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Shikoku Regional Parole Board

Takamatsu Legal Complex 6F (Takamatsu Homu Godo Chosha 6F)

1-1 Marunouchi

Takamatsu City

760-0033 Kagawa Prefecture,

JAPAN

Dear Shikoku Regional Parole Board Members:

Mr. Fumiaki Hoshino who has been incarcerated in the Tokushima Prison is innocent and must be released. As of July 2017, he served his imprisonment sentence for 30 years. He has been maintaining his innocence since his arrest 43 years ago. There is no physical evidence of his guilt and the prosecution has been refusing disclosure of evidence—third party eyewitness statements etc. I [We] cannot help but believe that his imprisonment was and is motivated by political reason; on November 14, 1971, he led a contingent of demonstrators against the Okinawa Reversion Agreement. He was framed up for death of a riot police officer during the crush.

Despite the administrative notice of the Department of Justice issued on March 6, 2009, which instructed that a prisoner sentenced to indefinite imprisonment who served 30 years has to be examined by the regional parole board for his/her release, such examinations have rarely held; the indefinite term inmates have now more chance to die in prison than to be paroled. The “indefinite imprisonment” became de facto “life imprisonment.”

On top of it, the prison authority has refused to give air conditioning and room heating, although the prison is located in an area with severe weather. This summer, at this very moment of record heat, the prison authority transferred Hoshino-san from the lower floor to the uppermost floor; the ceiling is heated directly by sun shine. Such treatment of him constitutes blatant violation of human rights and infringement of Article 36 of the Japanese Constitution which prohibits torture and cruel punishments.

I [We]sincerely demand you fairly and impartially examine Mr Hoshino’s case, consider his humane character, the human rights and his family’s yearning to live together and rule that Hoshino be released.

Sincerely,

Your name (organization)

*Signature*

CC: Hoshino Defense Committee

 qen@star.nifty.jp