

Prime Minister
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The State Council
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Fax: 0086-1065292345
(über das
Kommunikationsministerium)

People's Republic of China

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Your Excellency,

I respectfully request your attention to the case of Mr. Alimujiang Yimiti, a Christian from the province Xinjiang. In January 2008 he was arrested because of his faith and his active membership of a "house church". Alimujiang Yimiti did not violate any law and he fulfilled his duties as a citizen of the P.R. of China. He has also done his best to assimilate into Chinese culture, making the unusual decision to send his children to a Chinese language school in a predominantly Uyghur area.

Yimiti's case has attracted international attention. His arrest comes as the Chinese government is struggling to convince critics that it has expanded religious freedom and tolerance. I am convinced that your government's international reputation will be enhanced by being seen to adhere to Article 18 of the UN Declaration on Human Rights, which clearly states everyone's right to free expression of faith. The constitution of China provides it in Art.36 „Religious freedom“ too.

The reputation of China as organizer of the Olympic Games 2008, is damaged by this case.

I appeal to you to release Mr. Yimiti and to guarantee his safety and his Christian bookstore. In confidence of your careful attention,

Sincerely,

(name/address)

CC to:

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