

Compassion

Issue 2: First Quarter, 2001

A Journal of Falun Dafa Around the World

All eyes on China:

Government officials and human rights organizations speak out against the crackdown on Falun Gong in China



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

- **My Suffering in a Chinese Prison: an Australian citizen recounts her ordeal**
- **Jiang Zemin: the architect of the crackdown**
- **Chinese officials extend persecution of Falun Gong to U.S. and Australian soil**

A Few Words About Falun Dafa



“The exercises and meditation they practice are more than just techniques they are learning to master: they are the means that allow them to progress and develop as people. They cultivate the will to live in peace with themselves and in harmony with the universe, thus learning compassion for others and helping to create a more open and tolerant society.”

Adrienne Clarkson,
Governor General of Canada

“It is incumbent upon the U.S. to make clear to China and the entire international community that China’s actions against the Falun Gong are contrary to basic principles of human rights, as set forth in the United Nations’ Universal Declaration of Human Rights. I have joined my colleagues in writing two letters to Chinese President Jiang Zemin expressing our outrage at his violations of fundamental human rights under the Chinese constitution and established international norms of freedom of belief, expression, and assembly.”



Charles E. Schumer,
United States Senator, New York



“We have deep concerns about the treatment of Falun Gong adherents by the Chinese authorities since July 1999, when the Group was banned...we called on the Chinese authorities to respect the rights of all individuals, including Falun Gong adherents, in line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which China signed in October 1998, but has yet to ratify. Falun Gong was also discussed when I met Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan, and when the Prime Minister met Chinese President Jiang Zemin, during the State Visit in October 1999”

Robin Cook,
United Kingdom Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs

“One thing that surprised us was why the Chinese government is so scared of this movement. This movement is not a political movement. This movement is not there to overthrow the government...these are primarily average citizens of China who are exercising their fundamental rights. As a human rights organization, we are demanding the Chinese government to release all the prisoners who are imprisoned for the practice of Falun Gong”

T. Kumar,
Asia-Pacific Advocacy Director,
Amnesty International



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Our Purpose

COMPASSION is a quarterly journal the purpose of which is to provide news, information and insight into Falun Dafa around the world. For almost two years, the practice of Falun Dafa has been the victim of a brutal and systematic crackdown in China launched by Chinese President Jiang Zemin. This crackdown has resulted in the detainment of tens of thousands of Falun Dafa practitioners in China. Thousands more have been sent to labor camps without trial and/or tortured while in police custody. By the end of January, 2001, over 125 practitioners had died due to torture while in police custody.

During this tragedy in China, however, the practice has flourished in many countries around the world. Regular practice sites can be found in more than 40 countries, including Australia, Europe, South Africa, North America and South America.

Through this journal, we present to you the true story about Falun Dafa both in China and around the world. For more information about the practice of Falun Dafa, please visit www.falundafa.org.

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The Falun Dafa Information Center
331 West 57th Street, Suite 409
New York, NY 10019 U.S.A.
Toll-Free 888-842-4797
e-mail: faluninfoctr@nycmail.com
website: www.faluninfo.net

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From the Editors

Inevitability or Hope for the Future?

Recent headlines read:

**Jiang Zemin Orders Tougher Crackdown to “Wipe Out” Falun Gong in China.
Prisons and Labor Camp Abuse of Falun Gong Practitioners Intensifies.
Chinese Mental Hospitals Used to “Re-Educate” Practitioners.
Death Toll Mounts with Increasing Speed in Recent Months.**

To the casual observer of the grim situation in China, these pieces of news might reinforce the impression that it is only a matter of time before Jiang Zemin’s frenzied campaign against Falun Gong successfully concludes, that the subduing of Falun Gong is inevitable.

But are these signs of imminent “success” or of failure? Do they indicate full command over the situation or a final act of desperation?

In China, the best efforts of battalions of police could not prevent over one thousand Falun Gong practitioners from exerting a peaceful presence in Tiananmen Square on the October 1st National Day, nor on other days. The official news from state-run media in China characterizes these practitioners as diehards, the few odd remaining. In reality, these determined, courageous practitioners willing to risk bodily injury, imprisonment, and other losses represent thousands upon thousands in China—probably tens of millions—who have not given up, but are, in fact, stronger than ever in their convictions that Falun Gong is good and upright. They are unswerving in believing and living out Truthfulness-Benevolence-Forbearance, the fundamental teaching and the fundamental principle of Falun Gong.

Each of those individuals who make their way to Tiananmen Square has a personal commitment to Truthfulness-Benevolence-Forbearance. Each of those individuals who post flyers, hang banners saying “Falun Gong is good,” and perform other quiet but noticed public acts all over China has this commitment—not to a group, but to the fundamental teaching.

There is no sign that the suppression campaign has come close to “wiping out” or wearing down Falun Gong practitioners, as claimed. To the contrary, it has, if anything, strengthened the resolve of many individuals, tested their fortitude, and increased their resilience. Meanwhile, in the corridors of state power, Jiang Zemin and his Falun Gong policy are at odds with Zhu Rongji and other high officials. According to the November 9, 2000 issue of *Far Eastern Economic Review*, “Jiang personally ordered the crackdown, while Zhu is believed to have favored a more kid-gloves approach.” Amidst these reported disagreements, one may conclude that cracks in the wall are not showing among Falun Gong practitioners, but instead among the leadership of the Chinese government.

In the world beyond Mainland China, Falun Gong thrives and grows. The practice is government-approved in Taiwan and elsewhere in Asia, and remains legal even in Hong Kong. Regular exercise practice sites and Internet Web sites operate in more than 40 countries, including Australia, Europe, and North America. Despite the Chinese government’s illegal and often crude attempts to harass practitioners beyond China’s borders, the news in these lands about both the injustice in China and the practice’s benefits continues to spread more widely. Government leaders in the US, UK, Europe, Australia and elsewhere have publicly spoken out, calling for an end to the crackdown. Mr. Li Hongzhi, Falun Gong’s founder and teacher, received over 30 nominations for the Nobel Peace Prize this last year alone.

We see all these as signs of hope: the resilience and bravery of Falun Gong practitioners inside China; the growth in the number of practitioners and practice sites outside China; and the increasing understanding of Falun Gong exhibited by media members and government officials worldwide.

The official line is still rock-hard against Falun Gong in China. Every day dark news streams out of China about stepped-up imprisonment, punishment, and death. But the light of conviction and goodness beaming from Falun Gong practitioners amidst the darkness offers a bright ray of hope. We join Mark Palmer, Vice-chairman of Freedom House, in believing that “Falun Gong is the movement which will define our time, at the beginning of the 21st century.”

– From the Editors at the Falun Dafa InfoCenter

United Nations Millennium Summit

Falun Gong Appeals to Jiang Zemin and the U.N. for a Peaceful Resolution



NEW YORK CITY, September 8, 2000: During the United Nations Millennium Summit, Falun Gong practitioners from around the world gathered in New York City to deliver a strong message to Jiang Zemin and the assembled world leaders: “China: Stop Persecuting Falun Gong”.

At the Dag Hammarskjold Plaza outside the UN building, the appeal was poignant. Hundreds of Falun Gong practitioners performed their peaceful and gentle meditative exercises, in stark contrast to the chaotic sounds of other group’s demonstrations blaring over loudspeakers, drums banging and cowbells clanging. The Falun Gong supporters sat quietly, legs crossed, reading and meditating as the leaders of the 188 nations participating in the Millennium Summit passed by. Banners held by Falun Gong practitioners silently asked “Why Are 100 Million Falun Gong Practitioners Being Persecuted?” and “Call on China to Stop Persecuting Falun Gong”.

Wearing bright yellow t-shirts that read “Stop Persecuting Falun Gong”, about 400 Falun Gong members held their meditation exercises Tuesday morning outside the Waldorf-Astoria hotel, where Chinese President Jiang Zemin was hosting a breakfast meeting with American media executives.



Peaceful demonstration outside the United Nations in New York City



Practitioners gather on Statue of Liberty Island for a Freedom of Faith Ceremony

Peaceful yet persistent, Falun Gong practitioners continue to hold appeals like this one around the world. The goal is to raise the awareness of governments, human rights organizations, international institutions, and news media of the Chinese government’s inhuman persecution against Falun Gong. Practitioners of Falun Gong hope that this will lead to more and more groups calling upon the Chinese Government to stop the harassment, imprisonment, torture and death of Falun Gong practitioners in China, and to release the many thousands who have been jailed for nothing more than refusing to renounce their beliefs.

A Glimpse of the Crackdown Against Falun Gong...



Beijing: Prof. Zhao Xin was arrested as she practiced Falun Gong exercises in a local park and sent to the detention center of Haidian District. She was brutally beaten and tortured. Three days later, the police sent her to the hospital with lacerations and bruises on her head and back. Three

vertebrae in her spine had been crushed. After an emergency operation, she was left in critical condition. Zhao Xin never fully recovered. She died 6 months later.

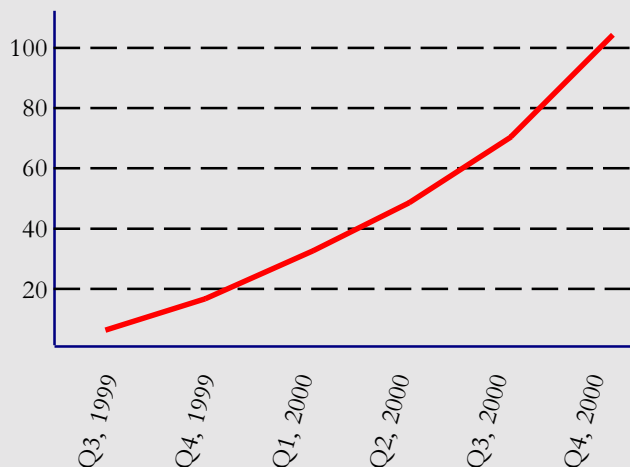


Ziyang City: In the Dayan Labor Camp in Ziyang, practitioner Wang Xuzhi was repeatedly tortured and beaten. Many times he was strung up with rope. This torture involves the arms, wrists and armpits tightly tied and then the rope is wound round the neck and shoulders and pulled taut. After a while, the rope cuts into the flesh. Some policemen asked 5~6 criminals to come and torture Wang Xuzhi. They beat his face until it bled and was severely swollen. When Mr. Wang lost consciousness, they would loosen his bindings. As soon as he regained consciousness, they would tighten the rope again. After enduring this torture, Wang Xuzhi began a six month hunger strike. Inmates assigned to watch over him would force-feed him by inserting plastic tubes through his nose, injuring his upper palate and causing nosebleeds. They also injected boiled milk into his stomach, and frequently force-fed him with feces and urine. During the night, they would handcuff both his hands to the edge of the bed and then burn him with a cigarette lighter.

In August of this year, Mr. Wang was allowed to be examined by a doctor. He weighed only 25 kilograms (about 55 lbs). Because of his severe weight loss, he barely looked human. Several of his ribs were fractured because of the torture. He was barely able to move and could no longer take in any food. The doctor said that Mr. Wang had only three days to live. Wang Xuzhi quietly passed away eleven days later.



The Number of Practitioners Who Died Due to Torture in Police Custody



Chengdu City: Cheng Zhan and Li Xiaojun, two Falun Gong practitioners from Chengdu, were arrested and sent to prison. Their homes were trashed, and the local police proceeded to arrest a dozen of their family members and relatives. They were all given 15 days of detention, and were released only after their workplaces or family members paid three thousand yuan (which amounts to three months salary for an average Chinese worker). Many of them had bruises due to police tortures and beatings by the criminals in the prison. In Changchun, the government is pressuring Falun Gong practitioners by appointing their family members as guarantors. Now, if a practitioner goes to Beijing to appeal, his guarantor will be fired from his or her job or be dismissed from school.



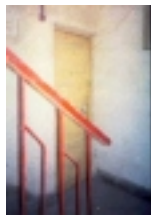
Masanjia Labor Camp: Since October 1999, there have been more than 1,500 Falun Dafa practitioners detained in the Masanjia Labor Education Camp in Liaoning Province. According to an eyewitness account, "The Masanjia Labor Camp officials use a variety of inhumane methods to force practitioners to give up Falun Gong. Practitioners are deprived of sleep and are frequently tied up and repeatedly shocked with electric batons. The camp officials also use the electric batons on the breasts and private areas of the female practitioners. The cries of the women can be heard throughout the compound. Some practitioners are stripped naked and drenched in water in below zero weather. Others are hung upside down with their arms tied behind their backs. Recently, one man in his 60's was beaten so severely that he vomited blood.



Beijing: Li Wenrui, a practitioner from Harbin, first went to Beijing on July 9, 2000 to appeal to the government on behalf of Falun Dafa. He was arrested at Tiananmen Square. On July 11, he was sent back to Harbin and detained at the Daoli Police Station. He was repeatedly beaten and tortured by the police. He was barely alive when the police finally let his family take him back home. He was skeletally thin, and his face was almost unrecognizable from the beatings that he had endured, yet he soon recovered. On November 6, 2000, he went to Beijing again. A few days later, the police notified his family that he had passed away in Beijing



Beijing: Since the ban of Falun Gong in July of 1999, practitioners from throughout the country have peacefully demonstrated in Tiananmen Square almost daily. A small army of uniformed and plain-clothes police watch the square each day. Many of the 105 practitioners who have died in police custody were first arrested while participating in demonstrations at Tiananmen Square. Fully aware of this fact, Falun Gong practitioners continue to peacefully demonstrate in Tiananmen Square almost everyday...



(WALL STREET JOURNAL) Weifeng City: Rising out of the North China Plain in a jumble of dusty apartment blocks and crowded roads, this is an unremarkable Chinese city in every respect but one: Local police regularly torture residents to death. Since the beginning of the year, when police killed a 58-year-old retiree, at least 10 more Weifang residents have died in police custody, according to relatives and a human-rights monitoring group. All were practitioners of the spiritual group Falun Dafa, which the central government banned last year. This photo shows one of the rooms where a practitioner was beaten to death.



Wendeng City: Liu Yufeng was arrested and detained in the Wendeng Detention Center for practicing Falun Gong exercises outside. On July 19, the detention center called Liu's daughter demanding 200-300 Yuan for her father's medical treatment. On July 22, the detention center called his daughter again, and told her to take Liu home. When Liu was carried out by his son-in-law, he could neither move nor speak. He was completely unconscious. At 7:00 am on July 23, he died. An autopsy by medical experts showed internal bleeding around the right eye-socket. There were cuts and bruises on his face, and black and blue marks left by electric shocks on his throat, chest, and legs. The skin had begun to separate from the body, and the soft tissue below the skin was damaged. It was discovered that the second, third, and fourth ribs on both the right and left sides were fractured. The upper one-third of the sternum was broken. His whole body was covered with bruises and injuries

Architect of the Crackdown

An Investigation into the Illegal Directives and Actions of Chinese President Jiang Zemin

By Michael Pearson-Smith, Ph. D.

To those in the West, China often seems like a monolithic entity that lumbers along at the beck and call of the ruling elite, and this image is not usually unreasonable given that China is more a dictatorship than a democracy. As such, one could be forgiven for thinking that the Chinese government is also of one mind on the issue of Falun Gong. But the truth is that while, as the Far Eastern Economic Review (Nov. 6, 2000) pointed out, PRC president Jiang Zemin personally ordered the crackdown, others in the leadership are believed to favor a more “kid-gloves approach” and do not feel that the crackdown is in the interests of the nation. Through the issue of Falun Gong, we have begun to see distinct signs of dissent in the ranks over the past few months.

