

Clearwisdom Digest

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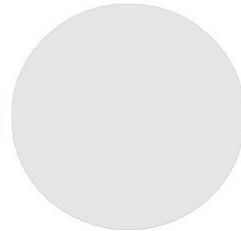
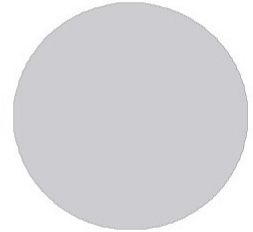
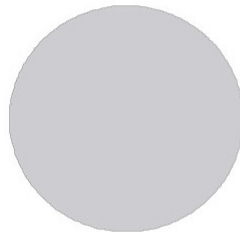
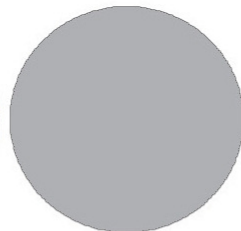
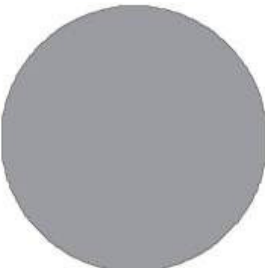


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News and Events from Around the World



Washington D.C.: Falun Gong Practitioners Hold Rally, Call for End of the Persecution

On July 17, one thousand Falun Gong practitioners from all over the world held a rally at Upper Senate Park in Washington D.C., and called for an end of the persecution in China.

Falun Gong practitioners in yellow T-shirts held banners which read "Falun Dafa is good" "The world needs Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance" "End the persecution of Falun Gong" "Release all the jailed practitioners" and "Bring the murderers of persecution to justice."

At the rally, three U.S. congressmen and several representatives from non-government organizations gave speeches. Two more congressmen sent support letters condemning the brutal persecution. They pointed out that the persecution against Falun Gong is also a persecution against all the Chinese people. They condemned the assaults against Falun Gong in Flushing, New York, and suggested deporting the Chinese diplomats who are involved.



The rally

The persecution against Falun Gong started nine years ago. According to the Minghui/Clearwisdom website, 3164 Falun Gong practitioners have been persecuted to death during the last nine years, and thousands of practitioners are jailed and being tortured in labor camps, detention centers and prisons in China. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, congresswoman from Florida, expressed in her speech that the 610 Office in China, which was set up for persecuting Falun Gong, is an organization like the Nazi Gestapo or KGB in the former Soviet Union. She said, "It is horrifying to treat peaceful people this way."

Ms. Ros-Lehtinen condemned the brutal persecution. She pointed out that regarding the Beijing Olympics, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) broke their promise of

improving the human rights situation in China. In fact, what the CCP has done is the opposite of their promise; the persecution against Falun Gong and other religious groups is worse now.

She pointed out that the CCP has even extended the persecution to New York, U.S.A. where Falun Gong practitioners in Flushing, New York are being assaulted. She mentioned that in a phone conversation, Peng Keyu, the Chinese general counselor in New York, admitted that he directed the assaults in Flushing. She suggested that the U.S. government should deport Chinese diplomats who organize and direct assaults against American citizens in the U.S.

Congressman Rush Holt said in his speech that Falun Gong practitioners standing under the sun is a symbol of exposing the evil persecution. He expressed that practitioners not only bring the principle of "Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance" to their belief group, but also to the whole world. He expressed his appreciation to practitioners for clarifying the truth and bringing human rights to every corner of the world.

T. Kumar from Amnesty International listed the evidence of persecution. He mentioned the report by Manfred Nowak, the Special Rapporteur on Torture of United Nations, which showed that two thirds of the persecution cases in China are against Falun Gong and at least 50% of labor camp prisoners in China are Falun Gong practitioners.

Kumar expressed that Falun Gong practitioners are making a strong voice that the evil persecution should be stopped. He said that President Bush should bring up the persecution issue with the Chinese government.

David Matas, a famous human rights lawyer from Canada and co-author of the report of the CCP's harvesting organs from living Falun Gong practitioners, also gave a speech at the rally. He listed the evidence of the organ harvesting and called for the end of this crime against humanity.

Jim Geheran from Initiatives for China pointed out that the evidence of the persecution is not in doubt, and now the question is how much the public knows about it. He said no matter how hard the CCP tries to cover up the persecution and control the media; they cannot keep it from being exposed.

Geheran praised practitioners for their courage. "The prisons cannot overcome your tolerance and hatred cannot overcome your benevolence. You have manifested your belief in 'Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance.' And you have shown the CCP that tyranny and terrorism will fail," he said, "I admire you from bottom of my heart. Your persistence in truth and compassion shows your courage."

Other speakers at the rally included Keith Roderick from Christian Solidarity International, Ann Delorey from the InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington, Suzanne Scholte, the Chair of Defense Forum Foundation, Erin Weston from Jubilee Campaign USA, and Li Dayong and Jenny Liu from Global Service Center for Quitting the Party.

