

# Human Rights in China

## Current Situation

As is widely known, the Chinese Government puts into question internationally recognised norms, resulting from the authorities' intolerance of dissent and the inadequacy of legal safeguards for basic freedoms.

The Chinese government has been questioning the human rights include capital punishment, human trafficking, infringement of basic freedoms and persecution of ethnic groups such as Tibetans and Darfurians.

Death sentence in PRC is applied even in non-violent crimes, such as fraud, bribery, embezzlement and prostitution. Those criminals are usually arrested with an unfair trial or sometimes even without one, and, in prison they are frequently tortured to confess their crimes. There are no statistics about capital punishment as it is considered "state secret".

An estimated 500,000 people are currently enduring punitive detention without charge or trial, and millions are unable to access the legal system to seek redress for their grievances.

Concerning the human trafficking, it is common among men, women and children. Sexual exploitation, forced labour and organs' removal are the main types of this crime that affects between 10000 to 20000 victims, every year.

China has a tumultuous history of repressing Tibetan people, denying their equal economic and social status. In their common history there are deaths and destruction of monasteries. Thanks to this "Chinese Apartheid", ethnic Tibetans have a lower life expectancy, literacy rates and per capita income.

People's Republic of China has been criticised as well, for supporting Sudan in its massive killings, by exchanging guns for oil.

There is also another problematic issue that is the infringement of basic freedoms. It covers the freedom of speech, the freedom of religion and the "one- child policy".

The Government controls all types of media, specially the internet and imprisons more journalists than any other country in the world.

Chinese people are also controlled in terms of religion. Even though the Chinese constitution guarantees the freedom of religion, Chinese Government places restrictions of religious practice outside officially recognised organisations.

The “one-child policy” was implemented in 1979 by the Chinese Government to reduce the population growing. It’s punishable to have more than one child and gender-specific abortions are sometimes imposed such as the forced sterilisation. Female infanticide is another problem faced by “groups” like the UN, Amnesty International and the Human Rights Watch.

Answering to all these controversial issues, the Government has said that the welfare of the community should be put ahead of the rights of individuals and so, these should, sometimes, make sacrifices. They also state that cultural background is different in every society and so the definition of human rights should not be applied internationally.

Though, in 2003, an amendment was made to the Chinese Constitution affirming that “The State respects and preserves human rights”.

### **Solving the Issue**

A good resolution on the issue should address:

- a) An agreement between Chinas’ government and international NGO’s of human right protection, in a way that these can improve the human right situation in PRC;
- b) The need for China to show more internationally transparency;
- c) The Chinese citizen human rights;
- d) The fact that china had signed the Universal Declaration Of The Human Rights;
- e) Safeguards to prevent infringements of the human rights by Chinas’ government.