

**REPORT ON HUMAN
RIGHTS IN VIETNAM
2011**

Vietnam Human Rights Network

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY / p.2

I. FREEDOMS OF OPINION AND SPEECH BEING CRUSHED / p.4

1. Speech Is the Vietnamese Communist State's Monopoly / p. 4
2. Suppression of Dissidents Who Express Different Opinions from the VCP Policies / p. 5

II. POLITICAL RIGHTS STAND NULLIFIED / p.7

1. The Right to Take Part in Government / p. 7
2. Freedoms of Expression, Association, and Demonstration / p. 8
3. Oppression against Dissidents / p. 9

III. THE COURTS ARE TO SERVE ONLY THE CPV / p. 11

1. Criminalization of All Activities Adverse to the CPV Interests / p. 11
2. Violations of Basic Principles of Criminal Law / p. 13
3. Oppression of Lawyers / p. 13
4. An Inhuman System of Prisons / p. 14

IV. POLICE BRUTALITY IN A POLICE STATE / p. 15

V. NO FREEDOM OF RELIGION / p.18

1. Legal Prohibition / p. 18
2. Organizational Control / p. 19
3. Violent Suppression / p. 20

VI. WORKERS IN THE TRICKY HANDS OF THE STATE AND BUSINESS BOSSES / P. 21

1. More and More Wildcat Strikes / p. 21
2. Labor Unions – A State Monopoly / p. 22
3. Forced Labor / p. 23
4. Oppression against Activists Fighting for Workers / p. 24

VII. "VICTIMS OF LAND INJUSTICE" OR THE STORY OF LAND RIGHTS PETITIONERS / P. 25

VIII. HUMAN TRAFFICKING / p. 28

1. Women and Children Tricked into Becoming Sex Slaves / p. 28
2. Selling of Vietnamese "Brides" to Foreigners / p. 29
3. Exploitation of Export Workers / p. 30

RECOMMENDATIONS / p. 32

APPENDIX: LIST OF PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE IN VIETNAM AS OF MARCH 2012 / P. 34

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Despite being a member of the U.N. since 1977 and having signed on to many core international human rights documents, the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has continued to crush its people's basic and legitimate rights.

The purpose of this report is to serve as a partial listing of outstanding violations by Vietnam against the basic human rights in 2011 based on the standards set forth by the Universal Declaration of Human rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

The 11th National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) in January 2011 was an important political event in Vietnam affecting the country's social, economic and political conditions including the people's human rights. To cling to their exclusive monopoly of power, the communist authorities do their best to restrict the citizens' freedoms and fundamental rights.

As far as freedom of speech is concerned, the communist authorities continue to monopolize information, intensify control on media, and hunt down those who dare express views different from their own, or advocate for victims of abuse of power.

The parliamentary election in May, 2011 was only a means to legalize and embellish the dictatorship of the CPV. All political activities outside of the CPV's control are deemed "reactionary," and crushed.

Instead of being an independent and impartial authority to protect the citizens against the officials' arbitrary and illegal acts that undermine the citizens' interests or

violate their rights, Vietnam's legal system continued to be highly exploited as an essential means to protect the regime.

More than ever before, the violent means of the police state apparatus have been strengthened and directed against the citizens, either to suppress the protests against China's invasion, to restrain land petitioners' gatherings, to put down resistance to illegal forced evictions, or simply to show up the power of the police state's security force.

Other basic civil and social rights, especially religious freedom, the freedom to form trade unions, and land ownership rights continue to be seriously violated.

As far as religion is concerned, some ceremonial festivities intended to deceive and mislead the world's public opinion are not only allowed, they are even encouraged. But in fact, restrictions of religious freedom have been exercised in many different ways, including obstruction by regulations, control by organizational intervention, and oppression by violence.

The Vietnamese communist state claims to represent the interests of all laborers; yet never have the Vietnamese workers and peasants experienced such miserable conditions as they do now under the domination of the red capitalists. Labor unions are so organized and used as a means to control the workers, and independent trade unions are absolutely forbidden.

The unjust confiscation and requisition of the people's land for so-called development projects brought injustice to many people, particularly the peasants in the countryside. The gap between the victims of land injustice

and the new wealthy of the state capitalism grew wider and wider.

The problem of human trafficking was not fixed; instead, it tended to worsen for three types of victims: the “export workers,” “foreign brides,” and children sex slaves.

In presenting this report as a summary of the serious violations of human rights by Vietnamese authorities in Hanoi, the Vietnam Human Rights Network earnestly hopes that with the active intervention of the international community, foreign governments as well as international organizations concerned with human rights and with the plight of current victims of oppression in Vietnam that there will be significant improvements in this area.

I. FREEDOMS OF OPINION AND SPEECH BEING CRUSHED

Article 69 of Vietnam's 1992 Constitution stipulates that "Citizens have the rights to enjoy freedoms of speech, press, information, association, formation of societies, and demonstration according to the law." Yet, such stipulations have never been respected. The government's violations of the freedom of press in Vietnam come under two main categories: 1) the state's monopoly of information; and 2) suppression of dissidents who oppose to the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) policies or dare to voice up their defense of victims of cruel officials.

1. Speech Is the Vietnamese Communist State's Monopoly

There are no private press organizations in Vietnam, where all media such as the press, the publishing business, radio stations, TV stations, official press, are owned by the state. Currently, not a single independent private newspaper or broadcasting station is allowed to exist. Decree No. 37/CP of 29 November 2006 signed into law by Premier Nguyen Tan Dung and still effective in 2011, firmly stated that "no private press under any form, or any organization or individual, is permitted to take advantage of the press to serve personal interests while undermining the state's interests." Statistics from the Information and Communications Ministry disclosed that up to June 2011, there were 17,000 journalists nationwide, all paid and licensed by the state or its subsidiaries. The number of press agencies in 2011 increased from 706 of the previous year to 745, while the cyber papers went

from 21 to 46, and web pages from 160 to 287.¹

The CPV efforts to enlarge its propaganda mechanism and reform the laws as well as consolidate its press monopoly reflect its refusal to yield to the people's expression. In the legal field, Premier Nguyen Tan Dung issued on 6 January 2011 Decree No. 02/2011/NĐ-CP to impose administrative punishments against the press and publishing activities. According to many international human rights agencies, the purpose of the decree's vague articles is to obstruct and eliminate those bloggers and journalists who dare to describe the actual situation of the society.² On 18 October 2011, the four largest press state agencies, including the Vietnam Press, the Vietnam TV station, the Voice of Vietnam station, and the People's Daily, signed a 'coordinating agreement' to be effective through 2015. Worse, the Minister of Public Security and the Director General of the Vietnam Press signed on 21 October 2011 an inter-branch Decision on cooperation in information and propaganda, maintenance of security and order, and building of the people's police forces.

Like a number of developing nations, Vietnam is witnessing an explosion of modern media means such as cell phones and the Internet. According to figures provided by Vietnam Statistical Directorate General, the lease of websites in Vietnam reached 4.2 million people, an increase of 19.9% from the same period in the year before, while the number of Internet users

¹ Vietnam Ministry of Information and Communications, "Số kết công tác 6 tháng đầu năm và triển khai công tác 6 tháng cuối năm 2011," <http://mic.gov.vn/tintucsukien> (accessed 12 Jan. 2012)

² Human Rights Watch, "Vietnam: New Decree Punishes Press," 23 Feb. 2011, <http://www.hrw.org/news/2011/02/23/vietnam-new-decree-punishes-press> (accessed 12 Jan 2012)

reached 32,1 million in October 2011, a rise of 24.4%.³

The widespread use of the Internet has offered a favorable condition for the formation of independent personal pages or blogs, though they are permitted to operate by the government as long as the bloggers stay away from such sensitive issues as the questions of Chinese occupation of the Spratly and Paracel Islands and territorial waters of Vietnam, China's exploitation of bauxite in Central Vietnam's Highlands, its killings of Vietnamese fishermen in the Eastern (South China) Sea, and especially the question of CPV leadership monopoly. Those blogs refusing to go along with its policies will eventually be either destroyed by the cyber police or stopped by its fire walls. The Freedom House's report, 'Freedom on the Net 2011,' listed Vietnam among the worst Internet suppressors, only behind Tunisia, China, Myanmar, and Iran.⁴ In the eyes of 'Reporters Without Borders' Vietnam ranked as one of ten Internet enemies.⁵

As for foreign sources of information, the Vietnamese government continues to prevent its people from having access to independent and objective ones, through its technique of jamming overseas radio stations broadcasting in Vietnamese and setting up fire walls to obstruct so-called 'reactionary' websites. Many Vietnamese-language websites owned by either international media agencies or overseas Vietnamese were repeatedly attacked in 2011 by hackers (including the BBC Vietnamese website in

February, the Viet Tan website in August, the 'Dan Chim Viet' and the 'People's Democracy' websites in September ...)

2. Suppression of Dissidents Who Express Different Opinions from the VCP Policies

Journalists have often been reminded to keep to the "right lane," meaning to respect the one-way, truth-twisting information provided by the state. Many resistant ones among them have been arrested, fired, or detained because of their different views from those of the communist state on serious issues related to the CPV policies as well as to the corruption of officials at all levels. A number of reporters, including foreigners, who followed the anti-China demonstrations in July 2011 were harassed and detained by the police.

The people are not allowed to criticize the state's policies. To silence the voices that oppose the CPV views, the Vietnamese authorities, in addition to employing rogues and rascals to assault the dissidents, resort to the maximal criminalization of the people's right to freedom of speech through the 1999 Criminal Law's Articles 79 about "activities aiming at overthrowing the people's government" and 88 about "propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam."

The most frequent measures resorted to by the police to suppress dissidents' voices have been harassment and assault. The following are typical cases:

- Ta Phong Tan (a woman who uses the blogger's nickname of Justice and Truth) was beaten, menaced, and humiliatingly stripped naked several times in January, March, and May of 2011. In addition, she was arrested by the police on 9 May 2011 and is still being held at No. 4 Phan Dang Luu Street in Saigon.

³ Vietnam General Statistics Office, "Tình hình kinh tế-xã hội mười tháng năm 2011," <http://www.gso.gov.vn/default.aspx?tabid=403&idmid=&ItemID=12024> (accessed 14 Jan 2012)

⁴ Freedom House, "Freedom on the Net 2011: A Global Assessment of Internet and Digital Media"

⁵ Reporters without Borders, "Internet Enemies," <http://en.rsf.org/internet-enemie-vietnam,39763.html> (accessed 12 Jan 2012)

- Poet Bui Chat was temporarily held for 2 days, 5 and 6 June 2011, besides being assaulted and menaced by rascals after he accepted the Free Publishers 2011 prize awarded by the International Publishing Association (IPA) in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- Writer Huynh Ngoc Tuan and his two children Huynh Thuc Vy and Huynh Trong Hieu were summoned for interrogation on 11 August 2011 by the Quang Nam provincial Office of Information and Communications, following the ransack of their house on 12 February 2011. During the search, the police beat up the women present, including Huynh Thuc Vy's grandmother Mai Thi Yen and her aunt Huynh Thi Thu Hong, and Huynh Thi Huong. Her cousin Huynh Ngoc Le was also arrested when he tried to intervene to stop the brutalities against the old lady and the other women.
- Journalist Nguyen Huu Vinh and Lawyer Le Quoc Quan were summoned to the police station on 11 November 2011 to be interrogated on their articles about Thai Ha parish. They were then detained together with bloggers Le Dung, Chinh Pham, Nguyen Lan Thang, and La Viet Dung.
- Teacher Vu Hung was harassed and summoned to the police station on 11 October 2011 allegedly for his violation of the house arrest order following his release from prison.
- Viet Khang (born Vo Minh Tri), a songwriter was arrested on 23 December 2011, and currently detained by the public security police without charges. He is the author of the 2 famous songs put on Youtube. One questions the conscience of the

public security agents who brutally assaulted peaceful demonstrators; the other decries the government's lack of resolve to defend the country's sovereignty.

According to the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), Vietnam was one of the countries that held the most journalists in the world.⁶ In 2011, through the criminalization of the people's exercise of the freedom of speech, the Vietnamese government arrested, accused, and detained lots of dissidents critical of the state. Outstanding ones include:

- On 26 January 2011, dissident Vi Duc Hoi was sentenced to 8 years in prison and 5 years under house arrest (the sentence was reduced to 5 years in prison and 3 years under house arrest by the court of appeal on 26 April 2011) allegedly for his "anti-state propaganda."
- On 25 July 2011, Father Nguyen Van Ly, the most famous and outspoken anti-state voice, was sent back to prison after being exempted for one year from prison for medical treatment.
- During the weeks between the end of July and early August, seven Christian media people were arrested and accused of alleged activities purporting to overthrow the government, including Paul Le Son, Pierre Ho Duc Hoa, Francisco Xavier Dang Xuan Dieu, John B. Nguyen Van Oai, Pierre Tran Huu Duc, Antoine Dau Van Duong, Francisco Dang Xuan Tuong.

⁶ The Committee to Protect Journalists, "In Vietnam, crackdown on journalists in past six months," <http://www.cpj.org/2011/10/in-vietnam-crackdown-on-journalists-in-past-six-mo.php> (accessed 16 Jan 2012).

- On 10 August 2011, Professor Pham Minh Hoang was sentenced to 3 years in prison and 3 years under house arrest for his alleged “activities purporting to overthrow the government.” His sentence was subsequently reduced under intense international pressure and released.
- On 22 August 2011, Mr. Lu Van Bay was sentenced to 3 years in prison and 3 years under house arrest allegedly for the same crime.
- On 10 November 2011, two Falun Kung disciples, Vu Duc Trung and Le Van Thanh, were sentenced three and two years in prison respectively for their China-directed broadcasts.

Especially in the case of blogger Dieu Cay Nguyen Van Hai, despite the fact that his sentence had ended on 20 October 2010 for his alleged failure to pay taxes (a state-fabricated crime), he was sent back to prison actually for his protest against China and his affirmation of the Spratly and Paracels being part of Vietnam. Since he was a main member of the Free Journalists Club and the Dan Bao website, he was accused of making “anti-state propaganda.” So far, his family has not been allowed to visit him and told of where he is detained, whether he is still alive or not, although it had repeatedly sent complaints and come to the police station for information. The authorities’ negative attitude is a serious violation of not only the freedom of speech mentioned in Vietnam’s Constitution but also its very own legal procedures as well.

II. POLITICAL RIGHTS STAND NULLIFIED

The 1992 Constitution, amended and supplemented in 2001, stipulates that the citizen has the right to participate in the government through elections (Articles 53 & 54), and the exercise of their freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of association, and freedom of demonstration (Art. 69). However, in reality, with the continuance of the single party totalitarian system, those provisions are just cosmetic labels to deceive the world. Vietnamese citizens are, in fact, deprived of all rights to peacefully choose their government system and their representatives. People may not hold political views different from the policy of the CPV. All opposition groups are suppressed and outlawed.

1. The Right to Take Part in Government

Like most countries in the world, Vietnam regularly organizes elections for the government at all levels. The National Assembly is said by the Constitution to be the highest organ of the state power to represent the nation’s population, appoint the government, and make laws. Currently, however, with the existing electoral and parliamentary processes, it is merely an instrument of the CPV. To be elected to the National Assembly, candidates must be approved and nominated by the Fatherland Front, a peripheral body of the CPV, which also assumes the supervisory role in all elections.

There was no political party other than the CPV allowed to participate in the elections held in May 2011 to seats in the National Assembly and People's Councils at all levels for 2011-2016 term. All candidates were previously vetted and selected by the Fatherland Front through “Consultative

Conferences” and “Voters Conferences” at the national and local levels. People who differ in their political views from the CPV have no right to nominate themselves. Lawyer Nguyen Quoc Quan, the only dissident candidate for the National Assembly Election in May 2011, was rejected by the primary Voters Conference of the Yen Hoa Ward in Ha Noi.

According to the results of the National Assembly election in May 2011, the national voter turnout rate was 99.51%; in some provinces such as Lai Chau, Ha Giang, Hoa Binh, and Lang Son, it reached even higher, up to 99.99%.⁷ The CPV leaders obtained an absolute vote of confidence, registering 95.38% for Premier Nguyen Tan Dung and 95.51% for Deputy Premier Nguyen Sinh Hung, now National Assembly Chairman... Like in any totalitarian regime, these unusual voter participation figures and confidence level serve nothing more than to underscore the nature and the breadth of the communist dictatorship in its intention to monopolize power. As a matter of fact, the current system of election in Vietnam is something that no Vietnamese citizens dare to reject, since abstaining or voting against the party line is synonymous with being seen as troublemakers facing harsh retaliatory measures in their daily life, such as difficulties when applying for civil status documents, building permits, and real property transactions...