Joint News Conference about the Forced Shutdown of NTDTV Broadcasts into China

On July 15, 2008, NTDTV, Reporters Without Borders, the International Press Alliance, and Members of the European Parliament held a joint news conference. They condemned satellite company Eutelsat's termination of NTDTV broadcasts into Asia, particularly at this time right before the Beijing Olympics, and asked the European Union and the Government of France to put pressure on the French satellite company to comply with European human rights, democracy, and law, and to restore the NTDTV signal as soon as possible. Many officials in the European parliament and media participated in the conference.



NTDTV, Reporters Without Borders, International Press Alliance, and Members of European Parliament hold a joint news conference

First Mr. Yves Heman, the spokesman for NTDTV in Belgium, issued a statement rebuking Eutelsat for shutting down NTDTV's broadcast signals to Asia and claiming it was due to technical problems. Of particular note was a Reporters Without Borders investigation report, which was released last Thursday. It pointed out that the Chinese Communist Party has made Eutelsat violate the free flow of information. He said that it is a most urgent task for us to have the NTDTV signal resumed in China as soon as possible, especially with the approach of the Olympic Games. "The Chinese people really need the free flow of information that is not censored."

Mr. Marc Gruber, director of the European branch of the International Press Alliance, recalled that three years ago the International Press Alliance protested Eutelsat's attempt to cut off NTDTV's signal in China. This time, he noted, the situation is different from then, citing the current political situation against the backdrop of the upcoming Olympic Games.

The news conference was hosted by Mr. Marco Cappato, a Member of the European Parliament from Italy. He said, "I think that the European Union should issue a formal statement, putting pressure on Eutelsat in order to solve the so-called 'technical' problems." He added, "As of now, a letter signed by 50 MPs has been sent to the President of Eutelsat, asking for the resumption of the signal. This is only the beginning;

we will be trying to formally address inquiries to the European Union about this matter."

Mr. Edward McMillan-Scott, Vice President of the European Parliament, said, "The Eutelsat company is headquartered in France, which is providing the current rotating president of the European Union. So it has an obligation to have its feet firmly planted in Europe, which is to put the philosophy of human rights, democracy, and law into practice. And it should encourage the free flow of information into China. The Government of France should put pressure on Eutelsat and have the NTDTV broadcast signal to mainland China resumed." Discussing China issues during the plenary session of the European Parliament held last Wednesday, Mr. McMillan-Scott specifically asked the Government of France to help reestablish the NTDTV signal as soon as possible.

Ms. Helga Trupel, MP from Germany, is the chair of the Council of Education and Culture, as well as a member of the European Parliament delegation to China. She has been to China four times in recent years. Ms. Trupel said, "Because of the Olympic Games, the CCP authorities promised to open China, allowing people to have more freedom and improving human rights. But now we have realized that everything it promised was false. The actual situation has become even worse. They control people, suppress them even more severely in their speech, and people have no freedom to air their own opinions." She asked for France to put pressure on Eutelsat and allow NTDTV, a free media, to be again broadcast into China.

Ms. Hanna Foltyn-Kubicka, Member of Parliament from Poland, is a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the European Parliament. Being from a former communist country, she said she could really understand what it is like to live in an environment in which the media is controlled. She added, "The decision made by Eutelsat in Europe has resulted in hundreds of millions of Chinese losing their source of independent news. Economic interests cannot override human rights; we cannot accept this act of sacrificing an independent TV station to please the CCP regime."

New York Falun Gong Practitioners Condemn Flushing Incident and Call for In-Depth Investigation of CCP Involvement

Falun Gong practitioners in New York held a press conference in front of Manhattan's City Hall at noon on July 10, 2008. They condemned the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) for inciting hate assaults targeting Falun Gong practitioners in Flushing, and called for justice and an in-depth investigation of this hate crime. They also called for the U.S. government and international society to help stop the escalating persecution of Falun Gong practitioners before the Olympic Games.



New York City Councilman Tony Avella says such personal attacks of Falun Gong practitioners is intolerable in U.S. where there is freedom of speech, faith and assembly.

Falun Gong practitioner Yi Rong said the CCP started provocations on May 17, when the paid accomplices fiercely cursed and beat Falun Gong practitioners. Two weeks later, with police protection and cooperation, the Service Center for Quitting the CCP, in front of the Flushing Public Library, has re-opened, and grown to five centers on other busy streets. More and more people are seeing clearly the good and the evil and are expressing their support of Falun Gong practitioners. Things have quieted down in Flushing, but it is hard to believe that two Chinese-American Councilpersons openly met with the mobsters. Falun Gong practitioners are calling for justice to oppose the CCP's infiltration, and are calling for a thorough investigation of the incident.

Falun Gong practitioners Judy Chen and Yu Wenzhong told their experiences of being assaulted and threatened on May 19 and May 20. The police arrested twelve attackers, and some have been convicted, while others are still in legal proceedings.

Falun Gong practitioner Zenon said the number of mobsters and the time span of the violence in Flushing and other Chinatowns in New York indicated that the CCP was attempting to suppress Falun Gong overseas.

