

Doing Time For God!

Letter Writing Guide and Prisoner List

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1. Introduction – Doing Time for God!

Letter writing remains a highly effective method of raising awareness, encouraging action and also delivering hope to those who otherwise might feel forgotten.

You also become an advocate for persecuted Christians, assuming the important ministerial role of being one who pleads for, or on behalf of another by highlighting injustice and inhumanity. Furthermore, you fulfill the Scriptural directive to show compassion and concern for your brothers and sisters in Christ.

The Lord Jesus Christ provided His Church with a clear mandate to question the unfair actions of others when He answered the officer of the high priest saying, *“If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?”* (John 18:23)

Today many thousands of Christians are languishing in prisons in distant lands simply because they have refused to bow the knee to dictatorial governments and ideologies, insisting instead on pledging their allegiance to Christ.

Christians in Canada have a duty to *“Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you are also in the body”* (Heb. 13:3).

Pastor Richard Wurmbrand (d. 2001), the founder of *The Voice of the Martyrs*, spent a total of fourteen years in prison in Communist Romania simply because he refused to deny his Saviour. While in ‘chains’ the idea of an organization that would speak up on behalf of the voiceless was born.

Speaking of our corporate responsibility as members of the Body of Christ, Pastor Wurmbrand wrote in his book *Tortured for Christ*,

When I was beaten on the bottom of my feet, my tongue cried. Why did my tongue cry? It was not beaten. It cried because the tongue and the feet are both part of the same body. And you free Christians are part of the same Body of Christ that is now beaten in prisons in restricted nations, that even now gives martyrs for Christ. Can you not feel our pain?

Soon Ok Lee, once a high ranking local government official in North Korea, was imprisoned, not because she was a Christian – at that time she was not, but because of her honesty and refusal to bow to the unlawful demands of other officials. She endured unspeakable torture whilst in custody but according to the providence of God she was spared and eventually released. In her gripping book *Eyes of the Tailless Animals*, she writes,

At the moment the officer announced my release in front of the prisoners, the eyes of all six thousand ‘tailless animals’ stared at me. Their eyes were telling me, “When you get out of prison be a witness for us. You are not going out just to live a better life, but to tell about the real hell that exists in here.” They were begging me to tell about their faith and all that they were suffering. I can never forget the sight of those pleading eyes.

Soon Ok Lee is now a Christian and an advocate, faithful to the silent plea of six thousand souls witnessed that day. She speaks, writes, and supports, because her love and her faith compel her to.

Will you take up *your* pen and demonstrate in a highly practical and productive way, your love and concern towards your brothers and sisters in chains? Will you become a **voice for the voiceless** and ‘do time for God’?

2. Writing to government officials

Letters show officials that there are people who know and care what happens to each prisoner. Their conditions may be improved as a result. If the authorities think no one cares, the Christian may be imprisoned with dangerous criminals, abused, deprived of food, or denied rights to their mail, parcels and visits.

As a general rule of thumb, when you write to government officials,

- **Be brief.**
- **Use the correct honorific (For a list of appropriate titles please refer to Appendix A).**
- **Be yourself.**
- **Be polite. You are representing Jesus Christ but ensure that the facts about persecution are well stated.**
- **Be careful in writing about politics or criticizing their government, other than human rights abuses.**
- **State a general concern for persecuted believers.**
- **State a specific concern for one or more prisoners.**
 - (a) Unless asked specifically not to, whenever possible, give the full name and home town of the prisoner(s).
 - (b) Tell why you are concerned (perhaps they have been beaten).
 - (c) Tell what you would like to see done (released, given medical treatment, etc.).
- **Remember to thank them in advance for their positive actions.**
- **Refrain from quoting Bible verses or preaching.**

Please DON'T mention the name of VOMC or any other similar organization as it may be used against the prisoner

Never underestimate the power of your letter! Irrespective of location or economic situation, governments are extremely concerned about their reputation on the world stage.

VOMC believes that originality in writing is important. For this reason we do not generally endorse the use of letter templates other than in occasional cases where repetition might be beneficial (i.e. postcard campaigns, etc).

However we do understand that help in this area is often appreciated and so we have provided a few sample letters to guide you. Please refer to Appendix B.

On those occasions when The Voice of the Martyrs issues specific letter writing requests the full details of the addressee will often be provided. Links to comprehensive and regularly updated lists of government addresses can be found at www.persecution.net/links.htm.

