

Head of Chifeng Prison
Inner Mongolia Prison No. 4 (Chifeng)
Chifeng, Inner Mongolia 024005
People's Republic of China

Dear Prison Director,

I am writing to express my grave concern regarding the imprisonment and ill-treatment of Mongolian cultural rights activist Hada, who is currently serving 15 years in your prison for “incitement of subversion” and “espionage.” I believe that Hada’s detention results from the legitimate exercise of his right to freedom of expression and association, and that he should therefore be released.

Hada reportedly is in poor health and has been tortured while at your prison. Hada has been routinely abused and subjected to disciplinary punishments that range from solitary confinement to being chained onto a metal “shackle board”—a bare metal plank equipped with handcuffs at each corner. Prison officials have reportedly twice threatened his life by holding a gun to his head and have shocked him using electric rods.

Hada has also been denied the liberties generally afforded to other prisoners in Chifeng Prison. The UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders, together with the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture, have noted that Hada has been denied proper medical attention and regular contact with his family. I believe that Hada’s appalling treatment contradicts Chinese laws that prohibit torture and abuse, as well as the rules and standards of your own prison system as outlined in your website: <http://www.chifeng.gov.cn/4/open.htm>.

I therefore urge you to ensure that Hada is given immediate and appropriate medical treatment for his deteriorating health, and that he and all others in your facility are treated in a humane manner consistent with the PRC Prison Law and numerous international standards.

Sincerely,