The story of the Vinh University students photographing the leaflet containing guidelines for the election of the National Assembly and the people's councils at all levels for the 2011-2016 term, then posting it on the Internet, revealed the insignificance of

the Vietnamese people's right to participate in the government. The guidelines were the communist party's strict instructions to elect only “totally loyal” candidates while using others as “decorations.” The leaflet also required that 100% of students must have voter cards, and class leaders must collect them after the election and submit to the superintendent for control and assessment of the students' exercise of the voter's rights and duties.⁸

2. Freedoms of Expression, Association, and Demonstration

Article 69 of Vietnam's Constitution states: “The citizen shall enjoy freedom of opinion and speech, freedom of the press, the right to be informed, and the right to assemble, form associations and hold demonstrations in accordance with the provisions of the law.” In view of the importance of the freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and the right to be informed in today's reality of Vietnam, this report reserves a separate section for this issue (See Section on Freedom of Speech)

Freedom of association is completely forbidden to all political organizations. Prior to the opening of the 11th National Congress of the CPV in January 2011, Mr. Dinh The Huynh, now a Politburo member, Chair of the Party Central Propaganda and Education Committee, and Chair of the Central Political Thought Council, confirmed in a press conference that “Vietnam has no demand (for) — and is determined not to have — pluralism or a multiparty system.”

A number of political groups that were previously formed, including the 8406 Bloc, the People's Action Party, the Vietnam Progress Party, the Populist Party, and the

⁷ Quân Đội Nhân Dân “Công bố kết quả bầu cử đại biểu Quốc hội khóa XIII và đại biểu HĐND các cấp nhiệm kỳ 2011-2016” <http://www.qdnd.vn/qdndsite/vi-vn/61/150028/print/Default.aspx> (accessed 14 Dec 2011).

⁸ Tuổi Trẻ Công Giáo Việt Nam, “Bầu cử chỉ là 1 trò hề - Mọi sự đã được sắp xếp” <http://tuoitrecongghiao.net/showthread.php?t=12744&page=2> (accessed 14 Dec 2011)

Viet Tan Party, etc... continued to be tracked down. Most recent was the arrest of 14 people belonging in the “Hội đồng Công luật Công án Bia Sơn” (translation uncertain) by the Phu Yen provincial police in February 2012. The group is accused of “abusing freedom and democratic rights to violate state interests.”

As for civil society groups, especially labor unions, the CPV firmly maintains its monopoly of leadership (See section “The workers in the Tricky Hands of the State and Business Bosses” in this report). To be brief, until now absolutely no political assemblies are allowed to operate except the CPV and its subsidiaries such as the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, the Fatherland Front, and the Vietnam Women's Union...

The year 2011 was also marked with unusual people's political activities in the streets triggered by China's invasions of Vietnam's land and territorial waters causing serious harm to Vietnamese fishermen and their boats, and by China's defiant claim of its sovereignty over the Paracel and Spratly Islands. In June, possibly for diplomatic purposes, the government closed its eyes and might even have given its secret support to these politicized assemblies. However, when these demonstrations were determined to get out of hand, threatening the CPV leadership, and perhaps accommodating the Chinese authorities, security forces both in uniform and plain clothes were mobilized to the maximum to obstruct and mercilessly suppress the demonstrators.

Besides anti-China demonstrations, other assemblies of victims of land injustice continued to take place all year round in many localities from North to South, which underwent harsh repression by the government (See section “Victims of Land Injustice”). Related to this question of freedom of demonstration was the

sentencing of Legal Doctor Cu Huy Ha Vu to 7 years of imprisonment for filing a suit against Premier Nguyen Tan Dung who in 2006 had signed Decree 136 “prohibiting class-action petitions.”

Under international pressure, Premier Nguyen Tan Dung suggested in November 2011 to the National Assembly that a demonstration bill be considered in its legislative agenda. But, ironically, when a demonstration was called on 27 November 2011 to support his proposal it was ruthlessly suppressed by the police with many arrests.

3. Oppression against Dissidents

The 11th CPV National Congress met in January 2011 but it was preceded by a wave of arrests of dissidents from the mid of 2010 to the early days of 2011. This was an indication of the communists' determination not tolerate any challenge to their single-party rule and its government. This round of suppression was especially aimed at Net bloggers, typically the following:

- In August 2010, Mr. Pham Minh Hoang, a French-Vietnamese national and lecturer in mathematics at the Ho Chi Minh City Polytechnic Institute, was arrested. He blogged on critical issues under the pen-name of Phan Kien Quoc, and made public other writings on the bauxit.com web page, managed by Messrs. Nguyen Hue Chi, Pham Toan, and Nguyen The Hung.
- In October 2010, blogger Dieu Cay continued to be kept in prison even after his fabricated tax-evasion sentence term had expired. He was then orally charged with spreading “anti-state propaganda” for writing articles for the Free Journalists Club but was not brought to trial. For

sixteen months now his family has not been allowed to see him.

- On 26 January 2011, Mr. Vi Duc Hoi was sentenced to 8 years in prison for posting on the Internet articles advocating multiparty democracy. Mr Hoi is a former CPV member and a recipient of a Human Rights Watch 2009 Hellman/Hammett prize.
- In November 2010, Lawyer Cu Huy Ha Vu was arrested “in emergency,” initially for allegedly soliciting a prostitute, but then prosecuted under Article 88 of the Criminal Law for “propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” by writing critical documents containing “propagandistic rhetoric of a psychological warfare nature, demanding the overthrow of the regime and the realization of pluralism and a multiparty system.”

The oppression of dissidents, especially those who associate with political organizations labeled as “reactionary” by the communists, continued throughout 2011, typically with the following cases being well known to the public:

- On 02 February 2011, Mr. Vu Quang Thuan, a leader of Vietnam Progressive Democratic Movement (Phong Trào Chấn Hưng Nước Việt), was arrested at Tan Son Nhat Airport and then prosecuted for “fleeing abroad or defecting to stay overseas with a view to opposing the people’s administration” pursuant to Article 91 of the Criminal Code.
- On 25 February 2011, Dr. Nguyen Dan Que, chairman of the High Tide Humanist Movement Cao Trào Nhân Bản), was arrested at his residence for his “Call on the whole population to take to the streets and put an end to

dictatorship” that he had launched the day before.

- On 10 August 2011, Mr. Pham Minh Hoang, a member of Vietnam Reform Party (Đảng Việt Tân) was sentenced to 3 years in prison and 3 years under house arrest for his alleged “activities aiming at overthrowing the people government” pursuant to Article 79 of the Criminal Code. Earlier, on 30 May 2011, three other Viet Tan Party members, Pastor Duong Kim Hai, Mrs. Tran Thi Thuy, and Mr. Nguyen Thanh Tam, were also sentenced from 5 to 8 years in prison for the same charge in Ben Tre Province.
- On 21 September 2011, Mrs. Pham Thi Phuong, a member of the Vietnam Populist Party (Đảng Vì Dân), was sentenced to 11 years in prison by the people’s court of Dong Nai Province for allegedly “carrying out activities aimed at overthrowing the people’s administration; organizing and/or coercing other persons to flee abroad or to stay abroad illegally.” Earlier, in 2010, other Vietnam Populist Party members, including Messrs. Truong Van Kim, Phung Quang Quyen, and Duong Au, and Mrs. Truong Thi Tam, were also sentenced 3 to 5 years in prison for “fleeing abroad with a view to opposing the people’s administration.”

As for the Bloc 8406, six of its members were arrested in 2011, including pastors Nguyen Cong Chinh and Nguyen Trung Ton, Messrs. Nguyen Ba Dang, Le Thanh Tung, and Nguyen Kim Nhan, and Ms. Ho Thi Bich Khuong. Pastor Nguyen Trung Ton and Ms. Ho Thi Bich Khuong were tried in court but the others are still in detention without a trial date. Up to the present, 50 of

the Bloc members have been arrested, 27
have completed their sentences, and 23
others still remain in prison.

III. THE COURTS ARE TO SERVE ONLY THE CPV

The Vietnamese Constitution guarantees that “all citizens are equal before the law” (Art. 52), and “during a trial the judges and assessors are independent and shall only obey the law” (Art. 130). In fact, anyone can be arbitrarily arrested, prosecuted, and sentenced in present-day Vietnam. Since the dependence of the courts on the CPV is an inevitable consequence of the concept of a Marxist-Leninist People's Democracy, the eventual purpose of the Vietnamese court system is to serve the governing party's interests. This has found its obvious confirmation in the 2002 Law on organization of the People's Courts, “... The Courts have the task to protect the socialist legislation; to protect the socialist regime and the people's mastery...” (Article 1)

Despite recent requests from international organizations and donor countries that Vietnam reform its legal system, critical violations of human rights in the legal field keep increasing, and typically shown through the following aspects: Criminalization of political activities, violations of criminal prosecution procedures, suppression of lawyers who dare to defend justice, and an inhuman detention system.

1. Criminalization of All Activities Adverse to the CPV Interests

Vietnam claims that it holds no political prisoners, because any legitimate political expression by the people, however peaceful, is always associated with crimes listed in the 1999 Vietnam Criminal Code, especially Art. 79 (Carrying out activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration), Art. 87 (Undermining the unity policy), and Art. 88 (Conducting propaganda against the

Socialist Republic of Vietnam). According to these articles, any expression of opinions through such peaceful means as debate, storage and distribution of documents different from those issued by the CPV, is a “crime,” and the “criminal” can be sentenced to 20 years in prison (Art. 88), or to death if found to have “carried out activities aimed at overthrowing the people’s administration” (Art. 79).

In 2011, at least 33 dissidents were sentenced to imprisonment through the abuses of this criminal law. Many others were arrested and held pending trial. Among those convicted, the following figures have drawn the most attention in world public opinion:

- Mr. Vi Duc Hoi, a former official of the CPV, was sentenced to 8 years in prison in January 2011 for posting on the Net his articles calling for a multi-party democracy, the state accusing him of doing “anti-state propaganda” based on Article 88 of the Criminal Law. Nonetheless, he was awarded a Human Rights Watch 2009 ‘Hellman/Hammett Human Rights Prize’ for those very same articles.
- Dr. Cu Huy Ha Vu was sentenced in April 2011 by a Hanoi court to 7 years in prison plus 3 years under house arrest, for having been an enthusiastic human rights activist in the civilian political area, including his legal suits against Premier Nguyen Tan Dung for his decree prohibiting citizens from complaining collectively, and against police General Vu Hai Trieu for his suppression of freedom of speech (through his bragging of having crushed some 300 websites); and his demand to remove Article 4 of the 1992 Constitution that allows for the

CPV's monopoly of rule in the country. He also actively participated in many legal cases to protect human rights both in civilian and religious areas. He was a recipient of the Hellman/Hammett prize and the 2011 Vietnam Human Rights Prize, too.

- Professor Pham Minh Hoang, of dual nationality (French and Vietnamese), was sentenced in August 2011 to 3 years in prison and 3 years under house arrest allegedly for his “activities aiming at overthrowing the people’s government” based on Article 79 of the Vietnam Criminal Law. He was accused by the authorities of having posted on the Net 33 articles intended to oppose the CPV single-party regime under the penname of Phan Kien Quoc, and of his overseas relations with the Viet Tan party. His sentence was then reduced to 17 months by a court of appeal on 29 November 2011 for his “plot to overthrow the government.” He was eventually freed on 13 January 2012, but is still under house arrest.
- Ms. Ho Thi Bich Khuong was sentenced by a Nghe An court based on Article 88 of the Vietnam Criminal Law, to 5 years in prison and 3 years under house arrest, for having answered an interview by an overseas anti-state radio station and then posted it on the websites of various human rights groups. She was also a recipient of the 2011 Hellman/Hammett prize.
- Pastor Nguyen Trung Ton, similarly, was sentenced to 2 years in prison and 2 years under house arrest for the same “crimes.”

2. Violations of Basic Principles of Criminal Law

Although Vietnam's 2003 Criminal Prosecution Law guarantees all the rights mentioned in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, violations of the very principles set up by the authorities are apparent throughout the prosecution proceedings, including arbitrary arrests, fabrications of evidence, tortures during interrogation, obstruction of lawyers, and superficial judgment based on ready-made verdicts, etc. The police, not the judges, are the decisive element in criminal cases, as these security agents can freely enter the people's homes, or arrest anyone on the streets at any time. The suspects, especially political dissidents, are often tortured during their interrogation or isolated from their families and personal lawyers. Most of the court trials are summarily done within less than one day, sometimes during only a couple of hours. The presence of lawyers at the court, if any, is just as an embellishment only, since usually, the time for deliberation is shorter than the time for verdict reading, meaning the verdict has already been prepared ahead of time.

Especially in 2011, maximum arrests were made at will against participants at demonstrations against Chinese aggression. Besides pursuing demonstrators on the streets the way rascals of the black society do, the communist police employed the technique of "summoning to work," actually a type of arrest without warrant from the judges.

The neglect of criminal prosecution principles was not only aimed at subduing the people but also used as a protective measure by the authorities, typically was the Vietnamese government's excuse of lacking evidence in prosecuting the former bank governor Le Duc Thuy for his acceptance of Aus\$20 million bribe in the polymer printing

contract with Securrency company, despite the obvious disclosure of the case by the Australian media and the prosecution of many Australian officials involved. It is worth noticing that in 2011, Vietnam was ranked by Transparency International at 122 over 182 surveyed nations, with a score of 2.9 on a total of 10.

3. Oppression of Lawyers

A few years ago, Vietnam's Minister of Justice Ha Hung Cuong disclosed in a report to the National Assembly that lawyers were present at the courts in only 20% of the cases. Vietnam's legal system has been crippled not only by the tiny number of lawyers and their low professionalism but also by the government's unfriendly attitude toward them. The police and legal courts always try to obstruct or derail the lawyers in their participation in legal cases. To defend an accused, a lawyer must have the court's permission, but the permit is almost never legally accorded in time. In addition, even with the permit, he must have the approval of the investigative agency and depend on it to meet with his client in a hurry. At the court, his defense rarely draws the attention of the jury, and often, he has no gut to oppose the prosecutors, as his duty in most cases is just to ask for clemency.

Due to the government's unfriendliness, the lawyers usually try avoid sensitive cases, though some of them have the courage to voice up their defense of the victims of injustice, for the freedom of religion, and for other basic rights. As a result, they are never tolerated by the state, their license is often rescinded, their names removed from the bar association, or more severely, they find themselves beaten up by hooligans, or prosecuted and imprisoned for vague reasons.

Such is the case of Lawyers Nguyen Van Dai, Le Thi Cong Nhan, Le Quoc Quan, Tran Quoc Hien, Nguyen Bac Truyen, Le Tran Luat, Nguyen Quoc Dat, and Le Cong Dinh in previous years. In 2011, the government continued its policy of oppression against lawyers involved in sensitive cases. In April 2011, Dr. Cu Huy Ha Vu was sentenced to 7 years in prison and 3 years under house arrest for his active attempts to protect human rights by defending victims and suing Premier Nguyen Tan Dung. In May 2011, the police of Tu Liem district in Hanoi conducted an emergency search of his residence and office and arrested Lawyer Hoang Dinh Trong together with Notary Nguyen Quang Anh, in charge of the Notary office My Dinh, for alleged “slanders.” Lawyer Trong was urgently apprehended because of his daring denunciation of CPV officials taking over public land. In August 2011, Lawyer Huynh Van Dong had his name removed from the Bar Association of Lam Dong for alleged violations of some of its regulations while in actuality he was trying to defend a number of peasants in Ben Tre accused of “plotting to overthrow the government.” He had previously accepted to defend Con Dau parishioners in Da Nang. The International Bar Association Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI) has sent a protest letter to Vietnam asking that it respect Lawyer Dong's human rights and professional right.

4. An Inhuman System of Prisons

To deceive the world public opinion, the Vietnamese government occasionally allows a certain diplomatic delegation to come to observe the activities in a prison. To prepare for the occasion, prisoners are always coached to get ready several days in advance about clothes, room cleanliness, and especially about how to answer questions.

Nevertheless, the reality still exposes the egregious conditions of Vietnamese prisons in all aspects: narrow living quarters, lack of hygiene, insufficient food rations, hard labor, and regular beatings and tortures. Before being taken back to prison in 2011, Father Nguyen Van Ly has sent a letter to the United Nations to disclose tortures sustained by political prisoners in communist prisons. Based on testimonies of five prisoners of conscience named in the letter, the purposes of the tortures were to extort and mistreat these prisoners, who were often kept together with criminal ones under the control of infamous “rogues.”

Many prisoners of conscience are not allowed to be in touch with their families. The recipient of the 2009 Vietnam Human Rights Award, Pastor Nguyen Cong Chinh, for instance, was arrested in April 2011 but has since never been allowed to see his relatives, while his family has no idea of where he is detained, despite his bad health condition at the time of his arrest. Dissident Dieu Cay Nguyen Van Hai, also a recipient of the 2008 Vietnam Human Rights Award, is in the same situation: his family has heard nothing from him since October 2010.

Puih H'Bat, a minority mother of four little kids, was sentenced to 5 years in prison in 2008 for her being a Protestant follower. She disappeared without a trace after her sentence, even her family is ignorant of her whereabouts, a condition sustained by hundreds of minority prisoners in the Central Highlands.

More inhuman has been the communist treatment given to seriously sick prisoners. Prisoner of conscience Nguyen Van Trai, 74, was arrested in 1996 and sentenced to 15 years in prison. Just five months before his sentence ended, he fell severely sick and was transferred to a hospital where he was rejected. His wish to die among his family members was denied, forcing him to go back

to prison where he passed away in solitary condition on 11 July 2011, one day after his return there. Worse, his family was not permitted to bring his corpse home for burial.