President Jiang Zemin perceives Falun Gong as a “threat”

Historically, we have seen that unelected leaders with no direct mandate from the people are typically nervous about any perceived threat to their position of power. A survey by the Communist Party in early 1999 revealed that the number of Falun Gong practitioners in China had grown to between seventy and one hundred million.¹ To have so many people involved in something that went beyond the confines of government ideology — something that promoted independent thinking and was intended to elevate each individual’s spirit — was anathema to the President of China, Jiang Zemin. And so, after a few months of preparation, he launched his campaign of persecution and propaganda against Falun Gong in the Spring of 1999.

President Jiang’s main ally in the crackdown was Luo

Gan, head of the National Committee of Politics and Law. Widely seen as a political opportunist, Luo believed he could improve his position in the ruling hierarchy by supporting the President’s anti-Falun Gong sentiments. These two were aided and abetted by Luo’s brother-in-law, He Zuoxiu, from the Chinese Science Academy. Under the auspices of the Tianjin Education College, He published a highly misleading article about Falun Gong in the Science and Technology for Youth magazine. When a group of practitioners approached the magazine to discuss some of the issues that were raised, police forcibly arrested 45 of them and drove the rest away.

One of the primary tactics used against Falun Gong was to accuse the founder of the practice, Li Hongzhi, of plotting to overthrow the government. They also branded individual practitioners as being part of a vast, covert organization with a hidden political agenda. What is known about how Falun Dafa practitioners actually interact and communicate with each other, however, tells a different story. For example, the public gathering of more than 10,000 practitioners

at the government compound of Zhongnanhai was a spontaneous response to two injustices. They wanted to correct the misinformation spread by He Zuoxiu’s article, and they wanted to appeal to the central government for the release of the 45 practitioners detained earlier by the Tianjin Public Security Bureau since the Tianjin government indicated that they had only followed orders.

If Falun Gong had truly been some kind of highly organized revolutionary movement, it stands to reason that with over seventy million adherents they could have put enough people on the streets to actually achieve a people’s revolution. Such a thing has happened in various areas around the world in the last twenty years; most recently in Serbia with the ousting of President Milosovic. Significantly, this did not happen in Beijing. The sole purpose of

“At the time of the Zhongnanhai Incident of April 25th 1999, Prime Minister Zhu Rongji advocated a peaceful solution to the crisis. ‘Just let them practice,’ ... Jiang Zemin responded acidly: ‘You’re wrong! You’re being a fool!’ ”

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the 10,000 practitioners who came out was basically to appeal for justice. Furthermore, their coming to Zhongnanhai was spontaneous. Just as John Lennon's fans spontaneously, most likely through word-of-mouth, were drawn en masse to Central Park shortly after he was killed in 1980, so also were practitioners drawn to Zhongnanhai, one after another, individually motivated by their desire for justice. As it turned out, Prime Minister Zhu Rongji himself came out of the government compound and addressed the peaceful and orderly crowd in a conciliatory manner. The 45 practitioners in Tianjin were released, and so the practitioners, under the impression that their grievances had been met, quietly dispersed.²

It should also be noted that practitioners of Falun Gong endeavour to live their lives in accordance with the principles of Zhen/Shan/Ren, which translates as Truthfulness/Compassion/Forbearance. They strive to improve their moral character by giving up various 'attachments,' such as the desire for excessive material wealth and power and negative emotions like greed, fear, and jealousy. Moreover, we have seen that Falun Dafa founder Li Hongzhi has explicitly stated in a

number of his writings that practitioners should not become involved in politics. Thus, it becomes clear that the gathering at Zhongnanhai was nothing more than a peaceful appeal for basic human rights that posed no threat to President Jiang Zemin and the Chinese government whatsoever.

At the time of the Zhongnanhai Incident of April 25th 1999, Prime Minister Zhu Rongji advocated a peaceful solution to the crisis.⁵ At the first meeting of the Politburo Standing Committee regarding the Zhongnanhai Incident, Premier Zhu suggested: "Just let them practice," whereupon it is reported that Jiang Zemin responded acidly: "You're wrong! You're being a fool! Falun Gong will destroy the Party and the nation!"⁶

And so, thoroughly convinced that Falun Gong was a threat to the Chinese communist regime, President Jiang Zemin launched a brutal and systematic crackdown just a few months later in July, 1999. The Washington Post noted in an article on November 2, 1999 that "When [China's Communist leaders] found themselves without the laws they needed to vigor-

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Summary of Illegal Actions Taken By President Jiang Zemin

- In July, 1999 President Jiang Zemin, through the Bureau of Civil Affairs (an Administrative branch), declared Falun Gong to be an illegal organization. According to Articles 2, 80 and 81 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China, only the National People's Congress has the ability to declare an organization illegal. The President does not possess such power. Yet, this executive order initiated the widespread crackdown against Falun Gong.
- In October, 1999, the National People's Congress passed a series of laws targetting "evil cults." Regarding these laws, a November 2, 1999, article from the Washington Post stated: "'When [China's Communist leaders] found themselves without the laws they need to vigorously persecute a peaceful meditation society, the Party simply ordered up some new laws. Now these will be applied — retroactively.'" These laws were dictated by President Jiang Zemin, using the National People's Congress merely as a rubber stamp, which again overstepped the authority granted to the President by the Chinese constitution. Additionally, as the article stated, these laws were then applied retroactively to prosecute Falun Gong practitioners and sentence them to prison terms, which is also an illegal action.
- Under orders from Jiang Zemin and others within the Administrative branch, the following articles of the Constitution have been violated in the process of implementing the crackdown against Falun Gong: Article 35 [Freedom of Expression], Article 36 [Religion], Article 37 [Personal Freedom], Article 38 [Personal Dignity], Article 39 [Home], Article 40 [Correspondance], Article 41 [Freedom of Speech], Article 53 [Obedience to the Constitution] and Article 54 [Integrity of Motherland].
- The pressure exerted by Jiang Zemin on various levels of the government have caused a number of illegal procedures to arise in implementing the crackdown against Falun Gong. For example, starting at the provincial level, a system of financial penalties have been enacted to punish locales where Falun Gong practitioners have peacefully demonstrated. As a recent Wall Street Journal article reported, "The fines were illegal; no law or regulation has ever been issued in writing that lists them. Officials say the policy was announced orally at government meetings. 'There was never to be anything in writing because they didn't want it made public,' says a member of the city's Political and Legal Commission."

Psychiatric Abuses

International Concern Grows Over the Situation in China

By Khabir Ahmad

Because the Chinese government continues to assign Falun Gong practitioners forced psychiatric treatment, psychiatric and human-rights organisations have called on the World Psychiatric Association (WPA) to intervene to stop further “misuse and abuse of psychiatry” in China. “The problem is very serious . . . and it is absolutely crucial that the WPA acts now or the problem can become worse than anything we saw in the erstwhile Soviet Union”, warns Abraham Halpern, professor emeritus of psychiatry, New York Medical College, USA.

Falun Gong ... was banned in China in July last year. Since then, more than 600 practitioners, who have not been diagnosed with a mental disorder, have been involuntarily detained in psychiatric hospitals where they are administered forced injections and other improper medications with a view to make them renounce their belief. According to the Hong Kong-based Information Center for Human Rights and De-

mocracy, as of Sept 4, at least 50 members have died in custody.

“It is unthinkable that this is happening in any country of the world in the 21st century” says Viviana Galli (Blanchfield Army Community Hospital, Fort Campbell, KY, USA) who visited China with an American Psychiatric Association (APA) team in April.

Halpern said that the practitioners are increasingly subjected to forced incarceration in mental hospitals in order to brand them “mentally ill and crazy” and discredit Falun Gong. Earlier this year police admitted to having incarcerated about 50 followers in Zhokoudian Psychiatric Hospital near Beijing for “re-education” (see *Lancet* 2000; 355: 495). “I suspect that many political dissidents are being dealt with similarly”, Halpern added.

Meanwhile, efforts are gaining momentum to pressure the WPA to intervene. The APA has already called on the WPA to take action. Last week, Physicians for Human Rights expressed deep concern at the continued persecution of the practitioners. In addition, the Board of Directors of Geneva Initiative on Psychiatry is to meet in November to discuss among other things, the abuse of psychiatry in China

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Religious Repression

China's Policies Imperils All

By Elliott Abrams

The latest move in China's ongoing anti-religion campaign is as subtle as a sledgehammer. Literally.

In the eastern province of Zhejiang, officials boast that they have destroyed, confiscated or shut down 450 Roman Catholic and Protestant churches and Taoist and Buddhist temples. A Hong Kong-based human rights observer puts the number at nearer 3,000. Some have been blown up; others demolished with sledgehammers.

The targets of this demolition derby are congregations that have operated openly for years but refuse to register with the authorities, lest they be forced to join the state's puppet religious organizations. To do so means, among other things, turning over membership lists to the authorities and accepting state-dictated theology and censorship of sermons. Catholics, for example, are forced to deny the authority of the pope, a step most refuse to take. “In order to maintain social stability, the local government demolished underground [unregistered] churches and temples and other illegal places,” a spokesman for the Wenzhou city foreign affairs office helpfully ex-

plained to Agence France-Presse. The destruction of houses of worship is part of Beijing's comprehensive and intensifying crackdown on independent religious expression, which began in earnest in July 1999 with the banning of the Falun Gong spiritual movement and several mainstream Protestant Christian groups as “evil cults.”

The U.S. government has a moral obligation to let the Chinese government know that such abuses are unacceptable. But more is needed. The Commission on International Religious Freedom recommends that the U.S. again initiate a resolution to censure China at the annual spring meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights and urge other governments to join it. The U.S. also should use its diplomatic influence to ensure that China is not selected as a site for the Olympic Games until it makes significant improvement in human rights, including religious freedom.

No one wants to isolate China. But the choice is not between engagement and isolation. It is between silence and vigorous protest. In fact, the continuing escalation of this brutal campaign to repress freedom of religion is in the long term a great peril to Sino-American relations and to China itself.

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Elliott Abrams served as Assistant Secretary of State in the Reagan Administration and is the current Chairman of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom

The Crackdown Extends Overseas

Chinese Government Officials Carry Out Illegal Persecution of Falun Gong Practitioners in the United States, Europe and Australia.

By Kaishin Yen

Falun Gong practitioners who live outside of China have had reason to be on their guard lately as PRC President Jiang Zemin is apparently pushing his vendetta against Falun Gong beyond Chinese borders. Confidential sources revealed that a highly classified document circulated mainly to top ministers and military officers on October 12, 2000 stated that Falun Gong would henceforth be classified as “counter-revolutionary,” as “anti-Party,” and as an “anti-socialist organization.” This is significant because this is the same terminology that was used to describe student protestors immediately preceding the government’s bloody crackdown in Tiananmen Square in 1989. But perhaps the most ominous directive in the document is one which exhorts government officials to “intensify the struggle [against Falun Gong] overseas.”¹

Although only a short time has passed since this report surfaced, we have already had ample opportunity to judge its accuracy based on events that continue to take place around the world. In the following article, we will recount many instances of the Chinese government’s attempts to persecute Falun Gong practitioners outside of China. All of these stories have been validated by truthful and responsible witnesses, and many have also been reported in mainstream media outlets.

We begin with a very serious incident, one which happened only last month in a nation that was founded on the principles of human rights, freedom of religion, and freedom of speech—the United States of America.

On the morning of October 22, 2000, during the San Francisco Experience Sharing Conference, about 75 Falun Gong practitioners went to China Garden Park to meditate, practice their exercises, and distribute literature.

Linda Dai, a resident of Berkeley, was handing out flyers to passersby when a large group of Chinese men approached. Swearing in Cantonese and Taishan dialects, they grabbed the brochures out of Ms. Dai’s hands and began tearing them up. Someone tried to call the police on a cellular phone, but the phone was snatched away and thrown on the sidewalk. Then two young male practitioners—Jun Pan of San Francisco and Gary Wong of Fremont—got out their cameras and began taking pictures, but they were immediately attacked and knocked to the ground. One of the cameras was smashed on

the pavement; the other was stolen. Jun Pan bore the brunt of the attack, receiving a bloody mouth, broken glasses, and having his shirt ripped right off his back. When his wife pleaded with the men to stop beating her husband, she was kicked numerous times in the legs.

After ten minutes, the police arrived and arrested one of the assailants when they found the stolen camera hidden in his pants. Other members of the gang fled as more police cars approached.

An eyewitness reported hearing one of the men say, “beat them up and you’ll get paid.”² At this time, we cannot confirm that this incident was related to Jiang Zemin’s recently declared policy of “intensifying the struggle overseas” against Falun Gong practitioners, but when the following stories are taken into account, a clear pattern begins to emerge.

On July 20, 2000, Falun Gong practitioners had scheduled a group practice and peaceful demonstration at the Chinese Embassy in Paris. On the day of the demonstration, two Embassy officials paid a visit to a Paris restaurant where a practitioner named Wu was employed. When asked about Falun Gong, Mr. Wu was happy to tell them all of the physical, mental, and spiritual benefits he had gained from his practice. He even offered to teach them the exercises if they would like to learn. At this point, the two officials sternly asked Wu if he intended to participate in the group practice and demonstration scheduled to take place that afternoon.

Making veiled threats, they told him that he would be responsible for any consequences stemming from his actions. Without hesitation, Mr. Wu said, “I am going to participate in this afternoon’s activities. I’m doing this not only because I am a Falun Gong practitioner, but also because I

have an obligation to tell the truth to the Chinese government. Plus, I really do want the best for China.”

Two weeks later, Mr. Wu arrived at the restaurant one morning to find that it had been vandalized. The exterior glass door was smashed, and the interior of the building was totally ransacked. However, the cash register had not been touched, and no money or goods were missing. In addition, the Falun Gong materials displayed in the restaurant were scattered all over the room.

“I really wanted to remind him that this is an American university”

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My Suffering in a Chinese Prison

The Eight-Month Ordeal of an Australian Citizen Imprisoned in China

By Cuiying Zhang

After eight months in a Chinese jail, I have finally returned home. First of all I'd like to once again extend my heartfelt thanks to the Australian government. Due to the unremitting efforts of the Australian government I have my freedom today. I cannot fully express my thanks in words. It was truly frightening to lose my freedom and suffer cruel and inhumane torture in a Chinese jail.

Why have I risked my life and gone to Mainland China on various occasions? I couldn't understand the impudent acts of Jiang Zemin. As the chairman of 1.2 billion people, he dares to go against the will of his own people, and suppress tens of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners. Consequently, I began to devote my life to the cause of human rights. The following is a brief outline of what I have experienced and witnessed during this time.

Three years ago, I suffered from serious arthritis, which caused unbearable pain in almost all of my joints. I was unable to walk long distances, and it was difficult to even carry out the most basic functions, such as eating and sleeping. I felt quite hopeless at that time. The practice of Falun Dafa rectified all of these maladies and dramatically changed my life. Because I had gained so much from the practice, I wanted to do something to help the situation in China after Jiang Zemin initiated the brutal crackdown on Falun Gong.

The following are the events, which led up to my final arrest and detainment for eight months in a Chinese prison.

