

Details emerge in story of teacher who caught falling child

Xiao Qi, 38, an English teacher at No 11 Senior High School in Harbin, Heilongjiang province, didn't hesitate to open his arms to catch a 6-year-old girl who fell from a third-floor window on Sunday as she leaned out to call to her grandfather.



Six-year-old Mei Qingwen (left) is treated in the ICU at No 1 Affiliated Hospital of Harbin Medical University. Xiao Qi (right) shows how he tried to catch the falling girl.[Liu Mingxin/For China Daily]

On Wednesday, the girl, Mei Qingwen, was in the intensive care unit of No 1 Affiliated Hospital of Harbin Medical University, with kidney and lung damage and skull fractures, according to her grandmother, Yu Huilan. But the girl's condition seemed to be improving.

"Fortunately, my granddaughter is now out of danger and has regained consciousness," Yu said. "The doctor said Xiao's heroic action greatly reduced the damage."

Xiao explained the details:

"On Sunday afternoon, as I was on my way home, I saw a girl leaning out the window on a building's third floor," he said. "I attempted to warn her with a loud shout, but she looked flustered and didn't seem to be listening."

Mei was born with a hearing disability and only learned to speak after undergoing cochlear implant surgery to provide some sound through a tiny electrical device.

But the implant was out of power at the time, so she couldn't hear Xiao.

"I was not thinking about anything," Xiao continued. "I acted on instinct to save her life."

Xiao sustained minor injuries to his arm as a result of the forceful impact of the catch. He was able to slow her descent considerably but couldn't hold on.

"If I had caught her better, maybe she would be less seriously injured," he said with evident remorse.

Xiao dialed the emergency 120 number and left without a word after the ambulance arrived.

Yu, the grandmother, wanted to find the identity of the hero and asked a local broadcasting station for help the next day.

"My neighbors told me only that he was a middle-aged, medium height and wore glasses," Yu said. "Working with many people together, we finally found him."

"I can't express my thanks with simple words," she said. "I can't imagine what would have happened without his help. He is the savior of my whole family."

Yu said that when the girl found that she had been left alone by her grandfather, who was going to the market, she wanted to signal to him through the window.

Xiao was passing by at the time and acted quickly to catch her when she fell.

His colleagues at the high school were not surprised.

"Of course, he'd rush to help. He's very kind and willing to help others. He is a provincial-level excellent teacher, and in June we recommended him to be named among the city's Teachers of the Year," said Wang Zuosheng, the principal.

"In my mind he is always my hero," said Peng Ana, Xiao's wife. "This is not the first time he's saved someone's life."

Peng recounted an incident in the winter of 2003. Xiao found a young girl who seemed to be having thoughts of suicide on a busy traffic bridge. He spoke patiently with her. Finally the girl changed her mind.

Li Bing, a physics teacher at Harbin No 3 High School was quoted in the Heilongjiang Morning Post saying the girl, who weighed about 20 kilograms, would generate as much as much as 75 kilograms of direct force in a fall of three stories.

Netizens praised Xiao's heroism. "Such a good deed is a ray of sunshine that warms and encourages us," one person posted. "He is really the most beautiful teacher in the city, and I believe virtue will be rewarded."

[China to raise public awareness on disability prevention](#)

Chinese authorities called for the raising of people's awareness of disabilities ahead of the country's first disability prevention day which falls on Aug. 25, according to an official circular.

The circular, issued by 16 departments, including the China Disabled Person's Federation (CDPF), aims to popularize disability knowledge and enable the public to better identify the risks of disabilities.

Various activities will be held across the country on the day.

The CDPF asked disabled federations at various levels to formulate their own plans and make their activities more attractive and efficient, the circular said.

Efforts should also be made to educate the public with disability prevention knowledge through media outlets, it said.

China is home to more than 85 million disabled people.

[China issues working rules on handling public petitions](#)

The Chinese authority that oversees the handling of public grievances has issued a document on working rules to deal with petitions.

Zhang Enxi, vice head and spokesperson of the State Bureau for Letters and Calls, said at a press conference Wednesday that the new document was expected to better ensure proper and timely solution to public appeals.

Petition agencies should transfer the appeals they received to the relevant authorities responsible, according to the document,

However, that does not mean that the petition agencies should simply act as a "reception office" or as "onlookers," Zhang said.

He said that the agencies could carry out supervision or hold relevant authorities or personnel accountable in cases where responsible parties failed to perform their duties or solve petitions.

Petition agencies may also organize consultation meetings if a petition involves multiple authorities.

According to Zhang, the new document also made it clear that cases that have been, are being or ought to be handled through judicial, arbitration or administrative review proceedings are off limits to petition handling procedures.

[State Council appoints, removes officials](#)

The State Council, China's cabinet, announced the appointment and removal of several senior officials Wednesday.

Luo Wen was appointed vice minister of industry and information technology; Shi Yugang was appointed deputy director of the state ethnic affairs commission.

Sun Meijun becomes deputy head of the China Food and Drug Administration.

He Jing was appointed deputy director of the liaison office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Hu Keming will no longer be deputy director of the legislative affairs office of the State Council.

[This is Tibet: Happy Herders](#)

You are here: [Home](#) > [China](#) > [Nation](#)



0 [Comment\(s\)](#) [Print](#) [E-mail](#) China.org.cn, August 2, 2017

Adjust font size:

□□□□□

[□□□□Flash□□□](#)

Follow China.org.cn on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) to join the conversation.

[ChinaNews App Download](#)

[Print](#) [E-mail](#) SHARE

No comments.

• User Name Required

• Your Comment

• Enter the words you see:

Racist, abusive and off-topic comments may be removed by the moderator.

[Send your stories](#) Get more from China.org.cn [Mobile](#) [RSS](#) [Newsletter](#)