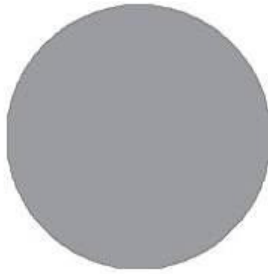
Mr. Wang Zhiyuan, representative of the World Organization to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong (WOIPFG), announced the most recent findings of an investigation, "The whole incident in Flushing has nothing to do with the Sichuan earthquake or earthquake relief, and that incident was not spontaneously initiated by local residents. Instead, this incident was controlled and orchestrated by the CCP and it directly involved the Chinese Consulate in New York. The Consulate was instrumental in attempting to suppress Falun Gong overseas. However, it also exposed the overseas Chinese community system that the CCP has taken great pains to build up." Wang said the CCP used the "unrestricted warfare" strategy in Flushing. They hired thugs as attackers. After more than ten of them were arrested, the CCP agents were directly involved. Following them were the CCP-loyal Chinese-American councilpersons. This net of connections built by the CCP is not in place only to deal with Falun Gong. Therefore, we called on all governments to pay special attention.

New York City Councilman Tony Avella attended the press conference and gave a speech. He said such personal attacks of Falun Gong practitioners were intolerable in the U.S. where there is freedom of speech, faith and assembly. Some mobsters have been sued in court. Councilman Avella made a council proposal to condemn the assaults of Falun Gong practitioners in Flushing and other places, and called for the FBI and U.S. government organizations to investigate the intervention by the Chinese Consulate General regarding the Flushing incident. If the Chinese government is proved to have been involved in, encouraged or supported the assaults in any format, these people could be expelled from the U.S. Foreign governments are not allowed to intervene in the freedom of our people.

Mr. Gao Dawei, representative of the Service Center for Quitting the CCP, said, "The violent attack in Flushing targeted the activity of quitting the CCP. However, we received more and more phone calls from the Chinese people condemning the mobsters and requesting to quit the CCP. Some people from the earthquake area said that if they dared to say 'Long live the CCP' in the earthquake disaster area, they would have been crushed. We will persist in helping people quit the CCP."

Falun Gong practitioner Zhang Erping said that the CCP is escalating the persecution of Falun Gong on the eve of the Olympic Games, and at least one thousand seven hundred and ninety Falun Gong practitioners have been arrested between December and May. The number climbed to one thousand eight hundred and ten in June. Mr. Zhang submitted appeal letters to the Mayor of New York and the City Council Speaker's Office.

Facts of the Persecution



FDI News Release: Thousands of Falun Gong Adherents Arrested throughout China in Run Up to Olympics

Hundreds of Beijing Residents Held in Detention Centers, Dozens Sentenced to Labor Camps

NEW YORK -- With one month to go before the Olympic Games' opening ceremony, Chinese security agencies continue to arrest Falun Gong adherents throughout China in large numbers. In Beijing alone, hundreds have been arrested and dozens sentenced to labor camps without trial.

In recent months, the Falun Dafa Information Center (FDI) has received regular reports from adherents and their families inside China of door-to-door searches and arrests. According to statistics compiled from these reports, **there have been at least 8,037 arrests of Falun Gong adherents across 29 provinces, major cities and autonomous regions since December 2007.** The largest monthly total of 1,819 known arrests occurred in June, followed by 1,799 known arrests in May.

In Beijing alone, there have been at least 208 arrests across all 18 of the municipality's districts and counties since December 2007. The majority of those arrested in Beijing are currently being held in detention centers in the city's various districts. However, **30 are known to have already been sentenced without trial to "re-education through labor" camps for up to 2.5 years.**

"The long terms show that these arrests are not about ensuring a 'harmonious Olympics' as Party officials claim," says FDI spokesperson Erping Zhang. "Falun Gong adherents pose no threat whatsoever to the games. The Olympics are being taken as an excuse to put them behind bars for years."

The Center released today a list of names and details of 141 newly reported cases of individuals detained in Beijing since January 1, 2008 ([list](#)). Those detained include lawyers, accountants, retired workers, and parents of young children. There are dozens of others not listed here because the Center was unable to obtain sufficient details to allow for full verification.

The Center also released an update on the status of 67 individuals who were detained between December 2007 and March 2008 and whose arrest the Center had previously reported. ([news](#)) Since their detention, **16 individuals--almost one quarter of this group--have been sentenced to labor camps without trial.** ([list](#))

In addition to the large percentage sentenced to labor camps, other features of the campaign include:

Door-to-door arrests:

More than half of the 208 individuals in Beijing were arrested either from their homes, the homes of acquaintances, or from their workplaces. Local police or security agents typically detained the person unannounced and then, without a warrant, conducted a search of their home for any Falun Gong-related materials. The systematic nature of the arrests suggests the authorities are using a previously compiled list of local adherents. Many of those arrested had been detained previously for practicing Falun Gong.

"Olympic" geography of arrests:

Thirty-six adherents were arrested from Chaoyang District, home to the Bird's Nest and Water Cube, set to host the soccer and swimming events among others; 28 were detained in Haidian District, location of the headquarters of the Beijing Olympic Committee as well as events such as basketball and volleyball. These two districts alone accounted for more than half of those sentenced to labor camps (16 out of 30).

