

Pastor Yang Rongli (f)

Adoption Status: Not Adopted

Country: China

Occupation: Uyghur Christian who converted from Islam in 1995. He and his wife, Gulnuer, were the leaders of a house church ministry in Kashgar, Xinjiang in the Uyghur Autonomous Region of China.

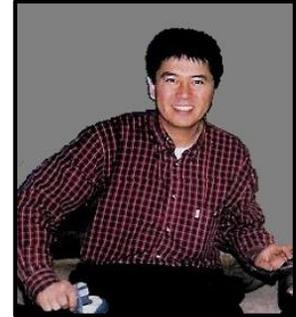
Detained Since: January 12, 2008

Charges: “Divulging state secrets to foreign individuals”

Sentence: 15 years in prison and five years deprivation of political rights.

Additional: Targeted for his minority faith and ethnicity, on January 12, 2008, the Kashgar police detained Alimujiang. He was charged with “divulging state secrets to foreign individuals” based on a private conversation the Uyghur Christian pastor held with an American Christian friend.

In September 2008, the United Nations Human Rights Council Working Group on Arbitrary Detention stated that ‘the deprivation of liberty of Mr Alimujiang Yimiti is arbitrary, being in contravention of [...] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights’ and that he ‘is being kept in detention solely for his religious faith’. For the past several years, Yimiti’s wife has petitioned police officers, government officials, and state agencies, but the officers refused to see them, even barring Alimujiang’s lawyers from visiting him in prison. Yimiti’s quality of life in prison is poor; he was hospitalized in 2009, but prison authorities claimed that it was for a routine health check, even though witnesses claimed that there were signs of brutality.



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