The same fate happened to prisoner of conscience Truong Van Suong after he had been held for nearly 30 years in prison. He had been temporarily allowed to stay home one year for his medical treatment from July 2010, then in August 2011, he was ordered to return to his prison in his terminal illness and died 25 days later.

IV. POLICE BRUTALITY IN A POLICE STATE

At the end of September 2010, Human Rights Watch reported that police brutality at the hands of the Vietnamese police was substantiated in at least 19 cases, causing 15 deaths, with many victims fatally beaten while being held for interrogation, or dead soon after release, or even dead in public as a result of the police use of unnecessary force (See Human Rights Watch report entitled *Vietnam: widespread police brutality; death in custody*, published on 22 September 2010)

In 2011, the same condition of police brutality continued to haunt the people. Besides daily brutalities causing injuries to innocent people in the cities as well as in the countryside, the following notorious cases have been reported on quite widely on Internet blogs:

- On 02 March 2011, police Lt. Col. Nguyen Van Ninh of Thinh Liet quarter, Hoang Mai district, Hanoi, beat Mr. Trinh Xuan Tung, 54, a resident of 252 Tran Khat Chan Street, Hai Ba Trung district, also in Hanoi, and broke two of his cervical bones, causing paralysis to his limbs and blockage to his respiratory system. Instead of getting him help, the police brought him to the police station for further brutality until he fell unconscious; learning of his situation, his family tried to take him to the hospital but was prevented from doing so. It's unthinkable that a citizen would meet his death merely for failing to wear his safety helmet while riding on a public motorcycle--the reason for which he was stopped by the police.

- On 30 March 2011, police Jr. Capt. Vo Van Ut Deo, Warrant Officer Danh Nhan, and Sergeant Tran Tuan Khai, together with militiaman Tran Quoc Thang of the Nga Nam town, Soc Trang province, used a baton to hit Mr. Tran Van Du, 44, a resident of hamlet 3 in the same town, and beat him unconscious. They then dragged him to the hedge next to the town administrative office and let him die there in the dark.
- On 25 April 2011, Mr. Nguyen Cong Nhut, 30, former Head of the Product Management office of Kumbo car tire company, died while in temporary custody by the police legal assistance section of Ben Cat district, Binh Duong province, after 5 days of illegal detention. His family was subsequently told by the police that he had hanged himself; however, they found signs of beating on his body, a lot of blood, and electric torture marks on his limbs.
- On 10 January 2012, Bac Giang provincial police severely hit Mr. Nguyen Van Hung, 50, a resident of Quyet Tien hamlet, Tien Phong village, Yen Dung district, and a protester against forced land confiscation. Due to his poverty, he could not afford to pay for his treatments in a hospital and died at home on 26 January 2012. When local authorities had mobilized both police and civilian guards to forcibly take away one acre of his land, he tried to prevent their forcible seizure. They later accused him of resisting authorities as they tried to carry out their duty.

The brutal resort to force by government forces affects not only individuals but also a wider range of victims in different

environments. In June, July, and August of 2011, while thousands of demonstrators paraded peacefully both in Hanoi and Saigon to stir public opinion and warn the government of the risk of losing land and sea territories to the greedy Chinese expansionists, the government mobilized a large police force, especially plainclothesmen, to pursue, arrest, and brutally beat many of them right on the streets. The image of a demonstrator being carried like a pig with his face upward by 4 policemen to a bus for another policeman in civilian clothes standing at the door of the bus to pound on his face with his boot several times, has been widely circulated on the Internet to stunt the world.

To deal with the demands of the victims of land injustice in their class-action petitions or with the people's obstruction of forced and unjust confiscation that is happening more and more every day, the government, instead of talking with the people, used riot police and trained dogs together with vehicles to brutally repress them, injuring them and even causing fatalities to them. (See section "Victims of Land Injustice" of this report)

Especially, minority people living in remote areas hard to access by the outside world have to suffer systematic suppression by police resort to brutality. Most outstanding is the case in May 2011 in Muong Nhe district, Dien Bien province, when thousands of police and border guards carried out a bloody massacre against the H'Mong demonstrators for freedom of religion and respect for their own culture and customs. According to a report by the US-based Center for Public Policy Analysis, the number of casualties reached 72 people.⁹

⁹ Vietnam Forces Kill 72 Hmong, Hundreds Arrested and Flee, <http://www.cppa-dc.org/id67.html> (accessed 21 Jan 2012)

A new kind of brutality has been applied in recent years under the pretext that “the people take things in their hands,” a substitute for police action. On the afternoon of 03 November 2011, a group of hooligans broke into the Thai Ha church to destroy its inside, cause disorder, and harass its members. The state media explained that the incident was a reaction of angry people. Even the forced land confiscation and leveling of the house of Mr. Doan Van Vuon early in 2012 were explained away by the deputy chairman of the Hai Phong people's committee as a mass reaction by people who are upset. In reality, the term “people's self-initiated action” is merely a disguise for government-sponsored terrorism, organized by the authorities themselves to spread fear as well as to avoid responsibilities.

This trend toward anti-people brutality has not only become second nature to the police, it is also a clear sign that the ruling communist party intended this brutality as a state policy to spread fear in people. The Vietnamese public security forces' slogan, “either the party and me or nothing,” confirms that the police is a suppressing tool for the regime in maintaining the monopoly of power for the communists. So it's no surprise that among the 14 members of the CPV Politburo elected at the 11th Congress there are three persons with Public Security background, including Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung; and among the 175 members of the CPV Central Committee there are nine holding important positions in the police service. Police apparatus has recently inflated in membership with 6 deputy ministers holding the rank of lieutenant general. Despite their being held in contempt by the people, the police have always been praised by the state, as proven by Premier Nguyen Tan Dung's awarding of medals to them on 03 April 2011, with a commendation that “the party and state always highly value the great

accomplishments, devotion, and sacrifice of the police forces in the building and defense of the fatherland. Their huge victories and outstanding achievements have been a combination of their absolute loyalty to the party, the state, the fatherland, and the people.”¹⁰

¹⁰ CAND “Trao tặng phần thưởng cao quý của Đảng, Nhà nước cho các tập thể, cá nhân có thành tích xuất sắc trong sự nghiệp bảo vệ ANTON”, <http://www.cand.com.vn/News/PrintView.aspx?ID=147045> (accessed 19 Jan 2012)

V. NO FREEDOM OF RELIGION

In 2006 the U.S. State Department decided to remove Vietnam from the list of 'Countries of Particular Concern' (CPC) but this has not ameliorated the situation of freedom of religion in this country. Indeed, from the sight of crowds at religious festivals, churches, or pagodas in Vietnam in the last several years, one easily gets the impression that religion is thriving in Vietnam, and some U.S. officials are convinced that there have been "strong improvements"¹¹ in religious freedom. In actuality, however, this is a misleading impression for the Vietnamese government keeps in place all the measures it has devised in the past to control and oppress various churches as well as other civil society organizations despite the fact that religious freedom is written in the Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Art. 70). Restrictions on religious activities continue to be imposed by means of:

- Legal prohibition,
- Organizational control, and
- Violent suppression.

1. Legal Prohibition

In 2004, the "Ordinance on Beliefs and Religions" was promulgated by the Standing Committee of the SRV National Assembly. Many people had thought that this was a step forward in the respect and guarantee of religious freedom in Vietnam; in reality, it is used to obstruct various churches from exercising their religious freedom by, among many measures, outlawing some of these

churches through registration requirements and guiding the churches' religious tasks toward the state's political ends. For instance, religious and theological education must push the type of "patriotism" favored by the communist party, i.e. "socialism."¹²

In April 2011, the Government Committee for Religious Affairs held a number of seminars on a new draft of the Government Decree on Religious Freedom 2011 intended to replace the Government Decree 22/2005/ND-CP. Despite loud publicity, the document turned out to be very much similar to the 1991 and 2005 decrees. On 13 May 2011, representatives from dioceses in the Ecclesiastical Province of Saigon, through a conference, made a number of recommendations to the government with the comment that "Overall, the proposed decree intended to replace the Government Decree 22/2005 is a huge retrograde step compared to the original one, the Ordinance on Beliefs and Religions, and the Constitution. Essentially, the proposed amendments of the decree reflect the desire of the government to re-establish the mechanism of Asking and Granting in religious activities. The Asking and Granting process turns the legitimate rights of citizens into privileges in the hands of government officials who would grant or withhold them from people through bureaucratic procedures. The mechanism of Asking and Granting, hence, does not only eliminate the freedom rights of people, but also turns a 'government of people by people and for people' in to a 'Master of the country' who holds in his hands all the rights, and grants or withholds them to people as his random mood swings."¹³

¹¹ Remarks by Ambassador Michael W. Michalak at Human Rights Day Event, <http://vietnam.usembassy.gov/ambspeech120910.html> (accessed 18 Dec 2011)

¹² Ordinance on Beliefs and Religions, Chapter 1, Article 2

¹³ Comments of Archdiocese of Saigon on the draft amendments for the Government Decree 22/2005 ND-CP, <http://vietcatholic.org/News/Html/90073.htm> (accessed 15 Dec 2011)

In addition to binding laws meant to restrict religious activities, the government also abuses the notorious articles 79, 87, 88, and 89 of the 2009 Criminal Code¹⁴ to prosecute religious freedom activists:

- On 13 December 2011, Mr. Nguyen Van Lia and Mr. Tran Hoai An of the Hoa Hao Buddhist Church were sentenced in An Giang to 5 and 3 years in prison, respectively, pursuant to Art. 258 of the Criminal Code, for the so-called “abuse of democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State, the legitimate rights and interests of organizations and/or citizens.”
- On 10 November 2011, two Vietnamese Falun Gong practitioners Vu Duc Trung and Le Van Thanh, after 17 months in detention, were sentenced to 2 and 3 years in prison respectively for their alleged “illegal use of information in computer networks,” pursuant to Art. 226 of the Criminal Code. The pair had set up the Sound of Hope radio station to broadcast toward China to report on human rights abuses, corruption, and repression of Falun Gong practitioners and other persecuted groups.
- On 28 April 2011, Pastor Nguyen Cong Chinh was arrested for allegedly “undermining the national unity policy” pursuant to Art. 87 of the Criminal Code. He is still being prevented from seeing members of his family since his arrest more than 10 months ago.

¹⁴ Art. 79: Carrying out activities aimed at overthrowing the people’s administration; Art. 87: Undermining the unity policy; Art. 88: Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam; and Art. 89: Disrupting security.

Furthermore, to limit the activities and influences of religious organizations, the government resorts to the 2003 Land Law to permanently take away the churches’ properties including schools, infirmaries, and social services offices. The forceful confiscation of the Thai Ha Redemptorists’ properties in Hanoi was the most disturbing event in the year 2011.

2. Organizational Control

To facilitate its control of religious organizations, the CPV has, for many years, shown itself especially concerned about the personnel in leading positions in various religious organizations. In 2011, besides elevating the Government Committee for Religious Affairs, a disguised religious police force, with the assignment of Mr. Nguyen Thai Binh, a member of the CPV Central Committee, to lead it in the capacity of a deputy minister,¹⁵ the communist authorities kept requiring all religious organizations to “register activities,” and issuing “certificates” to them. Religious activities such as training sessions, spiritual retreats, processions, etc., must all have previous permission before they can proceed.

The communist government continues its “Divide and conquer” policy with all religions. To each religion, there is always a “state-imposed committee” under the permanent supervision of the “Fatherland Front” to coordinate activities “in compliance with the official policy of the regime.” As for Buddhism, the government only recognizes the state-run Buddhist Church of Vietnam, while outlawing the

¹⁵ Update: On 08 February 2012 Mr Nguyen Thai Binh was replaced by Police Lieutenant General Pham Dung, head of the General Department of Security II, as head of the Government Committee for Religious Affairs.

Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam and keeping it under permanent surveillance and oppression. In the case of the Hoa Hao Buddhist Church, the State disallowed the Orthodox Hoa Hao Buddhist Church, and installed a pro-government Hoa Hao Buddhist Representative Board. As for Khmer-Krom Buddhists, the government dispersed the Khmer-Krom Theravada Buddhist Associations, and forced Khmer-Krom Buddhist monks to join the Patriotic United Buddhist Association. With respect to the Vietnamese Catholic Church, the communists diminish the role of the Vietnam Catholic Conference of Bishops by fostering the Vietnam Committee for Catholic Solidarity.

The recruitment, training, ordainment, appointment, and transfer of religious officials all require the sanction in advance of the state. The training programs for seminarians and other grassroots cadres have to be reviewed by the state and include such subjects as Marxist/Leninist ideology, Ho Chi Minh thought, history of the CPV, and the SRV legal system, taught by state instructors.

Candidates to high-ranking positions in any religion must be vetted and approved by the state's central level before they can be accepted. Worse still, police agents disguised as "clergymen," particularly Buddhist ones, are also formed by the authorities to secretly work in temples and religious institutions both at home and abroad, in order to rig the religious rank and file.

Travel for religious purposes is also restricted. Typical are the cases of Father Pham Trung Thanh, the provincial superior of the Redemptorists in Vietnam, and his head clerk, Father Dinh Huu Thoai. They were stopped at Tan Son Nhut Airport and the Tay Ninh frontier post in July 2011. The blockade of Giac Minh temple in Da Nang in

August 2011 was also an unmistakable case of restriction of religious freedom.

Except for worshipping, catechism instruction, and clergy training, all other religious activities such as the opening of schools and hospitals, and charities (in response to disasters or social problems) are still restricted. In education, for instance, the various churches can only open kindergartens, but not elementary or secondary schools, colleges or universities (as was the case in South Vietnam before 1975). Thousands of facilities devoted to such activities before 1975 have been confiscated by the authorities and put to other uses for decades, with almost none of them returned.

3. Violent Suppression

Together with sophisticated measures of prevention, restriction, and control, the Vietnamese communist government has always been ready to use armed violence to suppress religious organizations when necessary, as a means of advanced warnings or when an event escapes its control. In 2011, the use of violence to suppress religious activities continued throughout the year. Following are some typical cases that attracted great public concerns:

- On 3 December 2011, hundreds of "self-motivated" people broke into the Thai Ha church in Hanoi, causing trouble and attacking the priests while a strong force of uniformed police and plainclothesmen stood outside in readiness to protect the troublemakers inside.
- From July to December of 2011, a round of arrests targeting catholic youths of the Diocese of Vinh who have supported the Thai Ha Parish resulted in 17 victims altogether. So far they have been held

- incommunicado and no news has leaked out about their condition.
- On 25 July 2011, Father Nguyen Van Ly, a tireless human rights activist with his well-known motto “Religious freedom or death,” was taken back to his prison after nearly 16 months allowed out for medical treatment. He was, however, still kept under house arrest, despite his fragile health due to his previous strokes in prison.
 - On 7 July 2011, police and other security forces surrounded the Buon Kret Krot hamlet in Mang Yang district of Gia Lai province, and attacked a group of Christian Montagnards during a prayer session. 12 men and 4 women were injured; others were detained and tortured.
 - On 30 April 2011, from 5 to 8 thousand H’Mong people gathered for a religious event and demonstration in favor of reforms and respect for religious freedom at an area near Huoi Khon hamlet of Nam Ke in the Muong Nhe district, province of Dien Bien. On May 4 and 5, police and borders troops were mobilised together with tanks and helicopters to repress and disperse them. According to the Center for Public Policy Analysis (CPPA), there were 72 deaths and hundreds of injured or missing.

The typical cases detailed above clearly show that, although they loudly claim respect for religious freedom, the Vietnamese communists have never ceased to suppress religions and harass the faithful of all denominations. The communists are very suspicious of religions not only because of their atheist ideology, but mainly because of their belief that religious organizations are a threat to the regime’s survival.

VI. WORKERS IN THE TRICKY HANDS OF THE STATE AND BUSINESS BOSSES

Following the economic opening policies in the ’90s, and thanks to the foreign firms’ investments, the number of Vietnamese workers in the private sector increased significantly. However, due to the absence of effective labor protection and especially because of the officials’ greedy involvement with business bosses to exploit the workers’ labor and squeeze them to the bones, the society became insecure for everyone. In 2011, the workers’ situation became so unbearable that they had to resort more and more to wildcat strikes while labor unions, a tool of the CPV, always sided with the business bosses; the state continued its labor union monopoly and exerted ruthless oppression against human rights activists who dared to defend the workers. Besides, the state maintained the regime of forced labor in some institutions--a fact known for many years and which very much concerned public opinion.

