



Khôi 8406 Tuyên Ngôn Tự Do Dân Chủ Cho Việt Nam

Bloc 8406 of Manifesto on Freedom & Democracy for Viet Nam

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**Letter of Protest No. 8 of Bloc 8406
against Brutal and Barbaric Repressions, Arbitrary Retention
of Citizens and Members of Bloc 8406
by the Communist Government
Before and After the APEC Summit 14-2006 in Viet Nam**

Viet Nam, November 25, 2006

A. Since July 2006, especially during the period before and after the APEC Summit 14-2006 in Viet Nam, the Communist Authorities has been brutally and barbarically oppressing and illegally detaining many citizens and members of the 8406 Bloc.

I. Barbaric physical abuses and illegal detention of Fighters for Democracy and Peace (CSDCHB) in Viet Nam:

1- In the past several years, the Vietnamese police has jailed and brutally beaten **Pastor Nguyễn Công Chính** many times to make him impossible to stay in Pleiku and take care of some ten-thousand Montagnard Christians in Central Highlands (Bloc 8406 has issued Letter of Protest No. 6 on 07 Jul 2006 against this brutality). Yet, the situation becomes worse and worse as what happened recently: On 5 Sept 2006, Pastor Nguyen was beaten by Lt. Colonel Rahlan Lâm, Chief of Security Interrogation Service of Gia Lai Province; on 16 Sept 2006, he was stripped naked, sexually molested by Major Phan Văn Mạnh, chief of PA 38 police of Gia Lai province, Major Nguyễn Hữu Chấn, Female Major Võ Thị Thu Hiền, Captain Lê Công Thành and 4 subordinates). Female Major Võ Thị Thu Hiền splashed cold water into his face. On 11 Nov 2006, Pastor **Nguyễn** was beaten ruthlessly by a hoodlum band at the bus station of Pleiku-Sài Gòn route. Many of his teeth were broken off and his body and face showed many black and blue bruises. The most inhumanly and utterly tragic happening took place on 18 Nov 2006, at 1:00 am after Pastor Nguyen and his wife surreptitiously bypassed the police watching around his house to come to the hospital for delivering their new child. At 02:30 p.m, female Major Võ Thị Thu Hiền and two other police agents came to the hospital and forced Mrs. Nguyen to leave the hospital within the same day. Pastor Nguyen privately asked the nurse Lê Thị Tâm to come occasionally to his home to help his wife and the new born. But at 4 p.m on 20 Nov 2006, Major Võ Thị Thu Hiền came to the nurse's home and prohibited the nurse to go on helping the newborn and mother.

2- On 18 Aug 2006, Sài Gòn Security police apprehended Mr. **Trương Quốc Huy** at an Internet coffee shop. His family has not seen him since and his whereabouts is not known.

3- On 9 Nov 2006, **Pastor Hồng Trung** and wife Lê Thị Nhung of Bồ Ngoong village, Chu Se district went to hospital. The Pastor was arrested without charge. No news from the Pastor since then.

4- On 14-20 Nov 2006, Security Police from Tan Phu district of Sài Gòn apprehended Mr. **Đoàn Văn Diên** and his three sons - **Đoàn Huy Chương, Đoàn Triệu Hảo, Đoàn Triệu Kinh Kha** 14 years old. Their whereabouts are not known ever since.

5- On 15 Nov 2006, security police from Long Thanh, Sài Gòn, apprehended Mr. **Nguyễn Tấn Hoàng**, representative of Viet Nam Công – Nông (Workers & Peasants) Association. His whereabouts is not known ever since.

6- On 15 Nov 2006, security police from Sài Gòn, apprehended Ms. **Nguyễn Thị Lê Hồng**, Representative of Viet Nam Công – Nông Association. Her whereabouts is not known ever since.

7- At 3:00 p.m on 17 Nov 2006, as Dr. **Phạm Hồng Sơn** protested the security police for having prohibited a friend to visit him at his house, Lt. Colonel Trần Minh Cường gave order to his subordinates to beat up Dr. Pham, tighten his hands and throw him on a car, then took him to Thụy Khuê police station in Hà Nội. Upon arriving there, a dozen of policemen ruthlessly beat up Dr. Pham while their superiors yelled, ordered rude actions, and shouted with insulting language. These ruthless actions continued until 11:30 p.m. when Dr. Pham was released with intimidating warnings from the security police.