Short timeline:

While the exact date at which a person was sentenced to a labor camp is not always known due to the lack of formal procedures, it is evident that the authorities are following a short timeline in doing so. In one case, a woman was arrested in mid April and sentenced to a labor camp for 2.5 years by mid-May; however, her family was only informed of the decision in June.

"A large percentage of people have already been sent to labor camps. The dozens currently filling Beijing's detention centers are at grave risk of wrongful sentencing and torture," says Zhang. "It is now imperative that the international community leverage real pressure and stop these deplorable actions. The legacy of the 2008 Olympics must not be thousands of Chinese citizens languishing in labor camps."

The Center is demanding the immediate release of all Falun Gong adherents, and calling upon foreign media stationed in China, particularly Beijing, to investigate these arrests.

Ms. Chen Yumei Beaten to Death by Police in Shenyang City, Liaoning Province

On the morning of July 4, 2008, Chang'an Police Station in Dadong District, Shenyang City tried to arrest Ms. Chen Yumei, 48, on Pangjiang Street near Ms. Chen's neighborhood. They brutally beat and kicked her. Many bystanders witnessed the brutality, and saw that Ms. Chen had passed out from the beating.

At around 9 a.m. on the same morning, a 110 emergency police vehicle arrived at Ms. Chen's home, and her family was asked to identify her in an ambulance. (The police had called for the ambulance.) Her family identified her, but she was in a coma. An ambulance worker said her condition was critical, and that she must go to the hospital. There were five or six officers in the emergency vehicle from Chang'an Police Station, and they all left right away.

Ms. Chen was taken to the 463rd Military Hospital. The doctor found a large amount of bleeding in her skull, and said that he must perform an operation immediately. Her family collected a ten thousand [yuan](#) deposit for her to have the four-hour operation done. After the operation, she was unconscious. Her family saw that her arms and legs were covered with bruises, and her body had severe scratches as a result of being dragged on the ground. Doctors said the marks were caused by being beaten or dragged. The doctors spent 10 hours trying to revive her in vain, and she died at around 8:30 p.m. on July 4, 2008. Her family said that she left home around 8 a.m. a healthy woman, but died 12 hours later from police brutality.





Ms. Chen Yumei in the hospital after being beaten by police

When her family took her to the hospital, several 110 police vehicles surrounded Ms. Chen's home. Officers prevented other family members from entering or exiting, ransacked her home, and took many Falun Gong books, DVDs, and materials.

Ms. Chen Yumei was a kind, righteous person. She kept practicing Falun Gong and tried to be a good person, but was brutally mistreated multiple times by the Chinese Communist Party. She was once detained in a brainwashing center in 2002, and went on a hunger strike to escape the torture. Her husband was once sent to forced labor for practicing Falun Gong.

Bleak Conditions Continue for Falun Gong Practitioners in Masanjia Forced Labor Camp

To gain higher profits, the authorities of Masanjia Forced Labor Camp abuse Falun Gong practitioners by overloading them with work. Practitioners are forced to make handmade products for profit. These products often require high-intensity labor, and the raw materials are harmful. As a result, few people would willingly work under such conditions.

Practitioners were recently forced to process glue containing toxic substances. Long-term contact with the glue harms the respiratory tract, so the processing site was moved outside. Since nobody would willingly do this kind of work, the labor camp sold the finished products at high profits. The guards forced practitioners to do this work, harming both their physical and mental health.

On June 2, 2008, the workday for practitioners was extended to 8 p.m. Guards beat the old, weak, sick, and disabled who are unable to work or unable to keep pace with the others. Zhang Yu (female), guard director, ordered 58-year-old practitioner Ms. Wang Sufang to sort parts. Ms. Wang forgot what she was to do. Li Jun (female), the supervisor, hit Ms. Wang in the face and kicked her. Zhang Yu said she would extend Ms. Wang's detention term. Zhang Yu also instigated Li Jun to beat Ms. Wang when she could not fulfill a task or if she sorted some parts wrong.

The guard director ordered practitioner Ms. Wang Jinfeng to match cloth colors. She did not perform the task perfectly, so Ma Guimei (female), another supervisor, scolded her, pushed her to the front, and forced her to stand for a long time. The director took Ms. Wang Jinfeng to a warehouse, beat her, and forced her to clean the floor and the restroom.

On June 1, 2008, practitioner Ms. Gao Fuling was berated for no reason. Ning Yuhua (female), the supervisor, picked on her. It was obvious that a hole in the cloth was made by the manufacturer, but she claimed Ms. Gao was responsible and berated her fiercely.

A guard saw someone give Ms. Gao Fuling a piece of paper, so guard Wang Xing (female), directed by Zhang Yu, ransacked Ms. Gao's stuff and threatened her, "Give me the sheet of paper immediately, otherwise, you will get into trouble." On May 28, 2008, when Ms. Gao Fuling and Ms. Song Changmei refused to sign the assessment form, Zhang Yu pulled their hair and hit their faces. Another practitioner, Ms. Tong Xiaoyan, refused to sign the form, so Wang Shuzheng (female) hit her in the face. Ren Huaiping (female) claimed, "There are no human rights here at all."

