

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 Catholic coadjutor bishop of Xuanhua in Hebei Province, who has been arrested repeatedly, the last time on March 28th of 2019. The bishop has since then been suffering from chronic health problems, and he was only permitted once to visit his older sister on the Chinese New Years festival.

The authorities have been persecuting him since 2007, even though no court decision has been made and no lawsuit is pending. His whereabouts are unknown. Bishop Cui Tai refuses to join the "Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association," and he is accused of "illegal missionary activities" and "participation in illicit religious gatherings".

Please permit me, Your Excellency, to remind you of Article 36 of the "Constitution of the People's Republic of China," which states that: "Citizens of the People's Republic of China enjoy freedom of religious belief."

Therefore, dear Mr. President, I humbly beseech you to advocate freedom of religion, to support the unconditional release of the bishop and to ensure that he gets the needed medical attention.

Most respectfully,