8- In the case of 3 citizens Mr. Nguyễn Ngọc Quang (arrested in Hue in the afternoon of 2 Sept 2006), Vũ Hoàng Hải (arrested in Sài Gòn in the morning of 5 Sept 2006) and Phạm Bá Hải (arrested in Thái Bình in the afternoon of 7 Sept 2006): they are now known to be jailed in Sài Gòn and have been visited by their families. The 8406 Bloc has issued Letter of Protest No. 7 for this case.

9- In Mid-August 2006, Sài Gòn security police arrested three high-ranking members of the People Democratic Party – Dr. Lê Nguyên Sang (pen name Nguyễn Hoàng Long), Huỳnh Nguyên Đạo (pen name Huỳnh Việt Lang), Đỗ Thành Công (a Vietnamese-American, pen name Trần Nam). Mr. Đỗ Thành Công was charged with “Attempting Terrorist Act on the US Embassy” but released after 38 days in custody. The other 2 persons are still in jail. During the recent APEC 14-2006 Summit, police apprehended 4 more members of the People Democratic Party in Can Tho city.

10. The most serious offence has been the repression by the Security Police toward clergymen and adherents of Hòa Hảo Buddhist Religion. There has been so many utterly tragic cases and widespread anger due to this well-planned unconstitutional policy of the Vietnamese communist government. During Sept 2006, the communist regime has harassed, terrorized, repressed and used many other illegal and inhuman means toward the Hòa Hảo Buddhist Religion. Here are the eight recent typical examples:

10.1- At 09:00 a.m. on 22 July 2006, Mrs. **Trần Thị Xinh** of the Association of Woman Volunteers in An Giang province visited Mrs. Lê Thị Lượm, mother of the late Hòa Hảo clergyman Trần Văn Út – Hoà Lạc district. Upon arriving at Vàm Cống (Lấp Vò, Đồng Tháp Province) market center, Mr. Tri, manager of the center and 4 security agents stopped her and took away her handbag containing 12 audio tapes about Hòa Hảo religion teaching and 5 millions VNĐ contributed by the parish members for the memorial ceremony for the late clergyman Trần Văn Út. They only allow Mrs. Tran to keep 8 rosaries.

10-2 On 24 July 2006, security police tried all possible tactic to prohibit thousands of religious members in An Giang province gathering for the memorial ceremony of the late clergyman Trần Văn Út who cremated himself in public to demand Freedom Of Religion for the Hòa Hảo Buddhist Church.

10-3 At 10:00 a.m on 2 Oct 2006, thirty security agents apprehended Mr. **Nguyễn Văn Thơ**, a local chapter chairman in Dong Thap district and wife **Dương Thị Tròn**, a leader of the Association of Womand Volunteers after the police beat up the couple to the degree of unconscious condition. At the same time, about 100 policemen appeared around Mr. **Nguyễn's** resident in Tân Hòa village, Lai Vung district, Đồng Tháp province, searching documents, and arrested the 7 children of Mr. **Nguyễn** with their hands tied in the back, mouth sealed with tape to prevent them to cry for help. Four of the children Nguyễn Thị Thu Vân, 32 years old, Nguyễn Thị Thu Xương, 26, Nguyễn Thị Mỹ Trinh, 21, Nguyễn Văn Bách, 16, protested and were beaten until they became unconscious. The police then took all Mr. **Nguyễn's** 7 children to the police headquarter. Ms. Nguyễn Thị Thu Vân, a salesperson of rice product found that 40 millions cash and her handbag were missing after awoken up from unconsciousness. When she filed a report of missing cash and handbag the police answered that they don't know what happened to the missing items. About 00:00 a.m. on 1 Oct 2006 the police released all 7 children. Their parents are still in Cao Lãnh (Đồng Tháp) prison even though they both have been so ill due to the beaten by the police. Mrs **Dương Thị Tròn's** health has been so poor even before she was beaten and arrested. Her present health condition is unknown.