1. More and More Wildcat Strikes

According to statistics provided by the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs, the number of wildcat strikes doubled in 2011¹⁶, up to 857 instances from January to November 2011, from 422 cases in the same period of 2010, mainly caused by terribly low wages. Besides, the workers were not only forced to work over time without compensation and in extremely risky conditions, they could be fired any time for even petty reasons. According to Dr. Tran

¹⁶ VnExpress.net, “Đình công 2011 tăng gấp đôi năm trước”, <http://vnexpress.net/gl/kinh-doanh/2012/01/dinh-cong-2011-tang-gap-doi-nam-truoc/> (accessed 14 Jan 2012)

Thi Ngoc Lan, General Deputy Director of Vietnam Administration for Preventive Medicine and Environment, Ministry of Health, each year, there are 1600-1700 deaths due to work-related accidents. The number of people who suffer severe accidents and need long-term treatment is 20 times the number of deaths (approximately 34,000 people); the number of slightly injured workers treated 1 day or more is 50 times the number of deaths (equivalent to 95,000). This figure is roughly 15 times more than the reports from the Ministry of Labor - Invalids and Social Affairs¹⁷

To increase the workers' purchasing power, the government has raised the minimum wage four times since 2008, the last one in October 2011. Nevertheless, a recent research by Vietnam General Confederation of Labor's Institute of Workers and Trade Union disclosed that the new minimum wage – from 1,4 to 2 million dongs (VN\$) depending on localities, equaling US\$ 70-100 – could only meet 56.7% to 65.7% of the workers' minimal needs,¹⁸ while the social gap between the rich and the poor kept widening. Together with the galloping inflation and devaluation of the Vietnamese currency, this gap becomes wider and results in an explosion of strikes.

A remarkable point is that all strikes in Vietnam are self initiated, mostly occurring in orderly fashion and without violence. The firms' labor unions generally side with the bosses to oppose the workers' legitimate demands, typically the largest strike of the year took place from June 21-29,

participated by over sixty thousand workers at the shoe factory Pou Yuen, owned by a Taiwanese capitalist. During the eight days of the strike, not a word was heard from labor union and party officials, who had links of interest with the firm's boss. Yet, about 20 workers were arrested by the police.

Theoretically, the 1994 Labor Law authorizes “the workers to strike in accordance with the laws,” (Article 4, Section 7). Meanwhile, the Trade Union Law only permits strikes through the state labor unions (Article 2, Section 11). This means that the workers themselves cannot strike, a consequence of the legal confusion that attempts to rob the workers of their right to strike or worse, to outlaw it. Supplementary documents attached to the Labor Law, moreover, plan to criminally punish those who “incite, draw, or force” workers to go on strike, creating more restrictions for “illegal” strikes. On 4 January 2011, a Memo No. 930/LDTBXH-LDTL was sent by the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs to Chairmen of provincial and city people's committees requesting them to strengthen their preventive measures against labor conflicts.

2. Labor Unions – A State Monopoly

Although the Vietnam General Confederation of Labor currently has more than 7 million members in 105,000 grassroots unions, but legally and in reality, this organization is merely a state product controlled by the CPV leaders. The Trade Union Law of 1990 clearly stipulates that labor union is a workers' class organization “voluntarily formed under the CPV leadership” (Article 1); yet, the organization and activities of unions at factories are all actually directed and controlled by grassroots CPV officials acting as political agents whose duty is to carry out the CPV

¹⁷ Dân Việt, “Tai nạn lao động cao gấp nhiều lần báo cáo,” <http://danviet.vn/77455p1c24/tai-nan-lao-dong-cao-gap-nhieu-lan-bao-cao.htm> (accessed 23 Feb 2012)

¹⁸ Vietnam Investment Review, “Workers' income far below cost of living”, <http://www.vir.com.vn/news/coverage/workers-income-far-below-cost-of-living.html> (accessed 29 Dec 2011)

platform and policies. At the central level, the Vietnam General Confederation of Labor is led by Mr. Dang Ngoc Tung, a member of the CPV Central Committee, who is responsible for obstructing the workers from unifying into groups beyond the CPV control, and in training local cadres on how to prevent and dissolve workers' strikes.

Facing multiple strikes in recent years while attempting to maintain social stability, the Vietnamese authorities plan to change their 1990 Labor Law. An amendment bill was set for discussion on 22 November 2011 by the National Assembly and is expected to be passed in May 2012. Nevertheless, based on what has gone through at discussion sessions, the core issue of the labor union's legal position and its role will remain unchanged. The amendment still confirms that the labor union is the only representative of the workers class and laborers under CPV leadership, implying that besides the General Confederation, a CPV tool, there won't be any other acceptable union.

3. Forced Labor

Forced labor is the result of much human trafficking and explains much of the hardship that Vietnamese export workers have had to undergo in the countries of destination. In the CPV officials' view, it is quite normal when their victims are forced to work in drastic conditions beyond any expectation, especially after 1975 in South Vietnam when hundreds of thousands of people associated with the former Republic of Vietnam (RVN), both civilian and military, were tricked into filling the so-called 're-education camps.'

In 2011, however, the forced labor regime in Vietnam drew the concern of world public opinion through a report by the Human Rights Watch entitled "*The Rehab Archipelago: Forced Labor and Other*

Abuses in Drug Detention," which exposed the true face of the so-called "rehab centers," actually concentration camps where labor is forced on drug addicts for profit. According to the same agency, there were in 2000 up to 56 such centers nationwide, increasing to 123 in 2011. During this period, up to 309,000 victims were detained there.

Almost all of them went through no legal procedures, and once in detention, they had to work really hard to produce manual and agricultural commodities for both the internal and overseas markets without receiving any reward for their labor. Instead, they were subjected to punishments and torture for any attempt to avoid working or failure to achieve the production goals. In sickness, they were totally neglected without medical treatment, even the basic one. Some of those with HIV were still forced to work until death. Vietnam has been reminded by Human Rights Watch to close these centers and investigate wrong activities there, including arrest at will, torture, and abuse of labor for profit. Also, the government of Vietnam was requested to reconsider its financial support for these centers and order the companies that do business with them to stop their contracts of using forced labor.

Another aspect of the forced labor is the mistreatment of children by forcing them to work in risky conditions. Nevertheless, the government, with the assistance of international child-protection agencies, ambitiously planned to end this vice within 4 years (2010-2015), while millions children are still having to work to increase their families' income. A number of them can work and go to school at the same time, but many others in the countryside have no way to know what schooling is. They either have to work hard as servants in rich families, or selling lottery tickets or doing shoeshine in public places, or laboring in handicraft

factories or sewing firms. Most of them were brought in from isolated rural areas.¹⁹

4. Oppression against Activists Fighting for Workers

Together with the monopoly of labor unions and obstruction of strikes, the Vietnamese government ruthlessly oppresses all individuals and movements fighting for workers' rights and/or trying to form independent labor unions. Since 2006, along with strikes in many places in the country, especially in the South, many individuals have come together to demand the government to ameliorate the workers' life, particularly to allow the formation of free labor unions according to the International Human Rights Law and in compliance with international labor legal standards. Such pioneer labor activists as Nguyen Khac Toan, Cao Van Nham, Le Thi Cong Nhan, Tran Khai Thanh Thuy, Tran Quoc Hien, Doan Van Dien, Tran Thi Le Hang, Le Ba Triet... have one after the other been arrested and imprisoned for their alleged crime of "anti-state propaganda" (Article 88) or "attempting to overthrow the government" (Article 79), of the 1999 Criminal Law. Among those held and since then mysteriously disappeared is Le Tri Tue, co-founder of the Independent Labor Union, who was kidnapped in Cambodia's capital of Phnom Penh in May 2007 and secretly taken back to Vietnam.

The suppression of the workers' rights reached its highest point in 2010 with the harsh sentences meted out to the following three leading activists of the United Workers-Farmers Organization: Nguyen

Hoang Quoc Hung (9 years in prison), Doan Huy Chuong and Do Thi Minh Hanh (7 years in prison each). As with other dissidents, they were accused of "disturbing the security and order in an attempt to oppose the people's government" per Article 89 of the Criminal Law.

In addition to retaining the sentences against the three leaders of the United Workers-Farmers Organization in the final court trial without defendant lawyers in Tra Vinh on 18 March 2011, the government continues to suppress and arrest those who dare to fight for the workers' rights. Typically, there were arrests made at two limited-liability companies as Namyang in Bien Hoa at the end of December 2010, and Chutex in the Industrial Complex Song Than 2 in Di An early in 2011. Besides, free-lance journalist Le Thanh Tung was attacked by secret police when he was interviewing workers on strike at the industrial complex Quang Minh of the Me Linh district outside of Hanoi on 15 April 2011.

¹⁹ The Australian, "Child slavery bust in Vietnam with Australian charity's help"
<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/breaking-news/child-slavery-bust-in-vietnam-with-australian-charitys-help/story-fn3dxity-1226154227881>
(accessed 29 Dec 2011)

VII. “VICTIMS OF LAND INJUSTICE” OR THE STORY OF LAND RIGHTS PETITIONERS

According to the 2010 statistics released by the Directorate General of Statistics, nearly 70% of the Vietnamese people were living in the countryside. To the farmers, farm land, in addition to its economic value, also carries an important spiritual meaning, tying them to their history, ancestors and community. Since the communist takeover of the whole country, land becomes “the property of the entire people, uniformly managed by the State.” (Art.1 of the Land Law of 1993). People can only exchange or purchase land use certificates. The abolition of private land property has thus caused countless injustice and unfairness to all classes of people, especially to the farmers in the countryside.

After introducing the “socialist-oriented market economy,” and thanks to foreign financial aid or investment, the Vietnamese government has launched several programs in recent years to develop infrastructures such as roads, industrial parks, eco-tourism zones, and other essential public works. One of the primary factors involved in those economic projects is land. According to a recent report by the Embassy of Denmark, the World Bank, and the Embassy of Sweden, “during the period 2001-2010, nearly one million hectares of agricultural land were converted to land used for non-agricultural purposes, and more than 5 million hectares of unused land (62% of total unused land in the year 2000) were converted into land for various useful purposes.”²⁰

Besides the clearance of land for economic projects, different intertwined and contradictory reasons were advanced to allow for the state’s interference in land management. Examples include its refusal to return the cultivated land assigned to the already dissolved production cooperatives, construction land confiscated during the industrial-commercial transformation without proper paperwork, or church properties taken by force or permitted to use conditionally.

It’s worthy to note that while conducting site clearance activities, government cadres deliberately overestimate the needs of the intended plan to grab as much land as possible, so they could appropriate the surplus, and resell it to developers who are willing to pay the highest price possible (usually 10 times more than the reimbursement rates or even higher) and pocket the difference. The government’s 2011 anti-corruption report ranked land-related corruption as number one in quantitative terms and level of severity among the state activities in taxes, customs, and economic policy. This often happened to some of the most fertile land cultivated by generations of farmers, causing great losses to impoverished and powerless farmers who do not know where to turn to address their grievances. Corruption and injustice in land management also makes a significant contribution to the growing gap in the society between the rich and the poor. Rich cadres are getting richer while poor farmers are reduced to dire poverty. In the past several years, the number of state officials and land speculators who collaborated with them became billionaires at a shocking rate. This tragic situation has persisted throughout the years; however in recent days it has become even worse.

In his press conference on 9 January 2012 about land complaints, the Deputy Inspector General Nguyen Duc Hanh disclosed that

²⁰ Recognizing and Reducing Corruption Risks in Land Management in Vietnam, National Political Publishing House – Su That, Hanoi 2011, p. ix

complaints about land compensation, and clearance made up almost 80% of the total cases, and up to 50% of them were legitimate.²¹ Thousands of landless farmers who do not know where to get help flocked to Hanoi, Saigon and other major metropolises across the country to claim compensation for land seized by authorities for ‘development purposes.’ They stage long-running protests outside public buildings, such as the National Assembly in Hanoi or other local government offices, to denounce corruption and injustice toward dispossessed farmers, and ask for fair compensation.

This tragic situation persists and gets worse through the years. Despite their reasonable complaints, the victims of land injustice hardly ever received decent settlement; instead they were subject to retaliation and violent suppression, causing injuries and sometimes death as in the case of Mr Nguyen Van Hung in Bac Giang province on 26 January 2012. Several deeply resenting victims had to commit suicide to expose their miseries at the unjust treatment, such as engineer Phan Thanh Son who burned himself on 18 February 2011 in front of the Da Nang People’s Committee office to protest the state’s confiscation of his land in exchange for an improper compensation. Others were pushed to using violence to defend justice as in the case of Ky Loi village of Ky Anh district of Ha Tinh province people who held 5 police agents as hostages to deal with the authorities’ threatening demand to build a deep water port, proposed by a Taiwanese company in March 2011. Most recently, the serious case of Mr. Doan Van Vuon’s family in Tien Lang district of Hai Phong city using

weapons to cause injuries to several police agents on 5 January 2012 when they came to carry out the forced confiscation of land that they had worked very hard for nearly 20 years to build up, including the sacrifice of an eight-year-old daughter’s life.

Meanwhile human rights activists seeking to defend the victims of land injustice have suffered from increased threats, arrest, and imprisonment for supposedly ‘inciting people to demonstrate and creating public unrest.’ Such was the case of activists working for the interest of victims of land injustice like Ho Thi Bich Khuong of Nghe An, sentenced on 29 December 2011 for 5 years in prison and 3 years under house arrest allegedly for her “anti-state propaganda” against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam; Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Cuong and his son Nguyen Ngoc Tuong Thi in Dong Nai province, sentenced on 21 October 2011 for 7 and 5 years in prison respectively for the same alleged crime. They were actually working to represent the peasants involved in land fights against local government. On 30 May 2011, the people’s court of Ben Tre province gave the following sentences to seven activists who had tried to defend victims of land injustice: Mrs. Tran Thi Thuy, 8 years in prison; Mr. Pham Van Thong, 7 years in prison; Pastor Duong Kim Khai, 6 years in prison; Mr. Cao Van Tinh, 5 years in prison; and 2 years in prison each for Mr. Nguyen Chi Thanh, Mr. Nguyen Thanh Van, and Mrs. Pham Ngoc Hoa. Totally, nearly 60 years of imprisonment were given to seven activists for their alleged crime of “plotting to overthrow the people’s government” while in actuality they were only striving to help victims of land injustice. In addition to these sentences, the Vietnamese communist authorities also arrested other victims of land injustice activists, such as Mrs. Le Thi Ngoc Da in Long An on 27 April 2011 and Mr. Le Thanh Tung in Hanoi on 01 December 2011.

²¹ Tien Phong (The Vanguard), “Khiếu nại, tố cáo đúng về đất đai chiếm tới 50%”, <http://www.tienphong.vn/Thoi-Su/562637/Khieu-nai-to-cao-dung-ve-dat-dai-chiem-toi-50-tpp.html> (accessed 29/12/2011).

Here are some typical cases reflecting the condition of the victims of land injustice in their class-action petitions in 2011:

- Early in December 2011, many victims of injustice in La Nga area of Dong Nai province demonstrated to demand that state officials be ordered to return their land and homestead, or to compensate them appropriately. However, local government used forces, including 113 police agents and cadres in coordination with the La Nga sugar factory, equipped with fire hoses, weapons, batons, tear gas, whips, special vehicles, prison trucks, etc., to suppress, dominate, and disperse them.
- On 27 October 2011, numerous faithful, priests, and members of the Thai Ha parish assembled in front of the Dong Da district people's committee office in Hanoi to submit their request for the return to the Redemptorist monastery land that has long been unjustly occupied by the government.
- On 10 May 2011, about 50 victims of land injustice from Tien Giang province continued their demonstration outside the Ben Thanh market in Saigon to demand the return of their land and homes as well as the release of Mrs. Tran Thi Hoang, a victim of land injustice apprehended in a previous demonstration. The police brought in trucks to disperse the group and forced demonstrators to be transported back to Tien Giang.
- On 27 April 2011, hundreds of people from Hung Yen assembled in front of the National Assembly in central Hanoi to protest the government's confiscation of their land to build the Ecopark urban zone.

Meanwhile, a group of victims of land injustice from Bac Giang province gathered in front of the provincial people's committee to urge for a solution to their land situation. Subsequently, they were detained by the police.

- On 21 and 28 February, and on 14 March 2011, numerous victims of land injustice from the provinces of Binh Thuan, Ben Tre, Dong Thap, Can Gio, assembled in front of the Government Inspection Office at 201 Vo Thi Sau Street in Saigon to demonstrate and demand the return of their land and homes taken by force by the authorities. Security forces were called in to suppress and disperse them.

VIII. HUMAN TRAFFICKING

In March 2011, after much international prodding and pressure, the Vietnamese National Assembly passed the Law on Prevention, Suppression Against Human Trafficking. At the same time, Premier Nguyen Tan Dung signed a decision in August 2011 for a 5-year anti-human trafficking program, to be carried out from 2011 to 2015, with an estimated funding of 270 billion dong (roughly 13 million US dollars). Nonetheless, the human trafficking problem in Vietnam kept becoming increasingly serious, instead of being ameliorated.

In a related seminar held by the Hanoi Justice Office on 23 December 2011, Lieutenant Colonel Duong Van Giap, Deputy Head of the Criminal Police Service of Hanoi, admitted that human trafficking cases kept mounting in a rather complex fashion.²²

The U.S. 2011 Annual Report on International Human Trafficking continued to put Vietnam on List 2 for follow-up, as in 2010. This meant that within one year, Vietnam would, without improvement, be placed on List 3 with a possible risk of US sanctions.

Current human trafficking cases involve three main types of victims: young women and girls lured to serve as “sex slaves” in Vietnam or in neighboring countries; “brides” sent to foreign countries; and export workers or workers abducted for export abroad. Notably, many Vietnamese newborn

children have recently been sold across the border to China, allegedly to meet the need for boys in Chinese families against their government’s family planning policy.