On May 26, 2008, Zhang Yu told Ning Yuhua to force practitioner Ms. Qiu Tiejian to empty the trash bins in the whole workshop. While she was emptying the bins, Ms. Qiu bumped into guard He Lijuan (female)'s leg, so He Lijuan kicked her.

On May 25, 2008, Ms. Gao Fuling was forced to work in a private bag processing workshop. Since she was so tired, she sat down on a bench to rest. Guard Yang Lijun (female) immediately came over and demanded that she stand up to work. Afterwards, Yang Lijun told guard Peng Tao (male) to come over. Peng Tao threatened to beat Ms. Gao in order to get her to do her work faster.

At noon on May 23, 2008, claiming that Ms. Tong Xiaoyan and Ms. Wu Yueju walked too close to each other, Zhang Yu pushed Ms. Tong Xiaoyan. Ms. Wu Yueju tried to argue with Zhang Yu. As a result, Ms. Wu was beaten by guard Liu Jie (female), Wang Xing (female), and Lin Suqing (female). Liu Jie also beat Ms. Tong.

On May 20, 2008, Ms. Wu Yueju asked fellow practitioners to get up at midnight to send righteous thoughts, but Lin Shuqing (female) found out. Wang Xing shouted abuses. Lin Shuqing and Wang Xing reported to Zhang Yu, who told them to beat the practitioners to death if they got up again to send righteous thoughts.

Two days before the Dragon Boat Festival, a practitioner wrote a letter to a guard director to try and persuade her to be kinder. Ning Yuhua seized this letter. Guard Wang Shuzheng and Ren Huaiping not only abused practitioners but also incited overseers to monitor them by threatening, "If you turn a blind eye to Falun Gong practitioners, we will deal with you."

Zhang Yu, director of Team Two, colluded with Sun Bin (female), director of the production team, to abuse practitioners. They forced practitioners to cut nearly 200 cotton flakes each day. If they could not finish, they would have to take the cotton to their cell at night to continue the work.

Once, the guards forced practitioners to have blood drawn. Because Ms. Qiu Tiejian refused to cooperate, Zhang Yu incited Ning Yuhua and Lang Liya to beat her.

Ms. Ma Duo's Family and Friends Arrested for Appealing

At around 11:00 a.m. on July 2, 2008, the friends and family of Falun Gong practitioner Ms. Ma Duo, who had already been illegally sentenced to imprisonment by the Jiamusi District Court, went to Jiamusi Middle Court with their Beijing-based lawyer. They were trying to look for Ms. Song Peixia to deliver Ma Duo's personnel records to her. However, Song said that she had no time in the morning and made them come back in the afternoon at 1:15 p.m.

That afternoon, Ma's family and friends returned to look for Song. However, the moment they entered the building, they found Jiamusi City's Domestic Security Team and 610 Office member Chen Wanyou sitting inside. When Ma's family and friends came to Song's office, Song became very rude and ordered them to leave, with only the lawyer allowed to remain behind. Ma Duo's family and friends had to wait in another room. Song talked with the lawyer for a while, and then asked him to photocopy the personal records. She specifically asked him to go to a particular office in the building and nowhere else. Throughout the process she found all sorts of ways to create delays, and forced the lawyer to spend a large amount of time on minute technical issues. In the end, she took 20 [yuan](#) worth of photocopying fees, but refused to give a receipt.

Throughout this process, Chen Wanyou was making calls on his cell phone. He called everyone who was involved in the persecution. Song also continued to make calls during the process.

It was 3:00 p.m. when Song told the lawyer and Ma Duo's family and friends that they could leave. As they approached the gate, they realized that the gate was blocked by dozens of policemen. The head of the Jiamusi 610 Office Liu Yan brought his force, including Wang Fujin, Yin Zuqiang, Yu Zhiyong, Lou Jiangling, and others. The police from Jiamusi City, Qianjin District, Yonghe Station, Jiamusi Suburban Branch and Changhong Station were all present.

The policemen grabbed the lawyer by his arms and made an effort to take him away. The lawyer warned them not to, and they tried to forcibly take him to an isolated room in the building. Later, Ma Duo's family and friends were forcibly taken to the Changhong Detention Center. An older lady who was present and unrelated to the situation was also taken away. More than two hours later, the lawyer was released.

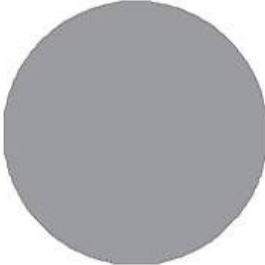
Before this, at approximately 2:30 p.m., Chen Wanyou, together with four other policemen, had already arrested Ma Duo's mother Qiu Yuxia, who was awaiting consultation with a doctor at the Jiamusi Center Hospital, as well as three other friends. At approximately 2:00 p.m., policemen brought Ms. Qiu to Changhong Detention Center. Qiu Yuxia and a friend who helped bring Ma Duo's case files were also handcuffed.

Changhong Detention Center Chief Xin Hui, Deputy Chief Teng Yan as well as former Jiamusi Domestic Security Team Leader Li Wanyi's gang were all accomplices in the illegal arrest of Qiu Yuxia and Ma Duo's family and friends. Xin and Teng shouted at them, "I'm going to sit here and wait, let's see where Qiu Yuxia can run!"