10-4- After arresting Mr. Nguyễn Văn Thơ and wife, the police surrounded the house of Mr. **Bùi Văn Luốc và Lê Văn Sóc**, Chairman and Co-chairman of Local Hòa Hảo Chapter in Vinh Long province. This police raid caused several high-ranking members to flee as Mrs. **Nguyễn Thị Ngọc Lan**, a local Hòa Hảo Chapter Chaiman in Can Tho, Mr. **Nguyễn Văn Cường** supervisor of Communication and Contact for Hòa Hảo in Can Tho city, Mrs **Trần Thị Xinh**, team captain for the Association of Female Volunteers in An Giang province. On 3 Oct 2006, hundreds of police surrounded the house of Mr. Luốc and Mr. Sóc prohibiting everyone to leave the house even for grocery shopping. This police surrounding made both family members to announce setting fire on themselves together if the police come to their house. On 6 Oct 2006, Mrs. Nguyễn Thị Ngọc Lan disclosed "Letter of Suicide Attempt" by fire so that her relatives won't be involved with the raid. They were so upset and told police that they would set fire on themselves if the police enter their house. On the morning of 7 Oct 2006, several groups of 20 Hòa Hảo religious members on their way to visit Mr. Luoc and Soc were beaten until becoming unconscious. Police beated a young unknown man who took picture of police beating people, took away his camera and transported him to unspecified destination. Hundreds more of police arrived to increase the raid intensity around Mr. Luoc and Soc's resident.

10-5- On 13 Oct 2006, police summons all 17 high-ranking members of Hòa Hảo in Vinh Long province to the police headquarter for questioning. Because the summoned letter didn't specify the reason, but they refuse to appear and told police of their intention to set fire on themselves should the police suppressing them. On 18 Oct the police once again sent out summoned letter to the same 17 members above mentioning of arrest if fail to appear. But the 17 members were so determined not to appear and insisted to set fire on themselves should the police come to arrest them.

10-6- At 3:00 p.m. on 4 Nov 2006, hundreds of police awaited to arrest Mr. **Lê Văn Sóc**. Co-chairman of the Hòa Hảo Chapter in Vinh Long on the way to visit his ill father. Mr. Le was handcuffed in the back, forced to sit on a motorcycle with both feet chained to the rear wheel struts, his mouth sealed by a lemon and tape so that he couldn't shout nor resist the arrest. As told by the people, when putting handcuff on Mr. **Lê's** hand, the police cut off fabrics of his trouser and use

them as rope to strap around Mr. **Lê's** neck blocking him to shout or to commit suicide by jumping off the motorcycle during the transport to police station. After taken Mr. Soc, the police raided his house searching for cash and anti-government document, choke, and beat up his daughter, **Lê Thị Nhân** whose health has been so poor due to recent birth delivery to unconscious status. The police robbed 4 bars of gold, 1 personal computer, and nearly 30 millions cash and left no document relating to this "police evidence gathering".

10.7- On 20 Nov 2006, most of the high-ranking members of Hòa Hảo were surrounded by police causing them unable to leave their house for buying food.

10.8- At 6:00 p.m. on 22 Nov 2006, about 20 Vinh Long police arrested Mr. **Nguyễn Văn Thi**, 26 years old, team captain of the Hòa Hảo Youth in Vinh Long. Police beat the young Thi so cruelty then take him away to unknown location with handcuffs and chains. At 11:00 p.m. on 22 Nov 2006, a police team broke into Mr. **Bùi Văn Luốc's** resident, attempted to cause house damage during an electrical black-out. The family members there strongly resisted, the police then backed out while there were about 20 policemen sitting on 2 jeeps in front of Mr. **Luốc's** house with readiness to help in arresting innocent citizens.

II. Forced Confinement of Democracy and Peace Activists in Psychiatric Clinics :

1. Pastor Thân Văn Trường : confined at Psychiatric Clinic in Biên Hòa from September 2004 to September 2005.

2. On 2 Nov 2006, Lawyer Ms. Bùi Kim Thành, Democratic Party XXI of Viet Nam, sponsor, free advisor for victims of injustice in several provinces of Southern Central and Southern Viet Nam, was forcibly taken from her home at 152/43A Điện Biên Phủ street, Bình Thạnh District, Sài Gòn, to Chợ Quán Psychiatric Clinic in Sài Gòn by Security Police of District 3 in Sài Gòn. Doctors at the clinic attested that Lawyer Thành is in good health and needs no treatment. She was then taken by the Security Police to the main Psychiatric Clinic II in Biên Hòa, where she is confined in Room B4. This clinic is reserved for the confinement of "psychiatric patients" delivered by Security Police. Lawyer Thành has received several injections, whose contents are not known.