1. Women and Children Tricked into Becoming Sex Slaves

According to the statistics issued by Vietnam Ministry of Public Security, after six years of implementation of the anti-human trafficking program, from 2004 to 2010, there were nationwide some 1,950 trafficking cases involving women and children carried out by 3,540 suspects and involving 4,800 victims.²³ Actually, the number of victims may be several times higher than that.

The main and direct cause of Vietnamese women and children being tricked into becoming sex slaves both in and out of Vietnam was poverty, a consequence of the unjust social policies created by the red capitalists. This sad situation has expanded significantly after Vietnam chose to follow the open trade system which allowed for thieves and suitable conditions for villains to carry out their illegal activities. Their victims, sometimes even girls under 10 years of age, were either tricked by rogues or sold by their own destitute parents who were forced to do so in a desperate attempt to relieve their poverty. They were mostly given sweet promises of high-waged jobs abroad. Some were issued legal exit papers while others were discreetly led through forests to China or Cambodia or kept in containers crossing the borders.

In 2011, the trend of women and children trafficking reached an increase of 70% in

²² Pháp luật Xã hội, “Phổ biến pháp luật về phòng, chống mua bán người”, <http://phapluatxahoi.vn/20111224110715269p1002c1022/phai-tap-trung-vao-nhom-doi-tuong-co-nguy-co-cao.htm> (accessed 26 Dec 2011).

²³ Công an TP Hồ Chí Minh (People’s Public Security of Ho Chi Minh City online), “4.800 người là nạn nhân của nạn buôn bán phụ nữ- trẻ em”. <http://www.congan.com.vn/?mod=detnews&catid=681&id=197416> (accessed 28 Dec 2011).

North Vietnam with China. Next was Cambodia; while in recent years, this traffic has spread to Malaysia, Thailand, Hong Kong, South Korea, Russia, etc...

With the assistance of international agencies such as ActionAid Vietnam (AAV), Alliance Anti-Traffic (ATT), International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and International Labor Organization (ILO), many seminars and recommendations have been offered in 2011 on the engagement of women and children in sexual businesses. However, nothing concrete has yet resulted, mainly because the government has failed to give its serious concern and carry out effective prevention as well as punishment. After six years of enforcement from 2004 to 2010, the national anti-human trafficking program has worked only in 12 out of 63 provinces involved.²⁴

2. Selling of Vietnamese "Brides" to Foreigners

This is the same problem in scope as that of tricking women and children into becoming sex slaves abroad. The main cause was, here again, poverty created by the government's policies resulting in great differences of income and therefore injustice. This has been a widespread issue among the provinces in the South for many years before it openly spread North in recent years. Most of the victimized young girls came from the countryside and were lured by mediators into agreeing to "marry" certain men from Taiwan, South Korea, China, and then follow them overseas, without love or even knowledge of their own background. The

sights of these victims standing naked in front of the "foreign candidates" for them to make their pick at many locations, especially in the South, have been harshly condemned by public opinion which considers such treatment to be more savage than the ancient slave markets in the West.

Statistically, from 1998 to the end of 2010, the Vietnam Ministry of Justice has accepted applications and issued permits for 294,280 Vietnamese women to marry citizens of over 50 nations and territories. The majority of these hasty marriages was arranged by profit-making intermediary organizations. Based on a survey by the Institute of Labor and Social Sciences, only 7% of these foreign marriages were initiated by love.²⁵

These unfortunate girls readily accepted to trade their life for a chance to get rid of their own and their family's destitution, even to become sex slaves and hard laborers away from their home country. Not a few Vietnamese brides in Taiwanese and South Korean families have been subjected to brutality or asked to provide forced sexual pleasure for more than one person in their husbands' family; worse, they may even be sold to brothels. A number have even been killed by their "husbands" or the husband's family members, others have had to commit suicide in desperation.

So far, the Vietnamese government has had no firm and effective policy to deal with illegal marriage intermediaries. Criminally, these lawless activities and "abuses of marriage registration for profit, sexual violation, and labor exploitation" are currently punishable by law (based on Decision No. 60/2009/NĐ-CP) but they can be fined merely from ten to twenty million

²⁴ Đài Á Châu Tự Do (Radio Free Asia), "Phòng chống buôn người tại VN (phần 2)," <http://rfvietnam.wordpress.com/2010/11/29/phong-ch%E1%BB%91ng-buon-ng%C6%B0%E1%BB%9Di-t%E1%BA%A1i-vn-ph%E1%BA%A7n-2/> (accessed 26 Dec 2011).

²⁵ Pháp Luật, (Law online) "Chỉ 7% cuộc hôn nhân với người nước ngoài vì yêu", <http://www.baomoi.com/Home/TinhYeu/www.phapluatvn.vn/Chi-7-cuoc-hon-nhan-voi-nguoi-nuoc-ngoai-vi-yeu/6124406.epi> (accessed 29 Dec 2011).

Vietnamese dong (equal to US\$500-1,000) in the most flagrant cases.

Worse yet, the government has, since 2010, established a number of state-managed agencies in Saigon and the province of Binh Duong to replace those illegal marriage intermediaries, obviously showing that it is still considering women as nothing more than an export commodity for sale but under its control, instead of leaving it in the hands of immoral private persons.

In 2011, a number of seminars were held regionally and nationwide on consequences of marriages with foreigners through intermediaries. Beside the government's vague decision made at the end of the year on the formation of inter-branch work teams to deal with the issue, there has absolutely been nothing done to punish the criminals or get this human trafficking business out from the hands of profit-making intermediaries. Meanwhile, the state has tried to blame the pitiful victims for their realistic life style, laziness in working, and desire to marry foreigners for profit... just to deny its social responsibilities for providing its citizens with decent living conditions, and at the same time, hide its dark schemes to allow intermediaries to make profit on the back of these unfortunate women's suffering and debasement.

3. Exploitation of Export Workers

In addition to the trafficking in women and children, the issue of export labor under the label of "brides" has come to the public attention only during the last few years. Even the Law on Prevention, Suppression Against Human Trafficking, effective as of March 2011, stopped short at the general concept of "Forced Labor" and failed to admit that people who have been tricked into going abroad to be exploited belong to a form of human trafficking. There are two

kinds of victims in this category: export labor according to state programs, and those tricked by trafficking bands to become labor slaves overseas.

According to the Foreigners Management Service, there are about 500,000 workers currently working in over forty countries and territories, mostly in Malaysia, South Korea, Taiwan, and in the Middle East. In 2011, although a number of them have had to be repatriated prior to the expiration of their contracts due to the political upheavals in the Middle East, the export worker force keeps growing through the intermediary companies. Up to November 2011, there had been 81,475 workers going abroad, at an average of 8,000 people a month.²⁶

The majority of these export workers were victims of intermediary companies that had links with state officials. The victims had to mortgage their properties to pay for the fees charged by the intermediary companies; however, most of them were neglected by these greedy agencies when they were badly mistreated and forced to work awfully hard in exchange for a pittance by their employers. In many instances, their passports were confiscated by the employers, which turned them into detainees living miserably under the strictest control by their bosses.

A research report made in 2011 showed that 100% of export workers had to make loans or mortgage their properties to pay for expenses while their wages were not higher than those of their peers in Vietnam, sometimes even lower than free helpers at ports or construction sites²⁷, and very hard to be rehired when they repatriate.²⁸

²⁶ Cục Quản lý lao động ngoài nước (Department of Overseas Labour), <http://www.dolab.gov.vn/index.aspx?mid=1155&nid=1720&sid=11> (accessed 26 Dec 2011).

²⁷ Người Lao Động (Laborer), "Giảm dần lao động sang Malaysia", <http://nld.com.vn/20110425090339480p1010c1011/>

Another aspect of the human trafficking issue that deserves attention is that many youths have been kidnapped or tricked into working as slaves in China's plantations and production factories, or forced into growing and selling heroin (in East Europe, Canada, England...) Typical was the case of Ms. Thuy Nguyen in England, who was accused last November of "exploiting emigrants to profit an organized international network of criminals."²⁹

villainous individuals and organizations, the human trafficking continues to exist under complicated forms. As a result, victims of the "modern-day slavery" keep undergoing humiliating miseries and drastic violations of their dignity, as well as economic and cultural hardships.

Article 75 of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Constitution states: "The State protects the legitimate interests of Vietnamese people residing abroad"; yet, the reality is, due to the intermediary companies' fear of losing profitable clients, Vietnam's embassy officials abroad never offer any positive help to the victims. A number of organizations run by overseas Vietnamese, such as the 'Committee to Protect Vietnamese Workers' and the 'Coalition to Abolish Modern-day Slavery in Asia' (CAMSA), have made great efforts in rescuing victims; however, no effective measures have been enforced to radically uproot this traffic as it is mainly a collusion between state officials who provide cooperation and protection to the rogue operators and the lack of official supervisory agencies for these kind of activities.

In conclusion, partly due to the victims' eagerness to escape from their poverty and partly due to the illicit participation and protection by powerful officials for

[giam-dan-lao-dong-sang-malaysia.htm](#) (accessed 12 Dec 2011).

²⁸ Người Lao Động (Laborer), "Đi xuất khẩu lao động: Khó giàu", <http://nld.com.vn/20110316113255499p1010c1011/di-xuat-khau-lao-dong-kho-giau.htm> (accessed 26 Dec 2011).

²⁹ The UK Border Agency, "UK head of people smuggling gang jailed", <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/news/articles/2011/november/38-people-smuggle> (accessed 18 Dec 2011)

RECOMMENDATIONS

In light of the evidence of egregious and systematic violations of human rights which have occurred for many years and still continue in Vietnam, The Vietnam Human Rights Network eagerly presents the following recommendations for:

The Government of Vietnam:

- To seriously honor its international pledges on human rights as listed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international covenants on human rights, of which it is a state member or signatory.
- To remove Article 4 of its Constitution that allows the CPV to monopolize the national leadership with dishonest laws and rules in disregard of the people's basic rights to develop their personal and social life.
- To immediately and unconditionally release all prisoners of conscience and detained "victims of land injustice."
- To cease legal sanctions and persecution against journalists and citizens peacefully expressing their opinions through the printed media, radio and Internet.
- To immediately put an end to the criminalization of Vietnamese people's legitimate political activities; to comply with the internationally recognized standards of criminal justice; to halt without delay the persecution of lawyers; and to improve the current prison regimes.

Democracy-and- Freedom-Loving Governments:

- To end immediately the use of public security force as a tool for dominance and oppression by the CPV.
- To respect the freedom of religion by repealing all legislation that are intended to restrict the people's religious practices; not to interfere with the internal activities of all religions, and to stop the persecution of clergy and faithful.
- To amend the Labor Code by guaranteeing the right to peaceful assembly and association and allow the establishment of independent trade unions.
- To restore the people's private property rights of land; to put an immediate end to forced evictions carried out in contradiction with international human rights law; and to return government-confiscated real properties to their legitimate owners.
- To implement specific measures to end human trafficking under the disguised forms of "brides" to foreigners and export workers.

Democracy-and- Freedom-Loving Governments:

- To strongly raise concrete violations of human rights in their human rights dialogues with Hanoi, forcefully bring up specific cases of human rights violations, and demand concrete resolutions before proceeding to other general matters.
- To consider Vietnam's achievements in the realm of human rights as a prerequisite condition for aid as well as economic investment projects.
- Especially for the U.S. Government:

- The U.S. Congress and Senate to enact bills “Vietnam Human Rights Sanctions Act S. 1051”, “Vietnam Human Rights Act HR1410”, and “Vietnam Human Rights Sanctions Act H.R.156” compelling Vietnam to respect its citizens’ basic rights.
- The U.S. State Department to consider placing Vietnam back on the CPC list, as repeatedly recommended by the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and other non-governmental organizations (such as Human Rights Watch, Freedom House, and Amnesty International), as well as by U.S. members of Congress.

organizations unless it ceases to disregard cited warnings.

The Vietnamese Community Abroad:

- To make forceful representations in parliaments of their countries of resettlement and in the court of world public opinion about Hanoi’s lapses in this area, which qualify it as among the most egregious violators of human rights among civilized nations on earth.
- To continue to provide spiritual and material support to human rights activists in Vietnam.

International Human Rights Organizations:

- To continue to monitor closely the human rights condition in Vietnam, and raise their voice to forcefully condemn instances of grave human rights abuses committed by the Vietnamese authorities.
- To remove Vietnam from international human rights

APPENDIX

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE IN VIETNAM*

(Updated by Vietnam Human Rights Network as of March 2012)

In prison: 163 persons

1. **A Thien:** Born: 1983. The minority ethnic group in Gia Lai, arrested 20/11/2010 in Hochiminh City for alleged affiliation with the Vietnamese-Love-Vietnamese Party (Nguoi Viet Yeu Nguoi Viet). Charge unknown. Prison: B20 Detention Center in Gia Lai.
2. **Ama Help:** Born: 1950. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2002, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for "undermining unity policy" under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
3. **Bui Dang Thuy** (Bùi Đăng Thủy): Born: 1950. Former pilot of the Republic of Vietnam Air Force, member of The People's Action Party of Vietnam (Dang Nhan Dan Hanh Dong), arrested in 1997, sentenced to 18 years in prison, under Article 91 of the Vietnamese Penal code on "Fleeing abroad or defecting to stay overseas with a view to opposing the people' administration" in 09/1999; currently imprisoned at Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
4. **Bui Tan Nha** (Bùi Tấn Nhã): Born: 1953. Former Treasurer of the Hoa-Hao Buddhist (pre-1975), arrest on 07/13/1997, sentenced to life imprisonment, under Article 79 of the 1999 Penal code on "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" on 07/13/1997; currently imprisoned at Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province
5. **Bui Thi Minh Hang** (Bùi Thị Minh Hằng): Born: 1964. Anti-China protestor/demonstrator, arrested on 11/27/2011 for 2 years of "re-education" based on "Administrative Probation Order" dated 11/8/2011 of People's Committee Ha Noi; currently imprisoned at Binh Xuyen, Vinh Phuc
6. **Cao Van Tinh** (Cao Văn Tinh): Born: 1974. Accused of member and collaborating with the Vietnam Reform Party (Đảng Việt Tân), arrested 8/2010, sentenced to 4,5 years' imprisonment and 4 years of house arrest under Article 79 on "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" on May 30, 2011. Prison: Ben Tre provincial jail.
7. **Chu Manh Son** (Chu Mạnh Sơn): Born: 1989. Member of Catholic Youth, arrested 8/3/2011 in Nghe An, accused of "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: Nghi Kim, Nghe An.

* This list represents only a small fraction of prisoners of conscience being held in Vietnam. A great number of prisoners have been detained without trial, especially minority ethnic people and followers of unrecognized churches in the Central Highlands.

8. **Cu Huy Ha Vu** (Cù Huy Hà Vũ): Born: 1957. Doctor of laws, a human rights lawyer has undertaken proceedings against Vietnamese senior officers (including the two times against Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung) for protecting human rights and civil rights in VN. Arrested 11/05/2010, sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on "Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam" on 04/05/2011. Prison: Thanh Hoa.
9. **Dang Ba Tong** (Đặng Bá Tông): Born: Unknown. Member of The People's Democratic Party of Vietnam (Đảng Dân Chủ Nhân Dân), was arrested in Tien Giang Province in August, 2006, accused of "Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam" under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code, has yet to be sentenced publicly.
10. **Dang Xuan Dieu** (Đặng Xuân Diệu): Born: 1977. Businessman, member of Catholic Youth, arrested 7/30/2011 in Hochiminh City, accused of "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Ha Noi.
11. **Danh Huong** (Danh Hưởng): Born: Unknown. Khmer in Cambodia, member of the Government of Free Vietnam (Chính phủ Việt Nam Tự Do), was arrested in Saigon on July 19, 1999, sentenced to 17 years in prison under Article 79 on "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" on May 16, 2001; currently imprisoned at camp 2 Xuan Loc, Dong Nai Province.
12. **Dau Van Duong** (Đậu Văn Dương): Born: 1986. Member of Catholic Youth, arrested 8/2/2011 in Nghe An, accused of "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: Nghi Kim, Nghe An.
13. **Dinh Dang Dinh** (Đinh Đăng Định): Born: 1963. Teacher, arrested 10/21/2011 in Kien Duc, Daknong, accused of "Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam" under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Detention Center in Daknong
14. **Do Huong** (Đỗ Hường aka **Đoàn Hùng**): Born: Unknown. U.S. Permanent Resident, former Captain of Republic of Vietnam's Army, member of Alliance of Vietnamese Revolutionary Parties; arrested 1993, sentenced to LIFE imprisonment for "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Section B, Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
15. **Do Thanh Nhan** (Đỗ Thanh Nhân): Born: 1926. Member of the Government of Free Vietnam (Chính phủ Việt Nam Tự Do), was arrested in 1999, and sentenced to 20 years in prison under Article 79 on "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" on May 16, 2001, currently imprisoned at camp 2 Xuan Loc, Dong Nai Province
16. **Do Thi Minh Hanh** (Đỗ Thị Minh Hạnh aka **Ngọc Anh**): Born: 1985. Member of the United Workers-Farmers Organization (UWFO), an unapproved union working on behalf of farmers whose land has been taken by the government for development. Arrested on 02/23/2010 for distributing anti-government leaflets, was convicted under Article 89 on "disrupting security", sentenced to 7 years in jail on 10/27/2010 at Tra Vinh provincial

People's Court. Prison: Tra Vinh provincial jail.