More detailed instructions on writing letters to government officials can be found online at www.persecution.net/write.htm.

3. Writing to the media

Local and national media is an unquestionably underutilized medium for communicating news of the Suffering Church. Writing short yet concise letters to newspapers is a highly effective way of raising awareness of current issues in the global church.

What to write

- Keep your letter friendly – remember you are Christ’s ambassador.
- Keep your letter short – concise letters which make a single point are more likely to be published.
- Keep your letter clear – state your subject and purpose in the opening paragraph.
- Keep your letter relevant – editors usually print letters that are responding to recent articles in their papers or which address current issues of interest.
- Keep your letter real – Many hold to a world-view without following it to its logical conclusion and the Christian can show where certain assumptions, beliefs and trends will lead.

What not to write

- Avoid being confrontational, abusive or offensive – such conduct falls far short of our directive to be ‘salt and light’ as Christians.
- Avoid Scripture quotes – a wise and well balanced Biblical perspective which serves to address a crisis, problem or other evil can be conveyed without peppering a letter with Scripture.
- Avoid preaching – readers do not buy newspapers to read a sermon!

More detailed instructions on writing letters to the media can be found online at www.persecution.net/write.htm.

4. Writing to Prisoners of Faith

Your letters can make a difference! Mail sent to Christian prisoners, and to those who are being persecuted is very important for several reasons:

- Mail indicates clearly to the authorities that we are aware of that Christian's situation — and we care! It chips away at the theory that the West is apathetic.
- Mail testifies of the love and unity found among followers of Jesus Christ throughout the world. This is especially true when letters are opened and censored. God may also choose to use them in the lives of those in authority — they too are people for whom Christ died.
- Mail is also evidence to our persecuted family that they are not forgotten. Persecutors of Christians often tell these prisoners that they are forgotten, that they are not loved, that no one knows about them. Through this isolation and loneliness the devil can prey upon their faith. When a prisoner receives a letter, whether they can read it or not, they know that someone cares.
- Mail can result in better treatment for a prisoner. The authorities are very sensitive about their image abroad. When they realize that outsiders are monitoring a prisoner's situation, conditions may be improved.
- Each card or letter that reaches a prisoner or family is a precious gift.

May I write in English?

Yes, write in English, but please watch your penmanship. Your note must be legible to be translated. Many people study English, so there will often be someone to translate your letter.

What to write

- Tell them your name and that you know about their situation.
- Always be respectful and encouraging.
- Tell them that they are not forgotten and that they are being prayed for.
- Include a verse of Scripture although you may wish to avoid including the reference.

What *not* to write

- NEVER criticize their government or discuss politics as this could place Christian prisoners in extreme danger.
- NEVER mention The Voice of the Martyrs or any other source of information.

Can I do anything else?

You can also send notes, postcards even bookmarks. Attractive Christian greeting cards are especially cherished. Express your Christian love and mention you are praying (then do!).

If you want to make your letter even more personal and special, you may want to include a snapshot of yourself, your family or your prayer group.

Please do not include your mailing address on correspondence. Unscrupulous individuals, claiming to be the prisoner, occasionally steal letters and solicit funds.

NEVER send money to anyone who responds to your letter. Contact us for more information.

Please do not send the letters to The Voice of the Martyrs for mailing. The letters are more effective when the officials see persons have sent them from many different parts of our nation.

More detailed instructions on writing letters to prisoners of faith can be found online at www.persecution.net/write.htm.

5. The Prisoner List

CHINA

It has been estimated that there are more Christians in prison in China than in any other restricted nation.

AIQING ZHU

At 40 years of age, Aiqing Zhu was arrested for “illegal evangelistic activities” on June 9, 1996. She was sentenced to a twenty-year prison term.

Prison address:

Aiqing Zhu
The Public Security Department
Xiang Xiang City
Hu Nan Province
China

ZHONG CHEN

At 32 years of age, Zhong Chen was arrested for “illegal evangelistic activities and disturbing social safety” in the year 2000. Prison term unknown.

Prison address:

Zhong Chen
Shu Yang County Prison
Jiang Su Province
China

WANG ZHAOMIN

Zhaomin has been imprisoned since June 1999.