1. On Dec. 31, 1999, while standing in Tiananmen Square, Beijing watching a national flag-raising ceremony, three policemen dragged me into a police car for no apparent reason and beat me. I had blood all over my face.

2. On Jan. 26, 2000, I practiced the Falun Dafa exercises in Rending Lake Park, Beijing. The police arrested me and sent me to jail. They brutally beat me and didn't stop until they were exhausted. I asked them later, "If we are not allowed to exercise in the park, then what is the park used for?"

3. On Feb. 4, 2000, while my husband and I were in Beijing having a meal in a restaurant, a dozen plainclothes police from the Security Bureau of the Public Security Ministry of China arrested my husband and me and sent us to the

highest criminal prison of Beijing. We were locked up with real criminals for seven days. We didn't do anything that violated the law. However, we were detained without due process only because we are Falun Gong practitioners.

4. On Mar. 5, 2000, I intended to hand a letter to the Party Central Committee during two annual meetings—the People's Congress and the People's Political Consultative Committee. However, once I set foot on Chinese soil the public security officers searched my bag. When they found the letters to Jiang Zemin and Prime Minister Zhu and my Falun

Gong books, they started to hit me. One slap on my face made me so dizzy that I was unable to hear for several days. I was then detained for eight months without being charged with a crime or being tried in court. When I was released, they declared that I would not be allowed to enter Mainland China for the rest of my life. All my relatives, my parents, and my brothers are still in China. Is it possible to not have the right to visit one's parents? Where are my human rights?

I can hardly bear to remember the eight months I spent in prison feeling that I would rather die than live under such harsh conditions. I was not allowed to write or telephone my family mem-

bers. I was brutally detained in jail, many days would pass without seeing any sunlight, and I was not allowed to participate in any activities.

In the dimly lit jail, I was subjected to forced labor for over 10 hours a day. They declined my requests to read my favorite book, *Zhuan Falun*. Finally, in order to protest the inhumane treatment, which violated my basic human rights, I went on a hunger strike. During my more than 50-day hunger strike, I went from being a fat person of 120 jin (approximately 134 lb) to not much more than skin and bones. The Chinese public security officers didn't show any sympathy towards me. On the contrary, they cursed me with a lot of dirty words, saying such things as "Your life is not worth a dog's life...even if you die." They made me sleep on the freezing cold concrete floor.

Since I am an Australian citizen, I asked for a meeting with the Australian consul. After a one-month delay a meeting was finally arranged. I told the Australian consul repre-



representative about my suffering. He asked the Chinese police why they hadn't allowed me to sleep on a bed. The Chinese police officer that stood next to me then prevented me from telling the truth. The translator dared not translate what I said for fear of censure from the Chinese police. The consul representative urged the translator to continue and not be scared. If our conversation had not been controlled, it would have been terminated sooner. Additionally, due to the protests of the consul representative, I was allowed to leave my cell at certain times of the day.

I didn't eat anything during the second month of detainment, and relied on the Falun Dafa exercises to supply the energy for sustaining my life. I just sat down quietly to practice the fifth exercise without disturbing the others. Whenever they saw me practice the exercise, the police beat me, cursed me, and splashed cold water on me. When I told them that I was not wrong to practice the exercises, they fiercely threw me down on the ground, then beat and kicked me. My body became covered with bruises from the beatings, and I felt so much pain that I often couldn't fall asleep at night. They also cruelly shackled me. No matter how they beat me, however, I still persisted in practicing the exercises. They therefore sent me to the male prisoners' cell, which was dark, damp, and without any sunlight. I was not allowed to leave the cell, which severely affected my health.

The prolonged persecution caused me to deeply miss my family members, especially my daughter. The Chinese police took my pen away by force, and confiscated a letter to my husband. During the endless nights I would often long to see my daughter. I was detained for such a long time, that it badly affected my reticent daughter. She became depressed, always crying for her mom. She wrote to the Australian consul to help obtain an early release so I could return home and cook meals for her. During this time she went through a large amount of pain, yet I was not allowed to write a single word to console her.

On the night of the mid-Fall holiday, I leaned against the iron window, looking at the bright moon. With tears in my eyes, I wrote down these words: "Looking at the bright moon through the iron window, tears from my breaking heart; I cannot stop missing my family. When can I return home?"

Unable to bear the continued inhumane treatment, I wrote to the Australian consul and the United Nations as well, to disclose the cruel atrocities and violations of basic human rights. When the police learned what I had done, they persecuted me more severely. They took the pen from me, which I picked up in the garbage heap. I could only write words on my washcloth using toothpaste, to express my thoughts and feelings,

After seeing my writings, the police brutally pushed me

into a cell, forcibly stripped off my clothes, and made me face the closed-circuit television camera, which I knew was watched by male police officers. I tried to shield my body.

On Oct. 30, the Australian consul representative visited me in the jail just before I was to be released. He asked me what I wanted to say to my husband. I asked him to make sure that my husband knew my flight number. The consul representative then exhorted the Chinese police to tell him my flight number as soon as possible. However, fearing that their evil deeds would be exposed, the police gave the wrong flight number. The Chinese police confiscated all my personal belongings, including my Hong Kong currency and Australian currency.

I tried several times to get my money back. I didn't have a penny in my pocket. When I landed at the Sydney airport, I borrowed 40 shillings to make a telephone call. Finally I could tell my husband that I was home! My husband walked from the far corner of the airport and said that he had been waiting for me since 3 o'clock in the morning. With tears in our eyes, our family was finally back together.

If it were not my personal experience, I could never imagine

that in the 21st century, in such a country as China, which has over a billion people, there are no human rights, no morality, no justice, and no laws. Tens of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners are illegally detained in jail. Many people have been forced to leave their homes and wander homelessly, and families have been torn apart. Female practitioners have been stripped naked and thrown into the cells of male prisoners. Pregnant women have been forced to have abortions or have experienced miscarriages, and normal healthy people have been forced into psychiatric hospitals. Such evil deeds are still continuing in China.

We urgently call on the Australian government and all kind-hearted people to extend assistance to us. Your assistance will allow kind people to enjoy basic human rights. Your assistance will free more kind people from persecution and torture. Your assistance will enable those who were forced to leave their homes to return to their homeland. Your assistance will stop more innocent lives from being persecuted to death. We hereby once again sincerely ask every righteous person to assist us in calling on government organizations of all nations in the world and all kind-hearted people to stop the evil deeds of Jiang Zemin, and to try him in a court of law. We once again extend our sincere thanks to the Australian government, the Australian Foreign Affairs Ministry, and the Australian consulate officials. Due to their unremitting efforts, I am free today.

"If it were not my personal experience, I could never imagine that in the 21st century, in such a country as China, which has over a billion people, there are no human rights, no morality, no justice, and no laws."

A Dark Chapter in China's History

A Comprehensive Look at the Crackdown and Its Effects on Chinese Society

By Randall W. Effner

Although dark clouds had been gathering for several months and thunder could be heard off in the distance, few Chinese citizens were fully prepared for the fury of the storm when it finally cut loose on July 22, 1999. Acting through its Ministry of Public Security, the government branded Falun Gong as an unlawful organization, and initiated an aggressive and comprehensive crackdown, the likes of which had not been seen since the repressive days of the Cultural Revolution. Thousands of practitioners were arrested and beaten, homes were ransacked, books and tapes were shredded and burned. The government ratcheted up its propaganda machinery to full strength in order to blitz the nation with fabricated stories and outright lies designed to demonize Mr. Li Hongzhi and his followers. Communication with the outside world was also severely limited, as foreign reporters were restricted from interviewing Falun Gong practitioners.

Various measures were taken to provide a veneer of legality to these activities. On October 9, the Supreme People's Court issued guidelines that encouraged authorities to punish Falun Gong practitioners severely under existing laws. Then on October 30, a hastily crafted law, ostensibly designed to protect society from "heretical cults," was rubber stamped through the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.¹ Within this hastily contrived legal framework, the "rule of law" was invoked and the whole weight of the Chinese government descended upon this group of non-political, spiritual seekers. To those in China who had lived through similar persecutions in the past, the days of Falun Gong surely seemed numbered.

But one year later, in the face of continued demonstrations and passive resistance, the government reluctantly admitted that "the fight against Falun Gong will be a long-lasting, complicated, and acute struggle." This editorial, which appeared in the communist party's official newspaper, the People's Daily, went on to say that the government would crack down on the sect with a "firm hand."² It is quite possible that the tens of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners who by this time had been beaten, tortured, and abused in countless ways already felt like they had been dealt with by a "firm hand,"

but as news stories coming out of China since last July clearly indicate, rumors of Jiang Zemin's intentions to greatly intensify efforts to subdue and eradicate Falun Gong were not exaggerated.

Reports of Abuses Intensifying Both In Quantity and Severity

In the past four months, the number of practitioners who have been tortured to death has quadrupled over the number of practitioners killed in the first entire year of the crackdown. In addition, the types of abuses and the severity of those abuses have become increasingly violent, grotesque, and deadly. This particular mix of crimes against humanity is hardly new and unique: we have seen them before in Hitler's Germany, Stalin's Soviet Union, and China's Cultural Revolution. Perhaps because of individual ingenuity, the blend of

atrocities may vary somewhat, but the basic ingredients are the same, and they all point to one thing: a reign of terror against the Chinese people.

For it is the entire human society of China that now suffers under such Draconian measures, as no segment of the population or the economy remains unaffected by the crackdown. By 1999, somewhere between 70 and 100 million people were practicing Falun Gong and studying the teachings of Li Hongzhi. That is a very large number, even by Chinese standards. Moreover, practitioners came from all walks of life, from

all age groups, all trades and occupations — including army officers and government officials — all social classes, and all ethnic groups. Falun Gong practitioners were not from a particular region, but came from north, south, east, and west, as well as from both the city and countryside. It wasn't like the government was over here, and Falun Gong was over there, and all the government had to do was attack and defeat an isolated enemy. Because Falun Gong practitioners were not something separate and distinct from China, Jiang Zemin could not make war on them without making war on China itself.

American viewers of the nightly news on TV are prob-

"Because Falun Gong practitioners were not something separate and distinct from China, Jiang Zemin could not make war on them without making war on China itself."

ably aware that many Falun Gong practitioners have been arrested and detained during the past year, that some have been mistreated in captivity, and that some have even died in captivity. But the casual consumer of news in America is most unlikely to have heard the whole truth, or have any idea of the massive scope of the methods and tactics employed in the effort to crush these gentle people. The government has in fact brought every weapon in its arsenal to bear against its own citizens, including but not limited to:

- Arresting and detaining people without trial
- Holding show trials that produce long prison sentences for minor offences
- Confining perfectly normal and healthy individuals to mental hospitals
- Destroying books and tapes, including public book burnings
- Forcing women to have abortions, and severe abuse of women in custody
- Adding mind controlling/nerve damaging drugs to practitioner's food
- Force-feeding practitioners on hunger-strikes using a tube shoved down the esophagus.
- Publicly humiliating practitioners by parading them around town, with their arms tied and signs around their necks.
- Dismissing people from their jobs
- Suspending students from school
- Punishing innocent family members for transgressions committed by others, thereby pitting family member against family member.
- Levying heavy fines and confiscating property
- Routine and systematic torture, as a government policy, even to the point of death in many cases.

Criminal Justice System Used as a Tool for Persecution

We begin by taking a look at how the criminal justice system in China is being used as a means of advancing the current regime's narrow political goals. After Falun Gong was outlawed last year, a small group of practitioners took the extraordinary step of holding a news conference to tell their side of the story, an activity that was sure to attract the wrath of the Chinese government. Jiang Zhaohui, who organized both this news release and the 1999 Guangzhou Experience Sharing Conference, was arrested and detained for six months, at which time he was sentenced to 12 years in prison. Charged with promoting a cult activity, Jiang was told he was not allowed to plead innocent to the charges. Nine Hong Kong journalists were also detained for trying to cover the two-hour

trial. This is a common occurrence, and it continues unabated to this day. In addition, practitioners who attend the trials of their comrades often find themselves in jail by the end of the day, just for showing up in the courtroom.³

Now let us fast forward eighteen months to November 20, 2000, and review a Reuter's News Service story which

“Then they stomped on her feet and used electric batons to shock her body. Not satisfied, they held up her breasts and pinched the tips of her nipples...They kicked her in her genital area, stopping only when they were too tired to continue.”

reveals that Teng Chunyan, a Falun Gong practitioner who resides in the United States, will be sentenced to prison after a secret trial. Mrs. Teng holds a United States “green card.” The information center for Human Rights and Democracy stated that this case marks the first time a U.S based practitioner has been detained for more than a brief period. The “espionage” for which Teng was punished involved gathering information about China's persecution of Falun Gong practitioners in mental institutions. The article also points out that Teng's sentencing was designed to send a warning signal to overseas Falun Gong practitioners,

and that neither Teng's American husband nor the U.S. embassy had been notified of her trial.⁴

These two stories reveal the way in which the current regime has mobilized the legal institutions of the country to serve its political purposes by severely punishing people either for minor offences or for no real offence at all. That a person's punishment should be proportionate to the severity of his or her crime against society is a fundamental principle of justice in the civilized world, particularly in Western democracies. But in China, Falun Gong practitioners are arrested and detained for long periods of time simply for standing up for such basic human rights as freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, and freedom to openly practice their spiritual beliefs. Finally, it should also be noted that it is official government policy in China that no legal council may offer services to practitioners of Falun Dafa without first reporting to the central government.⁵

Practitioners Confined To Mental Hospitals

Another preferred method of persecution not often mentioned in the nightly news is that of sending perfectly healthy, intelligent people to mental hospitals for treatment with mind-altering and nerve damaging drugs. One can only speculate as to why any nation would tie up scarce and valuable resources in its medical facilities for the sole purpose of punishing its citizens. Only when viewed as an aspect of terrorist policy do these actions take on a certain logic. People have different strengths and weaknesses. Practitioners— or

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Recent Events

Exhibitions, Conferences and Other Falun Gong-Related Events

One Year After the Ban: Practitioners Gather in Washington DC

WASHINGTON DC, July 20, 2000: As part of the world-wide commemorative activities marking the one-year anniversary of the suppression in China, some 500 Falun Dafa practitioners gathered in Washington DC to show the truth of Falun Dafa to the public and to call for support in seeking a peaceful resolution of the crisis in China.

On the first day of the 4-day event, large-scale practices were held in front of the Chinese Embassy and Lincoln Memorial.

In the evening, practitioners held a candlelight vigil in memory of the practitioners who have been tortured to death. Banners reading “Falun Dafa — Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance”, “Release the Arrested Practitioners in China” “For Those Who Sacrificed Their Lives for Their Belief”, and dozens of others in both Chinese and English were held in front of the Chinese Embassy. The event attracted strong interest and support from passers by.

At a press conference, three distinguished guests gave speeches in support of Falun Gong. Mark Palmer, vice-Chairman of Freedom House, the oldest American human rights organization, stated in his speech, “Falun Gong was the most powerful spiritual movement in Asia that can not be ignored.” Rabbi David Saperstein, chair of US Commission on International Religious Freedom, stated, “Just like many times in history, people’s spiritual beliefs were treated as mental illnesses. What the Chinese government is doing to Falun Gong will greatly weaken its own regime.” Mr. T. Kumar, Asia-Pacific Advocacy Director for Amnesty International, also spoke, confirming his organization’s witness to the brutalities in China and pledging Amnesty International’s continuing concern and support to Falun Gong.

