

News and Current Events :: Church in China to Risk Worshipping in Park

Church in China to Risk Worshipping in Park - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2011/4/9 7:56

One of the largest unregistered Protestant churches in Beijing plans to risk arrest by worshipping in the open air this Sunday after eviction from the restaurant where they have met for the past year.

The owner of the Old Story Club restaurant issued repeated requests for the Shouwang Church to find another worship venue, and authorities have pressured other prospective landlords to close their facilities to the 1,000-member congregation, sources said. Unwilling to subject themselves to the controls and restrictions of the official Three-Self Patriotic Movement (TSPM), the congregation has held three services each Sunday in the restaurant for more than a year.

Church members have said they are not opposed to the government and are not politically active, but they fear authorities could find their open-air worship threatening. ...

read more: <http://www.christianpost.com/news/church-in-china-to-risk-worshipping-in-park-49759/>

Re: Church in China to Risk Worshipping in Park - posted by Joyful_Heart, on: 2011/4/9 13:23

We will be praying for them. Sent out email's to those who have Church without Walls to pray.

Glory to God for their boldness and faithfulness to our Lord. Protection & souls for the Kingdom. Be glorified.

Re: , on: 2011/4/10 12:39

Lord Jesus thank you for your marvelous gospel work taking place on China. Give courage to our brothers and sisters as they obey you rather than God. Do bring justice to these chosen ones who are crying out to you. May your gospel continue to spread through China bringing many to saving faith and life in you. In your blessed and glorious name. Amen.

Re: , on: 2011/4/10 12:46

Read this news article last night and felt that deep 'ah oh' inside -

China tells US: Stop preaching on human rights

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-13027427>

Re: - posted by ccchhhrrriiisss (), on: 2011/4/10 14:33

Another example of Chinese persecution...

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/as_china_human_rights

Beijing police halt unapproved church service

By ALEXA OLESEN

Associated Press

Sun Apr 10, 9:45 am ET

BEIJING Â– Beijing police on Sunday detained dozens of worshippers from an unapproved Christian church who were tr

ying to hold services in a public space after they were evicted from their usual place of worship, a parishioner said.

Leaders of the unregistered Shouwang church had told members to gather at an open-air venue in Beijing for Sunday morning services, but police, apparently alerted to their plans, taped off the area and took away people who showed up to take part.

China's Communist government allows worship only in state-approved churches, but many Christians belong to unregistered congregations. Such "house churches" are subjected to varying degrees of harassment by authorities.

More than 60 million Christians are believed to worship in China's independent churches, compared with about 20 million who worship in the state church, according to scholars and church activists.

A church member who went to the gathering spot for services and managed to evade police told The Associated Press that about 200 people were taken away and were being held at a local school. Their cellphones were confiscated, said the man, who would give only his English name, Kane, for fear of police reprisals.

An AP videographer saw about a dozen people escorted by police onto an empty city bus and driven away.

Shouwang pastor Yuan Ling said by telephone that he was unable to go to the venue because police had put him under house arrest Saturday night. Yuan said he knew of at least six other church members who were also under house arrest.

Yuan said fellow parishioners also told him that many worshippers were being held at a school in Beijing's Haidian district, though he wasn't sure of the exact number.

Shouwang had been holding services at a Beijing restaurant until last week, when they were evicted.

Chinese authorities have been on high alert for large public gatherings in the wake of anonymous online calls for anti-government protests modeled on demonstrations in the Middle East and North Africa.

No major protests have occurred in China following the calls, but the security crackdown they sparked has resulted in the arrest or detention of dozens of public interest lawyers, writers, intellectuals and activists.

Ai Weiwei, an internationally known avant-garde artist who is also an outspoken government critic, became the highest-profile person targeted in the sweep when he was apparently detained at a Beijing airport a week ago. The Foreign Ministry says he is being investigated for alleged economic crimes, though Beijing police have yet to confirm he is in custody.

Ai was last seen being led away by police at the airport after being barred from boarding a flight to Hong Kong.

About 50 pro-democracy protesters in Hong Kong on Sunday demanded Ai's release, peacefully chanting "No to political persecution" outside the central Chinese government's liaison office. Opposition legislator Lee Cheuk-yan tossed a picture of Ai into the grounds of the compound.

Former British colony Hong Kong enjoys Western-style civil liberties as part of its special semiautonomous status under Chinese rule.

On Friday, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton called for Ai's release and criticized China for what she said was a deteriorating human rights situation in the first part of 2011.

Clinton made the remarks while announcing the release of the U.S. State Department's annual assessment of human rights around the world. It said China stepped up restrictions on critics and tightened control of civil society in 2010 by limiting freedom of speech and Internet access.

China blasted back at Washington on Saturday with a statement on the Foreign Ministry's website saying the U.S. should reflect more on its own domestic rights abuses.

"The U.S. should stop interfering in other country's internal affairs with this human rights report," ministry spokesman Ho

ng Lei was quoted as saying.

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/as_china_human_rights

Re: , on: 2011/4/10 15:02

It is through many hardships we must enter the kingdom of God. Dear Lord sustain your precious ones in China.

Re: Continual Chinese Persecution, on: 2011/4/10 15:17

Read the enclosed articles on China. It looks like the Chinese government is moving into another cultural revolution. Does anyone know if the DOS report on human rights is accessible?