Prison address:

Wang Zhaomin
Team #2, Qishan Lao Gai Camp
Datong District
Huainan City
Anhui Province
China

LI YING

Journalist Li Ying is currently serving a 15-year prison sentence for her role in the publication of an underground church magazine in China. She was arrested April 2001 along with sixteen others from the South China Church and condemned to death December 2001. Her current sentence was handed down during a retrial ordered by the Hubei Provincial Supreme Court in October 2002. Arrest and imprisonment are not new to this young woman in her early thirties. She has been arrested many times and spent a year in prison in 1996. Li Ying cannot have a Bible and is forced to work fifteen hours each day on materials to be exported out of China.

Prison address:

Li Ying
The Third Section
Female Prison of Wuhan City
No. 81, Bao Feng Yi Lu
Wuhan City, Hubei 430032
People's Republic of China

HU YING

Mr. Hu Ying, a leader in the South China Church, was sentenced to life in prison in 2002.

Prison address:

Hu Ying
Jingzhou Prison
Jingzhou City, Hubei Province 434020
China

XU FUMING

Mr. Xu Fuming, a member of the South China Church, was sentenced to life in prison in 2002.

Prison address:

Xu Fuming
Jingzhou prison
Jingzhou city, Hubei province 434020
China

XIAO YANLI

Ms. Xiao Yanli, a member of the South China Church, was sentenced to ten years in prison in 2002.

Prison address:

Xiao Yanli
No. 2 Division, Section 2
Wuhan Female Prison
Wuhan city
Hubei Province 430032
China

GONG BANGKUN

Mr. Gong Bangkun, a member of the South China Church, was sentenced to fifteen years in prison in 2002.

Prison address:

Gong Bangkun
No. 3 Division, Section 6
Jiangling District
Jingzhou city, Hubei Province 434110
China

YI CHUANFU

Mr. Yi Chuanfu, a member of the South China Church, was sentenced to ten years in prison in 2002.

Prison address:

Yi Chuanfu
No. 2 Division, Section 6
Jiangling District, Jingzhou city, Hubei Province 434110, China

DONG DAOLAI

Mr. Dong Daolai, a member of the South China Church, was sentenced to ten years in prison in 2002.

Prison address:

Dong Daolai
No. 1 Division, Section 6
Jiangling District
Jingzhou city, Hubei Province 434110
China

CHI FAMIN, TAN QONG, QONG LING YI, YUMEI LU, XIANG SHUANGYU & MENGYU TANG

These women were sentenced as members of an "evil cult" (refers to South China Church) by the People's Court of Yunyang County, Chongqing City, on May 14, 2002.

Ms. Tan Qong, seven-year sentence Ms. Qong Ling Yi, seven-year sentence
Ms. Chi Famin, ten-year sentence Ms. Xiang Shuangyu, seven-year sentence
Ms. Yumei Lu, seven-year sentence Ms. Mengyu Tang, six-year sentence

Prison address for Chi Famin, Tan Qong, Yi Qongling, Yumei Lu, Xiang Shuangyu & Mengyu

Tang:

[prisoner name]
Yongchuan Female Prison
Yongchuan city, Chongqing City 402164
China

SUN MINGHUA

Sun Minghua was arrested in September 2001, on suspicion of organizing and utilizing a cult organization to undermine law enforcement. At the time she was a council member in charge of finances for the South China Church (SCC). After the arrest, police searched her house and confiscated financial documents related to the church.

In April 2001, the SCC was designated a "cult" by the ministry of Public Security. However, this did not stop the church members from continuing in their "illegal missionary work," even with the threat of arrest the SCC is expanding and increasing its membership. It is considered a relatively small house-church group in China, with approximately 100,000 members spread across 10 of China's provinces. During 2001, the Communist government had tried to close SCC down by arresting more than 500 of its leaders.

Minghua was born on June 13, 1965, in Hubei province. Influenced by her Christian mother, she accepted the Lord in 1984; and in 1986, she devoted herself to preaching the gospel. The trial for the charges related to organizing a cult was held December of 2001, when Sun was sentenced to life in prison. At a later High Court hearing, this sentence was reduced to 12 years. Earlier in 1996, she was jailed for a year by the Jinmen Public Security Bureau for evangelizing activities.

