

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2211

March 8, 2013

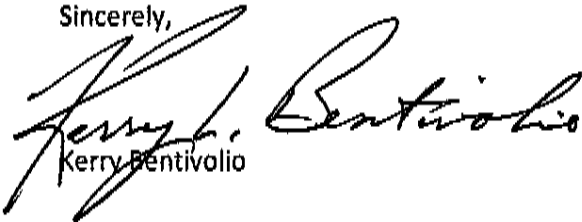
His Excellency Zhang Yesui
Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the United States
3505 International Place, NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Ambassador Zhang,

Please find enclosed from the overseas supporters of Zen Master Wu Zeheng a letter that we request you deliver to the Honorable Secretary Meng Jianzhu. Wu is a Buddhist leader living in China who continues to face harassment by your government and the denial of his passport, as is detailed in the letter.

It would greatly enhance China's global image if it discontinues Wu's harassment and passport denial, as his troubles have gained the attention of various international bodies and news media. This is an excellent chance for China to take a small step that can provide to the world benefits by showing how Chinese leaders stand in support of universal human rights.

Sincerely,


Kerry Bentivolio

佛教海外弟子呈交中共中央政法委孟建柱书记的求助函（2013年2月28日）

中共中央政法委

尊敬的孟建柱书记，

我们是远居海外的汉传佛教第88世心宗法裔，禅宗第61世衣钵传人吴泽恒先生（释行武禅师）的弟子。吴先生的人身安全得不到保障、行动自由受到限制、阶段性的遭受各种方式的打压的事情无时无刻不牵动我们的心。在此写信恳请您责令广东省珠海市公安局前山派出所的干警停止对吴先生的人身安全、行动自由和宗教自由的侵害。本着相信政府、依靠政府的信念，我们满怀希望的从海外向您发出最诚挚的恳求，请您指示广东省惠来县公安局依照中国法律为吴先生签发护照和港澳通行证，并给予其作为合法公民的安全保障。此事也引起了海外部分宗教团体，国际人权组织和外国政府的关注，影响了中国的国际形象。

吴先生现居住于中国广东珠海，1967年出生于广东惠来，七岁时潜心佛学，通研史鉴，兼证武术、兵法、医道、术数、天文。1987年，吴先生于武夷山双子峰闭关四十九天，证悟了无上菩提后，承接了禅宗曹洞法脉（七世六祖普愿行思禅师所做的宣山画）和密藏的佛教正法心宗传承。有宗门信物和佛门大德为证。（信物一达摩携来中国的释迦牟尼佛祖百衲衣和钵，至此，确凿的佛裔继承人身份。）

从1990年始，吴先生来到北京，发起并成立了中国生命科学学会，开始铺展了各种利世利民之路，该善举曾一度深受中央领导的肯定。当观察到中国社会和意识形态的动荡时，先生深深为国家担忧。在1998年11月，吴先生上书了中共中央及国务院，提出了几点改革建议。1999年，公安部以吴先生涉嫌经济犯罪为名将其拘捕，后入狱十年，终于在2010年2月28日刑满释放，恢复自由。但事实是刑满释放至今虽已经36个月，先生的人身安全、行动自由和宗教自由无时无刻不在公安部门的监视之下。作为一个中国公民，中国宪法和法律所赋予他的最基本的权利不仅得不到保障，而且常常被践踏。

一、吴先生在接到国外邀请出国讲学传法后，于2010年7月12日向广东惠来地方公安局递交了申领普通护照及港澳通行证申请，并按照规定递交了所需的全部资料，审查通过后，他收到了15日后领取护照的回执。可是，从2010年8月至2012年9月间，在长达两年多的时间里，吴先生曾多次电话相关部门，多次上门询问办证结果，每次询问得到的答复都是正在办理当中。无奈之际，从2012年9月开始，吴先生向惠来县及揭阳市公安局递交了催告函，依照中国相关法律规定，开始了维权之路。在2012年12月20日，在递交行政复议函件60天后，在依然没有收到广东惠来县公安局答复之后，吴先生向惠来法院和揭阳法院递交了行政诉讼文书；2013年1月18日，先生的代理律师前往惠来及揭阳法院问询，得到地方部门的回复是依然需要等待。按照《中华人民共和国护照法》第六条之规定，公安机关出入境管理机构应当自收到申请材料之日起十五日内签发普通护照；对不符合规定不予签发的，应当书面说明理由。从2010年7月申请护照至今，吴先生从未收到按照法律规定的任何文书回复。惠来及揭阳地方的行政及司法行为是公然对法律的违反。