At approximately 7:00 p.m., Ma's family was forced to pay 1,000 yuan. They were only released after signing Li Wanyi's fabricated documents. It has been reported that Qiu Yuxia and six other friends were later arrested again and taken to the Jiamusi Detention Center.

The explanation given to the public was that Falun Gong practitioners had attacked the Jiamusi Middle Court building, leading to their arrest. However, it is apparent that Jiamusi's 610 Office and the courts had planned the whole thing and illegally arrested the Falun Gong practitioners.

People Awaken to the Truth



Elder Chinese Resident in New York: I Come to Learn Falun Gong Because of CCP's Interference

A Falun Gong practice site was set up for group study and practice for new practitioners in the building across from the Baili Parking Lot in Flushing, New York. On Thursday, July 6, 2008, an elder Chinese resident in Flushing came to the practice site, learned the exercises happily and left with literature for learning Falun Gong. Before leaving, she said, "I want to become a practitioner like you. Because [the CCP's mobs] made trouble, I decided to learn Falun Gong. Otherwise, I would not be so eager to learn it."

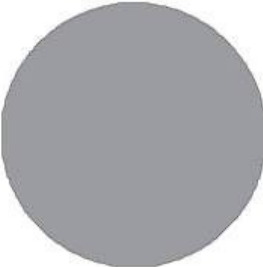
She said that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) extends its persecution overseas. She observed the situation for several years, read *The Epoch Times* newspaper and watched New Tang Dynasty Television. She was very touched that Falun Gong practitioners overseas do not fear violence, but keep safeguarding their own belief, serving the community, [clarifying the facts](#) and letting people know about the persecution in China.

She said, "For several years, I have tried to understand what Falun Gong is. I bought a Falun Gong book and read it many times. But I could not understand it. I know it teaches people to be good and follow 'Truthfulness-Compassion-Tolerance'. I did not start practicing Falun Gong; I was only an observer.

"On May 17, in front of the Flushing Library, the CCP's consulate-incited spies and mobs attacked Falun Gong practitioners. I finally realized it is a battle between righteous and evil. No need to mention how evil the CCP's nature is. I want to say, if I don't learn Falun Gong now, then when? Therefore, from now on, I want to join this great practice and have the whole world know 'Falun Dafa is good! Support Falun Gong!' I want to be a practitioner like you."

When talking about some members of the New York City Council speaking for the CCP, she said, "As a local elected official, how can he or she not investigate, but talk nonsense? Very disappointing. Such officials should step down and not be allowed to harm people. I am an American citizen. I won't vote for such people in future elections. I will let people know their deeds. They stand on the evil side. It's too much. It's as if we were in China. It is horrible! The CCP is so bad!"

Voice of Justice



Human Rights Torch Relay in Japan-Local Dignitaries Condemn CCP Human Rights Violations

The Human Rights Torch Relay, initiated by the Coalition to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong, (CIPFG) arrived in Tokyo Japan on June 18. From Tokyo, the relay traveled to Nagano, Osaka, Nagoya, Hiroshima and Fukuoka, then on to Korea. During the relay events in the six cities of Japan, local council members, university teachers, NGO representatives, and Chinese people in Japan made speeches calling for an end to the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) persecution of Falun Gong and for the human rights of Chinese people.

At the Tokyo rally, former parliament member Mr. Nakatsugawa, a long time supporter of Falun Gong, strongly condemned the CCP's trampling of human rights. He said, "Everyone knows about the CCP's persecution of Tibetans, Christians and other groups. But the most horrible among all the suppressions is the persecution of Falun Gong. In modern society, CCP doctors are conducting live organ removals!" He said, "The CCP is not qualified to host the Olympics while continuing the persecution of Falun Gong."

During the Osaka rally, Mr. Ihira Yoshimura, from the Association of Great Harmony, said in his speech, "Communism is a cancer of humankind. If the cancer cells grow, our body and life will die. If communism grows, not only peace, but also human beings will become extinct. Communism is thus terrorism. We cannot allow it to grow. I believe a real China can be restored along with the efforts of Falun Gong practitioners."

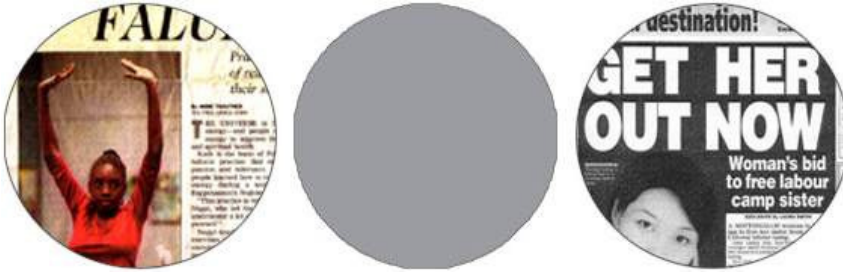
Mr. Ryozeou Ishibashi, a member of the Hiroshima County Council, said in his speech, "The persecution that Falun Gong practitioners are suffering is beyond our imagination. The brutal human rights persecution in China has become known around the world through the Internet."