Prison address:

Ms Sun Minghua
No. 5 Division, Section 2
Wuhan Female Prison
Wuhan City, Hubei Province 430032
People's Republic of China

ZHANG RONGLIANG

Pastor Zhang Rongliang was sentenced to 7 1/2 years in prison. According to China Aid Association the July 4 verdict was issued by Zhongmu County People's Court. Pastor Zhang Rongliang, a prominent Chinese house-church leader, was arrested in a rented apartment at Xuzhai village the afternoon of December 1, 2004. Zhang already had spent 12 years in prison for his faith during five separate detentions. He experienced harsh torture, including electric shock, during his previous prison terms. After being held in prison for a year, the officials attempted to transfer him from the prison in Xinmi to one in Zhongmu but officials refused him because of his fragile health. He was instead taken to a hospital in Xinmi. He suffers from diabetes and high blood pressure in addition to other chronic health problems. Later he was transferred to a Zhongmu City hospital where he spent most of February and March 2006. He appeared in court April 6, 2006, more than 16 months after his arrest, for his third hearing on charges of "attaining a passport through cheating" and "illegal border crossing." At this hearing the court acknowledged there was insufficient evidence for the case and asked for legal advice from a higher court.

Prison address:

Pastor Zhang Rongliang
Third Detention Center
Economic & Technology Development Area

Zhengzhou City, Henan Province 450016
PR CHINA

WANG WEILIANG

On December 22, 2006, 2006, Pastor Wang Weiliang and seven other church leaders were sentenced from one year to three and a half years in prison by the People's Court of Xiaoshan District, China. These leaders were arrested after thousands of PSB officers bulldozed their church building on July 29, 2006

Prison address:

Wang Weiliang
Xiaoshan District Detention Center
Xiao Nanmen Wai
Chengxiang Town
Xiaoshan District
Hangzhou City
Zhejiang Province
People's Republic of China
311201

LI MING, JIN JIRONG, WANG YUAN, LI MINGBO

On June 27, 2007 these four Chinese pastors had visited their local police station to try to secure the release of fourteen of their church members who had been arrested on their way home from church. They have subsequently been sentenced to two years "re-education through labour."

Addresses for Li Ming, Jin Jirong, Wang Yuan, Li Mingbo

Mr. Li Ming
The Third Team of Wangbao Village,
Baoma Township,
Langzhong City,
Sichuan Province

Mr. Jin Jirong
No.29
Wangyemiao Street
Langzhong City
Sichuan Province

Mr. Wang Yuan
The Tenth Team of Bade Village
Baoma Township
Langzhong City
Sichuan Province

Mr. Li Mingbo
The Second Team of Taipingqiao Village
Hexi Township
Langzhong City
Sichuan Province

SHUANG SHUYING

Shuang Shuying (77) and her son, house church leader Hua Huiqi, were attacked and arrested by police while walking near a 2008 Olympic hotel site in Beijing on January 26, 2007. Hua Huiqi was released on July 26, 2007 but Shuying, who suffers from a heart problem and diabetes, is serving two years in prison.

Prison address:

Shuang Shuying
No. 3 Run He Xiang, Huifeng Street, Tiantang He Qing Feng Road,

Daxing District,
Beijing
People's Republic of China

LI MEI

In August 2007, nine house church leaders were given "re-education through labour" sentences ranging from 12 to 18 months for being involved in an "evil cult organization" after they were found worshipping together in Hubei province. In January, seven of these leaders were unconditionally released. Li Mei (42) is one of two female leaders still detained. Mei served part of her one-year sentence in a hospital with both hands chained to her bed. She is currently serving the remainder of her sentence at home under house arrest.

Contact information:

Li Mei
Shetang Village
Number 24509
Xinji Town
Wuhe County
Anhui Province
The People's Republic of China

ALIMUJIANG YIMITI

In January 2008, Alimujiang Yimiti, a Muslim convert to Christianity, was arrested and accused of "subversion of the national government and endangering national security," a crime punishable by death. On May 27 2008, Alimujiang's case went to trial but it was then referred back to the Chinese Public Security Bureau's prosecutors due to "insufficient evidence."

Prison address:

Alimujiang Yimiti
Detention Center Kan Shou Suo
Ka Shi, Xinjiang
844000
Peoples Republic of China

ERITREA

Nearly 2000 Eritrean Christians are now believed to be under arrest because of their religious beliefs, held in police stations, military camps and prisons in various locations across Eritrea. Jailed Evangelical Christians are routinely subjected to physical beatings and severe psychological pressure to deny their religious beliefs.