Practitioners from across the United States, Canada, France, Japan, Singapore and Taiwan participated in this event.



Over 500 Falun Dafa practitioners gathered in Washington DC to call for a peaceful resolution to the crisis in China.

EU Parliament Hosts Falun Gong Exhibition

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, September 14, 2000: The picturesque capital city of Belgium, Brussels is also home to the European Union Parliament, where representatives from its many member nations set policy and govern the European Economic Community. An exhibition entitled *Falun Gong - the Real Story* was held at the European Parliament Building from September 12 to 14, 2000.



Cecilia Malmstrom, member of the European Union Parliament, presides over the opening ceremony.

Cecilia Malmstrom, Member of the European Union Parliament, presided over the opening ceremony, which was well attended by her Parliamentary colleagues and visitors from various circles. Ms. Malmstrom began “I am proud to host this Falun Gong exhibition, but also sad that it is needed. The reason we are organizing this is to focus on the massive violation of human rights that the Falun Gong is exposed to by the Chinese government.”

A pictorial display was set up in the Exhibit Hall of the Parliament Building. The photographs documented indisputable evidence of the brutalities committed by Chinese police and government officials against Falun Dafa practitioners in China. Flyers were distributed in English, French and German to the attendees from all over Europe.

Falun Gong practitioners from United Kingdom, France, Germany, Belgium, Ireland, and Sweden attended the exhibit. They met with Parliamentary members from their respective nations to make them aware of the brutal persecution of Falun

Gong practitioners in China. Pressure from governments around the world may be the only way to stop the Chinese government’s inhuman treatment of Falun Gong practitioners.

Falun Gong Practitioner Sues Chinese President – is Arrested and then Vanishes Without a Trace from Detention Center

FANGSHANG, CHINA, October, 2000: In late August, two Falun Gong practitioners mailed a legal complaint to the Chinese High Court, asking Jiang Zemin and two of his accomplices be tried for violating the Chinese Constitution and numerous other laws in their brutal persecution of Falun Gong. One evening about a week later, the two practitioners went to visit a friend. More than ten police officers scaled the wall around the home of their friend and jumped in, arresting the 2 and taking them away by force.

One of the two men, Hong Kong resident Zhu Keming, has disappeared without a trace from the police Detention Center where he was being held. Officials contacted Zhu's family October 14, telling them that Zhu had been released late in the evening October 13, and that they should come to the detention center to pick up his personal effects. Becoming very worried when Zhu failed to make any contact with them, his family went looking for him at the detention center, demanding to know his whereabouts. Guards there claimed that Zhu "is not around anymore", that he'd been "released" days before. To this day, Zhu remains missing, and his family fears the worst.

Top Chinese officials recently committed to use even more brutal force and to do whatever it takes to completely eliminate Falun Gong. The sudden disappearance of Zhu Keming appears to be evidence of this evil plot in action.



Falun Dafa Practitioners in Hong Kong hold a press conference to discuss the details of the case.

Li Hongzhi Attends US West Coast Falun Gong Conference

SAN FRANCISCO, October 21, 2000: In his first public appearance since July of 1999, Falun Gong Master Li Hongzhi attended the West Coast Falun Gong Experience Sharing Conference. Speaking to an enthusiastic group of Falun Dafa practitioners and supporters from around the world, Mr. Li, the founder of Falun Gong (also known as Falun Dafa) spoke of his support for the efforts of the persecuted practitioners in China, and expressed his gratitude to the many governments and organizations who have voiced their concern over the past 15 months to help end the crackdown.

Mr. Li's appearance was a surprise for the nearly 1,000 people who had gathered to share stories and raise awareness about the plight of the Chinese practitioners. After receiving a warm standing ovation, Li gave an impromptu address to the attentive audience, starting out by saying "It's been a long time!"



1,000 practitioners demonstrate the Falun Dafa exercises in front of City Hall in San Francisco.

The conference was part of a weekend-long event held to raise awareness of the ongoing crackdown. On Friday, the group hosted a parade through downtown San Francisco and held a press conference outdoors at Justin Herman Plaza. Speakers included Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi and representatives for Rep. Tom Lantos and Rep. Eshoo. Later that evening, a candle light vigil was held in front of the Chinese Consulate in memory of the 64 practitioners tortured to death in Chinese police custody.

Eleven cities in California recognized the group this week by declaring "Falun Dafa Day," or even "Falun Dafa Week. The 15-month crackdown on Falun Gong in China has drawn sharp criticism against Chinese president Jiang Zemin and other top party officials from the US and many other governments.

Press Conference, Washington D.C.

July 22, 2000: On the One Year Anniversary of the Ban in China, Governmental and Human Rights Organizations Speak Out For Falun Dafa

Statement by Rabbi David Saperstein, former Chair of U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom

I represent the Reformed Jewish Movement here in Washington [DC] – the largest segment of American Jewry — and I serve as a commissioner on the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

China has proven itself to be an equal opportunity persecutor, ... regarding almost every manifestation of religious life as a threat to China. Now why in particular Falun Gong? I think one of the reasons is self evident: It is simply the growing widespread belief in the hearts and souls of people, people who are found in the Communist Party, in the government, in the military, in every walk of life. Because truth as you see it has no bounds. It is accessible and available to everyone. That's what the argument and debate of a free marketplace of ideas is all about. And when this [Chinese] government cannot control something, as it cannot control the heartfelt beliefs of all of the religious groups that exist in that country, it regards it as a threat to its existence. It doesn't need to be so. China has nothing to fear from peaceful practitioners if they just let them live out their lives without government interference and oppression.

Instead of strengthening China, in the long run this crackdown fatally weakens China, complicates its foreign relations, [and] undermines its standing amongst ordinary Chinese citizens. If China wishes for the world's respect, then it must respect the heartfelt beliefs of its own citizens. That's why I am here. China is the largest country in the world. We live in an extraordinary age, where we have seen the expansion of freedom and democracy across the globe in a way that we could have only dreamed about just a generation ago. What China does now will have a profound impact on the world.

This struggle for freedom is not just the struggle of the practitioners, not just the struggle of those of you who are believers, but it's the struggle of every caring, thoughtful, and committed human being who believes that freedom, including religious freedom, is the ultimate destiny of all humankind. It is that fundamental belief that has brought us together. It is that fundamental belief that has hundreds of people, just as we meet here, exercising their freedoms in this country, outside the Chinese embassy. It is that freedom that we will not stop fighting for until it has become real: for all those that practice this belief, and for all God's children everywhere. Thank you.

Statement by Mark Palmer, vice-chairman of the board of Freedom House, former U.S. Ambassador in Hungary

I think each era since the second World War, each decade, has been defined, and is identified with a peaceful, non-violent movement. The 40's and early 50's clearly were defined in a significant way by Gandhi's movement in India, and by the tactics of Gandhism which is very similar to what Falun Gong is doing, and which, of course, had ultimately, after a very long struggle, a wonderful outcome...because of Ghandhi's movement...and the technique of nonviolent resistance.



In this country in the late 50's and the 60's, the civil rights movement, the movement of Martin Luther King, also defined an era. Certainly for this country it defined our emergence, finally the beginning of real equality in this country. I was in that movement. I was a member of the student non-violent coordinating committee. I was a small soldier in the south. I was beaten and spit upon, and what I went through and what other members of the American Civil Rights movement went through was very minor, I think, in comparison to what the Falun Gong is going through. But, as somebody who has been through that process myself, I want to say that I have immense admiration and respect for this process. And there again, there was success ultimately. The American Civil Rights movement, of course, worked. We still have problems, but at least in a sense it led to a breakthrough in this country.

The next movement of a somewhat similar nature is of course Solidarity in Eastern Europe, specifically in Poland, another non-violent movement which emerged in the 70's and 80's, defined that era, and ultimately led to freedom for very many countries. I want to say in all seriousness that I believe your movement, the Falun Gong, is the movement which will define our time, at the beginning of the 21st century. I think that when people look back, they will say: "Oh yes, there was Gandhi, there was the American Civil Rights movement, there was Solidarity, and then there was the Falun Gong. There was a movement that came out China that defined its era, and ultimately it was successful." I deeply believe that these thousands and thousands of years of tradition that Falun Gong represents is unshakable, and therefore I believe deeply that you will succeed. And I look forward to going over to the Chinese Embassy this afternoon and joining with all of you there. Thank you, and any help I can be, I want to be.

Hong Kong Falun Dafa Conference

January 13-14, 2001: Over 1,000 Practitioners From Around the World Gather in Hong Kong to Share Experiences and Appeal to the Chinese Government

By Dirk Beveridge, Associated Press Writer

HONG KONG (AP) – Hundreds of Falun Gong followers converged on Mainland China’s doorstep Saturday to demand the right to practice freely and an end to the alleged torture killing of adherents.

The peaceful demonstration was likely to infuriate China’s ruling Communist Party, as Falun Gong took advantage of Hong Kong’s free speech guarantees to get as close as possible and spread messages that the mainland leadership views as poison.

Marching behind women dressed in white, the traditional Chinese funeral color, Falun Gong adherents went to the local Chinese government liaison office, which was closed. They placed 10 petitions to Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji and the mainland police outside on the sidewalk.

“There are people dying - the numbers are rising,” said Sophie Xiao, a Hong Kong spokeswoman for Falun Gong, which is outlawed on the mainland. “In September, it was 50 reported deaths, and now it’s 120. It’s time to stop all this.”

Falun Gong members from Australia, North America, Europe and Asia planned to meet Sunday at a conference in the Hong Kong City Hall - much to the consternation of pro-Beijing forces who have escalated their war of words against the [group].

[...]

Adherents say violence won’t deter them - and they insist they have no political motives.



Practitioners hold wreaths in memory of the people in China who have died due to torture while in police custody.

“Regardless of how much they torture practitioners and how much they denigrate Falun Gong and Mr. Li, we will only be compassionate and truthful,” said Robert Calloway of Atlanta. “It’s going to change the whole world.”

In a local park early Saturday, about 800 Falun Gong followers placed their bodies in formation to make the Chinese characters for “truthfulness, benevolence and forbear-

ance,” the slogan many wear on the back of their customary yellow T-shirts.

Frustrated by Falun Gong’s defiance of the 18-month crackdown, China’s government has recently stepped up its rhetoric. The Communist Party has ordered

redoubled efforts to expose and attack the outlawed [group].

[...]

Falun Gong is legal in Hong Kong, but the group complained that 12 followers were stopped at the airport, including two Australian passport holders, seven residents of Japan and three U.S. residents.

Ten followers were being held in the airport late Saturday, according to Falun Gong spokesman Kan Hung-cheung.

Hong Kong’s Immigration Department said late Saturday that 13 people claiming to be Falun Gong followers had been stopped from entering Hong Kong over the past two days, along with 18 other travelers denied entry for various reasons, but that no one had been barred over any Falun Gong activities.

“People are refused entry only because they fail to meet immigration requirements, such as having forged travel documents and adverse immigration records,” the department said, adding that it would not discuss individual cases.

Earlier Saturday, Falun Gong amplified a mobile phone so reporters could hear a woman, identified as Zhang Cuiying from Sydney, saying she was at the Hong Kong airport and about to be deported.

Zhang was jailed previously in China and had hoped to discuss it at the conference Sunday. Falun Gong spokeswoman Hui Yee-han said perhaps that was why she was denied entry.

[...]

People stopping to watch Falun Gong, however, seemed unconcerned.

“They should be allowed to practice, as this is a basic human right and freedom,” said Li Sen, a 15-year-old student. “I can’t accept that the police in Mainland China arrest them and beat them.”



Over 1,000 practitioners from around the world quietly march through the streets of Hong Kong.

World-wide Support for Falun Dafa

“An exercise system with an ancient Chinese heritage, Falun Dafa has as its aims the refinement of both the mind and the body, using the idea of Zhen-Shan-Ren, which means ‘Truthfulness, Compassion and Forbearance.’ These are certainly principles which resonate with many Canadians.”

- **Herb Gray,**
Deputy Prime Minister of Canada

“Millions of Falun Dafa followers around the world have found that this advanced traditional Chinese Qigong practice is the answer to the stresses and strains of modern day life. Through gentle exercise and meditation, they have enhanced their physical, mental and spiritual well being.”

- **Honorable A. Anne McLellan,**
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada

“As we have come to know the work of Falun Gong, our respect has grown, and we find this brutal and ruthless and bloody suppression of Falun Gong practitioners in China appalling, unacceptable, reprehensible, and we will want to do everything in our power to provide the maximum amount of information to the American people concerning the work you do and preposterous treatment you are subjected to in China.”

- **Thomas Lantos,**
U.S. Congressman, California,
Co-Chair Congressional Human Rights Caucus

“As Governor of Illinois, it is my pleasure to officially commend you for the contributions your teachings of Falun Dafa have so significantly had on our nation and the world society”.

- **Governor George H. Ryan,**
State of Illinois

“We call on the Chinese Government to cease its crackdown on the Falun Gong, release all those in custody for the peaceful expression of their beliefs.”

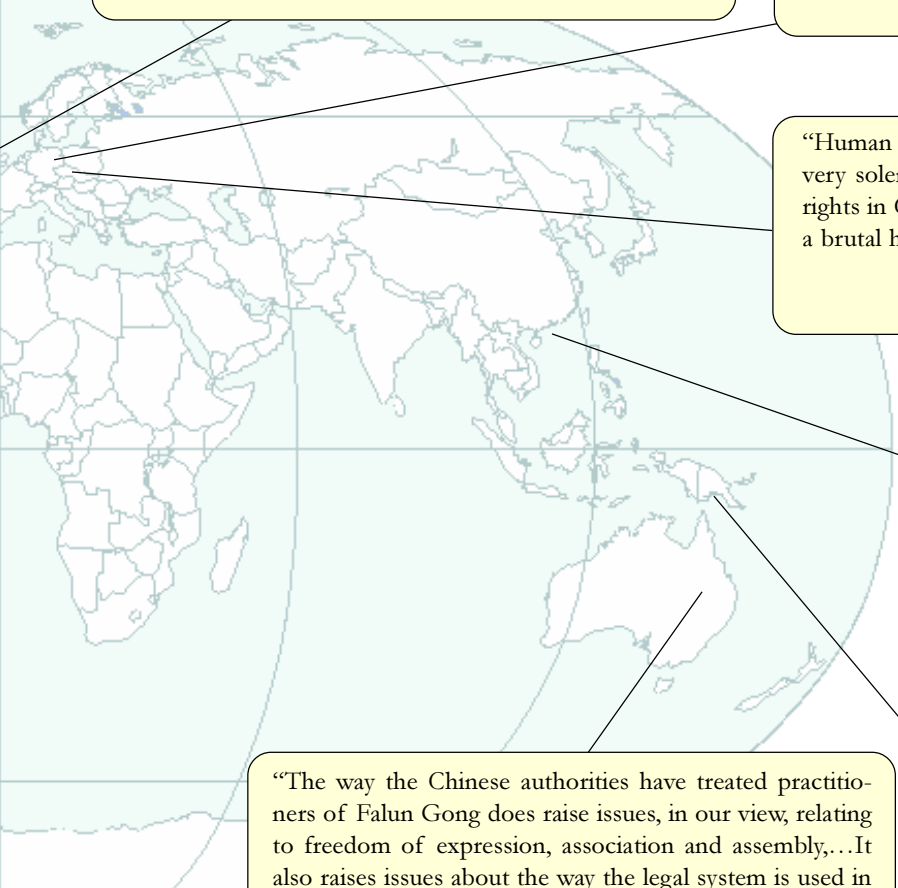
- **James Rubin, Spokesperson,**
U.S. State Department

“I want to say in all seriousness that I believe your movement, the Falun Gong, is the movement which will define our time, at the beginning of the 21st century. I think that when people look back, they will say: “Oh yes, there was Gandhi, there was the American Civil Rights movement, there was Solidarity, and then there was the Falun Gong. There was a movement that came out [of] China that defined its era, and ultimately it was successful.”

