

Liu Xiaobo, the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize winner, Tiananmen Square Massacre protester, and promoter of the pro-democracy Charter 08 that cost him his freedom, and eventually his life, died on Thursday, 13th July from late stage liver cancer. He was 61.

In 2009, Liu was sentenced to 11 years jail for 'subversion' by the communist regime.

Liu won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2010, but he was not permitted to travel to Norway to accept it.

He was the second person to receive the award while in prison - the other was the German pacifist Carl von Ossietzky, who won in 1935 while incarcerated in a Nazi concentration camp.

His wife, Liu Xia, was placed under house arrest and stopped from talking to the media.

### **In communist jail**

[Prisoners of conscience](#) in communist China, are known for [enduring inhuman torture and daily harsh treatment](#). Most of them are subjected to forced labour in prison. But during the early prison years, Liu Xiaobo boasted that China's prison system was not too bad, and he could also enjoy cigarettes in prison. Liu also posed in photos on a Chinese blog, which caused some confusion among Chinese people, because it is a luxurious prison condition that most Chinese had never imagined. Liu developed cancer whilst in jail and the illness was brought to the attention of communist authorities in Oct 2016, but he was not allowed treatment, according to Chinese blog, Creader.net, until May 2017, by which time Liu's cancer was untreatable.

### **Responsible for death**

The Nobel Committee said the Chinese government bore a "heavy responsibility for his premature death".

"We find it deeply disturbing that Liu Xiaobo was not transferred to a facility where he could receive adequate medical treatment before he became terminally ill," said former Norwegian Bar Association president Berit Reiss-Andersen.

## Chinese Regime Responsible for Nobel Prize Winner's Death

China Uncensored

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Chinese artist and dissident Ai Weiwei told the BBC: "China is such a society [where] the government is very arrogant and will never listen or negotiate or tolerate these kind of ideas. It's not only Liu Xiaobo - before him... millions lost their lives."

Family friend and fellow dissident Hu Jia said the authorities would not let him die in peace.

"To some extent, this was an attempt by the party to show their strength, to show that they control your life if you live in China," he said.

"But I think the historic message they are leaving is very different. ***By letting a Nobel peace prize winner die in custody they lost a chance to show humanity and instead proved their cold-blooded nature.***"