

PRESS RELEASE: LAOGAI RESEARCH FOUNDATION PARTICIPATES IN WORLD-WIDE EVENTS TO LAUNCH NEWEST PUBLICATION, *LAOGAI: THE MACHINERY OF REPRESSION IN CHINA*



HONG KONG: EXHIBITION AND LECTURE SEPTEMBER 23RD TO OCTOBER 1ST, 2009--

Laogai Research Foundation, the Laogai Museum and the Hong Kong 57 Association will be hosting "The Human Cost: Stories from China's Laogai," in various locations throughout Hong Kong. The exhibition will detail the atrocities committed in China's vast system of "reform through labor" camps and will be shown at multiple venues, including the Chinese University of Hong Kong and street locations in the bustling Mong Kok and Causeway Bay districts. Images from the book will be included in these events. LRF Washington DC Director, **Nicole Kempton**, will be speaking at the **Foreign Correspondent's Club** on September 23, 2009 at 12:45 pm (Hong Kong time) to formally launch *Laogai: The Machinery of Repression in China* across Asia.

WASHINGTON, DC: CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SEPTEMBER--LRF Founder and Executive Director Harry Wu will be testifying before the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission of the United States Congress on the continued use of forced labor throughout China and the export of products made with forced labor to the US. On this same day, members of Congress will receive copies of *Laogai: the Machinery of Repression in China*, to keep human rights at the center of Sino-U.S. dialogue.

NEW YORK CITY: COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SYMPOSIUM OCTOBER 1, 2009--Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Human Rights at Columbia University and in Association with the Asian American Alliance, Taiwan Focus, and Scholars at Risk, from **5-7 pm at the Roone Arledge Cinema in the Lerner Student Center**, Laogai survivor and LRF Executive Director **Harry Wu**, noted China scholar **Dr. Andrew Nathan**, Chinese democracy activist **Wang Tiancheng**, Asia Research Associate and Committee to Protect Journalists Researcher, **Madeline Earp**, and Tibetan Studies professor **Robbie Barnett** will be speaking at a panel discussion and launch party for *Laogai: The Machinery of Repression in China*, in The Arledge Theater Lerner Student Center. A visual screening of the photographs will also be part of the program. Please RSVP to cshr@columbia.edu.

FRANKFURT GERMANY: FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR OCTOBER 13-18, 2009--*Laogai: The Machinery of Repression in China* will be visible at the Laogai Research Foundation booth (**Stand 3.1 L Booth 672**) in the Chinese language section of the fair, where the PRC is set to be this year's guest of honor. Laogai will be featured alongside the critically acclaimed Black Series of Laogai survivor testimonies, which will provide a sharp contrast to the nationalistic Chinese government-sponsored publications on display. Laogai will also be available at Umbrage's European distributor, Turnaround's booth and at German publisher Agenda's booth (**Stand 3.1 A Booth 146**). Author **Harry Wu** and Director **Tienchi Martin Liao** will be participating in a number of panel discussions, and available for interviews in Frankfurt at this time.

The Laogai Research Foundation is a not-for-profit organization founded by former political prisoner Harry Wu in 1992. Its mission is to gather information on and raise public awareness of the Laogai—China's extensive system of forced labor prison camps.

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