HAILE NAIZGI

At the time of his imprisonment on May 23, 2004, Reverend Haile Naizgi was serving God as the chairman of the board of the Full-Gospel Church of Eritrea, the largest Pentecostal church denomination in the nation. Previously, he was a senior accountant with World Vision in Eritrea. Reverend Haile Naizgi, who is married with two children, was one the key organizers of the church's activities in Eritrea.

Prison address:

Haile Naizgi
Karsheli Prison
2nd Police Station
Zone 7 Northern East
Asmara, Zoba Maakel
Eritrea

KIDANE WELDOU

Pastor Kidane Weldou, a long time servant of the Lord with the Asmara Full-Gospel Church, was imprisoned on March 18, 2005. He was the senior pastor of the church at the time of his imprisonment. His wife and children have been unable to visit him in prison, and his exact whereabouts remain unknown. Formerly, he was a high school teacher of biology after he secured a B.Sc. from Asmara University. In addition to his church's work, he was also involved in many Gospel-related activities among students and professionals from various churches in the nation.

Prison address:

Kidane Weldou
Karsheli Prison
2nd Police Station
Zone 7 Northern East
Asmara, Zoba Maakel
Eritrea

DR. KIFLU GEBREMESKEL

Dr. Kiflu Gebremeskel was the pastor of South-West Full-Gospel Church in Asmara until his imprisonment on May 23, 2004. Dr. Kiflu, a former dean of science and lecturer of mathematics at Asmara University, left his job to serve the Lord as a pastor and Bible teacher in 1999. He has a Ph.D. in mathematics from the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. Dr. Kiflu was also the chairman of the Eritrean Evangelical Alliance, a union of all the churches belonging to the Baptist, Mennonite, Presbyterian, Pentecostal and other Charismatic churches. He wrote some of the first and widely-used discipleship materials in Tigrinya, the mother language of the majority of Eritreans. He is married with four children.

Prison address:

Dr. Kiflu Gebremeskel
Karsheli Prison
2nd Police Station
Zone 7 Northern East
Asmara, Zoba Maakel
Eritrea

GIRMAY AMBAYE

On May 11, 2005 Evangelist Girmay Ambaye was arrested by security police in Eritrea for witnessing about Christ to people on a city bus.

Address:

Girmay Ambaye
Permanent Mission of Eritrea to the United Nations
800 Second Avenue, 18th Floor
New York, NY 10017

EGYPT

SHAIBOUB ARSAL

Shaiboub Arsal (45) was given a 15 year hard labour term in June 2000. He has been falsely charged with two murders that took place during 1998 violence which targeted El-Kosheh's Coptic Christian population. Write a letter of encouragement to him, care of his local bishop

Contact information:

Shaiboub Arsal
c/o Bishop Wissa
Diocese of Baliana

Baliana
Sohag Province

LAOS

THONG CHAN

Mr. Chan had been a district governor and was converted through the Far Eastern Broadcasting Company ministry in 1997. He was arrested in 1999 after his house church started growing in numbers. His criminal conviction was based on "preaching the gospel, being a traitor to the nation and speaking badly about the nation". He is reportedly sickly and unable to walk without help due to his time spent in prison labour. Tragically, he faces 11 years in prison.

Prison address:

Thong Chan
Ban Na Prison
Muang Xai, Udomxai
Laos

KHAMLA NAMHENG

On March 18, 2008 Pastor KhamLa Namheng and seven Khmu pastors from Oudomsay province, Laos were arrested while entering Thailand to attend meetings. The pastors were searched and all of their belongings were confiscated, including Bibles and letters that police claimed were written against the village authority reporting persecution.

Prison address:

KhamLa Namheng
Don Keo Prison
Muang Say
Oudomsay Province
Lao People's Democratic Republic

UZBEKISTAN

DMITRY SHESTAKOV

On January 21, 2007, Pastor Dmirty Shestakov (37) was taken into custody by secret service officials during a raid on the Full Gospel Church in Andijan. In March 2007 he was sentenced to four years of exile within Uzbekistan for his religious activity. Shestakov is currently being held in quarantine at Camp No. 29 in Navoi in central Uzbekistan, over 560 kilometres (350 miles) from his home in Andijan. His imprisonment separates him from his wife Marina and their three children.

