

Protest against arrest and prolonged detention of 4 anti-nuke activists!

April 9, 2011

Please forward this message as widely as possible.

The arrest we reported on our Newsletter # 008b was an unprecedented violent repression on anti-nuke free speech abusing the Minor Offenses Act.



Council member Kitajima demands immediate shutdown of all nuke plants (March 31)

In Suginami Ward, Tokyo, an incumbent council member, KITAJIMA Kunihiko and his supporters have been campaigning for reelection on anti-nuclear power plant platform.

Since March 11, the police had conducted very frequent and unreasonable questioning everywhere in Suginami in order to harass and obstruct campaign to stop all nuke plants. On April 6, the police arrested four supporters of Mr. Kitajima allegedly putting up his posters, charging them "violation of the Minor Offenses Act" ("spoiling the beauty of town" etc.) The four residents of Suginami were simply sitting in a car and only refused to reply

harassing "questioning." The police broke windows of the car and arrested.



Kitajima sends relief packages to the most afflicted areas

The Japanese police have long tradition to outrageously arrest dissidents who put up posters. But this time, the police arrested four men without any material evidence whatsoever. The arrest was not made "on the spot." They only suspected and presumed guilty because the four people were known supporters of Mr. Kitajima.

In Japanese judicial system, the police is prohibited to detain long for violators of the Minor Offenses Act. So, the next day, they suddenly changed the charge from "violation of the MSA" into "interference with policemen in the execution of their duties"—which allow them to prolong detention for 23 days.

On April 8, the police raided two offices for the election campaign of Mr. Kitajima and searched for list of names of Kitajima supporters and intimidate them.

Please demand immediate release of the four people and send protest messages to:

https://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/forms/comment_ssl.html

Please send your donations to the following address:

<People's Earthquake Relief Center>
c/o National Coordinating Center of Labor Unions
Gohodo- Ito bldg. 5th Floor,
2-4-10 Moto-Asakusa, Daito-ku, Tokyo, Zip Code 111-0041, Japan
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