- **Mark Palmer,**
Vice-Chairman of the Board, Freedom House,
Former United States Ambassador to Hungary

“It must stop. The arbitrary detentions, unfair trials, torture and deaths resulting from this campaign must come to an end. It will be too late for ...Falun Gong followers who have died as a result of their beliefs. It is not too late for the many thousands who remain in detention. It is time for the Chinese government to ensure that the basic rights of Falun Gong practitioners are upheld.”

- **Alex Neve,**
Secretary General,
Amnesty International of Canada



“I deplore the persecution and imprisonment of Falun Gong practitioners simply because of their beliefs and practices, and we urge our [UK] Governments, and international human rights organisations...to make continuous representations to the Government of the People’s Republic of China, to allow Falun Gong practitioners to conduct their peaceful activities without interference or hindrance.”

- **The Rt. Hon. Michael Howard QC MP,
Former UK Home Secretary**

“The systematic terror against Falun Gong constitutes a clear violation of basic human rights and is unacceptable. China’s crackdown has also been repeatedly deplored by the European Parliament, international organizations and NGO’s.”

- **Cecilia Malmstrom,
Member of European Parliament**

“Human Rights and Humanitarian Support Committee will be very solemnly and closely monitoring the condition of human rights in China. The persecution of Falun Gong practitioners is a brutal human rights violation, and it has recently worsened.”

- **German Parliament**

“The crackdown [of Falun Gong] is foolhardy of the Chinese authorities, as it has alienated many people who previously considered themselves upstanding, law-abiding citizens.”

- **Catherine Baber,
Amnesty International, Hong Kong**

“The way the Chinese authorities have treated practitioners of Falun Gong does raise issues, in our view, relating to freedom of expression, association and assembly,...It also raises issues about the way the legal system is used in relation to these people.”

- **Australian Department of
Foreign Affairs and Trade**

Falun Dafa operated within New Zealand and no problems had been experienced with it. I will continue to urge the Chinese leadership to allow Falun Dafa followers to practice their movement without restrictions.”

- **Honorable Phil Goff,
New Zealand Minister of Foreign Affairs
and Trade**

“Detailed reports from human rights groups in China reveal that non-mentally ill Falun Gong practitioners have been forced into psychiatric hospitals run by the Public Security Bureau. Such blatant misuse of psychiatry was common in the Soviet Union for many years. It is vitally important for human rights groups, together with psychiatric associations, to organize against the pernicious practice of police agencies in China lest the horrors that prevailed in the Soviet Union in the 1970’s and 1980’s are reincarnated in China.”

- **Abraham L. Halpern, M.D.,
Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry at New York
Medical College**

“Ultimately religious freedom is the litmus test ... for the decency, the openness, the freedoms, the democracy of any nation, anywhere across the globe. On that test, China has failed miserably. Indeed Falun Gong, has become a symbol of the struggle for religious freedom more broadly, in China and elsewhere.”

- **Rabbi David Saperstein,
Director of the Religious Action Center of Reform
Judaism,
Former Chair of U.S. Commission
on International Religious Freedom**

Amnesty International

Taking Action to End the Persecution of Falun Gong in China

Midwest Conference 2000: Spirituality, Religion and Human Rights - Uniting Our Hope and Activism

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN, October 27-29, 2000: Hundreds of members of the Amnesty International Midwest chapter met with scholars, journalists, and human rights advocates attending the conference entitled "Spirituality, Religion and Human Rights: Uniting our Hope and Activism".

Erping Zhang, US Spokesperson for the Falun Gong spiritual practice was among the invited panel speakers. Zhang delivered a speech on Saturday morning focusing on the continuously escalating brutal crackdown against Falun Gong in China in front of all attendees of the conference. On the following afternoon, Mr. Zhang hosted a breakout session for "Religious Freedom as a Human Right."

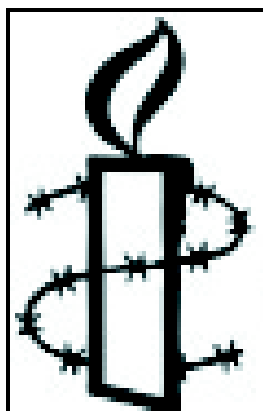
Southern Region Conference 2000: Putting An End to Dictatorial Behavior

ATLANTA, GEORGIA, November 10-12, 2000: Members of Amnesty International from eleven states in the Southern America Region held a conference entitled "Combing Forces in the International Community to Stop Dictatorial Behavior." Local Falun Dafa practitioners were invited as special guests and delivered a report entitled, "Jiang Zemin's Persecution of Falun Gong Practitioners." Discussions were also held on effective methods for stopping torture, including establishing increased coordination with "Campaign Against Torture," which was recently initiated by Amnesty world wide to mobilize the international community in their efforts to work with different officials and civilian channels to put pressure on the few governments that continue to use violence to rule their countries. Several hundred representatives from eleven states including Texas, Florida, and Alabama participated in the conference.

AFP: Amnesty Alarmed at Falun Gong Deaths in Chinese Police Custody

BEIJING, Dec 20, 2000 — (Agence France Presse) Amnesty International said Wednesday China was guilty of appalling human rights abuses against the Falun Gong spiritual group, and that an alarming number of followers were dying in police custody.

The London-based human rights group said China's communist government was becoming more brazen and brutal in its treatment of the group, which was banned...in July 1999.



"While China claims it is committed to promoting and protecting human rights, the crackdown on the Falun Gong and other 'heretical' groups is being stepped up and the number of victims is growing daily," said an Amnesty statement.

"It appears many of them died as a result of torture or after force-feeding while they were on a hunger strike," Amnesty said.

Many of the jail personnel who carried out the force-feeding had no medical training or experience, resulting in damage to the windpipe or other fatal complications, Amnesty said.

It said officials confirmed most of the deaths, but rejected allegations of ill-treatment. The group said official reports indicate 12 of the dead jumped to their deaths while being transported or interrogated by police, and eight "fell" while in detention, the majority in Beijing.

And 18 had engaged in hunger strikes, with seven dying after attempts to force-feed them.

Despite reports from various sources about torture, the government has not investigated the cases or tried to implement measures to keep them from happening.

"These deaths in custody are an appalling illustration of the authorities' callous disregard for the lives of people detained solely for their peaceful activities," Amnesty said.

"This movement is not a political movement. This is primarily average citizens of China who are exercising their fundamental rights. They've never done any harm to other people...It's time the Chinese government opened up, take this as an issue that is fundamental to their country at large, and move forward with dignity. In that sense, as a human rights organization, we are demanding and urging the Chinese government to release all the prisoners who are imprisoned for the practice of Falun Gong."

-- T. Kumar, Asia-Pacific Advocacy Director, Amnesty International

Awards and Proclamations

Government Officials in the United States and Canada Offer Over 340 Awards and Proclamations to Falun Dafa and its Founder, Mr. Li Hongzhi



Since Mr. Li Hongzhi first introduced the practice of Falun Dafa to the United States in 1996, Governors, Mayors, City Councils as well as state government officials have issued proclamations and other forms of recognition for the contribution Falun Dafa has made to local communities throughout the United States and Canada. Over 300 such awards have been issued within the United States. The Canadian government has issued approximately 40 awards as well. The following are some excerpts from these awards...

“The Council of the City of New York is proud to honor and commend the Falun Dafa movement, founded by Li Hong Zhi, in recognition of their teachings of peace and spirituality, and for their courage and perseverance in the face of oppression by the People’s Republic of China...The Falun Dafa system, through which its practitioners cultivate both mind and body, has improved the health, elevated the mind and uplifted the spirit of those who follow its tenets...The courage of conviction to adhere to one’s faith, despite threat to life and liberty should be honored by all freedom-loving people”
– Council of the City of New York

“As Governor of Illinois, it is my pleasure to officially commend you for the contributions your teachings of Falun Dafa have so significantly had on our nation and the world society.”
– Governor George H. Ryan, State of Illinois

“Your spiritual leadership has been an inspiration to many Californians and to people all over the world. I commend you for your devotion to public service and your commitment to improving health in mind, body and spirit.”
– Governor Gray Davis, State of California

“Falun Dafa has helped to preserve precious human traditions such as honesty, courtesy, loyalty, and unselfishness.”
– Mayor Anthony Williams, the District of Columbia.

“Falun Dafa practitioners practice the principle of Zhen-Shan-Ren ‘Truthfulness-Benevolence-Forbearance’ - and incorporate it into their daily lives, striving to become better people in all environments and situations. In addition, they cultivate their bodies by practicing smooth and tranquil exercises that can improve their physical health.”
– Mayor Edward G. Rendell, City of Philadelphia

“Mr. Li Hongzhi has worked tirelessly to convey Falun Dafa from China to the rest of the world. Along the way, he has touched the lives of countless people in many countries, earning an acclaimed international reputation.”
– Mayor Robert Lanier, City of Houston

“Master Li’s teachings are directly working towards the improvement of our society.” “Over 100 million people are using Falun Gong exercises to improve themselves both mentally and physically.”
– Mayor Richard M. Daley, City of Chicago

“Your teachings and practices have impacted millions of people all over the world, encouraging truth, compassion and tolerance to improve individual lives and society as a whole.”
– Mayor Ron Gonzales, San Jose, California

“Falun Dafa is a pure cultivation and practice system of leading people toward wisdom and enlightenment.” “Falun Dafa’s contribution to humanity has been widely recognized and honored in the United States.”
– Mayor Darwin Hindman, City of Columbia, Missouri

“We salute Master Li Hongzhi for bringing Falun Dafa to the world and for his commitment to the health and well being of people from all social backgrounds, races and religions.”
– Mayor William A. Bell, City of Birmingham, Alabama

“Over 100 million people are practicing Falun Dafa today in more than forty countries including China, other parts of Asia, Australia, New Zealand, most European countries, Canada, and the United States.”
– Mayor Fred B. Hanna, Jr., City of Fayetteville, Arkansas

International News

FALUN DAFA FOUNDER, LI HONGZHI, NOMINATED FOR THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

Washington DC (FDI) — It was announced this December that Mr. Li Hongzhi, the founder and teacher of Falun Gong, has joined esteemed ranks in being nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. According to the Hong Kong Center for Human Rights and Democracy, Li was nominated this past year for the award by over 30 select professors and government officials from around the world, including persons from Canada, the United States, several European countries, Australia, and Taiwan.

The BBC and other news sources reported that nominators primarily identified three reasons behind Li's nomination: how Li's teachings of Truth, Compassion, and Forbearance elevate the spirit of the Peace Prize and deepen the meaning of "peace"; the impact of these teachings as seen in the non-violent resistance of Falun Gong practitioners amidst persecution in China; Li's commitment to peaceful methods of appeal in demanding basic human rights long denied in China.

One nominator, a professor from the United States, summarized the hope behind the award, stating: "Recognition of Mr. Li would send a clear and definitive affirmation throughout the world that truthfulness, compassion, and forbearance—the distillation of Mr. Li's teachings—are not merely philosophical ideals, but important values that can be lived and taught. When realized, these serve as a genuine foundation upon which to place hopes for global healing and peace."

CHINA EXTENDS PERSECUTION OF FALUN GONG TO AUSTRALIAN SOIL

8/18/00 (Sydney Morning Herald) The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Downer, has ignored the advice of his senior officials and publicly warned China that harassment of Falun Gong [practitioners] in Australia would be unacceptable. Mr. Downer said yesterday that officials had again raised the suspected harassment of Falun Gong followers in Australia in private talks this week with a Chinese human rights delegation visiting Canberra.

"We obviously wouldn't want to see harassment of any Australian citizens in Australia or for that matter anywhere by any embassies or diplomatic officials," he said yesterday. The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) and the Australian Federal Police have been monitoring the activities of Chinese diplomats and others linked with the Chinese Embassy in what appears to be a campaign aimed at countering the activi-

ties of Falun Gong in Australia and the movement's links with its fellow [practitioners] in China. There are an estimated 2,000 followers in Australia and many have complained that they have been pressured by Chinese diplomats, followed, their property damaged and phones tapped. The Herald has confirmed that Chinese diplomats have contacted local government offices and urged officials to deny [practitioners] the use of community facilities. It is understood that Chinese diplomats have also urged local government libraries to avoid holding the movement's literature.

POLICE OPENLY BEAT DEMONSTRATORS IN TIANANMEN SQUARE; MORE THAN 1,000 DETAINED DURING NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS SO FAR

BEIJING, China (CNN) — Police beat and detained dozens of members of the outlawed Falun Gong sect on Sunday as they staged protests on Beijing's Tiananmen Square in conjunction with annual National Day observances. Chinese authorities, on hand to ward off such demonstrations, detained at least 300 protesters in one hour alone. In all, up to 1,000 people were thought to have been taken into custody... BEIJING (AP) -

Followers of the outlawed Falun Gong sect chanted slogans and raised yellow banners on Tiananmen Square on Sunday, in a burst of protest that defied heavy security meant to ensure patriotic celebrations of China's National Day. Uniformed and plainclothes police kicked and pummeled sect members, but as soon as one group was subdued, others would protest. Police closed off parts of Tiananmen, an embarrassing act in China's most public square on a holiday marking 51 years of communist rule.... It was one of the largest acts of civil disobedience staged by the group since the first days following the government ban 14 months ago. Officers forced protesters into police minivans, packing them so tightly the doors would not shut. Several large city buses were brought in to take others away. Dozens more sat on the square, surrounded by security awaiting more vans. "Falun Gong is not a crime," one protester shouted running from police. Others raised banners reading "Truth, Compassion, Tolerance" - the group's principles.



One middle-aged woman, blood running from her mouth, escaped a clutch of officers who grabbed her again, slapping her head and pulling her into a van. Another ran from

police only to have her legs kicked out from under her. Once on the ground, plainclothes police kicked her.

U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT CALLS FOR RELEASE OF U.S.-BASED FALUN GONG WOMAN TRIED IN CHINA UNDER VEIL OF SECRECY

WASHINGTON, Dec 6, 2000 — (Agence France Presse) The United States on Tuesday called on China to release a U.S. resident and Falun Gong practitioner jailed for documenting alleged abuses against the banned spiritual movement.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said a secret one-day trial of Teng Chunyan last month on espionage charges was “deeply disturbing.”

“We urge the Chinese authorities to release Ms. Teng and to permit her to return to the United States,” Boucher told reporters.

“We have raised this case with Chinese authorities, both in Beijing and in Washington,” Boucher said, urging China to end a crackdown on Falun Gong and to uphold the internationally recognized right of citizens to take part in “peaceful spiritual pursuits.”

Teng ... is accused of arranging an interview between foreign reporters and Falun Gong members who had been incarcerated in a mental hospital. Fifty practitioners from a rural district in Beijing were locked up in the hospital for more than a month to prevent them from going to Tiananmen Square to protest the ban against the group. Teng is also accused of collaborating with Falun Gong members to take pictures of practitioners detained in the hospital and passing the photos on to foreign media.

