

**News and Current Events :: Tortured Chinese Christian fights deportation****Tortured Chinese Christian fights deportation - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2005/8/31 12:03**

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A Chinese man tortured for his Christian faith is fighting for the right to stay in the U.S. and not be deported back to his homeland where he faces two years of imprisonment for illegally practicing his religion.

The Alliance Defense Fund has taken up the asylum cause of Li Xiaodong of Ningbo, China, under the Convention Against Torture Act. On Aug. 9 a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit denied Li's request to stay in the U.S. The religious-liberty law group says it will appeal the decision.

"In one of the most egregious religious persecution cases coming out of China in recent years, we will seek review of the case by the full 5th Circuit, and if denied, appeal the case to the U.S. Supreme Court," said ADF Chief Counsel Benjamin Bull in a statement.

The 5th Circuit found that in 1995 Li was a member of an underground evangelical Christian church meeting at his home on Sundays. He was arrested for holding an illegal church service and then interrogated at length at the local police department for "being a reactionary."