二、吴先生除了没有行动自由之外，他教学的网络频道也是频繁被阻碍，连网络上开个慈善主题的联欢会都被禁止。为此，美国16名两党议员曾经致函于中国驻美大使张业遂，表达了停止对吴先生迫害并给予其自由的强烈呼吁。联合国人权高专宗教自由与信仰特别报告员在2012年1月和8月致函中国驻联合国日内瓦代表，提出给予吴先生自由的呼声；英国的全球基督联盟，国际联邦人权组织也发出公开信，请求中国政府停止对吴先生的打压与迫害。我们没有任何不合理的要求，我们只是希望吴先生能够享有一个正常公民的基本权利。

三、在吴先生出狱已经3年的时间里，家人的佛具商店被当地警方骚扰、阻碍经营；他本人曾两次遭受到广东省珠海市前山派出所警察没有任何理由的拘禁、殴打……

尊敬的孟书记，您曾经在 2013 年 1 月 9 日全国司法厅长会议上强调，要努力推进平安中国、法治中国建设，要让广大人民群众充分享受公平正义的阳光。要把保障社会公平正义作为首要价值追求，把切实维护公民的合法权益作为法治建设的根本任务，着力解决影响社会公平正义的突出问题。习总书记也在 1 月 7 日电话会议中强调坚持从严治警，坚决反对执法不公、司法腐败，进一步提高执法能力，努力让人民群众在每一个司法案件中都能感受到公平正义的问题。这些使我们对国家拨乱反正和进步充满了希望。

中国正在文明崛起 我们海外华人对此充满热切的期望！我们相信历史将为每一个为之作出贡献、尽心尽责的人涂上金色的辉煌！请求关注吴泽恒先生的公民权利受到侵害的状况。您对吴先生目前遭遇的纠正，会使人们感受到中共十八大后的中国有一个进步的法制现象，使我们感到国家的前途和希望！

我们相信，我们和世界各地的所有海外华人都是相同的心愿：期待祖国的民主、法制和昌盛！我们相信，吴先生终会得到他应有的自由。世界期待这一天的早日到来！

并祝 政安

2013 年 2 月 28 日

敬愿求助者来自以下国家的佛教弟子和佛教人士：

美国
加拿大
英国
法国
比利时
瑞士
德国
日本
荷兰
挪威
泰国
澳大利亚
尼泊尔
新加坡
台湾

February 28, 2013

Honorable Secretary Meng Jianzhu
Politics and Law Committee of the CPC Central Committee

Dear Secretary Meng,

We are the overseas followers of Mr. Wu Zeheng, the 88th Patriarch of Buddhism and the 61st Patriarch of the Chan Sect. Our hearts are deeply and continually affected by the ongoing threats to his security, the restriction of his human rights, and the harassment he continues to endure. This letter represents our sincere appeal to you to order the police from the Qianshan police station of the Zhuhai Public Security Bureau in Guangdong Province to cease their infringement of Wu's personal safety, freedom of movement, and freedom of religion. Holding to the belief that we can trust and count on the Chinese government to rectify the wrongs Wu has suffered, we also sincerely plead with you to direct the Huilai Public Security Bureau of Guangdong Province to issue to Wu his passport and pass for Hong Kong and Macao in accordance with Chinese law. The violations of Wu's rights have caught the attention of overseas religious groups, international human-rights organizations, and foreign governments. All of these events have a negative impact on China's international image and reputation.

Born in Huilai of Guangdong Province, China, in 1967, Wu currently lives in the city of Zhuhai, China. At the age of seven, he devoted himself to Buddhism as well as history, martial arts, the art of war, medical science, astrology, and astronomy. In 1987, Wu spent 49 days in a solitary retreat in the Wuyi Shuangzi Mountains, where he attained the supreme Bodhi enlightenment. After that, he accepted the Dharma heritage of Cao Dong, consisting of a Yishan painting from the Qingyuan Zen Master, 76th Patriarch of Buddhism. Wu was also granted the heritage of the heart-section of Proper Dharma which was proven with the evidence from the Dharma Section and other masters. The Baina clothing and relics from Bodhidharma brought to China conclusively established Wu's proof of his Buddhist position.

At the beginning of 1990, Wu came to Beijing to initiate the establishment of the China Life Science Society. In addition he began to develop the various paths that would benefit the people and the society, which were accepted by the leaders from the Central Government. Observing the social unrest and ideological turmoil in China prompted Wu, who cares deeply for his country and its people, to submit a letter in 1998 detailing changes the Communist Party should make to reform the country. However, in 1999 Wu was arrested by the Ministry of Public Security for alleged "economic crimes." After 10 years of imprisonment, he was finally released on February 28, 2010, and granted his freedom. Although 36 months have passed since his release from prison, Wu's actions have been under the surveillance of the Public Security Department at all times. As a Chinese citizen Wu is guaranteed basic human rights by the Constitution and legal system. However, he has not been accorded these rights but rather, as detailed below, has had his personal safety endangered, and his freedoms of movement, travel, and religion curtailed.