17. **Do Van Thai** (Đỗ Văn Thái): Born: 1960. Member of the Government of Free Vietnam (Chính phủ Việt Nam Tự Do), arrested on 2/28/2000, sentenced to 18 years in prison under Article 84 & 79 on “Terrorism to oppose the people’s administration” and “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration” on 5/29/2001; currently imprisoned at camp 2 Xuan Loc, Dong Nai Province.
18. **Doan Dinh Nam** (Đoàn Đình Nam): Born: 1951. Member of “Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn” in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/6/2012, accused of “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
19. **Doan Huy Chuong** (Đoàn Huy Chương aka **Nguyễn Tấn Hoàng**): Born: 1985. One of the founding members of the United Workers-Farmers Organization (UWFO), an unapproved union working on behalf of farmers whose land has been taken by the government for development. Chuong was arrested in 10/2006 and sentenced to 18 months in jail in 2007. He was rearrested on 02/13/2010, convicted under Article 89 on “disrupting security” and sentenced to 7 years in prison on 10/27/2010 by Tra Vinh provincial court for instigating labor strikes and distributing anti-government leaflets. Prison: Tra Vinh provincial jail.
20. **Doan Van Cu** (Đoàn Văn Cù): Born: 1961. Member of “Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn” in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/10/2012, accused of “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
21. **Duong Au** (Dương Âu): Born: 1955. Land rights activist, member of the Vietnam Populist Party (Đảng Vì Dân), arrested on August 26, 2009 at the Vietnam-Cambodia borders, sentenced to 5 years in prison and 5 years of house arrest for violating Article 91 of the 1999 Penal code on “Fleeing abroad or defecting to stay overseas with a view to opposing the people’ administration”. Prison: Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province. Au had served two years' imprisonment prior to current term.
22. **Duong Kim Khai** (Dương Kim Khải): Born: 1958 . Pastor of the Cow Shed Mennonite home church and a land rights activist, member of the Vietnam Reform Party (Đảng Việt Tân), was detained 8/10/2010, sentenced to 5 years’ imprison and 5 years of house arrest under Article 79 on “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration” on 5/30/2011. Prison: Ben Tre provincial jail.
23. **Duong Thi Tron** (Dương Thị Tròn): Born: 1947. A Hoa-Hao Buddhist activist, arrested on 10/02/2006. In the same trial at Dong Thap on 05/03/2007, she was convicted with 1st sentence of 4 years in prison for “Disrupting security” & “Resisting persons in the performance of their official duties” under Article 245 & 257 of the Vietnamese Penal code, and with 2nd sentence of 5 years in prison for her connection to Mrs. Nguyen Thi Thu who set herself on fire (suicided) 2001 in Can Tho province for protesting religious oppression of government; total 9 years’ imprisonment. Prison: Z30, Xuan Loc, Dong Nai.
24. **H Thuy Ya** (H Thủy Ya) Born: 1962. The minority ethnic group, an Evangelist follower, arrested 2008, sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “undermining the unity policy” in 2008. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.

25. **Ho Duc Hoa** (Hồ Đức Hòa): Born: 1974. Member of Catholic Youth, arrested 7/30/2011 in Hochiminh City, accused of “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration” under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Ha Noi.
26. **Ho Long Duc** (Hồ Long Đức): Born: 1953. Member of the Government of Free Vietnam (Chính phủ Việt Nam Tự Do), was arrested on 11/25/1999, and sentenced to 20 years in prison under Article 84 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “Terrorism to oppose the people’s administration” on 05/29/2001; currently imprisoned at camp 2 Xuan Loc, Dong Nai Province.
27. **Ho Thi Bích Khuong** (Hồ Thị Bích Khương): Born: 1967. Land rights activist, member of Bloc 8406, arrested 1/15/2011, sentenced on 12/29/2011 at Nghe An provincial Court to 5 years’ imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest for “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Nghi Kim, Nghe An provincial jail
28. **Ho Van Oanh** (Hồ Văn Oanh): Born: 1985. Member of Catholic Youth, arrested 8/27/2011 in Hochiminh City, accused of “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration” under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: B34 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - 237 Nguyen Van Cu, Hochiminh City.
29. **Hoang Phong** (Hoàng Phong): Born: 1985 . Social activist. Arrested 12/29/2011, accused of “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Nghi Kim, Nghe An provincial jail.
30. **Huynh Anh** (Huỳnh Anh): Born: 1975. Member of the Government of Free Vietnam (Chính phủ Việt Nam Tự Do), arrested in 2004, sentenced to 8 years' imprisonment for violating Article 91 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “fleeing to a foreign country to oppose the government”. Prison: Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
31. **Huynh Anh Tri** (Huỳnh Anh Trí): Born: 1971. Member of the Government of Free Vietnam (Chính phủ Việt Nam Tự Do), arrested on 12/29/1999, sentenced to 14 years in prison under Article 84 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “Terrorism to oppose the people’s administration” on 05/29/2001; currently imprisoned at camp 2/Z30A Xuan Loc, Dong Nai Province.
32. **Huynh Anh Tu** (Huỳnh Anh Tú): Born: 1968. Member of the Government of Free Vietnam (Chính phủ Việt Nam Tự Do), arrested on Dec 29, 1999, sentenced to 14 years in prison under Article 84 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “Terrorism to oppose the people’s administration” on 05/29/2001; currently imprisoned at camp 2 Xuan Loc, Dong Nai Province.
33. **K Khiep**: Born: unknown . Ko Ho ethnic group. Arrested 12/11/ 2010, in Tay Ninh for alleged affiliation with the Vietnamese-Love-Vietnamese Party (Nguoi Viet Yeu Nguoi Viet). Charge unknown. Prison: B20 Detention Center in Gia Lai.
34. **K Theo**: Born: unknown . Ko Ho ethic group. Arrested 12/10/2010, in Tay Ninh for alleged affiliation with the Vietnamese-Love-Vietnamese Party (Nguoi Viet Yeu Nguoi Viet). Charge unknown. Prison: B20 Detention Center in Gia Lai.

35. **Kpa Y Co:** Born: 1980. The minority ethnic group, an Evangelist follower of the Vietnam Good News Mission (VGNM) church in Song Hinh district of Phu Yen Province, was arrested on 01/27/2010, and sentenced to 4 years in prison and 2 years of house arrest for “undermining the unity policy” on Nov 15, 2010 by Phu Yen People’s Court. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
36. **Kpa Thom:** Born: unknown . Montagnard (Jarai) Christian. Arrested 8/25/2010, in Chu Prong district, Gia Lai for allegedly using unauthorized religious activities to incite unrest in rubber plantations. Charges and whereabouts unknown.
37. **Kpuih Do:** Born: unknown . Montagnard (Jarai) Christian. Arrested August 25, 2010, in Chu Prong district, Gia Lai for allegedly using unauthorized religious activities to incite unrest in rubber plantations. Prison: B20 Detention Center in Gia Lai.
38. **Kpuih Theng:** Born: 1965 . Montagnard (Jarai) Christian in Chur Puh, Gia Lai. Arrested 9/13/2010, by border guards in Tay Ninh province as he was trying to flee to Cambodia. Charge unknown. Prison: B20 Detention Center in Gia Lai.
39. **Ksor Y Du:** Born: 1963. The minority ethnic group, an Evangelist follower of the Vietnam Good News Mission (VGNM) church in Song Hinh district of Phu Yen Province, was arrested on Jan 27, 2010, and sentenced to 6 years in prison and 4 years of house arrest for “undermining the unity policy” on Nov 15, 2010 by Phu Yen People’s Court. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
40. **Le Cong Dinh** (Lê Công Định aka **Nguyễn Kha**): Born: 1968. Former vice president of the Ho Chi Minh City Bar Association 2005-2008, a human rights lawyers was willing to defend many of the above political dissidents in court, until he himself was arrested on 6/13/2009, sentenced to 5 years in prison and 3 years of house arrest on 1/20/2010 in Ho Chi Minh City, under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal code on “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration”. Prison: K1, Z30A, Xuan Loc, Dong Nai.
41. **Le Duc Dong** (Lê Đức Động): Born: 1983. Member of “Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn” in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/5/2012, accused of “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
42. **Le Duy Loc** (Lê Duy Lộc): Born: 1956. Member of “Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn” in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/5/2012, accused of “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
43. **Le Kim Hung** (Lê Kim Hùng): Born: 1968. Member of the Government of Free Vietnam (Chính phủ Việt Nam Tự Do), was arrested on June 18, 1999, and sentenced to 20 years in prison under Article 84 of the Vietnamese Penal code on “Terrorism to oppose the people’s administration” on 5/29/2001; currently imprisoned at camp 2 Xuan Loc, Dong Nai Province.
44. **Le Phuc** (Lê Phúc): Born: 1951. Member of “Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn” in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/5/2012, accused of “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.

45. **Le Thang Long** (Lê Thăng Long): Born: 1967. Blogger & businessman, arrested in Ho Chi Minh City on 6/14/2009, sentenced on 1/20/2010 to 5 years in prison and 3 years of house arrest, under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration”. Prison: Z30A, Xuan Loc, Dong Nai.
46. **Le Thanh Tung** (Lê Thanh Tùng): Born: 1968. Free journalist & pro-democracy activist, member of Bloc 8406, arrested on 12/1/2011 at Ha Dong, accused of “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has been sentenced yet. Prison: B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Ha Noi.
47. **Le Trong Cu** (Lê Trọng Cù): Born: 1966. Member of “Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn” in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/5/2012, accused of “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
48. **Le Van Soc** (Lê Văn Sóc): Born: 1956. A Hoa-Hao Buddhist activist in Vinh Long Province, arrested on 11/04//2006 in Dong Thap Province, sentenced on 5/03/2007 to 6 years' imprisonment for “Causing public disorder” & “Resisting persons in the performance of their official duties” under Article 245 & 257 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
49. **Le Van Son (Lê Văn Sơn)**: Born: 1938. A Hoa-Hao Buddhist activist, arrested in 1982, and sentenced to life imprisonment on charge of “Activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration” under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. He is detained in T5, Thanh Cam district, Thanh Hoa, province.
50. **Le Son** (Paulus Lê Sơn): Born: 1985. Member of Catholic Youth, arrested 8/3/2011 in Ha Noi, accused of “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration” under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Ha Noi.
51. **Le Van Thanh** (Lê Văn Thành): Born: 1975. Member of Falun Gong in Vietnam. Arrested 6/11/2010 in Ha Noi, accused of installing equipment to broadcast Falun Gong's “Sound of Hope Network” into China, sentenced on 11/10/2011 to 2 years' imprisonment for “Illegally transmitting information on the network of telecommunication” under Article 226 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Ha Noi.
52. **Le Van Tinh** (Lê Văn Tinh): Born: 1940. Former House Representative of the Republic of Vietnam, advisor to the Hoa-Hao Buddhist. Member of the People's Action Party, was arrested in Siem-Riep province (Campuchia) on 01/25/1995, extradited to Vietnam with 21 other PAP on 12/5/1996, and sentenced to 20 years imprisonment by the An Giang Provincial Court on 9/8/1999 for violating Article 91 & 79 of the Vietnamese Penal code on “fleeing to a foreign country to oppose the government” and “attempting to overthrow the people government”. Prison: K2, Z30A, Xuan Loc, Dong Nai.

Tinh had been held 10 years in a “re-education camp” prior to current prison term.
53. **Lu Văn Bầy** (Lư Văn Bầy): Born: 1952. Arrested 3/26/2011, sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest, under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code

on “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” on 8/22/2011. Prison: unknown.

54. **Mai Thi Dung** (Mai Thị Dung): Born: 1969. Leader of Hoa-Hao Buddhist women League of Cho Moi District, An Giang Province, was arrested on August 5, 2005. In the same trial at Dong Thap on 05/03/2007, she convicted with 1st sentence of 5 years in prison for “Disrupting security” & “Resisting persons in the performance of their official duties” under Article 245 & 257 of the Vietnamese Penal Code, and with 2nd sentence of 6 years in prison for her connection to Mrs. Nguyen Thi Thu who set herself on fire (suicided) 2001 in Can Tho province for protesting religious oppression of government; total 11 years’ imprisonment. Prison: Z30, Xuan Loc, Dong Nai.
55. **Nguyen Ba Dang** (Nguyễn Bá Đăng): Born: 1965. Teacher, member of Bloc 8406 and of the The People’s Democratic Party of Vietnam (Đảng Dân Chủ Nhân Dân); arrested on 1/22/2010 in Hai Duong and sentenced to 3 years in prison, under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam”. Prison: Kim Chi, Hai Duong
56. **Nguyen Chi Thanh** (Nguyễn Chí Thành): Born: 1973. Land rights activist and member of the Cow Shed Mennonite home church. Arrested 08/2010, accused of member and collaborating with the Vietnam Reform Party (Đảng Việt Tân), arrested 8/2010, sentenced to 2 years’ imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest under Article 79 on “activities aimed at overthrowing the people’s administration” on 5/30/2011. Prison: Ben Tre provincial jail.
57. **Nguyen Cong Chinh** (Nguyễn Công Chính): Born: 1969. Pastor in the Lutherran Church, arrested 4/28/2011, accused of “undermining unity policy” under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: T20, Pleiku, Kon Tum
58. **Nguyen Dinh Cuong** (Nguyễn Đình Cường): Born: 1981. Blogger, social activist. Arrested 12/24/2011, accused of “activities aimed at overthrowing the people’s administration” under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Ha Noi.
59. **Nguyen Hoang Quoc Hung** (Nguyễn Hoàng Quốc Hùng): Born: 1981. Member of the United Workers-Farmers Organization (UWFO), an unapproved union working on behalf of farmers whose land has been taken by the government for development. He was arrested on 2/24/2010, was convicted under Article 89 on “disrupting security”, sentenced to 9 years’ imprisonment on 10/27/2010 at Tra Vinh provincial People’s Court. Prison: Tra Vinh provincial jail.
60. **Nguyen Hoang Son** (Nguyễn Hoàng Sơn): Born: 1960. Member of the Government of Free. Arrested on 10/7/1999. Sentenced to 13 years’ imprisonment under Article 84 of the Vietnamese Penal code on “Terrorism to oppose the people’s administration” on 5/29/2001. Prison: Z30A, Xuan-Loc, Dong-Nai.
61. **Nguyen Huu Cau** (Nguyễn Hữu Cầu): Born: 1947. Former Captain of Republic of Vietnam’s Army. Arrested on 10/09/1982. Sentenced to LIFE imprisonment under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “undermining unity policy” on 5/19/1983. Prison: Section K2, Z30A, Xuan Loc, Dong-Nai.

Cau had been held 5 years in a “re-education camp” prior to current prison term.

62. **Nguyen Kim Nhan** (Nguyễn Kim Nhân): Born: 1949. Land rights activist from Bac Giang Province, arrested on 9/25/2008, sentenced on 10/09/2009 to 2 years in prison and 2 years of house arrest for “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Ha Noi. Released in Jan 2011 after completing his prison sentence; rearrested in urgency on 06/07/2011, accused of “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: Bac Giang
63. **Nguyen Ky Loc** (Nguyễn Kỳ Lộc): Born: 1951. Member of “Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn” in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/6/2012, accused of “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
64. **Nguyen Loc Phuoc** (Nguyễn Lộc Phước, aka **Pe Vi Chet**): Born: 1981. Arrested 20/11/2010 in Hochiminh City for alleged affiliation with the Vietnamese-Love-Vietnamese Party (Nguoi Viet Yeu Nguoi Viet). Charge unknown. Prison: B20 Detention Center in Gia Lai.
65. **Nguyen Long Hoi** (Nguyễn Long Hội): Born: 1940. Arrested in 1997, convicted for violating Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration”, served 13 years of a 20-year sentence, then escaped. He was re-captured and imprisoned for the remaining 7 years' imprisonment, Prison: Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
66. **Nguyen Manh Son** (Nguyễn Mạnh Sơn): Born: 1943. Retired cadre, arrested on 5/8/2009 in Hai Phong, sentenced on 10/9/2009 to 3 years' imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest, under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam”. Prison: B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Ha Noi.
67. **Nguyen Ngoc Cuong** (Nguyễn Ngọc Cường): Born: 1956. Arrested 04/02/2011 in Dong Nai for allegedly distributing anti-government leaflets . Sentenced on 10/21/2011 to 7 years' imprisonment for “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Dong Nai
68. **Nguyen Ngoc Phuong** (Nguyễn Ngọc Phương): Born: 1977. Member of the Government of Free Vietnam (Chính phủ Việt Nam Tự Do), arrested on 12/29/1999, sentenced on 5/29/2001 to 13 years' imprisonment, under Article 84 of the Vietnamese Penal code on “Terrorism to oppose the people's administration”. Prison: Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
69. **Nguyen Ngoc Tuong Thi** (Nguyễn Ngọc Tường Thi): Born: unknown. Arrested on 04/02/2011 & accused of distributing anti-government leaflets . Sentenced on 10/21/2011 to 2 years' imprisonment for “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Dong Nai
70. **Nguyen Phong** (Nguyễn Phong): Born: 1975. Leader of the Vietnam Progressive Party (PPV), arrested on 2/17/2007 in the city of Hue, sentenced on 3/30/2007 to 6 years in prison and 3 years of house arrest, under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” ; currently

imprisoned in Thanh Hoa Province.