III. Deliberate Traffic Accidents, Physical Abuses, Murder :

1. On 1 Sept 2006, Mr. Lương Duy Phương and Lawyer Nguyễn Văn Đài went to visit Dr. Phạm Hồng Sơn (in Hà Nội). On the way home and at the district where Phương lives, secret Security policemen who have been secretly watching them suddenly went on the rampage and disturbed the entire neighborhood. They seized Phương's shirt collar to provoke and abuse him physically. Afterward they sent messengers to Phương's home province Bình Định to smear Lawyer Đài and Bloc 8406, alleging that Phương was duped into committing unlawful acts. Phương's parents were confused and worried. Phương's mother fainted upon hearing this. Security Police also makes pressure on the landlord to deny Phương from renting the room like they did with dissident Bạch Ngọc Dương

2. At 6:30 p.m on 26 Oct 2006 a group of some 300 people of the local communist authorities came to the home of Trần Khải Thanh Thủy - a well-known female writer fighting for the rights of victims of injustice in Hà Nội, who had been summoned and interrogated by Security Police 21 days long. Both she and her husband were harassed and abused physically because of articles advocating freedom and democracy she wrote and diffused on the internet. They stood at the entrance gate, outside the windows or stormed inside, jumped on the motorbike, standing on the bed. Some jumped up and slapped on her face. Her husband came to rescue her but was seized and drawn from the bed to the floor. She and her husband were then slapped, beaten, kicked.

3. On 28 Oct 2006, female Lawyer Lê Thị Công Nhân was riding her motorbike to the travel agency to receive refund from the flight ticket to Poland as she was prohibited to make the flight. A

gangster-like man of the Secret Police followed her; deliberately hit her motorbike from behind, almost causing her to fall. He did this repeatedly a dozen times, and then overtook her and looked straight into her face with a menacing look. The very same man has also terrorized Lawyer Đài several times in similar manner.

4. On 29 Oct 2006 at 3:35 p.m, Ms. **Dương Thị Xuân**, secretary of Tự Do Dân Chủ (Freedom and Democracy) Magazine, riding her bicycle near the right-hand side sidewalk along the Thanh Niên street, Hồ Tây, Hà Nội, was suddenly and heavily hit from behind by a stark black Attila motorbike bearing registration number 29-4139, causing her to fall, her head hitting the street ground, getting unconscious, both arms being seriously bruised and swollen. Everybody realizes that she was deliberately hit but the culprit disappears into the heavy traffic flow.

IV. Foreign Travel Ban and Travel Restrictions Within the Country, Residence Ban and House Arrest for Citizens :

1. The trip of citizen **Trần Văn Hòa** on 21 Sept 2006 to China to a Congress for the foundation of an Independent Labour Union was prevented by the Vietnamese Security Police at Nội Bài Airport, Hà Nội. Subsequently, he was interrogated by the police of the province Quang Ninh during 2 weeks about the foundation of the labour union, the meeting with members of the U.S. Embassy in October, 2005, the interview with Radio RFA and the participation with the Democratic National Party

2. On 25 Oct 2006, at Nội Bài Airport, Hà Nội, Lawyer **Nguyễn Văn Đài** and his employee Mr. **Lương Duy Phương** were prohibited to fly to India to participate in the annual meeting of Christian Lawyers. Before that, Lawyer Đài had also been prevented by the Security Police from travelling to Bangkok, Thailand.

3. Lawyer **Lê Thị Công Nhân**, Representative of the Vietnam Progression Party, was invited to a Congress about Labour Union from 28 to 30 Oct 2006 in Warsaw, Poland. At Nội Bài Airport of Hà Nội, 15 minutes before scheduled flight departure, she was stopped by Security Police. On 21 Nov 2006 the police prohibited her to take the train to Quảng Bình to defend a Vietnamese-British woman convicted to death on a court process against the biggest drug smuggling in Quảng Bình. She was invited by the Anti-Drug Section C 17 of the Ministry of Security Police in conformity with the criminal law of Communist Viet Nam, according to which the defendant and only the defendant has the right to deny service of a particular Lawyer only from the defendant himself. Neither the Police Ministry, the Court nor anybody else has the right to hinder the defense lawyer and/or the approval by the defendant concerning his/her lawyer.

