

OPEN LETTER BY PARENTS OF THE ARRESTED STUDENTS

-- the press release that is was never released by the press
The Minister of Home Affairs,
Republic of Singapore.

We are the parents of Foo Chin Yen, Lim Tiow Hui, Foo Weng Fatt, Chia Yei Yei, Ng Hoon Hwee and Chai Chong, the six students and recent graduates of the Singapore Polytechnic. Our children were arrested by the Internal Security Department agents on the early morning of the 29th July 1976. These arrest were made separately in the Singapore Polytechnic Students' Union (SPSU) Union House and in our homes.

Our children are active members of the Students' Union and her Constituent bodies which are registered Students' Organisations. They merely participated in the activities of these organisations. As such we question: What wrongs have they done? What offences have they committed? We believe that our children have done nothing wrong. We DEMAND all allegations on them be backed by facts and evidences. We do not want any false accusations and make-believe stories forcibly thrown upon our sons and daughters.

We also strongly demand that the Ministry of Home Affairs release our children unconditionally, If they have committed any offence, give them an open trial. This is subscribing to the United Nation Universal Declaration of Human Rights which stated in Article 2, that:

"Everyone is entitled to all the Rights and Freedom set forth in this Declaration without distinction of any kind such as Race, Colour, Sex, Language, Religion, Political or their Opinion, National or Social Origin, Property, Birth or other Status. Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the Country or Territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, self-governing or under any other limitations of sovereignty".

In Article , it is stated that:

"No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile"

We hopefully await the earliest return of our children's freedom.

Yours in the name
of Human Rights,
Parents of the
arrested students.

(signed)

六名被捕学生家长致蔡善进先生的公开信

致内政部长蔡善进先生：

我们是工艺学院六名在籍及刚离校的学生：符振渊、林兆辉、胡荣发、谢燕燕、黄训辉和蔡冲的家长。我们的子女在七月二十九日凌晨分别在工艺学院学生楼及家里被内政部人员逮捕。四天之后（即八月二日凌晨）谢燕燕的妹妹谢燕子也被带走。

我们的子女都只是参与工艺学院学生会及其附属学生会的活动，这些学生团体都是合法的公开团体。因此，对于他们的受逮捕，我们要提出质疑：他们到底做错了什么事情？他们到底犯了什么罪？我们相信我们的子女，他们并没有犯什么过错，他们只是积极参与学生会所主办的各项活动。对于他们的一切无事实根据的指责，我们提出抗议。在这民主的社会里，我们要求内政部提出事实。我们是不要捏造出来的故事，而把罪名强加在我们子女的身上。

我们强烈要求部长先生无条件释放我们的子女，如果他们有什么罪状，我们则要求公开的审讯他们。根据联合国人权宣言：

“以下的宣言授于每一个人以基本的权力及自由，不论其种族，肤色、性别、语言、宗教、政治信仰或其他思想信仰、民族或其来自的社会背景、经济地位、出身；亦不论其政治歧见，或其附属国家或区域的国际地位，即不论此国是否独立，是否有威望，是否自治权或其自主权是否受任何限制。”

“没有人可受独断的逮捕、扣留或驱逐。”

我们一致期望我们的子女们能早日获得自由。

此 致

新加坡内政部长

六名工院被捕学生家长启