

His Excellency  
Mr. Xi Jinping  
President of the People's Republic of China  
Via Botschaft der VR China  
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Your Excellency;

Please forgive me for approaching you on behalf of four incarcerated Christians. They were led away from Shengjia Church in Foshan-Shunde, (Guangdong,) on May 24, 2023, after a search warrant had been executed. According to information available to me, the four Christians are being held at the Nanhai District Detention Center in Foshan. Among those arrested is the pastor of the church, the Rev. Deng Yanxiang.

There is no evidence to support the accusation of "illegal business activity," which was leveled against the Christians. They have merely exercised their right to freedom of religion, specifically the right to share their religious beliefs with their fellow men.

The People's Republic of China participated in the "World Conference on Human Rights" in Vienna 30 years ago, which recognizes the universality of human rights and calls for their protection. On October 5, 1996, China signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which lists the right to freedom of religion in Article 18. The arrest and continued detention of the Foshan Christians are violations of the freedom of religion guaranteed in Article 36 of your country's constitution.

This is why I humbly beseech you, dear Mr. President, to do everything in your power to have the incarcerated four Christians released from prison.

Most respectfully,