4. On 10 Nov 2006 the police has forced the engineer Bach Ngoc Duong to return to his native city Hải Phòng.

5. Since the beginning of November telephone and Internet connections of more than 20 Peace and Democracy activists have been disconnected. They are not allowed to leave their home. Some of them even have their house gates locked from the outside like a prison. That was the case of Dr. **Hoàng Minh Chính**, writer **Hoàng Tiến**, Dr. **Nguyễn Thanh Giang**, 2 former military officers **Lê Hồng Hà** and **Phạm Quế Dương**, the journalist **Nguyễn Khắc Toàn**, Lawyer **Nguyễn Văn Đài**, Lawyer **Lê Thị Công Nhân**, Dr. **Phạm Hồng Sơn**, female writer **Trần Khải Thanh Thủy**, Engineer **Nguyễn Phương Anh**, Engineer **Bạch Ngọc Dương**, Missionary **Cao Văn Nhâm**, **Trần Văn Hoà**, **Nguyễn Văn Trội**, **Dương Văn Dương**, Mrs. **Bùi Thị Kim Ngân** (wife of Nguyễn Vũ Bình, prisoner of conscience, in prison since July 2002). Around their houses the following signs were hung up: "No trespassing", "No camera", "Restricted area", "No foreigner". The Vietnamese regime wants to show to the 14th APEC Summit the heritage of Stalin, Mao, Ho. In Huế, Sài Gòn, Pleiku the phone and Internet connections of Priests **Phan Văn Lợi** and **Nguyễn Văn Lý**, Mr. **Nguyễn Phong**, **Nguyễn Bình Thành**, Pastor **Nguyễn Hồng Quang**, Engineer **Đỗ**

Nam Hải and Professor **Nguyễn Chính Kết**, **Lê Trí Tuệ**, Pastor **Nguyễn Công Chính** ... have all been disconnected long ago.

V. Terror, summons and unlawful conviction against democracy and peace activists

1. Since 13 Oct 2006 Security Police of Phú Nhuận District, Sài Gòn, has repeatedly summoned Engineer **Đỗ Nam Hải** and Professor **Nguyễn Chính Kết** to interrogate them all-day long after having confiscated their computers, because they are members of the Executive Board of the Alliance for Democracy and Human Right of Viet Nam, founded on October 16, 2006 by thousands of Democracy and Peace activists in the country.

2. On 31 Oct 2006 at 10:30 a.m., even though she was ailing, Lawyer **Lê Thị Công Nhân** was forced by 4 agents of the Secret Police A 42, Counter-intelligence Service, into a car bearing registration number 80B-2530 and taken to the counter-intelligence police station at 1, Alley 34, Âu Cơ street, and was interrogated about the Viet Nam Progression Party of Viet Nam, her planned trip to Poland, her relationship with the democracy movement. This illegal interrogation session lasted till the end of the day 1 Nov 2006. Since 14 Nov, **Lawyer Nhân is under house arrest without warrant**. At 9:30 a.m. on 22 Nov 2006, five Security A 42 agents came with a car and forcibly took her to the police station of District Phường Mai to interrogate her for the whole day. They proclaim a “milder” verdict: **she is forever prohibited to leave Hà Nội, and this without a court order**. They let she know furthermore that she will be interrogated till December.

3. Since 21 Oct 2006, Mr. **Nguyễn Khắc Toàn** and **Lê Trí Tuệ** of the Representative Board of Independent Trade Union Viet Nam which was founded on 20 Oct 2006, have been summoned for interrogations about the said trade union for several days by Security Police in Hà Nội and Sài Gòn. Both are objects of close surveillance by the Security Police.

4. Since 1 Nov 2006, both Lawyer **Nguyễn Văn Đài** and Mr. **Bạch Ngọc Dương** have been summoned and interrogated by Security Police A 42 regarding the Human Rights for Viet Nam Committee, scheduled to be made public on the UN Human Rights Day on 10 Dec 2006.

VI. Terror and brutal repressions of innocent victims of injustice from across the country gathering in Hà Nội and Sài Gòn to submit petitions :

Currently, there are hundreds of innocent victims of injustice gathering, there are people who patiently linger there for 20-30 years, at Main Xuan Thuong Square, Hà Nội, and the Citizens' Reception Center II of the Government located at 210 Võ Thị Sáu, Sài Gòn, to appeal of the injustice inflicted on them in the last few decades. The communist police has persecuted and terrorized any courageous petitioners who may cause damage to their regime. Here, we list the 16 latest typical examples :

A/- Mai Xuân Thuởng Square, Hà Nội :

1- Buddhist nun **Thích Đàm Thoa**, 38 years old, of Bắc Giang, appealing for a case of pagoda-land confiscation, was taken into custody frequently: such as during April 2006, detained for 10 days at the Societal Sponsor Camp Đồng Dầu, Bắc Giang, detained for almost the whole month of Jun 2006 at the Guest House of Province Bắc Giang. The latest captivity occurred on 15 Nov 2006 at Mai Xuân Thuởng Square. She was detained at the Societal Sponsor Camp Đồng Dầu, Bắc Giang where **Her nun clothing was torn by Security Police**. She was released on November 20, after APEC is over.