FALUN GONG PRACTITIONER ESCAPES TORTURE IN CHINA, SAFE WITH FAMILY IN TROY, MICHIGAN

TROY (Detroit News) — After months of torture and surveillance in China, Ahuia Xu arrived from Shanghai on Monday morning, and is safe in the home of her daughter, Jennifer Zhou of Troy.

The 64-year-old retired engineer and mother of four sat on Jennifer’s burgundy leather sofa and pulled up her pants legs to show the bruises where she said electric shocks had been administered near her ankles. Her daughter sat nearby cringing.

Xu’s crime: Publicly practicing the controversial slow-motion exercises known as Falun Gong, which were officially banned in China in July 1999.

Xu, one of 100 million who practice Falun Gong worldwide, said she was not trying to make a political statement with her use of Falun Gong, but was simply searching for a cure for her many illnesses.



“My doctors ... had given me no hope. But it has been two years since I began practicing, and I no longer suffer from heart problems and the lump in the back of my neck is gone.”

HOW ONE CHINESE CITY RESORTED TO ATROCITIES TO CONTROL FALUN Dafa

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, December 26, 2000
WEIFANG, China — Rising out of the North China Plain in a jumble of dusty apartment blocks and crowded roads, this is an unremarkable Chinese city in every respect but one: Local police regularly torture residents to death. Since the beginning of the year, when police killed a 58-year-old retiree, at least 10 more Weifang residents have died in police custody, according to relatives and a human-rights monitoring group. All were practitioners of the spiritual group Falun Dafa, which the central government banned last year. Across this country of 1.3 billion, at least 77 Falun Dafa adherents have now died in detention, according to reports by human-rights groups. Weifang accounts for 15% of those deaths.

...Instead of just threatening to ruin local officials’ careers, [the governor of Shandong] Mr. Wu’s colleagues in the provincial government started to fine them as well. The new twist was simple: The provincial government fined mayors and heads of counties for each Falun Dafa practitioner from their district who went to Beijing. The mayors and county heads in turn fined the heads of their Political and Legal Commissions, holding them responsible. They in turn fined village chiefs, who in turn fined the police officers - who administered the punishment. The fines varied from district to district, but in one Weifang district the head of the Political and Legal Commission was fined 200 yuan per person protesting in Tiananmen Square, or about \$25 — a potentially ruinous amount given that his monthly salary is only about \$200, according to one of the official’s colleagues. The fines were illegal; no law or regulation has ever been issued in writing that lists them. Officials say the policy was announced orally at government meetings. “There was never to be anything in writing because they didn’t want it made public,” says a member of the city’s Political and Legal Commission. Thus a chief feature in torture victims’ testimony is that they were constantly being asked for money to compensate for the fines... For example, the most recent prisoner to die in Weifang, Xuan Chengxi, was killed in October after officials asked him repeatedly for money, according to two people who tended to his wounds before he died. All the members of his family, however, were Falun Dafa practitioners and had lost their jobs, leaving them unable to pay. Police responded by beating him with rubber truncheons and dousing him in cold water for several hours before he fell into a coma and died, the witnesses say. Weifang city officials — many of whom now privately worry that the crackdown has been a terrible mistake — say none of the police directly involved in the deaths have been reprimanded. In fact, the three officers who oversaw Ms. Chen’s interrogation have since been promoted, they say, true to the tradition of giving local authorities a free hand, no questions asked...

Reports from Inside China

Typical Cases of Abuse, Torture and Death of Falun Gong Practitioners in China

Death Cases

Name: Zhao Xin, female, a 32-year-old lecturer at the Business and Economics College at the Beijing Industry and Commerce University

Location: Beijing



On the evening of June 19, 2000, Zhao Xin and 20 other Falun Gong practitioners were arrested as they practiced Falun Gong exercises, at the Mudan Pavilion in Zizhuyuan Park. On June 20, she was escorted to and detained in the detention center of Haidian District along with several other practitioners. She refused to give her name and workplace to the police in the detention center, and started

hunger strike. She was then brutally beaten. On the evening of June 22, she was sent to Haidian Hospital for emergency medical treatment. After the operation, Zhao's parents received a "critically ill notice" about their daughter. The vertebra at the fourth, fifth and sixth joints of her neck were fractured, and she also had minor injuries to her head. Her left eye was bruised and swollen and she had problem with breathing. She is fed intravenously and can breathe only with the aid of a respirator. In August, Zhao Xin can breathe by herself without the aid, but her body below her neck could not move at all. It was very difficult for her to speak, and her whole body was very painful. The ophthalmologist made a definite diagnosis that Zhao's left eye had suffered irreparable damage to the nerve and retina due to trauma, causing her to lose eyesight in that eye.



After 6 months of suffering, Zhao Xin died on December 11, 2000 in her dormitory.

Media reports (AP):

<http://www.faluninfo.net/DisplayAnArticle.asp?ID=1724>

Name: Liu Yufeng, male, 64, Han nationality, retired worker, a villager from the Xiaozetou Village of Songcun Town, Wendeng, Shandong Province

Location: Wendeng Detention Center, Wendeng, Shandong Province

On the morning of July 18, 2000, Liu Yufeng was arrested and detained in the Wendeng Detention Center because he joined the group practice of Falun Gong exercises at Huilong Mountain. On the next day (July 19), the detention center called Mr. Liu's daughter to send in 200 to 300 Yuan for medical expenses for her father. On July 22, the detention center called Mr. Liu's daughter again to tell her to pick up her father. When Mr. Liu was carried out by his son-in-law, he could neither move nor speak. He was in a coma. At around 10am of July 22, Mr. Liu was sent home and died the next morning at 7am on July 23, 2000.



Autopsy by legal medical experts showed that: his right eye-rim had extravagated blood; his face had bruises; his throat, upper breast and lower limbs had black and purple stains left by electric shocks. His subcutaneous soft tissues were damaged. His 2nd, 3rd, 4th ribs on both sides were fractured. His breastbones were broken. He had bruises all over his body.

Media reports (AP):

<http://www.faluninfo.net/DisplayAnArticle.asp?ID=784>

Women's Cases

Names: Wu Xiaoping, female, from Harbin, Heilongjiang Province and Li Naimei, female, 50, from Guangzhou, Guangdong Province

Location: Jingxing County, Hebei Province

At the end of July 2000, many practitioners went to Beijing to appeal. Since many practitioners did not reveal their own names in order to not be escorted back to their hometowns, detention centers in Beijing could not hold so many practitioners.

Then some were sent to nearby cities or counties. In Jingxing County, all the male policemen in the criminal police team forced female practitioners to take off their pants. These policemen then beat and electric shocked them. Female practitioners suffered inhuman torture and humiliation. Unable to stand such maltreatment, the female practitioners, in tears, revealed their addresses. Practitioner Wu Xiaoping from Harbin, Heilongjiang Province was electric shocked by male policemen on her mouth and vagina for a whole night. She was then sent back to her hometown, and no further information about her has been heard since then. Practitioner Li Naimei is from Guangzhou, Guangdong Province. Half of her breasts had been cut as a result of the breast cancer before. But the policemen severely electric shocked the wound on her breasts, her private parts and the inner side of her legs. These parts all turned purple-black from the electric shock.

Names: Yang Ping, female, 43, employee of the Caidian Aquatic Products Company, Caidian District, Wuhan, Hubei Province

Location: Caidian District, Wuhan, Hubei Province

In March 2000, Yang Ping was arrested and escorted back because of appealing in Beijing. Although she was two months pregnant she was nonetheless still detained for 4 days at the Zhonghualu Police Station in Wuchang District of Wuhan City and for 25 days at the Caidian Police Station. Afterwards, she was forcefully given an abortion in Health Center of Women and Children in Caidian District. 24 days later, she was sent to the Wuhan City Drug Rehabilitation Center for one and a half years of forced labor. During that period, she could only take cold showers and drink cold water. She went on a hunger strike once. Her husband Wang Jianjun (also a practitioner) was fined RMB 4320 (about USD\$500). After Wang Jianjun appealed, Yang Ping was released after 3 months of forced labor. Her whole body was swollen after returning home.

Names: Fang Qingliang (pseudonym*), female, 35, a farmer in Dawangzhuang Township, Yinan County, Shandong Province and Chen Lihua (pseudonym*), female, 36, a farmer in Dawangzhuang Township, Yinan County, Shandong Province
**Pseudonyms are provided in order to protect the practitioners from further persecution. If the readers need to know the exact names, please contact us and we will provide the exact names.*

Location: Dawangzhuang Township Government Building, Yinan County, Shandong Province

Chen Lihua (pseudonym), female, 36, is a farmer in Dawangzhuang Township. She was detained in an office of the township government on Jan. 4, 2000 for going to Beijing to appeal. Dozens of young male officials led by Li, who is an official in the office of the communist party committee, came to the office and forced her to take off all her clothes. Offi-

cial Bo thrust an electric baton into her vagina, shocking her to the floor. Then, one man held her arm and electrically shocked her body and handcuffed one of her hands to the window. Official Wang held her other hand while Bo grabbed her breasts and shocked her upper body repeatedly. She was tortured this way for quite a while, then was told to put on her shirt and sit on the floor. Dozens of men kicked her so hard that she rolled around on the floor screaming in agony. Later, after they left, a correspondent of the township government, whose surname is also Wang, picked up the electric baton and shocked her vagina again. He touched her breasts, and used his genitals to press on her buttock several times. By then she was unable to move at all because of the torture....

Fang Qingliang (pseudonym), female, 35, also a farmer in Dawangzhuang Township, suffered the similar insults and torture exerted by the same group of officials in an office in the township government building on the evening of January 4, 2000....

Psychiatric Abuse Cases

Names: Su Gang, male, 32, a software engineer of Qilu Petrochemical Company in Zibo City of Shandong Province.

Location: Changle Mental Hospital, Changle County, Weifang, Shandong Province

On May 23, 2000, the security officers in Su Gang's workplace sent him to the Changle Mental Hospital without noticing his family members. Su was detained in the mental hospital for nine days, and was given over-dose forced injections with damaging effects everyday. Upon learning that Mr. Su was locked in the mental hospital, Su's uncle went on a hunger strike, and as a result, Mr. Su was released on May 31. When Mr. Su got home, he looked slow and stiff, and extremely weak. He died on the morning of June 10, 2000, only 10 days after being released from the mental hospital.

Names: Li Shouqiang, male, born on December 2, 1963, was a resident of Wusheng Dongli, Chaoyang District, Beijing, employee of Beijing Automobile Company

Location: Changping Detention Center, Beijing

On March 8, 2000, because of going to Tiananmen Square to appeal for Falun Gong, Li Shouqiang was taken away from home and sent to Changping Detention Center where he was interrogated and tortured. He was not allowed to drink water. Police plotted to murder him. They added a large dose of drugs that destroy the central nervous system to a bottle of Coke and let Li drink it. Li was detained for 10 days. On the evening of March 18, 2000, Panjiayuan Police Station called Li's family to ask them to pick him up from the police station. Li

was detained in an iron cage at that time. On the way back, Li could not speak clearly and said disjointedly, "They (the police) fed me drugs, they put drugs in my coke.... They did not allow me to drink water... ..After I drank, I could not spit it out. They said it would make me die in two days... .. They ask you to pick me up and so I would die at home... .. So they don't have any responsibility... .. I should not have gone home, I should die there!" After going home, Li's mind was sometimes clear and sometimes confused. He looked dull and could not think normally. Once, he ran out of the bathroom in the middle of taking a shower and others saw lines of dark purple wounds on the back of his neck, rear waist, and on both sides of his thighs. Later, he did not eat or drink for two days. On the morning on March 20, 2000, he was in a daze and fell from the balcony of his home, which killed him.

Detention and Labor Camps

Location: Masanjia Labor Camp, Shenyang, Liaoning Province

Since October 1999, there have been more than 1500 Falun Dafa practitioners detained in the Masanjia Labor Camp in Liaoning Province. The officials in the labor camp use a variety of inhumane methods to force practitioners to give up Falun Gong. As soon as he or she steps into the labor camp, each practitioner is asked, "Are you willing to



give up practicing Falun Gong?" Anyone who said no is forced to maintain a torturous position -lower his/her head, press the back to the wall, and raise the hands up. The guards called the pose "lifting-up." Then, the practitioner is not allowed to sleep at all.

Practitioners who don't want to give up Falun Gong are often shocked with electric batons repeatedly while being tied up. The guards especially like to strip the clothes completely off the female practitioners and use the electric batons to shock their breasts and private parts. The officials put a basin underneath for the practitioners to urinate and defecate in. The practitioners must receive help from others to defecate. The painful cries of the practitioners can be heard everywhere in the labor camp.

The officials also force practitioners to drink dirty water from an old well that had been abandoned. The water is dangerous still water that had been sitting on the bottom of the well for several years. When it was first brought up, it was filled with foul-smelling bubbles. Practitioners all showed symptoms of being poisoned after they were forced to drink the water.

The police from Dalian, Liaoning Province went to Masanjia Labor Camp to learn the camp's "transformation" experiences.

After coming back, they told the practitioners that Masanjia is really tough: The detainees eat rice that was decayed and green with mold; dozens of people are detained in one room and use one basin of water to wash their faces. The water is not replaced and turned foul. The police there told practitioners: "What is 'Tolerance'? 'Tolerance' is that you are raped and you don't sue!" (thereby mocking the cornerstone principles of Falun Gong: Truth, Benevolence and Forbearance [tolerance]).

Below are some examples of the suffering of the practitioners:

1. Guards of Masanjia Labor Camp stripped the clothes from 18 female practitioners and threw the women practitioners into the Men's jail cells. The resulting abuse they suffered was terrifying. Many female practitioners told their visiting relatives that the labor camp was too evil for a person to imagine.

2. Qi Xuming, female, a teacher at the No. 123 Middle School at Dengshahe Town, Jinzhou District, Dalian, Liaoning Province. Qi Xuming was sent to Masanjia Labor Camp after being arrested in July 2000. Because she refused to renounce Falun Gong in the labor camp, she was cruelly persecuted by the guards in the labor camp. She went on a hunger strike to protest the mistreatment. However, the guards cut her esophagus open to make it easier to conduct force-feeding. Because of the long-term tortures, some female practitioners suffered mental breakdown, some lost memory and lose the control of bowel movements and urination, some cannot endure anymore and tried to commit suicide....



Location: Jingguan Town of Beipei District, Chongqing

The government officials in the Jingguan Town detain and abuse practitioners at will in the "transformation class". They also ask practitioners or their family to pay a fine without any explanation or reason.

Three groups of practitioners of about 16 people have been detained in the "class" since April 2000. Nine practitioners were in the first group, most of whom were detained for going to Beijing to appeal. People nearby can often hear the yelling of the torturers and the crying of the practitioners. They also handcuff the practitioners and dragged them to the local fair to parade them through the streets with a loudspeaker playing constantly the slanderous and cursing propaganda...

Among the detained practitioners, there is a young mother with a baby several months old. They were dragged to the "class," and the baby became a prisoner as well.