Professor Sadakane Haruo of Kumamoto Shokei College has visited China more than twenty times. He condemned the CCP's human rights violations and the persecution. He pointed out his surprise at the bloody persecution of the student democratic movement in 1989 and the brutal persecution of Falun Gong practitioners. But even with such human rights violations, the CCP is hosting the Olympics. He said he agreed with the mission of the Human Rights Torch Relay, which calls for an end to the CCP's human rights persecution before the Olympics.

Ando Kan, deputy director of CIPFG Asian Delegation, experienced the persecution personally. He traveled to the six cities along with the torch relay and passed along the torch in each city. He pointed out, "The CCP brainwashes people with violence and lies in an attempt to change people's thinking and not tolerate any other belief. The CCP's persecution of Falun Gong, Christians, and Buddhists indicates that the CCP is an evil cult."

Mr. Ando Kan believes that the CCP regime's maintaining power by suppressing people cannot last long. He said in confidence that the success of the global human rights torch relay indicates the end of the persecution of human rights in the near future.

Media Reports and Opinions



San Francisco Chronicle, USA: TV network says it's been shut down in China

Leslie Fulbright, Chronicle Staff Writer

The only uncensored Chinese-language TV network broadcasting in China says its satellite company has shut down its signal because of pressure from the Chinese government.

The satellite company, Paris-based Eutelsat, says the signal to China was cut because of a technical problem. But New Tang Dynasty Television, an independent station with offices in 70 U.S. cities, including Palo Alto, says Eutelsat cut its signal at the request of government officials in China.

NTDTV covers a number of human rights issues, including the Falun Gong spiritual movement, repression in Tibet and China's underground Christian movement. In China, news is controlled by the government's Central Propaganda Department, and the government is notoriously unfriendly to outside media.

"We are the only (Chinese) channel not under the state's control," said Cathy Zhang, general manager of the Palo Alto office of the nonprofit station. The station estimates it has 225 million potential viewers worldwide, including 100 million in Asia. "Our coverage is controversial from the communist regime's point of view.

"We just want to bring the truth to the Chinese people. They get a filtered view from the government."

Station officials are asking members of Congress to appeal on their behalf to the Broadcasting Board of Governors, the federal agency responsible for international broadcasting.

With the Olympic Games starting in Beijing in a few weeks, NTDTV is desperate to get the China satellite back and has enlisted the help of groups that promote freedom of expression.

Reporters Without Borders, an organization that advocates for freedom of the press worldwide, says it has proof that the shutdown of the station's signal was politically motivated.

Undercover inquiry

At a news conference July 11 in New York, the group released a transcript of a recorded telephone conversation with a Eutelsat employee in Beijing. A person working with a

human rights organization, which Reporters Without Borders declined to name, pretended to be an official with the Central Propaganda Department and talked to the Eutelsat employee June 23 in an attempt to get information about the reason for the shutdown.

"It was our company's CEO in France who decided to stop NTDTV's signal," the Eutelsat employee allegedly said. "We could have turned off any of the transponders. It was because we got repeated complaints and reminders from the Chinese government. Two years ago, the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television kept saying the same thing over and over: 'Stop that TV station before we begin to talk.' "

According to the transcript, the Eutelsat employee said the company was trying to please the Chinese government to win more business contracts.

Reached in Paris, Eutelsat Communications Director Vanessa O'Connor called the shutdown a "technical anomaly" that could not be avoided.

Eutelsat is looking into it

"Eutelsat has no authority to exercise any control over the content released by clients on our satellite," O'Connor said.

She said the station was not the only service affected; Euronews and C Music TV, two stations that also broadcast in China, were switched off. She said the company investigated the shutdown and concluded that nothing could be done to fix it.

As for the recorded phone conversation with the Eutelsat employee in Beijing, she said the company is looking into it.

"Whether or not it took place, the overriding position of Eutelsat is that we have no authority to interfere with content."

Tala Dowlatshahi, the New York representative of Reporters Without Borders, said her organization went through steps to ensure the validity of the conversation with the Eutelsat employee before holding its press conference.

"There has been a great deal of pressure from the Chinese government to limit information and repress news agencies that air anything deemed to threaten their interests," Dowlatshahi said. "The conversation proves it."

NTDTV, which began broadcasting in 2002, has had previous problems with its broadcasts to China. In 2005, Eutelsat refused to renew its contract, but after media reports and demonstrations, the company had a change of heart.

"They had to give up their plan and renew with us," Zhang said.

The station, which continues to air in the United States, Europe and Australia, has done stories on the anniversary of the June 4 student movement; Majora Carter, the torch bearer who carried the Tibetan flag; and a declaration by Santa Clara County designating August as Human Rights Month for Chinese People. Station officials say these are welcome stories for people in China who have limited access to TV, the Internet and newspapers.

"Our station is built to benefit Chinese people and be the true voice of the community," said Ying Yang, a project manager for the station. "We do objective and neutral reporting on human rights and culture issues of Chinese and other ethnic groups."

Censorship in China

In China, you can't just read the New York Times or other newspapers on the Internet, Zhang said.