2-4 Ms. **Vũ Thanh Phương**, 40 years old, of Đồng Nai. Father was **Vũ Văn Mạnh**, who appealed for the case of confiscation of family land since 1976, died in 1978. Mother is **Nguyễn Thị Mong**, who continued with the appeal until she became insane in 1996. And then came Ms. **Phương**. She was beaten by the police since 2000. Since 2001, she came to Mai Xuân Thuởng Square, to appeal her own case and to help other innocent victims. Since then, she was taken in

custody and beaten many times. Most recently, she was detained at the Societal Sponsor Camp I, Đông Anh, Hà Nội from the night of 11 Nov 2006 till the evening of 20 Nov 2006 (after APEC), when she was forcefully evicted from the Camp !!!

5- Ms. Lê Thị Kim Thu, 39 years old, of Đồng Nai. Since February 1988, appealed for her family's land confiscation 17,000 m², of which 15,500 m² are gain from working since 1976. Since July 2001, she came to Mai Xuân Thưởng Square to appeal her own case and to help other innocent victims. In 1992, she was interrogated, beaten up and arrested by security police several times. Most recently, she was detained at the Societal Sponsor Camp I, Đông Anh, Hà Nội from the night of 11 Nov 2006 to the evening of 20 Nov 2006 when APEC was over, at which point she was forcefully evicted from the Camp !!!

6- Mrs. Nguyễn Thị Châu, 55 years old, of Bình Phước, appealed for her family land and property confiscation, including 6 taels of gold robbed by the police. On 17 Sept 2006, she was atrociously beaten and seriously injured, then thrown out from the Square. With the help of other victims there, she was taken to and hospitalized for 26 days at hospital Saint Paul, Hà Nội.

7- Mrs. Nguyễn Thị Gấm, 65 years old, of Quảng Ninh, appealed for her family land and property confiscation. In May 2006, she was held in captivity for 40 days at camp of Lán 14, Quảng Ninh.

7-8- Mrs. Nguyễn Thị Chỉnh, 50 years old and **Mr. Nguyễn Văn Dũng**, 40 years old, residing on the West side of River Vân, Ninh Bình, appealed for their family land confiscation. The two were imprisoned since Sept 2006, each was sentenced to 56-month in prison at prison of Ninh Bình.

9- Mrs. Nguyễn Thị Hồng, 48 years old, of Bồ Trách, Lệ Thủy, Quảng Bình, appealed for her family land and property confiscation. In 2005, she was barbarically beaten and heartlessly left to be muted and deaf, she was taken by other victims to the emergency room of hospital Bạch Mai, Hà Nội, where she was hospitalized for 6 months. On Mar 2006, before the Congress of the Communist Party of Viet Nam (CPV), she came to the Central Headquarter of the CPV, located at 45-47 Hùng Vương, Hà Nội, to appeal. There, the police beat her until she was unconscious, at which point she was taken to the emergency room of hospital Saint Paul, Hà Nội and stayed there for 4 days.

10- Mrs. Hồ Bích Khương, 42 years old, and her 7-year-old son of Nghệ An. At the Citizen's center I at Mai Xuân Thưởng, she hang a banner to appeal regarding an unjust labor contract in Korea. In 2005, she was imprisoned for 6 months at Hòa Lò Prison, Hà Nội. Her husband was killed and his body was thrown into the river. After the deceased was fished out of the river, an autopsy was performed by the police without the presence and the consent of the family.

11- Mr. Đinh Văn Sự, 46 years old, of Lai Vung, Đồng Tháp. In Mar 2006, he was forcefully taken to the the Societal Sponsor Camp 1, Đông Anh. He went on a hunger strike for 8 days and was released. On November 8, 2006, he again was taken coercively to the same camp. He went on another hunger strike for 13 days and was released on 20 Nov 2006.

12-13- Two sisters, Đỗ Thị Gặt, Đỗ Thị Hương, 48 and 43 years old respectively, of Quảng Ninh, appealed for their family land and property confiscation. They were beaten brutally and were taken to the emergency room of hospital Saint Paul, Hà Nội, for 2 days.

