



Congressional - Executive Commission On China

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Personal Details



CECC Record Number	2004-05482	Ethnic Group	Han
Detention Status	DET	Sex	M
Issue Category	spch	Age At Detention	36
Main Name	Shi Tao	Religion	
Chinese Characters (Main Name)	师涛	Occupation	journalist, newspaper
Alternate Name (Lay or Pen)		Affiliation	
Additional Name(s)	Nice Ears (pen name)	Residence Province	Shanxi Province
Pinyin Name		Residence Prefecture	Taiyuan Shi (pref.)
		Residence County	(na)

Imprisonment or Detention Details

Date of Detention	2004/11/24
Current Prison	Yinchuan Prison
Sentence Length (Years)	10
Sentence Length (Months)	
Sentence Length (Weeks)	
Sentence Length (Days)	
Province Where Imprisoned (or Detained)	Ningxia Hui Auto. Region
Prefecture Where Imprisoned (or Detained)	Yinchuan Shi (pref.)
County Where Imprisoned (or Detained)	Tinghu Dist.

Legal Process

Legal Process	chg/tri/sent	Formal Arrest Date	2004/12/14
Trial Court		Trial Date	2005/03/11
Sentence Court		Sentence Date	2005/04/27
Appeal Court	Hunan High People's Court	Appeal Date	
Appeal Ruling Court	Hunan High People's Court	Appeal Ruling Date	2005/06/02
Sent. Ends Per PRC		Actual Date Released	
Charge (Statute)	CL97-art398		

Short Summary

The Changsha Intermediate People's Court in Hunan province sentenced poet and journalist Shi Tao to 10 years' imprisonment on April 27, 2005, for disclosing state secrets to foreigners, a crime under Article 111 of the Criminal Law. The court found that Shi, then editorial director of Contemporary Trade News in Hunan, was informed at an editorial meeting about a secret Communist Party and government order. Reporters Without Borders said the order warned journalists about reporting during the 15th anniversary of the Tiananmen democracy protests. Shi e-mailed his notes about the order to the U.S.-based online newspaper "Democracy Forum." The Hunan High People's Court rejected Shi's appeal on June 2, 2005. Shi's conviction was based in part on evidence provided by Yahoo!'s China office. In November 2007, Yahoo! agreed to pay his family's legal expenses. Shi was detained on November 24, 2004, and arrested on December 14. In August 2010, Dui Hua [reported](#) that Shi was moved from a prison in Hunan province to the Yinchuan Prison in the Ningxia Hui Autonomous region in order facilitate family visits.