All the practitioners detained in the "class" are required to pay a fine of 3,000 Yuan, which is equivalent to about US \$370. The amount of the fine is as much as a two-year income for a local family. If a practitioner is unable to pay, his family will be forced to borrow; otherwise, the practitioner will never be released. Furthermore, practitioners are required to pay the expenses for the guards. Each practitioner has to

pay about 60 Yuan a day. Families of practitioners who are from farms have suffered a great deal financially due to this charge, because they have low income with very little available cash.

If the practitioners' family members and friends do not report the "improper" conduct of the practitioners, the family members or friends would be arrested and mistreated in the "transformation class". A practitioner has a family member who is the principal of a school. The town government removed the principal from his post and told him that he would not be allowed to return to his job until the practitioner is transformed.

Location: Yuhe Town, Weifang

Practitioner Xuan Chengxi was tortured to death in this transformation center.

Torture instruments and mistreatment methods in the transformation center of Yuhe Town:

Rubber truncheons, wooden sticks, electric batons, leather whips, sweepers...

Beating with sticks, shocking with electric batons, splashing with cold water, burning with cigarettes, stabbing with thumbtacks, being forced to stand motionless for long periods of time, imposing severe monetary fines, exposure to sun on hot summer days, and freezing cold in winter...



Beginning in October 5, 2000, the gang led by town government officials Wang Xinmin and Chu Yongsheng commenced another round of persecution of Falun Gong practitioners. Such cruelty has been rarely seen in Weifang or anywhere in the country. The impact was unprecedented. Within 9 days, Xuan Chengxi died, 10 practitioners repeatedly lost consciousness during beatings, and 1 practitioner had to be hospitalized. Practitioners were detained for long periods of time and imposed huge fines up to RMB 10,000 Yuan (US \$ 1,250). Practitioner Li Qingfen and Yang were beaten to the point of incontinence, as well as imposed of huge fines. Li Longqian was beaten until he urinated blood, and it was very painful for him to urinate and defecate. A few of Zhang Fenying's teeth were knocked out, she also had incontinence of feces and urine. When the pain became too hard to endure, practitioner Gao Jisheng hit his own head against the wall. The bleeding couldn't stop. He was then handcuffed to a chair. Meng Qinghua was beaten so severely that he couldn't even stand up.

Torture Cases

Names: A female practitioner arrested in Tiananmen Square, Beijing, on October 17, 2000

Location: Tiananmen Police Station, Beijing

A practitioner was arrested in Tiananmen Square on October 17, 2000 for appealing for Falun Gong, and was taken to the Tiananmen Police Station. The police there shocked her with electric batons and kicked her for several hours. As a result, wounds covered her whole body. After the beating, several policemen held her down and threatened to inject her with something that they called a "vaccination." She



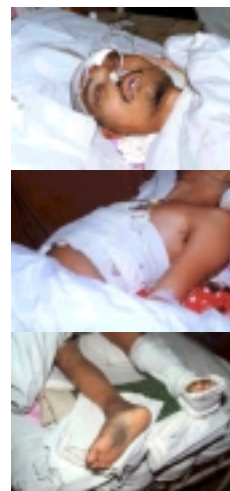
tried her best to resist, and they finally gave up. One police, however, still forcefully put drops of an extremely pungent liquid into her nostrils. Soon afterwards it took effect - she felt dizzy and unbalanced, it was very difficult for her to breathe.

Names: Du Xu, male, 35, former employee of the Nanyang Meat Processing Factory, Nanyang, Henan Province

Location: Wancheng Police Branch, Nanyang, Henan Province

On November 15, 2000, Du Xu was arrested at home by the security team from Wancheng Police Branch, Nanyang, for telling the truth about Falun Dafa and revealing the brutal crackdown on Falun Gong to the people.

Around 1PM on November 28, the security team sent Du Xu to the First People's Hospital for emergency treatment. Du was barely alive as a result of the cruel torture he received from the police. The Team did not notify his family until after 7:00 PM. Du's family came over to care of him at the hospital, and found that Du was



not recognizable due to the beatings. Medical examination revealed trauma to a large area of the brain, and blood inside the skull. His left leg was fractured and his legs and feet were black and swollen. He had wounds all over his body including black eyes. Du has been in a coma with a barely detectable heartbeat since November 28, and was declared to be in critical condition. Doctors have operated on his injured brain, and told Du's family that Du could lose his life at any time.

Du Xu died at 5:30AM on January 10, 2001.

“Architect of the Crackdown” [continued from page 9]

ously persecute a peaceful meditation society, the Party simply ordered up some new laws. Now these will be applied — retroactively, of course... By these standards, Stalin was a scrupulous observer of civil rights.”

No doubt aware of the precariousness of his own safety and position, Premier Zhu remained silent for a year and a half on this issue, until recently when he again spoke out against the harsh treatment being inflicted on Falun Gong practitioners. Vice President Hu Jintao and other influential government figures Li Ruihuan, Wei Jianxing, and the retired Qiao Shi are also reported to be increasingly opposed to the crackdown.⁷

At the 5th Plenary Session of the 15th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on October 9 to 11, 2000, President Jiang Zemin’s nominations of Zeng Qinghong as a member of the politburo, and Chen Zhili as Secretary of Secretariat were vetoed. This marks the first occasion in the history of the Chinese communist regime that a President’s nominations have been refused by the Central Committee.⁸ Many believe this unprecedented lack of support within the Communist Party’s core membership reflects the growing dissatisfaction with President Jiang’s handling of Falun Gong, among other issues.

President Jiang Zemin’s Crackdown against China Itself

Since the crackdown was first launched in the summer of 1999, tens of thousands of practitioners have been detained and sent to labor camps for ‘re-education’ without trial; thousands more have been victims of brutal beatings and other forms of torture while in the custody of Chinese police; and hundreds of healthy, intelligent people have been confined in psychiatric institutions and repeatedly injected with nerve-damaging drugs.

Many high-profile practitioners have been given show trials in which they were sentenced to extended prison terms of up to 18 years. These show trials are designed to make examples of practitioners from prominent occupations, such as public officials, university lecturers, military officers, etc. Last January, 74 year-old Air Force General Yu Chanxin was sentenced to 17 years in prison by a military tribunal. Charged with “using a sect to destroy the implementation of the law” and “illegal management,” it is believed that Yu was singled out in order to strike fear into the hearts of the rest of the population. After all, if this highly decorated and revered patriot could be

summarily thrown into prison because of his affiliation with Falun Gong, then how much more tenuous was the freedom of the average citizen?

During these trials, defendants are denied adequate legal representation and in many cases, family and friends are not even allowed to witness the event. One Beijing resident, Liang Jiantian, was recently sentenced to life imprisonment for printing and selling Falun Dafa publications. The official Xinhua News Agency described the charge as “manufacturing obscene materials and conducting an illegal business.”⁹

Jiang Zemin’s war against Falun Dafa quickly evolved into a war against China itself, as the government’s reckless abuse of power began to permeate all aspects of the country’s social and economic life. Given the true facts of the situation, this was inevitable. By 1999, tens of millions of people were practicing Falun Dafa – possibly more than the entire membership of the Chinese Communist Party itself. Not limited by social class, ethnicity, occupation, or location, practitioners came from all segments of society, and from all over the nation. Doctors, lawyers, cab drivers, government officials, military personnel, factory workers, farmers, university professors, students, senior citizens—all were attracted to Falun Dafa.

Additionally, Falun Dafa is deeply rooted in traditional Chinese culture, and its practitioners cannot be identified as something separate or isolated from the Chinese people as a whole. Therefore, by waging war on practitioners of Falun Dafa, President Jiang Zemin is, in fact, waging war on the people and the nation of China. [Editors’ note: For a comprehensive examination of the widespread persecution of Falun Dafa practitioners and its effects on the entire Chinese society, please refer to the article, “A Dark Chapter in China’s History” in this issue.]

Jiang Zemin’s Actions Are In Violation of China’s Constitution

President Jiang and Luo Gan were somewhat taken aback by the apparent failure of these Draconian policies to weaken the resolve of practitioners. Due to a lack of enthusiasm on the part of many government colleagues, President Jiang embarked upon a one man crusade, writing personally to all Committee Members, putting up large anti-Falun Gong posters all over government headquarters, and constantly stating that Falun Gong was “threatening the Nation and the

Party.” It is worth noting that many Party Members themselves were also practitioners of Falun Dafa. And although they were able to keep these two areas of their lives separate without any apparent difficulty, this state of affairs was totally

“This marks the first occasion in the history of the Chinese communist regime that a President’s nominations have been refused by the Central Committee.”

unacceptable to the President. However, forbidding Party Members from practicing Falun Gong and denying them the right to appeal against government injustice are directly at odds with articles of the Constitution, which stipulate that only the National People's Congress and its Standing Committee can make, modify, or interpret the law.

In October of 1999, three months after the crackdown had begun and long after President Jiang Zemin's illegal directives had been thrust upon government workers for implementation, the People's Congress adopted a 'decision' to legitimise the crackdown. However, this did nothing to change the fact that many of the 'prohibitions' (such as the right to 'petition in defence of Falun Gong') issued by the Ministry of Public Security on 22nd July 1999 were still contrary to the Chinese Constitution.¹⁰

Amnesty International quotes a 22nd July 1999 press release from the official Xinhua News Agency indicating that the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party issued a circular prohibiting Party members from participating in any Falun Gong activities. The circular instructed Party members to make "a clean ideological break" from Falun Gong. The circular warned that those who have "committed serious mistakes will be given disciplinary punishment," and those "who refuse to correct their mistakes ... will be expelled from the Party."¹¹

It is significant that the resolution passed by the People's Congress in October was on the subject of 'evil cults,' but Falun Gong was not named in the resolution. The Public Security Bureau therefore had no legal right to arbitrarily determine the nature of Falun Gong simply based on the instructions of the President, nor could it legally use this resolution as the basis for initiating serious human rights abuses. Such abuses are also manifestly in breach of a number of international agreements to which China is a signatory.

Notwithstanding the efforts of Jiang and Luo Gan, with the exception of Shandong and Liaoning provinces, the persecution of Falun Gong has apparently found little support, either with the general population or with most provincial officials. The southern provinces, such as Guandong and its governor, Li Changchun, have been particularly unenthusiastic about harassing people whom they consider to be model citizens. As a result, Jiang Zemin made a tour of the South in February, 2000, in order to personally instruct local officials and whip up enthusiasm for the persecution. Eventually, under intense pressure, the province fell into line and reluctantly proceeded with the persecution as directed.

Conclusion

President Jiang Zemin's persecution of Falun Gong is an ongoing tragedy, not only for practitioners, but for the entire nation. We can only speculate as to why a leader would so recklessly make war on millions of his finest and most law-abiding citizens. We have noted previously that the sheer numbers of Falun Gong practitioners intimidated many in the government, and that the persecution may have simply been a preemptive strike against people who were mistakenly viewed as potential competitors for power. Another possibility is that Jiang Zemin is using Falun Gong in the same way that Hitler used the Jews in Germany—as scapegoats for all that is wrong in society. Could Hitler have risen to power, consolidated his power, and maintained his power without turning the Jewish population into a demonic enemy in the eyes of

“Many Party Members themselves were also practitioners of Falun Dafa. And although they were able to keep these two areas of their lives separate without any apparent difficulty, this state of affairs was totally unacceptable to the President.”

the German population?

Furthermore, it is quite possible that internal political struggles within the communist leadership, coupled with ideological battles over the ultimate value of Westernization and economic reforms, also played a role in the decision to persecute Falun Dafa. We may never know for certain, as the inner workings of communist regimes are typically shrouded in secrecy. But we do know this: the cost of this persecution, in terms of lost revenues and squandered resources and in terms of broken families, lost jobs, broken bones, broken hearts, and loss of life, has been enormous and catastrophic.

Speculation concerning how historians will eventually view this or that conflict can be risky, given that history is usually written by the descendants of the winners. Still, as long as kindness and virtue exist in people's hearts, we can rest assured that in the long run, tyrants will be exposed and properly condemned. Perhaps one day, President Jiang Zemin's personal vendetta against Falun Dafa will be seen in the same light as we now see Emperor Nero's treatment of that other group of peaceful, spiritual seekers that "turned the other cheek"—the early Christians.

Michael Pearson-Smith received his BA Hons from the University of Sheffield in England and MA, PhD from McMasters University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. For the last four and a half years he has been working for an educational publisher. Dr Pearson-Smith is currently based in Melbourne, Australia.

“The Crackdown Extends Overseas”
[continued from page 11]

Another incident took place the next day in the same area in Paris. Practitioners had set up a display to inform people about the practice of Falun Gong and about what is taking place in China. Near the display, two Chinese people and a Frenchman were talking in low voices and gesturing back and forth. Suddenly, the Frenchman rushed toward the display, pushed it to the ground, and crumpled two large posters. He ran away long before the police could arrive.³

American universities have always been bastions of freedom of speech and expression, but the freedom of Falun Gong practitioners to meet and promote their spiritual beliefs came under strong attack at Cal-Tech University in California. On the morning of February 18, 2000, Ramanuj Basu, the Audience Services Manager of the Cal-Tech Public Events Office, received a phone call from a man named Liu Wansheng, who introduced himself as an official of the Chinese Consulate in Los Angeles. Liu asked Mr. Basu to cancel a seminar event by the Cal-Tech Falun Club that was scheduled to take place in a few days at Baxter Auditorium in Pasadena. “I am representing the Chinese government,” Liu said. “Falun Gong is illegal in China.”

“I really wanted to remind him that this is an American university,” Mr. Basu said later; but instead he politely told the caller that this issue should be handled by the Office of the Vice-President for student affairs. Vice-President Brennan expressed surprise that the Chinese government would make such a request, and he told Falun Gong Club President John Li the following: “Let me assure you and the Cal-Tech community that Cal-Tech has no intention of taking any action to interfere with the lawful activities of the Falun Gong Club. Moreover, we remain committed to the free exchange of information throughout the world.” David Baltimore, the Nobel Prize Laureate in Biology and president of Cal-Tech, also expressed his support in an e-mail message to John Li. On a further note, several months prior to this incident, Cal-Tech had also rejected China’s request to remove the Falun Gong Club’s web site.⁴

The internet, in fact, has been an important weapon in China’s overseas war against Falun Gong. Volunteer practitioners in cities all over the world have established web sites for the purpose of providing brief introductions to Mr. Li Hongzhi’s teachings and posting local practice and seminar schedules. One day last July, a practitioner received a message from the U.S. Department of Transportation stating that the server that was hosting the falundafa.org site was attacking their systems. Government officials had already figured out that Falun Gong people were being framed because they noticed they were being attacked by several servers, all of which hosted different Falun Dafa sites. The attacks were

found to be originating from a phone number in Beijing, and when they called this number, the party on the other line answered: “Beijing Public Security Bureau.” Other attacks have also originated from this same number.

One European site was hacked, and the web page contents were replaced by slanderous articles from *The People’s Daily*, the Chinese government’s official newspaper. In addition, many local contact persons worldwide whose e-mail addresses were posted on web sites were “spammed” with large quantities of e-mail messages — in some cases, numbering in the thousands every day. Major Falun Dafa sites in the U.S. and Canada, such as falundafa.ca, and minghui.ca, have been under continuous attack, and sometimes they have been shut down for days on end. In China, all Falun Gong web sites were eradicated long ago, and filtering software was installed to block mainland Chinese internet users from accessing similar web sites overseas.⁵

Since the PRC embassies and consulates abroad represent the Chinese government, they have come under scrutiny as being major instigators of attempts to persecute Falun Gong. Many routine functions of the embassy, such as issuing passports and visas, have been politicized and turned into weapons against practitioners. An interesting example of this can be found in the case of You Minghui, a seven month old infant whose parents are Chinese citizens studying in England. According to Chinese law, a baby born abroad to Chinese parents is automatically considered a Chinese citizen. The baby can either be added to the mother’s passport or be issued a separate one at the nearest Chinese Embassy. This is a right granted automatically to every Chinese citizen and guaranteed by numerous international laws and treaties. According to these laws and treaties, a country cannot revoke the citizenship of its own citizens living overseas without cause and force them to become refugees without a country.