71. **Nguyen Thanh Tam** (Nguyễn Thành Tâm): Born: 1953. Land rights activist and member of the Cow Shed Mennonite home church, was detained on July 18, 2010 in his hometown of Ben-Tre province, accused of a member & collaborating with the Vietnam Reform Party (Đảng Việt Tân), on 5/30/2011 sentenced to 2 years' imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest, under Article 79 of the Vietnamese penal code on "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration". Prison: Ben Tre Provincial jail.
72. **Nguyen Tien Trung** (Nguyễn Tiến Trung): Born: 1983. Member of the Democratic Party of Vietnam (DPV), arrested on 7/7/2009 in Saigon, sentenced on 1/21/2010 to 7 years' imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest, under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration". Prison: K1, Z30A, Xuan Loc, Dong Nai.
73. **Nguyen Trung Ton** (Nguyễn Trung Tôn): Born: 1971. Religious activist, Block 8406 supporter, and Protestant pastor, who heads the Full Gospel Church in Thanh Hoa province, arrested 1/15/2011, sentenced on 12/29/2011 to 2 years' imprisonment and 2 years of house arrest for "Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam" under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Nghi Kim, Nghe An provincial jail
74. **Nguyen Tuan Nam** (Nguyễn Tuấn Nam): Born: 1936. Member of the People Action Party. Arrested in 12/1997, sentenced to 20-years' imprisonment in 9/1999, under Article 91 of the Vietnamese Penal code on "Fleeing abroad or defecting to stay overseas with a view to opposing the people' administration". Prison: Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
75. **Nguyen Van Canh** (Nguyễn Văn Cảnh): Born: 1950. Member of the People Action Party. Arrested in 1999. Sentenced to 20-years' imprisonment, under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration". Prison: Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
76. **Nguyen Van Dien** (Nguyễn Văn Điền): Born: Unknown. Deputy Chairman of the Hoa-Hao Buddhist. Arrest on 08/05/2005. Sentenced on 09/27/2005 to 7 years' imprisonment, under Article 89 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on "Disrupting security". Prison: K2, Z30A, Xuan-Loc, Dong-Nai.
77. **Nguyen Van Duyet** (Nguyễn Văn Duyệt): Born: 1980. Member of Catholic Youth, arrested 8/7/2011 in Nghe An, accused of "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Ha Noi.
78. **Nguyen Van Hai** (Nguyễn Văn Hải, aka **Điều Cày**): Born: 1952. Blogger and free journalist, founding member of the Free Journalists Club, arrested in Saigon on 4/20/2008, sentenced on 9/10/2008 to 2 years and 6 months in prison. At the end of his prison term on 10/20/2010, he wasn't released and is continuously accused of violating Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on "Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam", has yet to be sentenced publicly.
79. **Nguyen Van Hoa** (Nguyễn Văn Hòa): Born: 1940. Member of Anti-Communist group,

arrested in 1992, sentenced to 20-years' imprisonment for “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration” under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.

80. **Nguyen Van Lia** (Nguyễn Văn Lía aka **Ba Lía**, aka **Hoàng Thụy Như Liên**): Born: 1940. A Hoa-Hao Buddhist activist, arrested 4/24/2011 at Cho Moi, on 12/13/2011 sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment for “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: An Giang provincial jail. Lia had served sentence of 3 years in 2003 prior to current term.
81. **Nguyen Van Ly** (Nguyễn Văn Lý): Born: 1946. Catholic priest, founding member of the Vietnam Progressive Party, arrested on 2/18/2007 at his home parish in Thua Thien Province. On 3/30/2007, sentenced to 8 years in prison and 5 years of house arrest for “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. After two and a half years as a prisoner in Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam Province, Rev. Ly suffered a major stroke in November 2009, and was brought to Hanoi for urgent care. He was conditionally released from prison on health grounds on March 18, 2010 for 1 year, and now returned to Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam prison.
82. **Nguyen Van Oai** (Nguyễn Văn Oai): Born: 1980. Member of Catholic Youth, arrested 7/30/2011, accused of “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration” under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Ha Noi.
83. **Nguyen Van Phuong** (Nguyễn Văn Phương): Born: 1966. Member of the Government of Free Vietnam (Chính phủ Việt Nam Tự Do), arrested in 1998, sentenced to 17 years' imprisonment, under Article 84 of the Vietnamese Penal code on “Terrorism to oppose the people's administration” on 5/29/2001. Prison: Section K-3 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
84. **Nguyen Van Thanh** (Nguyễn Văn Thanh): Born: unknown. Arrested on 03/10/2011 & accused of distributing anti-government leaflets for “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: Nghe An.
85. **Nguyen Van Tho** (Nguyễn Văn Thơ): Born: 1939. A Hoa-Hao Buddhist activist, arrested on 10/02/2006 in Dong Thap Province, sentenced on 5/3/2007 to 6 years in prison, under Article 245 & 257 of the Vietnamese Penal code on “Causing public disorder” and “Resisting persons in the performance of their official duties”. Prison: Section K-4 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
86. **Nguyen Van Trung** (Nguyễn Văn Trung): Born: 1950. Arrested in 1992, sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment for “politically reactionary” activities that was aiming to overthrow the people's government. Prison: Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
87. **Nguyen Van Tuc** (Nguyễn Văn Tú): Born: 1964. Land rights activist from Thai Binh Province, arrested in Hai Phong on 9/10/2008, sentenced on 10/09/2009 to 4 years in prison and 3 years of house arrest for “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code, currently at prison camp B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh

Tri, Hanoi.

88. **Nguyen Xuan Anh** (Nguyễn Xuân Anh): Born: 1982. Member of Catholic Youth, arrested 8/7/2011 in Nghe An, accused of “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration” under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Ha Noi.
89. **Nguyen Xuan Nghia** (Nguyễn Xuân Nghĩa): Born: 1949. Writer, representative of the 8406 Movement, arrested on 9/10/2008 in the city of Hai Phong, sentenced on 10/09/2009 to 6 years in prison and 3 years of house arrest for “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code, currently at Thanh Liet Prison, Thanh Tri, Hanoi.
90. **Nguyen Xuan No** (Nguyễn Xuân Nô): Born: 1945. Follower of Cao Dai Church, arrested in 2005, sentenced to an 9 years' imprisonment for “Fleeing abroad or defecting to stay overseas with a view to opposing the people' administration” under Article 91 of the Vietnamese Penal code on 7/27/2005. Prison: Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
Prior to this prison term, he had served two other terms for political offenses.
91. **Nong Hung Anh** (Nông Hùng Anh): Born: 1988. Student, member of Evangelist Youth, arrested 8/5/2011 in Ha Noi, accused of “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration” under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Ha Noi.
92. **Pham Ngoc Hoa** (Phạm Ngọc Hoa): Born: 1954. Land rights activist and a member of the Cow Shed Mennonite home church. Accused of a member & collaborating with the Vietnam Reform Party (Đảng Việt Tân), arrested 8/2010, sentenced to 2 years' imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest, under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration” on 5/30/2011. Prison: Ben Tre provincial jail.
93. **Pham Thanh Nghien** (Phạm Thanh Nghiê): Born: 1977. Member of Bloc 8406, arrested on 9/18/2008 in Hai Phong, and in a closed trial on 01/29/2010 where she was sentenced to 4 years in prison and 3 years of house arrest, under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam”, currently at prison camp B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Hanoi.
94. **Pham Thi Ngoc Phuong** (Phạm Thị Ngọc Phương): Born: 1945. Former Officer of the Republic of Vietnam's Army, member of the Vietnam Populist Party (Đảng Vì Dân), arrested on April 18, 2010 in Hochiminh City, sentenced to 11 years' imprisonment, under Article 84 of the Vietnamese Penal code on “Terrorism to oppose the people's administration” on 9/21/2011. Currently held at B-34 Detention Center in Hochiminh.
95. **Pham Van Thong** (Phạm Văn Thông): Born: 1962. Land rights activist and a member of the Cow Shed Mennonite home church . Accused of a member & collaborating with the Vietnam Reform Party (Đảng Việt Tân), arrested 8/2010, sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment and 5 years of house arrest, under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code

- on “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration” on 5/30/2011. Prison: Ben Tre provincial jail.
96. **Pham Van Troi** (Phạm Văn Trội): Born: 1972. Engineer, member of the Vietnam Human Right Committee, arrested in Hanoi on 9/10/2008, sentenced on 10/082009 to 4 years in prison and 4 years of house arrest, under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam”. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
 97. **Pham Xuan Than** (Phạm Xuân Thân): Born: 1958. Member of Alliance of Vietnamese Revolutionary Parties, arrested 6/12/1996, sentenced to LIFE imprisonment for “Terrorism to oppose the people’s administration” under Article 84 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: K2, Z30A, Xuan-Loc, Dong-Nai.
 98. **Phan Thanh Hai** (Phan Thanh Hải, aka **anhbasg**): Born: 1969. Attorney, blogger, member of the Free Journalists Club, arrested 10/18/2010, accused of “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code, has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: B34 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - 237 Nguyen Van Cu, Hochiminh City.
 99. **Phan Thanh Tuong** (Phan Thanh Tường): Born: unknown. Member of “Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn” in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/5/2012, accused of “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
 100. **Phan Thanh Y** (Phan Thanh Ý): Born: 1951. Member of “Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn” in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/5/2012, accused of “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
 101. **Phan Van Ban** (Phan Văn Bàn): Born: 1937. Arrested 1978, sentenced on 11/26/1985 to life imprisonment for distributing anti-government leaflets. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
 102. **Phan Van Thu** (Phan Văn Thu aka Trần Công): Born: 1948. Founder & chairman of “Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn” in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/5/2012, accused of “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
 103. **Phung Lam** (Phùng Lâm): Born: 1966 . Member of the Democratic Party of Vietnam. Escaped from Vietnam into Cambodia on 05/30/2010. Arrested 06/21/2010 by border guards in Tay Ninh province when returning for visiting the family. Charge and whereabouts still unknown.
 104. **Phung Quang Quyen** (Phùng Quang Quyền): Born: 1956. Member of Vietnam Populist Party, arrested on 8/30/2009, sentenced on April 18, 2010 for 4 years' imprisonment and 4 year of house arrest for violating Article 91 of the Vietnamese Penal code on “Fleeing abroad or defecting to stay overseas with a view to opposing the people’ administration”. Prison: Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province. Quyen had been imprisoned for 18 months prior to current prison term.
 105. **Rah Lan Dang**: Born: 1979. The minority ethnic group in Gia Lai, an Evangelist

- follower, arrested 2003, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for "undermining unity policy" under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
106. **Rmah Hlach** (aka **Ama Blut**): Born: 1968. The minority ethnic group in Gia Lai, an Evangelist follower, arrested 7/23/2009, sentenced on 1/14/2010 to 12 years' imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest for "undermining unity policy" under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam
 107. **Ro Lah K'lan**: Born: unknown . Montagnard (Jarai) Christian. Arrested 08/25/2010 in Chu Prong district, Gia Lai for allegedly using unauthorized religious activities to incite unrest in rubber plantations. Charges and whereabouts unknown.
 108. **Ro Mah Hit**: Born: unknown. Montagnard (Jarai) Christian. Arrested 08/25/2010 in Chu Prong district, Gia Lai for allegedly using unauthorized religious activities to incite unrest in rubber plantations. Charges and current whereabouts unknown.
 109. **Siu Glol**: Born: 1985. Montagnard (Jarai) Christian pastor in Chur Puh, Gia Lai. Arrested 9/22/2010 in Chur Puh, Gia Lai. Charge unknown. Prison: B20 Detention Center in Gia Lai.
 110. **Siu Koch** (aka **Ama Liên**): Born: 1985. The minority ethnic group in Gia Lai, an Evangelist follower, arrested 7/23/2009, sentenced on 1/14/2010 to 10 years' imprisonment for "undermining unity policy" under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
 111. **Siu Viu**: Born: 1978. The minority ethnic group in Gia Lai, an Evangelist follower, arrested 2008, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for "undermining unity policy" under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
 112. **Son Nguyen Thanh Dien** (Sơn Nguyễn Thanh Điền): Born: 1972. An U.S. Permanent Resident, member of the Government of Free Vietnam (Chính phủ Việt Nam Tự Do). Arrested 8/17/2000, sentenced to 17 years' imprisonment, under Article 84 of the Vietnamese Penal code on "Terrorism to oppose the people's administration" on 5/29/2001. Prison: Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
 113. **Ta Khu** (Tạ Khu): Born: 1947. Member of "Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn" in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/6/2012, accused of "Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State" under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
 114. **Ta Phong Tan** (Tạ Phong Tần): Born: Born: 1968. Former Police officer, blogger, one of founding members of the Free Journalists Club. Arrested on 9/5/2011, accused of still unknown. Prison: 4 Phan Dang Luu, Hochiminh City.
 115. **Thai Van Dung** (Thái Văn Dung): Born: 1988. Member of Catholic Youth, arrested 8/19/2011 in Ha Noi, accused of "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Ha Noi.
 116. **To Van Hong** (Tô Văn Hồng): Born: 1950. Arrested in 1999, sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment, under Article 84 of the Vietnamese Penal code on "Terrorism to oppose the people's administration" on 5/29/2001. Prison: Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-

Nai Province.

117. **Tran Anh Kim** (Trần Anh Kim): Born: 1949. Former officer of the People's Army, member of the DPV, arrested on 7/7/2009, and sentenced to 5½ years in prison and 3 years of house arrest, under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" on 1/18/2010; currently at prison camp B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Hanoi.
118. **Tran Hoai An** (Trần Hoài Ân): Born: 1951. A Hoa-Hao Buddhist activist, arrested 7/2/2011 in Dong Thap, on 12/13/2011 sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment for "Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State" under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: An Giang provincial jail.
119. **Tran Hoang Giang** (Trần Hoàng Giang): Born: 1980. Member of the Government of Free Vietnam (Chính phủ Việt Nam Tự Do). Arrested 2/28/2000, sentenced to 16 years' imprisonment, under Article 84 of the Vietnamese Penal code on "Terrorism to oppose the people's administration" on 5/29/2001. Prison: Section K-3 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
120. **Tran Huu Canh** (Trần Hữu Cảnh): Born: 1952. Cao Dai Church follower, arrested 2005, sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment for "Fleeing abroad or defecting to stay overseas with a view to opposing the people's administration" under Article 91 of the Vietnamese Penal code on 7/27/2005. Prison: Z30A, Xuan Loc, Dong Nai.
121. **Tran Huu Duc** (Trần Hữu Đức): Born: 1988. Member of Catholic Youth, arrested 8/2/2011 in Ha Noi, accused of "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: Nghi Kim, Nghe An.
122. **Tran Huu Khuong** (Trần Hữu Khương, aka **Trần Tư**): Born: Unknown. U.S. Permanent Resident, former Captain of Republic of Vietnam's Army, member of Alliance of Vietnamese Revolutionary Parties; arrested 1993, sentenced to LIFE imprisonment for "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Section B, Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
123. **Tran Huynh Duy Thuc** (Trần Huỳnh Duy Thức): Born: 1966. Engineer, internet entrepreneur and blogger, arrested in Ho Chi Minh City on 5/24/2009, sentenced on 1/20/2010 to 16 years in prison and 5 years of house arrest for "Activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: K1, Z30A, Xuan Loc, Dong Nai.
124. **Tran Minh Nhat** (Trần Minh Nhật): Born: 1988. Student, member of Catholic Youth, arrested 8/27/2011 in Hochiminh City, accused of "activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration" under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: B34 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - 237 Nguyen Van Cu, Hochiminh City.
125. **Tran Phi Dung** (Trần Phi Dũng): Born: 1966. Member of "Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn" in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/10/2012, accused of "Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State" under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.