14- Group of Mr. Trần Văn Bé, 46 years old, of Tiền Giang, which consists of 25 people. On 11 Nov 2006, 21 members of the group were forcibly taken back to their resident province, by the local police of quarter of Đội Cấn, Ba Đình, Hà Nội, 4 other members were taken to Societal Sponsor Camp I, Đông Anh. Under the intense protest of other people, the police had to release Mr. Be and his 3 companions on 12 Nov 2006.

B/- 210 Võ Thị Sáu, Sài Gòn and Sài Gòn :

15- Mr. **Trần Thanh Phong**, 32 years old, Long An, who has helped several dozens of poor victims of Hurricane number 3 in 2000 cancel their debts at banks and helped victims of injustice write petitions. He was arrested in Sept 2006. Nobody knows in which prison he is.

16- Mr. **Trần Quốc Hiền**, 42 years old, Sài Gòn, who has helped victims of injustice, was arrested on November 18, 2006. After APEC was over, he was released on 21 Nov 2006. However, Security Police of District 3 in Sài Gòn summons him for interrogations everyday.

B. We, Bloc 8406, have more than enough evidence to conclude :

The Vietnamese Communist Regime (VCR), through the above stated actions, has seriously violated the following:

1- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations in 1948, and acceded to by Viet Nam in 1977, Article 18: *“Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.”* The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ratified by the United Nations in 1966 and acceded to by Viet Nam in 1982, Article 18: *“Everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This right shall include freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of his choice, and freedom, either individually or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching.”*

2- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations in 1948, and acceded to by Viet Nam in 1977, Article 19: *“Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.”*

3- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights ratified by the United Nations in 1966 and acceded to by Viet Nam in 1982, Article 19: *“1- Everyone shall have the right to hold opinions without interference. 2- Everyone shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of his choice.”*

4- The Addendum to the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, ratified on 12/09/1998 on the 50th Anniversary of the Declaration (1948-1998), Article 4: *“Freedom of assembly: Everyone has the right to hold meetings in a peaceful manner, organize protest demonstrations, submit petitions to the government, or to protest any human rights violations by officials or any governmental agency.”* Article 5: *“Freedom to Form Organizations: Everyone has the right to form civil or political organizations: (a) Civil organizations associated with the aspects of religion (Congregation), economic or social (Labor unions, trade unions), culture and education, charity, friendship, etc. Civil organizations have the right to operate in a pluralistic society, free from censorship by the government. (b) Political organizations or parties operate in a democratic multi-party system. The Democratic multi-party system combines with a pluralistic society to form a democratic pluralistic system.”* Article 6: *“Freedom of Speech and Expression: According to article 19 of the Universal Declaration: “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.” Everyone has the right to keep their opinions and to express their opinion without interference from the government.”*

5- The Constitution of the VCR, 1992, Article 69: *“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 ...”* Article 71: *“The citizen shall enjoy inviolability of the person and the protection of the law with regard to his life, health, honor and dignity. No one can be arrested in the absence of a ruling by the People's Court, a ruling or sanction of the People's Office of Supervision and Control except in case of flagrant offenses. Taking a person into, or holding him in, custody must be done with full observance of the law. It is strictly forbidden to use all forms of harassment and coercion, torture, violation of his honor and dignity, against a citizen.”*

6- The Constitution of the VCR, 1992, Article 72: *“No one shall be regarded as guilty and be subjected to punishment before the sentence of the Court has acquired full legal effect.”*

7- The Penal Code of the VCR, 2003, Article 85: *“The person who issues the warrant, the investigating office which holds the detainee, must immediately inform the detainee's family, the local authority, or the company or organization where the person works or resides. If the release of the information compromises the investigation, as soon as the investigation would no longer be compromised, the person issuing the warrant and the investigating office holding the detainee must release the information immediately.”* Article 131.1: *“Before interrogation, the investigator must read the warrant clearly stating the accused person's crime, and explain to the accused his or her rights and duties according to the Article 49 of the Penal Code.”* Article 130.3: *“It is prohibited to take the accused into custody at night.”* Article 131.2: *“It is prohibited to perform interrogation at night, except if it can not be delayed, however, it must be stated in the minutes of the interrogation.”* Article 131.4: *“An Investigator or Inspector who extorts or uses any kind of torture upon the accused must be found criminally responsible, according Article 299 or Article 298 of the Penal Code.”* Article 298 and Article 299 of the Penal Code prohibit the police from using any kind of torturing tactics on the accused, the indicttee, or the convicted. *Regardless of whether innocent Citizens were only invited to or subpoenaed by a governmental office for discussion or an initial investigation, they should never be beaten or tortured.*

