

Southern Mongolian Human Rights Information Center

February 14, 2002

George W. Bush President of the United States 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As you are preparing to visit China in February, we write to express our grave concern about the imprisonment of Mr. Hada and Mr. Tegexi, two ethnic Mongolian dissidents from Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region in China. Mr. Hada was the president of the Southern Mongolian Democratic Alliance (SMDA), an indigenous Mongolian organization proposed for protecting and promoting political rights, civil rights and human rights of ethnic Mongolians in Inner Mongolia. Mr. Tegexi was the vice president of the SMDA.

Along with some 60 other ethnic Mongolian dissidents, Mr. Hada and Mr. Tegexi were arrested in December 1995 for the Chinese authorities' reason of "separating country and engaging espionage". In December 1996, Mr. Hada and Mr. Tegexi were sentenced to 15 years and 10 years jail respectively in Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, for the same reason. Currently, both of them are in poor health under the jail authorities' hard labor and inhuman treatment.

Many of independent human rights organizations in the Westerns such as Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, have considered Mr. Hada and Mr. Tegexi Prisoners of Conscience and have reported about their imprisonment and the crack down of the SMDA.

We urge you to seek Mr. Hada and Mr. Tegexi's release on medical grounds during your meetings with the Chinese President Jiang Zemin.

Sincerely

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