I) In 2010, Wu received the invitation from abroad to give Dharma lectures. Subsequently he submitted all the required documents to the Huilai Public Security Bureau of Guangdong Province for application for an ordinary passport and pass to Hong Kong and Macao. After his application was reviewed, he was given receipts indicating the date on which he should pick up the passport and pass. However, Wu was never given the passport and pass, and he has repeatedly called the relevant departments during the two years from August 2010 until September 2012, and has even inquired in person about his application. But each time he received the same answer: that the application was still being processed.

Helpless to do anything else, beginning in September 2012, Wu submitted summons letters to the Huilai and Jieyang Public Security Bureau in order to enforce his rights through legal channels in accordance with China's relevant laws and regulations. On December 20, 2012, after receiving no reply from the Huilai Public Security Bureau 60 days after the submission of the Administrative Reconsideration, Wu submitted litigation proceedings in the courts in Huilai and Jieyang. On January 18, 2013, his lawyer went to those courts to inquire about the status of these documents, but received the reply that Wu had to wait as they were still being processed.

According to the rules stipulated in Article 6 of the Passport Law of the People's Republic of China, the Exit-Entry Management Department of the Public Security Bureau shall issue a passport within 15 days after the date it received an application. For those applications that have not met the requirements, the applicants shall be notified in writing with the reasons, and shall be informed of their rights for an Administrative Reconsideration or Administrative Lawsuit. For over two years now, since Wu first applied for passport in July 2010, he has received no reply in writing as the law stipulates. The behavior of the local government in Huilai County and Jieyang City is in violation the law.

II) Not only has Wu been deprived of his freedom of movement and right to travel, but his online teaching channels have also frequently been temporally suspended or forced to close altogether, including his online charity. Therefore, 16 U.S. congressmen of both parties signed a letter to the Chinese Ambassador Zhang Yesui to express their strong beliefs that Wu's persecution should end and that he be granted his freedom. In January and August 2012, the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion & Belief sent messages to the Chinese Ambassador to the UN in Geneva inquiring about Wu's freedom of religion and movement. In addition, Christian Solidarity Worldwide in London as well as the International Federation for Human Rights issued open letters requesting the Chinese government to stop its harassment and persecution of Wu. The demands of these international supporters are not unreasonable: they are simply requesting that Wu be able to enjoy his basic human rights in the same way that other Chinese citizens do.

III) In the last three years, Wu has been repeatedly harassed. The local police have looted his Buddhist store, and repeatedly interrupted the business. Wu himself has twice been arrested and detained, and suffered beatings by police from the Zhuhai Qianshan police station. No reasons have even been given for these unlawful actions.

Honorable Mr. Secretary Meng, on January 9, 2013, in the meeting of the National Justice Ministers, you emphasized that we should use all efforts to promote peace and constructive laws in China, and ensure the broad masses of Chinese people fully enjoy the fairness and justice under the law. Furthermore, you stated that safeguarding fairness and social justice should be the primary value underpinning our justice system, and you highlighted the importance of protecting the legitimate rights and interests of citizens as fundamental to the rule of law. General Secretary Xi also stressed in a conference on January 7 that he believes in adhering to the strict administration of the police force, and firmly opposes the denial of justice and judicial corruption. He furthermore supports improvement of the law enforcement capacity and making efforts so that Chinese citizens can receive fairness and justice in every judicial case. His message brought hope that order can be forged out of chaos and our nation can make real progress.

China is trying to raise a new civilization. We overseas Chinese are looking forward to this with eager anticipation. We believe that history will portray those who diligently contribute to this new civilization in glowing terms. We are asking you to give your support in rectifying the infringement of Mr. Wu Zeheng's civil rights. Your help in correcting Wu's suffering symbolizes the further improvement in China's legal system, following the 18th meeting of the Chinese Communist Party. Such help would empower us to feel that there is a hope for a positive future for our nation.

All of us Chinese around the world are of the same mind: we eagerly await the promotion of democracy, the rule of law, and the prosperity of our Motherland! We believe Mr. Wu will eventually receive the freedom he deserves; the world yearns for the early arrival of that day!

Sincerely,

Buddhist followers from: United States, Canada, British, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, Japan, Norway, Australia, Thailand, Nepal, Singapore, Taiwan