126. **Tran Quan** (Trần Quân): Born: 1984. Member of “Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Son” in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/10/2012, accused of “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
127. **Tran Thi Thuy** (Trần Thị Thúy:) Born: 1971. Land rights activist and a follower of Hoa Hao Buddhist Church, arrested 8/10/2010, accused of a member & collaborating with the Vietnam Reform Party (Đảng Việt Tân), sentenced 8 years’ imprisonment and 5 years of house arrest for “activities aimed at overthrowing the people’s administration” under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on 5/30/2011. Prison: Ben Tre provincial jail.
128. **Tran Van Thiep** (Trần Văn Thiệp): Born: 1963. A Hoa-Hao Buddhist activist. Arrested 8/4/2007, sentenced 6 years’ imprisonment for “Causing public disorder” under Article 245 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Lang Bien, Dong Thap.
129. **Tran Vu Anh Binh** (Trần Vũ Anh Bình, aka **Hoàng Nhật Thông**): Born: 1974. Musician, member of Catholic Youth, arrested 9/19/2011 in Hochiminh City, accused of “activities aimed at overthrowing the people’s administration” under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: 4 Phan Dang Luu, Hochiminh City.
130. **Truong Minh Duc** (Trương Minh Đức): Born: 1960. Free journalist, member of the Vietnam Populist Party (Đảng Vì Dân), arrested on 5/05/2007 in Kien Giang, sentenced on 7/18/2008 to 5 years in prison and 3 years of house arrest for “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Z30A, Xuan Loc, Dong Nai.
131. **Truong Quoc Huy** (Trương Quốc Huy): Born: 1980. Member of Bloc 8406, arrested in Saigon on 8/18/2006, sentenced on 1/29/2008 to 6 years in prison for “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code, currently at prison camp Z30A, Xuan Truong Village, Xuan Loc District, Dong Nai Province.
132. **Truong Thi Tam** (Trương Thị Tâm): Born: 1966. Member of the Vietnam Populist Party (Đảng Vì Dân). Arrested on 08/30/2009, sentenced on 4/20/2010 to 3 years’ imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest for “Fleeing abroad or defecting to stay overseas with a view to opposing the people’ administration” under Article 91 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Section K-4 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
133. **Truong Van Duy** (Trương Văn Duy): Born: 1964. Member of Alliance of Vietnamese Revolutionary Parties, arrested 6/12/1996, sentenced to LIFE imprisonment for “Terrorism to oppose the people’s administration” under Article 84 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: K2, Xuan-Loc, Dong-Nai.
134. **Truong Van Kim** (Trương Văn Kim): Born: 1954. Member of the Vietnam Populist Party (Đảng Vì Dân), arrested on 08/26/2009, sentenced on April 18, 2010 to 3 years’ imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest for “Fleeing abroad or defecting to stay overseas with a view to opposing the people’ administration” under Article 91 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Section K-2 of Xuan-Loc Camp in Dong-Nai Province.
135. **Van Ngoc Hieu** (Văn Ngọc Hiếu): Born: 1963. Member of the Government of Free Vietnam (Chính phủ Việt Nam Tự Do), arrested on 02/28/2000, sentenced on 5/29/2001 to

- 20 years' imprisonment for "Terrorism to oppose the people's administration" under Article 84 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: K2, Xuan-Loc, Dong-Nai.
136. **Vi Duc Hoi** (Vi Đức Hồi): Born: 1956. The minority ethnic group, former Director of Vietnamese Communist Party college in Huu Lung, Lang Son, arrest 10/27/2010, sentenced on 01/26/2011 to 8 years' imprisonment and 5 years of house arrest for "Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam" under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. At Appeal Court on 26/04/2011 reduced to 5 years' imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest. Prison: Yen Trach, Lang Son.
 137. **Vo Minh Tri** (Võ Minh Trí, aka **Việt Khang**): Born: 1978. Musician well-known with some patriotic and anti-China songs, member of group "Patriotic Youth Movement". Arrested on 12/23/2011 at My Tho, accused of still unknown. Prison: 4 Phan Dang Luu, Hochiminh City.
 138. **Vo Ngoc Cu** (Võ Ngọc Cư): Born: 1951. Member of "Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn" in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/6/2012, accused of "Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State" under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
 139. **Vo Van Buu** (Võ Văn Bửu): Born: 1970. A Hoa-Hao Buddhist activist, self-immolation 8/5/2005 but was saved, sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment on 9/27/2005, under Article 245 & 257 of the Vietnamese Penal code on "Causing public disorder" and "Resisting persons in the performance of their official duties", jailed in Xuan Loc, Dong Nai. His wife, Mai Thi Dung, also sentenced for 6 years by the same court.
 140. **Vo Thanh Le** (Võ Thành Lê): Born: 1955. Member of "Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn" in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/5/2012, accused of "Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State" under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
 141. **Vo Thi Hanh** (Võ Thị Hạnh): Born: unknown. Member of "Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn" in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/10/2012, accused of "Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State" under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
 142. **Vo Thi Thu Thuy** (Võ Thị Thu Thủy): Born: 1962. Arrested on 03/10/2011 & accused of distributing anti-government leaflets for "Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam" under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Has yet to be sentenced publicly. Prison: Dong Hoi, Quang Binh.
 143. **Vu Duc Trung** (Vũ Đức Trung): Born: 1980 . Director of Nhan Hoa software company, member of Falun Gong in Vietnam. Arrested 6/11/2010 in Ha Noi, accused of installing equipment to broadcast Falun Gong's "Sound of Hope Network" into China, sentenced on 11/10/2011 to 3 years' imprisonment for "Illegally transmitting information on the network of telecommunication" under Article 226 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: B14 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - Thanh Liet, Thanh Tri, Ha Noi.
 144. **Vu Quang Thuan** (Vũ Quang Thuận): Born: 1966. Leader of Vietnam Progressive Democratic Movement (Chan Hung Nuoc Viet). 5/31/2009 escaped from Vietnam into Malaysia on 9/8/2009 for seeking political refuge, but was deported back to Vietnam & arrested 2/2/2011, upon arrival at Tan Son Nhat airport in Ho Chi Minh City, charged with

“Fleeing abroad or defecting to stay overseas with a view to opposing the people’s administration” under Article 91 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Currently still in interrogation process at B34 Detention Center (Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam) - 237 Nguyen Van Cu, Hochiminh City, has yet to be sentenced publicly.

145. **Vuong Tan Son** (Vương Tấn Sơn): Born: 1953. Member of “Hội đồng công luật công án Bia Sơn” in Phu Yen province. Arrested 2/10/2012, accused of “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: Detention center in Phu Yen province.
146. **Y Bri E-Nuol** (aka **Ama Joan**): Born: 1958. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2003, sentenced to 10 years’ imprisonment for “undermining unity policy” under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
147. **Y Dhiam**: Born: 1966. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2004, sentenced to 10 years’ imprisonment for “undermining unity policy” under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
148. **Y Don B.Ya**: Born: 1971. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2003, sentenced to 10 years’ imprisonment for “undermining unity policy” under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
149. **Y Het Kdam**: Born: 1962. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2002, sentenced to 10 years’ imprisonment for “undermining unity policy” under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
150. **Y Hoang B. K-Rong**: Born: 1974. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2002, sentenced to 10 years’ imprisonment for “undermining unity policy” under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
151. **Y Jon E-Nuoi**: Born: 1974. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2002, sentenced to 11 years’ imprisonment for “undermining unity policy” under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
152. **Y Jut B.Ya**: Born: 1962. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2002, sentenced to 10 years’ imprisonment for “undermining unity policy” under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
153. **Y Jut E-Ban**: Born: 1970. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2004, sentenced to 10 years’ imprisonment for “undermining unity policy” under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
154. **Y Kuo B.Ya**: Born: 1956. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2003, sentenced to 12 years’ imprisonment for “undermining unity policy” under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
155. **Y Kur B. Dap**: Born: 1971. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2004, sentenced to 17 years’ imprisonment for “undermining unity policy” under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
156. **Y Mi Nie**: Born: 1962. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2002, sentenced to 10 years’ imprisonment for “undermining unity policy” under

Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.

157. **Y Nging Nie:** Born: 1974. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2004, sentenced to 9 years' imprisonment for "undermining unity policy" under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
158. **Y Ngun Knul:** Born: 1968. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2004, sentenced to 18 years' imprisonment for "undermining unity policy" under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
159. **Y Phu Ksor:** Born: 1980. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2004, sentenced to 8 years' imprisonment for "undermining unity policy" under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
160. **Y Rit Nie Kdam:** Born: 1972. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2004, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for "undermining unity policy" under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
161. **Y Thot:** Born: 1962. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2004, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for "undermining unity policy" under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
162. **Y Tim B. Ya:** Born: 1968. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2002, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for "undermining unity policy" under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.
163. **Y Tlup Adrong:** Born: 1954. The minority ethnic group in Daklak, an Evangelist follower. Arrested 2003, sentenced to 11 years' imprisonment for "undermining unity policy" under Article 87 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Prison: Ba Sao, Phu Ly, Ha Nam.

Under House Arrest: 24 persons

1. **Doan Van Dien** (Đoàn Văn Diên): Born: 1954. Member of the Alliance of Workers and Farmers (AWF), arrested on 11/05/2006, sentenced on 12/10/2007 to 4 years and 6 months in prison for "Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State" under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Released and is currently under house arrest.
2. **Hàng Tân Phát** (Hàng Tân Phát): Born: 1984. Member of Bloc 8406, arrested on 9/23/2005, sentenced on 1/29/2008 to 6 years in prison under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on "Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam", released and is currently under house arrest.
3. **Huỳnh Nguyễn Đạo** (Huỳnh Nguyễn Đạo, aka **Huỳnh Việt Lang**): Born: 1968. Free journalist, member of The People's Democratic Party of Vietnam (Đảng Dân Chủ Nhân Dân), arrested in Saigon on August 14, 2006, sentenced to 2,5 years in prison and 2 years of house arrest on August 17, 2007 for "conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam". He was released on 17 February 2009; is currently under house arrest.

4. **Le Nguyen Sang** (Lê Nguyên Sang): Born: 1959. Medical doctor, leader of The People's Democratic Party of Vietnam (Đảng Dân Chủ Nhân Dân), arrested on 8/14/2006 in Saigon, sentenced on 8/17/2007 to 4 years in prison, under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on "Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam", was released on August 17, 2010, and is currently under house arrest.
5. **Le Thi Cong Nhan** (Lê Thị Công Nhân): Born: 1979. Attorney and spokeswoman of the Vietnam Progressive Party (VNPP), member of Vietnamese Human Rights Committee, arrested on 3/6/2007 in Hanoi, sentenced on 11/27/2007 to 3 years in prison and 3 years of house arrest, under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on "Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam", released on 3/06/2010, is currently under house arrest.
6. **Ngo Quynh** (Ngô Quỳnh): Born: 1984. Student activist, member of Bloc 8406, arrested in Hai Phong on 10/01/2008, sentenced on 10/09/2009 to 3 years in prison and 3 years of house arrest for "Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam" under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Released and is currently under house arrest.
7. **Nguyen Bac Truyen** (Nguyễn Bắc Truyên): Born: 1968. Attorney, member of the The People's Democratic Party of Vietnam (Đảng Dân Chủ Nhân Dân); arrested on 8/14/2006 in Saigon and sentenced on 8/17/2007 to 3 years and 6 months in prison and 3 years of house arrest, under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on "Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam"; released and is currently under house arrest.
8. **Nguyen Binh Thanh** (Nguyễn Bình Thành): Born: 1955. Electrician, member of the Vietnam Progressive Party (Đảng Thăng Tiến), arrested on 2/17/2007 in Hue, sentenced on 3/30/2007 to 5 years in prison and 2 years of house arrest, under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on "Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam". Has just been released, currently under house arrest.
9. **Nguyen Thanh Long** (Nguyễn Thành Long): Born: Unknown. A Hoa-Hao Buddhist activist, was arrested on August 5, 2005, on 9/26/2006 sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment, under Article 89 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on "Disrupting security" by the people court Long Xuyen, An Giang Province; released and is currently under house arrest.
10. **Nguyen Thanh Phong** (Nguyễn Thanh Phong): Born: 1979. A leader of Hoa-Hao Buddhist Youth League; detained Aug. 5, 2005 along with his wife Nguyen Thi Ha, sentenced Sept. 27, 2005 for 6 years' imprisonment, under Article 89 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on "Disrupting security" and "against the government officials"; released, is currently under house arrest.
11. **Nguyen Van Dai** (Nguyễn Văn Đài): Born: 1969. Attorney, human rights advocate and founder of the Vietnam Human Rights Committee, arrested on 3/6/2007 in Hanoi, sentenced on 11/27/2007 to 4 years' imprisonment and 4 years of house arrest, under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on "Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam", released and is currently under house arrest.
12. **Nguyen Van Ngoc** (Nguyễn Văn Ngọc): Born: 1959. Engineer & businessman, member of the Vietnamese Patriots Organization; arrested in Saigon on 2/28/2007, sentenced on 12/11/2007 to 4 years in prison and 3 years of house arrest, under Article 258 of the

Vietnamese Penal code on “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State”, released and is currently under house arrest.

13. **Nguyen Van Thuy** (Nguyễn Văn Thùy): Born: 1981. A Hoa-Hao Buddhist activist, arrested on 4/22/2006 in Dong Thap Province, sentenced on 5/03/2007 to 5 years in prison for “Causing public disorder” & “Resisting persons in the performance of their official duties” under Article 245 & 257 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Released and is currently under house arrest.
14. **Nguyen Van Tinh** (Nguyễn Văn Tinh): Born: 1942. Staff writer for the dissident newsletter To Quoc (Motherland), arrested in Hai Phong on 9/24/2008, sentenced on 10/09/2009 to 3 years in prison and 3 years of house arrest for “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Released and is currently under house arrest.
15. **Pham Ba Hai** (Phạm Bá Hải): Born: 1968. Leader of Bach Dang Giang Organization, arrested in Saigon on 9/07/2006, sentenced on 8/8/2008 to 5 years in prison and 2 years of house arrest for “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Released and is currently under house arrest.
16. **Pham Minh Hoang** (Phạm Minh Hoàng, aka **Phan Kiến Quốc**): Born: 1955. French citizen, a math lecturer at the Saigon Polytechnic University, accused of a member & collaborating with the Vietnam Reform Party (Đảng Việt Tân), detained on August 13, 2010, sentenced on 8/10/2011 to 3 years’ imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest, under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration”. At appeal court on 11/29/2011 sentence was reduced to 17 months’ imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest. Released and is currently under house arrest.
17. **Phan Van Loi** (Phan Văn Lợi): Born: 1951. Catholic priest, one of leaders of Bloc 8406, director & editor in chief of “Freedom of expression” magazine. Arrested 10/29/1981 in Hue, sentenced on 11/20/1982 to 4 years’ imprisonment + 3 year of “Re-educated” detainment. Released in 1988, since then is under house arrest until now.
18. **Thich Quang Do** (Thích Quảng Độ, aka **Đặng Phúc Tuệ**): Born: 1928. Buddhist leader, Patriarch of the Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam, arrested in Ho Chi Minh City in April 1977, tried on 12/08/1978 and released, rearrested on 02/25/1982 and exiled to home village of Vu Doai, returned on his own in March 1992 to Saigon, arrested for the third time on 01/04/1995 for writing a 44-page document detailing the persecution of the UBCV at the hands of the communist government, tried on 8/15/1995 to 5 years in prison, released on 8/30/1998, formally placed under house (i.e. temple) arrest since June 2001 at Thanh Minh Zen Monastery.
19. **Tran Duc Thach** (Trần Đức Thạch): Born: 1952. Poet, member of Bloc 8406, arrested on 9/10/2008, sentenced on 10/06/2009 to 3 years in prison and 3 years of house arrest for “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Released and is currently under house arrest.
20. **Tran Quoc Hien** (Trần Quốc Hiền): Born: 1965. Attorney, spokesman for the United Workers-Farmers Organization of Viet Nam (Hiệp hội đoàn kết công nông Việt Nam), arrested in Saigon on 1/12/2007, sentenced on 5/15/2007 to 5 years’ imprisonment and 2 years of house arrest, under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code on “Conducting

propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam”. Released, currently is under house arrest.

21. **Tran Van Thieng** (Trần Văn Thiêng): Born: 1935. Former Lieutenant of Republic of Vietnam's Special Police. Arrested 2/14/1991, sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment and 5 years of house arrest for “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration” under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code. Just released and is currently under house arrest.
22. **Truong Minh Nguyet** (Trương Minh Nguyệt): Born: 1946. Engineer, member of the Association of Political and Religious Prisoners (Hội Ái Hữu Tù Nhân Chính Trị & Tôn Giáo), member of Vietnamese Patriots Organization.
First prison term: arrest in 1981, sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment for “activities aimed at overthrowing the people's administration” under Article 79 of the Vietnamese Penal Code.

Second prison term: arrested on 6/4/2007 in Saigon, sentenced on 12/11/2007 to 4 years in prison and 3 years of house arrest for “Abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the State” under Article 258 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Released and is currently under house arrest
23. **Vo Van Thanh Liem** (Võ Văn Thanh Liêm, aka **Năm Liêm**): Born: 1940. Monk of Hoa-Hao Buddhist, detained 8/5/2005 (along with nephew Nguyen Thanh Long), sentenced on 9/18/2005 to 7 years' imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest for “Causing public disorder” & “Resisting persons in the performance of their official duties” under Article 245 & 257 of the Vietnamese Penal code. Prison: K2, Z30, Xuan Loc, Dong Nai. Released & is now under 3 years of house arrest.
24. **Vu Hung** (Vũ Hùng): Born: 1966. Teacher, arrested on 9/18/2008, sentenced in Hanoi on 10/07/2009 to 3 years imprisonment and 3 years of house arrest for “Conducting propaganda against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam” under Article 88 of the Vietnamese Penal Code, just released and is currently under house arrest.



The Vietnam Human Rights Network was established in 1997 as a consortium of individuals and organizations committed to the defense and promotion of human rights and civil liberties entitled to all Vietnamese citizens set forth by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent international human rights instruments.

FOR CONTACT

Vietnam Human Rights Network
8971 Colchester Ave
Westminster, CA 92683
U.S.A.

Tel.: (714) 657-9488

Email: vnhrnet@vietnamhumanrights.net

Website: www.vietnamhumanrights.net