in any religion, nor shall they discriminate against citizens who believe in or do not believe in any religion."

I therefore regard this sentence as a gross violation of religious freedom and the Rev. Hao Zhiwei as a persecuted prisoner of conscience.

This is why I humbly beseech you, dear Mr. President, to advocate the observance of religious freedom in the "People's Republic of China" and to do everything in your power to have this incarcerated Christian, who is also suffering from serious health issues, released from prison.

Most respectfully,