## Hans Thoolen on Human

# **Rights Defenders**

share information on human rights defenders, comment on events, support the HRDs

#### **EMAIL SUBSCRIPTION**

Enter your email address to subscribe to this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,215 other followers

Enter your email address

Sign me up!

#### RECENT POSTS

» Farewell message from Amnesty's Salil Shetty

» China, Russia and Pakistan in UN fail at attempt to muzzle human rights defenders (for now)

> » Human Rights Defender Profile: Iván Madero from Colombia

» Azerbaijan: example of 'sophisticated' harassment of human rights lawyers

» Inventivity of evil: how states restrict HRDs access to the UN in 10 case studies

» To say it again clearly: assaults on human rights defenders are incompatible with international human rights treaties

» New Global Center for Sport and Human Rights created to address abuses

» Azadi about migration defenders

#### **BLOGROLL**

» FIDH website partner in Observatory for HRDs

» Martin Ennals Award for Human Rights Defenders THE award for **Human Rights Defenders** 

> » OMCT website partner in Observatory for HRDs

» True Heroes Films (THF) visualisation for human rights defenders

> » WordPress.com » WordPress.org

« WITNESS Celebrates 20 Years Of Using Video For Human Rights Editorial "Waiting for Lefty" regrets absence of human rights concern in debate »

#### Web application on detained human rights **Defenders in Uzbekistan**

October 16, 2012

Rate This



An "Insignificant State" called "Ubeki-beki-beki-beki-stan-stan" or a highly repressive regime torturing human rights defenders?

Last October(2011), the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) launched a new web application to bring attention to human rights defenders still incarcerated in horrific conditions in Uzbek prisons.

US Republican presidential candidate Herman Cain stated on 8 October 2011 "When they ask me who's the president of Ubeki-beki-beki-beki-stanstan, I'm going to say, 'You know, I don't know. Do you know?" Cain added that it was not a priority to know "the head of one of those small, insignificant states around the world".

FIDH does want people to know. And to care.

At least 10 Uzbek human rights defenders remain in detention under appalling conditions; several of them are members of FIDH member organisation, the Human Rights Society of Uzbekistan (HRSU). Nevertheless, Uzbekistan has long been a key US partner, hosting US military bases servicing the Afghan military campaign. Moreover, in 2009 the EU dropped all 2005 sanctions imposed following the Andijan tragedy, despite there being no serious change in Uzbekistan's human rights record.

On the rare occasions that the international community has sent strong messages on human rights issues these calls have been heard: on the eve of Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton's last visit to Uzbekistan in December 2010, one human rights defender, Farhad Mukhtarov was released. Again, on 14 October 2011, the member of the HRSU Norboy Kholjigitov was released on parole, after 6 years and 4 months in detention, in advance of Hillary Clinton's visit to Tashkent on 23 October 2011. I should add that in 2008 the MEA laureate Mutabar Tadjibaeva was released after concerted pressure by EU, US and a large number of NGOs!

Must we wait another 10 years to release all the imprisoned human rights defenders?

Therefore I am repeating the FIDH's application (in English and Russian) and spread the word about this situation by linking it to my blog. Do the same and go to http://www.fidh.org/2011 UZ

The application details the history of human rights defenders, their wrongful detention, and the general political background influencing their situation.

#### Share this:



## Related

Russian HRD Vitaly Ponomarev of Memorial Receives Death threats

In "Front Line"

US withdraws from UN Human Rights Council: NGOs make clear their position

In "Human Rights Council"

Mutabar far from her Uzbekistan continues her struggle Follow •••

In "awards"

This entry was posted on October 16, 2012 at 22:51 and is filed under films, Human Rights Defenders.

Tags: FIDH, film, human rights, Human Rights Defenders, International Federation for Human Rights, MEA, Mutabar Tadjibayeva, Non-governmental organization, political prisoners, Uzbekistan, web application

### Leave a Reply

Enter your comment here...

This site uses Akismet to reduce spam. Learn how your comment data is processed.

Blog at WordPress.com.
Entries and comments feeds.Valid XHTML and CSS.