Address:

Dmitry Shestakov
Ispravitelnoye Uchrezhdeniye 64/29
Novoyiskaya Oblast
Uzbekistan

VIETNAM

Y WO NIE

Pastor Y Wo Nie was arrested on August 18, 2004 for leading a demonstration demanding more religious freedom and the release of property confiscated by the Vietnamese government. He received a nine-year sentence.

Prison address:

Nam Ha Prison
Team 27
Ba Sao Village

Kim Bang District
Ha Nam Province
Vietnam

NGUYEN VAN LY

Father Nguyen Van Ly was arrested in Hue, Vietnam for distributing material “harmful to the state” on February 19, 2007. He had issued statements criticizing the government’s confiscation of church property, lack of seminary training and the influence of the state in church teachings. In March 2007, he was sentenced to eight years in prison.

Prison address:

Nguyen Van Ly
Ba Le Thi Phu Dung
C5/1H Tran Nao, Khu Pho 1
Phuong Binn Khanh, Quan 2
TP Ho Chi Minh
Vietnam

Bible Verses in Other Languages

Arabic

John 14:27

فلا تَضْطَرِبْ قُلُوبُكُمْ، وَلَا تَرْتَعِبْ. عَالَمٌ أُعْطِيَكُمْ أَنَالِيسَ كَمَا يُعْطِي آلَ سَلَامِي أُعْطِيَكُمْ سَلَامًا أَتْرُكُ لَكُمْ.

Romans 8:31

قَبَعَدَ هَذَا، مَاذَا نَقُولُ؟ مَاذَا اللهُ مَعَنَا، فَمَنْ يَكُونُ عَلَيْنَا؟ ذَلِكَ الَّذِي لَمْ يُمْسِكْ عَنَّا ابْنَهُ،

Chinese

May your light reveal the truth to those around you.

愿你的光能向周围的人显明真理。

Job 13:15

伯 13:15

他必杀我，我虽无指望，然而我在他面前还要辩明我所行的。

Hebrews 12:2

来 12:2

仰望为我们信心创始成终的耶稣（或作“仰望那将真道创始成终的耶稣”），他因那摆在前面的喜乐，就轻看羞辱，忍受了十字架〔的苦难〕，便坐在 神宝座的右边。

Vietnamese

Our Lord is with you even where you are.

Chỗ nào anh em đến, chỗ đó Chúa ở cùng anh em.

Romans 8:28

8:28 Vả, chúng ta biết rằng mọi sự hiệp lại làm ích cho kẻ yêu mến Đức Chúa Trời, tức là cho kẻ được gọi theo ý muốn Ngài đã định.

Psalms 37:3

37:3 Hãy tin cậy Đức Giê-hô-va, và làm điều lành; Khá ở trong xứ, và nuôi mình bằng sự thành tín của Ngài.

7. Appendices

Appendix A.

<u>Official</u>	<u>Salutation</u>	<u>Valediction</u>
Monarchs	Your Majesty	Yours respectfully and sincerely
Heads of State, Presidents	Your Excellency	Yours respectfully and sincerely
Prime Ministers	Dear Prime Minister	Yours respectfully and sincerely
Ambassadors or High Commissioners	Your Excellency Mr/Mrs... (if you know the name)	Yours respectfully or Yours respectfully and sincerely (if you have used the name)
Local authorities	Dear Sir/Madam	Yours faithfully
Prison governors	Dear Sir/Madam	Yours faithfully
Judges	Your Honour	Yours faithfully
Military Officials	Dear General, Colonel, etc	Yours faithfully
Members of Parliament	Dear Mr/Ms/Mrs...MP	Yours sincerely
A government minister	Dear Mr. Minister or Dear Madame Minister	Yours faithfully or Yours sincerely (if you have used the name)
A government minister (outside Canada)	Your Excellency	Yours respectfully and sincerely

Appendix B.

SAMPLE LETTERS TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

Dear Sir,

Last year (name) was arrested for (reason arrested). The story of his/her case has been circulated around the world and thousands of Christians know about it.

We ask that he/she be released from all charges. We are praying for you as a leading representative for your country.

Yours sincerely,

Dear Sir,

We are thankful that the laws and constitution in (country) allow freedom of religion. However, we have heard that a man/woman named (name) was put in prison at (place). We are concerned for his/her welfare. We would like to ask you to please give your attention to this matter. Thank you very much.