C. We, Bloc 8406, unanimously declare to the International Conscience:

1- *We strongly protest and demand that the VCR must stop these brazenly unlawful cases of capture, detention, oppression, terrorization, and assault and battery of its citizens, especially the PDF of Bloc 8406. This proves beyond any doubt that the VCR, when they applied to ratify these above mentioned important International Documents, was acting deceitfully and fraudulently, to the United Nations only in order to gain the acceptance of the international community. In reality, they have tried their best to limit, if not completely destroy, all of the basic and legitimate rights of the Vietnamese People, especially the rights of freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom to form organizations, freedom to travel and reside... in order to realize an strict, authoritarian communist regime, so that the Party can continue to rule the country. These actions show that the VCR continues to mock the international community, blindly applying the power of violence, disregarding the increasingly strong reaction of the People, and brutally oppressing the blooming pro-democracy movement.*

2- *We earnestly call for the United Nations, the National Assemblies, the Governments, and the Leaders who attended APEC 14-2006 in Viet Nam, International Human Rights organizations, International Media organizations, and all Vietnamese abroad, to pressure the VCR to sincerely abide by these Universal Declarations and International Covenants which they ratified. If these oppressions continue under their relentless dictatorship, should you believe that the VCR has any desire to lead Viet Nam to catch up with the civilized world, and should you trust them to establish any diplomatic relationships or participate in any cooperative activity?*

3- We strongly request that the International Human Rights Organizations, and Vietnamese people abroad, to bring the above-stated evidence (and many more - with detailed information such as date, place, victims' names and descriptions of the incidents) to the *Archives of Communist Crimes Against Humanity*, awaiting the day when these criminals, both those who plan and those who act, will be brought to justice in front of a Court of the People, formed inside Viet Nam, in the near future.

4- We sincerely support and admire these members of the PDF who have fallen victim to these cruel oppressions. Your courage, determination, and intelligence, first of all help free the People of their fear, that was deeply planted for more than 60 years by the Communists, secondly help the People to recognize their basic rights that were brazenly robbed by the Communist regime, and lastly set an example to all people, especially the younger generation, to *relentlessly fight* for all of the freedoms that each of us deserve, the freedoms that were denied for more than half a century under the rule of the Communist regime.

5- Domestic and international members of Bloc 8406 have expressed their thoughts regarding the two intense, determined Declarations on 2 Apr 2006 by the two Catholic Priests Phan Văn Lợi and Nguyễn Văn Lý. We are also *ready to unite and synchronize our actions, to intensify the pressure applied to the right conservative wing within the VCR, that inherits the brutality of Stalin – Mao Tse Tung – Ho Chi Minh*, to warn them of the inevitable outcome, if they have any intelligence, they should change their course of action before it is too late. In particular, Priest Nguyễn Văn Lý –*with this important Letter of Protest* – certainly will choose a course of action if the situation does not improve, because that determined Declaration is in place on his desk every day.

6- We urge and suggest that, if possible, all Members of Bloc 8406, domestic or international, all Members of the Alliance for Human Rights and Democracy for Viet Nam, all Vietnamese who yearn for Freedom and Democracy, and all international friends who share a deep concern for Democracy for Viet Nam :

**Choose two days: the 1st & 15th of each month,
starting from the 1st Dec 2006, to be:
DEMOCRACY DAY FOR VIET NAM
PEOPLE'S DAY OF THE WHITE SHIRT**

When at work, at school, and in all normal activities, cultural, recreational, etc...(with the exception of cold conditions requiring a sweater) :

- Support Pro-Democratic activists who are under brutal oppression inside Viet Nam.
- Encourage people to be mindful of the fight to democratization of Viet Nam.
- In addition, remind the VCR of the fact that the People are yearning for Freedom and Democracy for our Fatherland, and that nothing can stop that.

This Letter of Protest, made on 25 Nov 2006 in Viet Nam

**Interim Representatives of Bloc 8406
Consisting of 2,036 Peaceful Democratic Fighters
and tens of thousands of Domestic and Overseas Members :**

**Đỗ Nam Hải, Engineer, Sài Gòn.
Trần Anh Kim, Former Military Officer, Thái Bình.
Nguyễn Văn Lý, Catholic Priest, Huế.**