Google is filtered. If you type in the word Tibet, you see only the government's point of view of the uprising. All press releases come from the Central Propaganda Department.

"The first thing you learn in journalism school is that the media is the mouthpiece for the party," Zhang said. "It said that on the first page of my news writing book."

The station had hoped to cover the Olympics in Beijing but was denied press credentials.

"There's so much happening," Yang said. "They promised they would improve human rights before the Olympics, but they just limited traffic and shut down factories to improve the air quality."

"People's lives are being affected. It needs to be covered."

Glossary

Falun Gong (also called **Falun Dafa**) is an ancient form of *qigong*; the practice of refining the body and mind through special exercises and meditation. Like *tai chi*, *qigong* is a vital part of many people's lives in Asia; almost every Chinese park is brimming by the break of dawn with people practicing these arts.

Only a few years after its public introduction in 1992, Falun Dafa quickly grew to become the most popular form of *qigong* ever in Chinese history. The major reason for this is that Falun Dafa distinguishes itself from other *qigong* practices by emphasizing not only physical cultivation, but also cultivation of one's moral character in daily life according to higher principles taught by Mr. Li Hongzhi, Falun Dafa's founder. The practice involves slow, gentle movements and meditation. It is easy to learn, enjoyable to practice, and free of charge. Its principles are based on Truth, Compassion, and Tolerance. Falun Gong is practiced by over 100 million people in 60 countries. The main works of Falun Gong are available in over 30 languages.

Zhuan Falun: This book comprises the principal teachings of Falun Dafa.

"April 25": This refers to the "sensitive" anniversary of April 25, 1999, on which date ten thousand Falun Gong practitioners peacefully gathered outside the Zhongnanhai compound (China's central government building) and successfully appealed for the release of forty-five practitioners who had been illegally arrested in Tianjin City.

Clarifying the Truth: Because of the persecution in China and the unrelenting hate campaign carried out by China's state-controlled media, Falun Gong practitioners have been actively "clarifying the truth" -- explaining to the public the facts about Falun Gong and exposing the persecution. Truth clarification activities include face-to-face conversations with people, posting notices and posters, handing out flyers, and hanging banners. Outside of China, where Falun Gong is freely practiced, practitioners further expose the persecution through anti-torture reenactments, art exhibits, Internet websites, books, magazines, newspapers, movies and letter writing. The goal of clarifying the truth is to help people understand Falun Gong, to dispel the lies of the communist regime in China and to raise public support to end the persecution. (Variations: "clarifying the truth", "truth clarifying", "truth-clarifying", "truth clarification", "truth-clarification", "clarifying the facts", "clarified the truth", and "clarified the facts")

Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party is a series of essays published in late 2004 that reveal the true nature of the Communist Party. The *Nine Commentaries* have led millions of people to renounce their membership in the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). It is "A book that has shocked all Chinese around the world. A book that is disintegrating the Communist Party." (<http://ninecommentaries.com>)

The 610 Office is an agency specifically created to persecute Falun Gong, with absolute power over each level of administration in the Party and all other political and judiciary systems. It was established on June 10th hence it's name.

Illegally arrested: Contrary to what former Chinese leader Jiang Zemin, who initiated the persecution, and the Chinese Communist Party would like the world to believe, practicing Falun Gong is NOT illegal in China. Although the Public Security Department issued an unconstitutional set of restraints on the practice at the onset of the persecution in 1999, no laws have been passed by the only legislative body in China, the People's Congress, banning Falun Gong or granting the police the authority to arrest Falun Gong practitioners for practicing the exercises or distributing flyers.

Death Bed torture: A practitioner is tied to a bed with his hands handcuffed above his head to the bed rails, and his legs tied with thin nylon ropes. The rope is then tightly wrapped around the practitioner's body and the bed, from his legs to his chest. The rope is wrapped so tightly that the practitioner has difficulty breathing and eventually loses consciousness.

Tiger Bench: Prisoners are forced to sit on a small iron bench that is approximately 20 cm (6 inches) tall with their knees tied together. With their hands tied behind their backs or sometimes placed on their knees, they are forced to sit straight up and look straight ahead without movement for long periods of time.

“Reform or Transform”: Implementation of brainwashing and torture in order to force a practitioner to renounce Falun Gong. (Variations: "**reform**", "**transform**", "**reformed**", "**reforming**", "**transformed**", "**transforming**", and "**transformation**")

Three Statements: Practitioners are coerced under brainwashing and torture to write a "Repentance Statement," "Guarantee Statement" or "Dissociation Statement" as proof that they have given up their belief. In the statement, the practitioner is forced to admit remorse for practicing Falun Gong, promise to give up Falun Gong, and never again associate with other practitioners or go to Beijing to appeal for Falun Gong.

Collaborators: Former practitioners who have turned against Falun Gong under brainwashing and torture. They are then made to assist in brainwashing and torturing practitioners.

Sensitive Dates: National holidays or political meetings, or dates that hold significance to Falun Dafa; the authorities are afraid that practitioners will publicly appeal on these dates.

Yuan is the Chinese currency; 500 yuan is equal to the average monthly income of an urban worker in China.