Yours sincerely,

Your Excellency,

I respectfully request your attention in the case of (name). He/she was arrested in (place) for sharing his/her Christian faith and on (date) was sentenced to (sentence given). He/she is detained in the (name of prison) prison.

I am confident that your government's international reputation will be enhanced by being seen to adhere to Article 18 of the UN Declaration on Human Rights, which clearly states everyone's right to freely share their faith.

I appeal to you for the release of (name) to enable him/her to continue his/her peaceful duties as a respected citizen of your country.

Meanwhile I ask that you use your good office to ensure that (name) is able to see his/her family. I write in confidence of your careful attention.

Yours sincerely,

Appendix C.

GOVERNMENT AND EMBASSY ADDRESSES

GOVERNMENT ADDRESS

CHINA

Jintao Hu
President of the People's Republic of China
Beijing
People's Republic of China

EGYPT

Mohammed Hosni Mubarak, President
Presidential Palace
Abdeen
Cairo
Egypt

ERITREA

Isaias Afwerki, President
Office of the President
P.O. Box 257
Asmara
Eritrea

INDONESIA

Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono
President of Indonesia
Presidential Palace
Jakarta
Indonesia

LAOS

Kanthay Siphandon, President
Office of the President
Viangchan
Laos
Phone: 856-21-214-207
Fax: 856-21-214-208

PAKISTAN

Asif Ali Zardari, President & Chief Executive
Office of the President
Constitution Ave.
Islamabad
Pakistan
Fax: 0092-51-2811-390 or 0092-51-2211-018
E-mail: ce@pak.gov.pk

EMBASSY ADDRESS

CHINA

His Excellency Shumin Lu, Ambassador
Embassy of the People's Republic of China
515 St. Patrick St.
Ottawa, ON K1N 5H3
Phone: (613) 789-3434, Fax: (613) 789-1911
E-mail: cooffice@buildlink.com

EGYPT

His Excellency Mahmoud F. El-Saeed, Ambassador
Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt
454 Laurier Avenue East
Ottawa, ON K1N 6R3
Phone: (613) 234-4931, Fax: (613) 234-9347/234-4398
E-mail: egyptemb@sympatico.ca

ERITREA

His Excellency Girma Asmerom Tesfay, Ambassador
Embassy of Eritrea
1708 New Hampshire Avenue N.W.
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INDONESIA

His Excellency Djoko Hardono, Ambassador
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LAOS

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PAKISTAN

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GOVERNMENT AND EMBASSY ADDRESSES (Continued....)

GOVERNMENT ADDRESS

UZBEKISTAN

His Excellency Islam Abduganievch Karimov
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700163 g. Tashkent
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Rezidentsia prezidenta
Uzbekistan

VIETNAM

Tran Duc Luong, President
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Hanoi
Vietnam

EMBASSY ADDRESS

UZBEKISTAN

His Excellency Abdulaziz Kamilov, Ambassador
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VIETNAM

Her Excellency Thi Hoi Nguyen, Ambassador
Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
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Appendix D.

UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSES

CHINA

Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations
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New York, N.Y. 10016
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EGYPT

Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations
304 East 44th Street
New York, N.Y. 10017
Phone: (212) 503-0300, Fax: (212) 949-5999

ERITREA

Permanent Representative of Eritrea to the United Nations
800 Second Avenue, 18th Floor
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INDONESIA

Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations
325 East 38th Street, New York, NY 10016
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LAOS

Permanent Representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations
317 East 51st Street
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PAKISTAN

Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations
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VIETNAM

Permanent Representative of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations
866 United Nations Plaza, Suite 435
New York, N.Y. 10017
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E-mail: vietnam@un.int

United Nations Declaration on Human Rights

Article 18

Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change one's religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

8. VOMC CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information contact:



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E-mail: thevoice@persecution.net
Website: www.persecution.net

**YOU are 'DOING TIME FOR GOD'
by taking time to write and minister to those
who need help and encouragement,
whilst they are 'DOING TIME FOR GOD'
in prison for their faith in Christ!**

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information presented here, VOMC is not accountable for errors made in its compilation. The actual number of Christians in prison is usually higher than we can list. News of arrests and releases can take weeks, if not months, to reach the West and must be verified. There are many prisoners whose names we do not know but of whom we hear about indirectly or in general reports. Remember to pray for them too.

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