

Sender:

President Xi Jinping  
c/o Embassy of the People's Republic of China  
Märkisches Ufer 54

**10179 Berlin / Germany**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Excellence,

the Catholic Priest **Peter Zhang Guangjun** was taken into custody by officials after the Sunday Mass on 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2019, along with another Catholic who was later released. The reason why he is being held has not yet been made public despite numerous appeals to do so. The officers took drastic steps when arresting the priest, they even broke the window of his car.

Peter Zhang Guangjun was already detained from 10<sup>th</sup> of January to the 13<sup>th</sup> of April 2011. During that time, he suffered torture: he was beaten with fists and sticks, forced to stand on his feet for five days until he collapsed, and had cold water poured on him in the winter.

Allow me to remind you of Article 36 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China. It states, "Citizens of the People's Republic of China enjoy freedom of religious belief."

Referring to the quoted article, I ask you for the recognition of religious freedom and for the release of the priest.

Sincerely