



TAIWAN FOUNDATION
for DEMOCRACY

財團法人臺灣民主基金會

新聞稿

「亞洲反非自願失蹤聯盟」獲頒 「2016 年第十一屆亞洲民主人權獎」

財團法人臺灣民主基金會在 12 月 10 日上午於本會會所舉辦「2016 年第十一屆亞洲民主人權獎」頒獎典禮，將獎項頒給「亞洲反非自願失蹤聯盟」(AFAD)。AFAD 為一致力於防制強迫失蹤議題之區域性人權組織聯盟，其總部設在菲律賓馬尼拉。

蔡英文總統受邀出席典禮，並頒發「亞洲民主人權獎」獎座予 AFAD 秘書長巴卡爾索女士 (Mary Aileen Diez-Bacalso)。另外，臺灣民主基金會董事長暨立法院院長蘇嘉全先生亦頒發 10 萬美元獎助金，鼓勵 AFAD 未來繼續努力。

蔡英文總統於頒獎前致詞，向 AFAD 表達敬意，她說 AFAD「儘管受到政治上的壓力，資源也相當有限，AFAD 依然持續投入營救『被失蹤者』以及聲援受難者家屬的行動。這是一個非常艱難，卻相當重要的工作。」蔡總統也提及，「過去，在臺灣追求自由和人權的過程中，國際社會給我們很多鼓勵和支持。今天，我們已經是一個真正的民主國家，我們也願意把臺灣的經驗和資源，分享給國際社會，特別是那些仍在奮戰的地區和人民。」她並期待「臺灣民主基金會可以扮演推動亞洲進步的力量，讓民主、自由和人權的理念，深入亞洲乃至於全球的每一個角落。」

臺灣民主基金會蘇嘉全董事長亦恭賀 AFAD 並表示，「『亞洲民主人權獎』設立的目的，就是秉持著『銘記過去，傳承未來』的精神，對亞洲地區積極促進民主與人權並有卓越貢獻的個人或團體加以表揚、鼓勵。」蘇董事長在肯定 AFAD 時，進一步提及，「過去臺灣在威權時期，也曾發生大量政治性強迫失蹤事件，當年許多臺灣人民，不明原因遭到逮捕問話，有些人甚至從此音訊全無，而我曾參與過失蹤者的營救任務，深刻體會到，失蹤者家屬充滿恐懼害怕、難過煎熬的心情，也深知在威權國家，主政者擁有無限擴張的權力，人權組織處境艱難，要與政府對抗非常不容易。」

AFAD 秘書長巴卡爾索女士在得獎感言中表示，她相當榮幸臺灣民主基金會能將本屆亞洲民主人權獎頒給 AFAD，並提到「AFAD 的獲獎將能強化我們的訴求與努力，並使我們在亞洲地區的工作獲致更大的成就。」她又說，「臺灣在過去威權時代也有『強迫失蹤』的事件發生，對於能從有相似經驗的臺灣獲取此獎項，實深具友誼及團結的崇高意義。」巴卡爾索秘書長另外表示，正當我們獲得「亞洲民主人權獎」，這個令人鼓舞的消息傳來之際，本聯盟的理事長，喀什米爾著名的人權捍衛者庫藍·帕維茲先生 (Khurram Parvez) 正遭遇政治迫害，他被印度安全部門自 9 月 16 日至 11 月 30 日非法拘禁 76 天，直到一個多星期前才被釋放。」她將此獎項獻給亞洲及全世界被迫失蹤的受害者，他們的精神與我們同在，同時也要獻給這些失蹤者最親愛的家人們。

本次頒獎典禮約有 80 位貴賓出席，包括兩位「亞洲民主人權獎」國際審查委員，分別是第三屆亞洲民主人權獎得主暨阿富汗獨立人權委員會主席西瑪·薩瑪爾醫師 (Sima

Samar) 與國際特赦組織東亞分部主任軻林先生 (Nicholas Bequelin) , 以及駐臺使節、公民社會與學界代表等。典禮開始時並由蔡瑞月文化基金會舞者以舞蹈表演紀念人權受害者。

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PRESS RELEASE

Asian Federation Against Involuntary Disappearances Received the 2016 Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award

In a ceremony at its office this morning, the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy (TFD) presented this year's Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award to the Asian Federation Against Involuntary Disappearances (AFAD). AFAD is a regional federation of human rights organizations working on the issue of forced disappearances, with its headquarters in Manila, Philippines.

President Tsai Ing-wen was invited to present the award sculpture to AFAD Secretary-General Mary Aileen Diez-Bacalso. Then Legislative Yuan Speaker and TFD Chairperson Su Jia-chyuan presented the award grant of 100,000 US Dollars to Ms. Diez-Bacalso on behalf of AFAD.

Speaking before presenting the Award, President Tsai expressed her respect for AFAD, saying, "Despite facing political pressure and lack of resources, AFAD has steadfastly continued its efforts to rescue the disappeared and speak out for the families of the victims. This is a very difficult, but very important mission." President Tsai noted, "In the past, during Taiwan's pursuit of freedom and human rights, the international community gave us much encouragement and support. Today, we are a true democracy, and we are willing to share our experiences and resources with the international community, particularly with those regions and peoples who are still struggling for democracy and freedom." President Tsai continued, "I hope that the TFD can play a role to promote progressive forces in Asia, in order that the ideals of democracy, freedom, and human rights can penetrate every corner of Asia, and indeed the world."

Chairperson Su also congratulated AFAD, explaining, "The purpose of the establishment of Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award [in 2006] is, maintaining the spirit of 'remember from history, passing on the future,' to encourage individuals or organizations that have demonstrated long-term commitment and outstanding leadership in advancing democracy or human rights in Asia." Chairperson Su expressed his particular appreciation for the work of AFAD, adding, "In the Martial Law era, a large number of cases of political disappearances also occurred in Taiwan. Many Taiwanese were taken away for questioning for no clear reason, and sometimes they were never heard from again. I was involved in some of the efforts to rescue such people. Thus, I can deeply empathize with the kind of fear and torment felt by the families of the disappeared. Furthermore, I deeply understand how difficult the situation of human rights organizations is, facing the limitless power of the rulers in an authoritarian country. To stand up against such a government is definitely not easy."

In her acceptance speech, Ms. Diez-Bacalso expressed her gratitude on behalf of AFAD, saying, "The Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award bestowed upon the Taiwan Democracy Foundation to AFAD will... amplify our voices, fortify our efforts and multiply our gains here in Asia. Coming from Taiwan, which has a common experience of enforced disappearances during

an authoritarian rule, this award is a noble expression of friendship and solidarity.” Ms. Diez-Bacalso added, “The heartening news of our winning the Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award came at a time when our Chairperson, Mr. Khurram Parvez, was persecuted – arbitrarily detained for 76 days by Indian authorities. Detained on 16 September, he was released on 30 November – barely more than a week ago.” Ms. Diez-Bacalso dedicated the Award “to all the disappeared in Asia and the rest of the world... who are spiritually present here and now, and in whose names we are receiving this award,” as well as “to the mothers, fathers, wives, husbands, sisters, brothers, children of the disappeared.”

The ceremony was attended by approximately 80 guests, notably including two members of the international review panel: Dr. Sima Samar, Chairperson of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission and the 2008 Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award laureate, and Mr. Nicholas Bequelin, East Asia Director of Amnesty International, as well as members of the diplomatic corps, Taiwanese civil society, and academia. At the beginning of the ceremony, a dance performance commemorating human rights victims was performed by members of the Tsai Jui-Yueh Dance Foundation.

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