



# Congressional-Executive Commission on China

## Political Prisoner Database Upgrade

The Congressional-Executive Commission on China's [Political Prisoner Database](#) contains information about political prisoners<sup>1</sup> in China who were held or are being held in public detention centers, prisons, re-education through labor centers, or other detention facilities, or who are held under other forms of official control. Today the PPD contains about 5,500 records of political prisoners in China. The Commission knows or believes that more than 1,300 are currently detained or imprisoned. The Commission is also aware that there are considerably more than 1,300 cases of current political and religious imprisonment in China.

Through an upgrade to the Political Prisoner Database (PPD), it now includes additional data fields that allow the U.S. Congress and Administration, other governments, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and other institutions and individuals to strengthen reporting on political and religious imprisonment in China and advocacy on behalf of Chinese political prisoners.

The database and related information can be accessed via: <http://www.cecc.gov/pages/victims>

### New Features

- An easy-to-use simple search box for a political prisoner's name.
- An increase in the types of information, or fields, useable for each record, from 19 to 40. Several of the additional fields are on the judicial process—court names and dates, for example, and articles of China's Criminal Law. All 40 of the database fields may be queried separately or in any combination.
- A full-text search that applies to all 40 fields in a PPD record.
- A one-click download of all of the field data for all of the records in the PPD as a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet.
- An Excel spreadsheet download of the data for every PPD record that satisfies a query or a full-text search that a user creates.
- Exporting a PPD record to a single-page Adobe PDF document that contains all of the available record data, including the short summary.
- Opening a PPD record from another Web site, blog, document, or email by using the PPD record's Web link. The Web link will open the current database record, not a stored Web page.
- Opening reports, articles, and texts of Chinese laws that are available on the Commission's Web site or on another Web site by clicking links in a PPD record's short summary. (Many PPD records contain a short summary of the case that includes basic details about the political or religious imprisonment and the legal process leading to imprisonment.)

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<sup>1</sup> The Commission treats as a political prisoner an individual detained or imprisoned for exercising his or her human rights under international law, such as peaceful assembly, freedom of religion, freedom of association, free expression, including the freedom to advocate peaceful social or political change, and to criticize government policy or government officials. (This list is illustrative, not exhaustive.) In most cases, prisoners in the PPD were detained or imprisoned for attempting to exercise rights guaranteed to them by China's Constitution and law, or by international law, or both.



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### **Additional and Previous Data Fields**

<http://www.cecc.gov/pages/victims>

#### **PPD Fields Added in July 2010 Upgrade (21)**

Affiliation  
Residence (province)  
Residence (prefecture)  
Residence (county)  
Formal arrest date  
Trial date  
Trial court  
Sentence date  
Sentence court  
Appeal date  
Appeal court  
Appeal ruling date  
Appeal ruling court  
Sentence ends per PRC  
Actual date released  
Charge (statute)  
Sentence length (months)  
Sentence length (weeks)  
Sentence length (days)  
Prefecture where imprisoned  
County where imprisoned

#### **PPD Fields Available Prior to Upgrade (19)**

CECC record number  
Detention status  
Issue category  
Main name  
Chinese characters (main name)  
Other (or lay) name  
Alternate name(s)  
Pinyin name (for non-Han)  
Ethnic group  
Sex  
Age at detention  
Religion  
Occupation  
Date of detention  
Province where imprisoned  
Current prison  
Sentence length (years)  
Legal process  
Short summary