RELEASE MAO HENGFENG!

Mao Hengfeng, a petitioner and human rights defender, is currently serving two years and six months in prison for "intentional damage of property."

Mao has been an activist and petitioner for 20 years. She was dismissed from her soap factory job in 1988 when she refused to abort a second pregnancy, and since that time has petitioned the government for redress on that dismissal and subsequent abuses, including forcible eviction. As a result of petitioning, she has been forcibly admitted to a psychiatric hospital three times, detained multiple times, and served a one-and-a-half year sentence of Reeducation-Through-Labor (RTL). While held under "residential surveillance" in for petitioning in 2006, she broke two table lamps and other objects, damage for which she is now serving prison time. She has been subject to a wide range of abuses in prison.

We the undersigned call on the People's Republic of China to immediately and unconditionally release Mao Hengfeng and others detained for peacefully invoking their lawful rights to petition, and their rights to freedom of expression as enshrined in the Chinese Constitution and international law.

Sincerely,

Name	**City**	**Country**

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