

## THE TWO FACES OF THE BEIJING OLYMPICS

LEGACY OF THE BEIJING OLYMPICS

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



China's Minister of Public Security has stressed the need for China 'to create a harmonious society ... for successfully holding the Beijing Olympic Games'.

Since then no expense or effort has been spared to create the perfect Olympiad.

12 brand new venues have been built, including the extraordinary Water Cube and the spectacular Bird's Nest stadium. 27 km of new underground line now link the north and south of the city. Visitors will arrive at a stunning third airport terminal.

All at an estimated cost of £1.6 billion.

## METICULOUS PREPARATION



© Tee Meng

METICULOUS PREPARATION

## PHYSICAL ENDURANCE

An unbelievable amount of blood, sweat and tears has gone into these Olympic Games.

It's always that way. Ethiopia's Abebe Bikila, won gold in the 1960 marathon running barefoot. He won gold again in 1964, 40 days after having his appendix removed.

Deng Yaping was twice written off as being too short for table tennis. She went on to win 4 Olympic golds and to be elected Chinese athlete of the century.

And Britain's Sebastian Coe came back from lymph-node surgery to become the only man to twice win 1500 metre gold.



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PHYSICAL ENDURANCE

With 906 medals to be won in Beijing, every athlete will be testing their strength and endurance.

## HIGH-TECH GAMES

The Beijing Olympic Games are to serve as a window to showcase the city's high-tech achievements and its innovative strength.

Buildings within the Paralympic village, for example, utilise no less than 22 new technologies, including solar powered heating; wind power; ground source heating and cooling; vacuum glazing, and intelligent control systems.

But perhaps the height of technological innovation is the extraordinary Water Cube. The membrane structure is composed of more than 3000 pneumatic 'bubbles' – each one strong enough to withstand the weight of a car. Its designers claim that the Water Cube can 'wash its own face' and even breathe.



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HIGH-TECH GAMES

## CHINA'S CHOICE YOUR VOICE

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[www.thechinadebate.org](http://www.thechinadebate.org)

# WE WANT TO HOLD THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES TO THEIR OLYMPIC PROMISES.

**'By allowing Beijing to host the Games you will help the development of human rights.'**

Liu Jingmin, Vice President of the Beijing Olympics Games Bid Committee, 2001.

**'No one will get arrested because he said that human rights are more important than the Olympics. This is impossible.'**

Yang Jiechi, Chinese Foreign Minister at a press conference with UK Foreign Secretary David Miliband, 2008.

Over the last seven years we have heard plenty of promises like these. Actions so far do not match growing expectations of China as a rising global power. In some ways, the human rights situation in China has deteriorated not despite but because of the Olympics preparations. We desire a positive human rights legacy for the Beijing Games and beyond.

Many people in China still risk persecution for peaceful protests on politically taboo subjects. It's up to us to speak up in solidarity. Now.

**So please don't be silenced. Support our campaign by visiting [www.thechinadebate.org](http://www.thechinadebate.org)**

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



HIGH-TECH GAMES

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The Beijing Olympic Games are to serve as a window to showcase the city's high-tech achievements and its innovative strength.

One of these achievements is already being used to repress freedom of expression throughout the country. Known unofficially as 'the Great Firewall of China' it is a sophisticated internet monitoring and censorship system designed to block sites and remove content. Chinese citizens who post 'politically sensitive' materials online risk arrest.

When activist Hu Jia wrote online about China's human rights abuses and gave interviews to foreign journalists and embassy staff he was arrested accused of "inciting subversion" and sentenced to three and a half years in prison.



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Shi Tao, a journalist and poet, is currently serving ten years just for sending an email. He was arrested after being identified with the technical assistance of Yahoo!

PHYSICAL ENDURANCE

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An unbelievable amount of blood, sweat and tears has gone into these Olympic Games.

That's because torture is still commonplace in China. And it has been widely used during the run-up to the Games.

Yang Chunlin, a former factory worker, was reportedly chained to an iron bed with his arms and legs stretched so tightly he couldn't move. For six days he was forced to eat, drink and defecate in this position. His only 'crime' was to raise a petition entitled 'We don't want the Olympics, we want human rights'.



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Ye Guozhu was reportedly suspended by his arms and beaten with electric batons. All because he sought permission to protest after being forcibly evicted from his home due to Olympics-related construction.

Meanwhile thousands more have been tortured, harassed, detained and silenced.

METICULOUS PREPARATION

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China's Minister of Public Security has stressed the need for China 'to create a harmonious society ... for successfully holding the Beijing Olympic Games'.

An estimated 1.25 million people have been displaced in Beijing in connection with urban redevelopment projects, some of which are directly linked to construction projects for the Games. Many have reportedly been evicted without due process or adequate compensation.

To 'clean up' the city, the Beijing city



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authorities have announced their plan to place vagrants and beggars into 'Re-education Through Labour' facilities, where individuals can be held for up to four years without charge or trial.

Human rights activists, petitioners and other "undesirables" have also been detained in Beijing and forcibly returned to their home provinces.