

I am writing this to express my grave concern on human rights lawyer Jiang Tianyong, who has been sentenced to two years of imprisonment for “inciting subversion of state power” on 21 November. I am so much worried about his being at risk of torture and other ill-treatment.

An unnamed individual told us that he had been tortured and that his whole leg was so swollen he was unable to stand. It is possible that his confession to the charges of “inciting subversion of state power” was a result of torture or other ill-treatment.

He was held incommunicado for over a year and neither his family nor the family-hired lawyers were notified about the August trial in advance, in violation of Chinese law.

So I urge you to immediately and unconditionally release Jiang Tianyong as he has been convicted and imprisoned solely for the peaceful exercise of his human right to freedom of expression and assembly.

I also urge you to ensure that Jiang Tianyong is protected from torture and other ill-treatment, and that he has regular, unrestricted access to his family, lawyers of his choice, and medical care on request or as necessary.

Your prompt attention on this matter would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,