You Minghui was originally granted a passport, but when the Chinese government learned that the child’s parents were Falun Gong practitioners who had demonstrated in Beijing, the passport was revoked. This act of the Chinese Embassy is unprecedented. Even babies born to well known dissidents living in exile have always been granted Chinese passports. This action angered many people in England, and it became a potentially serious diplomatic issue between the two countries. Now, under pressure from its own citizens to respond to this matter, the British government is closely examining the way in which the Chinese government has spread its persecution of Falun Gong to English soil.⁶

In May of 1999, Ms. Tian Yunshan, who works for a Chinese subsidiary in the United States, went to the Chinese consulate to have her passport extended, as it had just expired. The Consulate, it turns out, knew a lot about her: they

“The [website] attacks were found to be originating from a phone number in Beijing, and when they called this number, the party on the other line answered: ‘Beijing Public Security Bureau.’”

knew that she practiced Falun Gong, and that its founder, Mr. Li Hongzhi, had once stayed at her home. The Foreign Affairs Administration, which grants permission for travel in China, notified her company's operations manager that not only would her passport be denied because of her affiliation with Falun Gong, but the passports of other company employees would also be suspended. In order to have these restrictions lifted, the operations manager had to write a guarantee that Tian was no longer with the company. Currently, Tian still has no valid passport, and the only way she can return to China is to apply for a temporary passport at the same Chinese Consulate.⁷

The embassies have also been instrumental in trying to negatively affect the perceptions of American citizens toward Falun Gong. In July of 1999, San Francisco issued a proclamation honoring Falun Gong founder, Mr. Li Hongzhi. Preparations for the event went smoothly until the day before the ceremony, at which time practitioners were notified that the award had been cancelled. The next day, news of the cancellation was headlined in a major Chinese newspaper. The state of Maryland and the cities of Seattle and Baltimore also rescinded proclamations honoring Li Hongzhi after receiving pressure from the Chinese government. According to Washington Post Staff Writer Steven Mufson, the main reason for the cancellation of these honors was fear of hurting local trade relationships with China.

Clifford Traisman, an aide to Seattle Mayor Paul Schell, stated that the proclamation honoring Li Hongzhi caused the Chinese ambassador to "make his displeasure clear in no uncertain terms." Not only did Mayor Schell retreat from his previous position, he also apologized to the Chinese ambassador, writing: "I hope you will convey my regrets to your government for this unfortunate situation. I assure you that there was never any intent to cause embarrassment or insult to...China." Through a subordinate, Governor Glendenning of Maryland sent a similar message, which was reviewed, and some sources say, crafted, by the State Department. It read: "Please accept our humblest and most sincere apologies for the misunderstanding caused by the awarding of a Certificate of Honorary Citizenship to Li Hongzhi. We meant no offense to you or to the people of the People's Republic of China." It should be noted that publicly, State department officials condemned China's treatment of Falun Gong practitioners, and denied giving local or state governments guidance on apologies.⁸

Down under, Australian practitioner Qiwen Yao's home was broken into and his web site was repeatedly hacked and shut down. And while Mrs. Cuiying Zhang was presenting her opinions to the Chinese Consulate in Sydney, her car windows were smashed and her tires were punctured. The consulate also conducted a slander campaign designed to keep local city councils and other governing bodies from allowing Falun Gong practitioners to use public facilities for practice and community outreach activities. The illegal harassment of practitioners in Australia became so severe that Foreign Affairs Minister Downer had to publicly warn China that this behavior was unacceptable in a civilized and free society.

According to David Lague, foreign affairs correspondent for the Sydney Morning Herald, Mr. Downer's warning to China was made against the advice of other senior officials in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. "We would not expect anybody to harass Australian citizens either within Australia or outside Australia," Mr. Downer said. The Chinese Embassy angrily denied all complaints that it had been attempting to curb the activities of Falun Gong practitioners.⁹ But NineMSN, an Australian TV channel also reported on November 26 that:

"[PRC] consulates have taken it upon themselves to inform Australian councils about the evils of letting practitioners loose in parks and halls across the country. In Bankstown the embassy tried to have a motion which was before the council, condemning China over its abuse of the prisoner Cuy Ying Zhiang, withdrawn. Councillor Clive Taylor was outraged. "Two reps from the consulate had a meeting with the general manager and tried to pressure him to withdraw my motion. If they were trying to educate council they educated us only in one aspect, that was that they wanted to interfere in our democratic process."¹⁰

Finally, there is this ominous message coming out of China: A practitioner in mainland China who is privy to various clandestine activities organized by the Chinese Public Security Ministry states that the Ministry has selected a large group of top agents and has ordered them to memorize Zhuan Falun, Mr. Li Hongzhi's most important and most widely read book. He says that the plan is to send these agents overseas under a variety of disguises so that they can find ways to damage Falun Gong activities all over the world. All overseas practitioners have been warned to be on the lookout for these people.¹¹

Of course, this report cannot yet be verified at this time, so we hope the media will do a little investigation into the matter. Nevertheless, similar reports coming out of China in the past have been consistently accurate, and a clear pattern of hostile action taken by PRC embassies and consulates certainly can be seen in these events. Few could claim that these events, among many others, are mere coincidences or isolated incidents.

Just how effective these attempts by the PRC leadership to do harm to Falun Dafa overseas remains to be seen. In Western nations, where the rule of law is more than just a hollow phrase, citizens are disdainful of such under-handed tactics. These attacks may be counterproductive for another reason. When persecution of innocent people takes place in their own backyards, people are much more likely to take a close look at the problem than when it happens half way around the world. And what Falun Gong practitioners all over the world want more than anything else is just that: for people to take a close look at what is happening and find out the truth.

Kaishin Yen graduated from Columbia University with a Masters Degree in International Marketing. She currently spends her time on translations, editing and speech writing.

“A Dark Chapter in China’s History” [continued from page 15]

would be practitioners— that might be courageous enough to endure the various beatings and tortures administered to the physical body might recoil from the prospect of having their central nervous systems destroyed by powerful psychotropic drugs.

We have so many documented reports of this type of activity that it is hard to pick a representative sample. We have chosen the following story because it reveals the comprehensive nature of the government’s campaign against Falun Gong; that is, it illustrates the way in which multiple pressures are brought to bear upon citizens from different angles simultaneously.

Su Xiurong and Liu Shuxing, a married couple from the Fangshan district of Beijing have made the following statement regarding their experiences last December:

“...the images of these book burnings have been carried by most world media, including CNN.”

On the evening of December 1, 1999, the District police came to ask my husband and I to have a chat at the police station. Then they took us to the Fangshan Detention Center, claiming that we were to be detained for 15 days. Six days later, we were sent to the Zhoukoudian Mental Hospital. The director of the hospital told us, “the District Police sent you here and asked us to keep you until Macau is returned to Chinese rule.” [In other words, a very long time.] We don’t have any mental illnesses, but we are kept here with no freedom, very little food and we are being treated like criminals. We’ve been kept for over 40 days, without any legal procedures. No one has ever come to talk to us. Keeping us in the hospital also made our children suffer. Our three kids are under great pressure at home. The electric power supply at our home has been cut off for over a month now. They were also threatened with being thrown into the mental hospital. Our oldest daughter had to quit her job to take care of her young brother and sister. We are not only suffering economically, but our kids are also pressured to an unbearable extent. There is another villager named Liu Shuxing. She was forced into the mental hospital while staying at a relative’s home. She was kept there for over 20 days before being bailed out by her family. Because of this, her husband keeps abusing her physically and mentally. She is devastated.⁶

This story, which dramatically illustrates what thousands of Falun Gong families are going through at this very moment, reveals the shotgun approach of abusive tactics brought to bear on practitioners: 1) placing healthy and mentally sound people in mental hospitals, 2) breaking up families, 3) punishing innocent relatives or family members for the “crimes” of others, 4) destroying people financially, 5) causing people to lose their jobs, and 6) pitting members of the same family against each other. For a more recent and detailed account of

what actually goes on in these mental hospitals, please refer to the article in the “Reports from Inside China” section of this issue called: “Female Party Member Tortured, Sent to Mental Hospital, Poisoned with Drugs.” Additionally, see the article entitled “International Concern Grows Over Psychiatric Abuses in China” of this issue for more information about action being taken by the world Psychiatric community regarding this problem.

Government Destroys Books, Tapes, and other Falun Gong Literature

It is difficult to conceive of how public book burnings could still be an occurrence in modern society, particularly in the most populous nation in the world. Still, this is exactly what is happening in China, and the images of these book burnings have been carried by most world media, including CNN. To this end, a significant part of the government’s efforts to crush

Falun Gong has been its attempt to confiscate and destroy all books, tapes, and promotional literature related to the spiritual practice. This policy, which is so reminiscent of Hitler’s Germany, began early on in the persecution and continues to this day. The first nationwide destruction of Falun Gong publications began on the afternoon of July 28, 1999. Massive confiscation efforts throughout China yielded over one and a half million books, videotapes, and cassettes for the bonfires. In order to obtain these materials, authorities employed various illegal means such as breaking into print shops, warehouses, bookstores, and ransacking the homes of practitioners. CNN Journalist Rebecca MacKinnon captured powerful video of books being thrown into a pulping machine in Shanghai.⁷

Practitioners Fired from Jobs

Another spoke on the wheel of Jiang Zemin’s persecution of Falun Gong involves attacking practitioners at the level of their livelihoods—in other words, making sure that practitioners are not able to make a living, or participate in the nation’s economy. For many, not only does this mean loss of job and career, but also the loss of one’s position in society. For example, on September 2, 1999, Communist Party members were ordered to give up Falun Gong. Those who refused were given three choices: voluntarily withdraw from the Party, withdraw at the Party’s request, or be expelled from the Party. Thousands of loyal, dedicated Party members are now suffering in labor camps because they refused to renounce and give up their practice of Falun Gong.

Practitioner Li Zhi, a middle school teacher in Xindou, was forced to resign from her job and divorce her husband last January in order to avoid bringing trouble to her supervi-

sors and her family. She was sent to a “Transformation Study Class” and later to the detention center, but she still would not renounce her faith.⁸

Sometimes practitioners are treated fairly by their immediate supervisors, only to be persecuted by someone higher up. Fifty-one year old Geng Xinping, who worked in the warehouse of the China Railway Construction Co., went to appeal to the government on October 30th, 1999. Since she was hard-working and performed well on the job, her supervisor tried to protect her. However, due to pressure from the company leadership, she was suspended. Then on July 12, 2000, she went again to appeal to the government. This time she was fired altogether, and sent to a labor camp. Her work unit then proceeded to collaborate with the police to extort a large fine from her family as a condition for her release.⁹

Colleges and Universities Become Pawns of the Government

Suffering from wave after wave of persecution, the colleges and universities in China have also been hard hit by this intense political campaign. Students are routinely expelled from their schools and faculty members fired. Chinese intellectuals are suffering from the most severe persecution since the Cultural Revolution. At Tsinghua University, October 21, 1999, police arrested 14 students who were attending an “experience sharing conference” on campus. These students were beaten up, handcuffed, and physically tortured. Those who refused to sign a statement giving up their practice of Falun Gong were forced to withdraw from school. A Ph.D. student who was thought to be an “organizer” was detained for 30 days. A few days later, 25 more students were suspended, and two graduate students had to relinquish their membership in the Communist Party. Early in December, the university asked the suspended students to write confessions. These confessions had to meet certain requirements, such as admitting that Falun Gong was an “evil cult;” and if the university was not satisfied, it would not reinstate the students. Wang Dazhong, the President of Tsinghua University stated that “this struggle with the students is a long-term project and it needs to be carried through.”¹⁰

Relatives of Practitioners Also Punished

We have already seen how the Chinese criminal justice system under Jiang Zemin administers punishment that is dis-

proportional to the offences committed. More indications of the injustice that exists in the current justice system can be illustrated by the following stories, which describe how China not only punishes practitioners, but often their innocent family members as well.

Cheng Zhan and Li Xiaojun, two Falun Gong practitioners from Chengdu, were arrested and sent to prison. Their homes were trashed, and the local police proceeded to arrest a dozen of their family members and relatives. They were all given 15 days of detention, and were released only after their workplaces or family members paid three thousand yuan

(which amounts to three months salary for an average Chinese worker). Many of them had bruises due to police tortures and beatings by the criminals in the prison. While in police custody, they were forced to do hard labor for 18 to 19 hours every day, and they were given just enough food to keep from starving.¹¹

In Changchun, the government is pressuring Falun Gong practitioners by appointing their family members as guarantors. Now, if a practitioner goes to Beijing to appeal, his guarantor will be fired from his or her job or be dismissed from school. One practitioner’s daughter, who is a second year high school student, was appointed as her mother’s guarantor. If her mother goes to Beijing to appeal, she will lose the opportunity for future employment.¹²

“At Tsinghua University, October 21, 1999, police arrested 14 students who were attending an “experience sharing conference” on campus. These students were beaten up, handcuffed, and physically tortured. Those who refused to sign a statement giving up their practice of Falun Gong were forced to withdraw from school.”

Practitioners Bankrupted

Another weapon in the Chinese government’s arsenal of persecution is to simply bankrupt practitioners and their families by imposing exorbitant fines on them at every opportunity. If they are arrested, they can be hit with a heavy bail. A practitioner from Baoding went to Beijing to appeal last February and was arrested. His bail: 10,000 yuan, about a year’s salary. If a practitioner goes to jail, not only is it expensive to get out, it’s also expensive to stay in, as prisoners or their family members are required to pay for their “room and board.” Chang Sha, Mimi Tan, and Fei Feng were detained last August for selling Falun Gong books. Family members were not allowed to visit them, but they were required to pay 1,000 yuan per month to the detention center.¹³

Professional people who also happen to be Falun Gong practitioners are under constant threat of losing their businesses and their careers, even when they are providing valuable and necessary services to society. Dr. Miao, from Wuguiquia, had her clinic confiscated by the police department after going to Beijing to appeal. She is now being held

in detention, and society has one less doctor to take care of the sick.¹⁴

As we have seen, sometimes the government punishes innocent people for the offences of others, thereby creating conflict between people where none existed previously. For example, take the case of two schoolteachers from Longquanyi who went to Beijing to appeal for Falun Gong and were arrested. They were required to pay a 40,000 yuan penalty after being escorted back home. In the meantime, the local government announced that the 30,000 yuan bonus which had been scheduled to be awarded to their school would be cancelled because the school authorities failed to prevent the teachers from appealing in Beijing. Longquanyi District is located in the Long-quan Mountains. Most of the schools are located in remote areas, and teachers there have low incomes and lead very hard lives. They had all been hoping for a bonus in time to celebrate the Chinese Spring Festival, but because of the decision of the local communist government, they were made to suffer along with the Falun Gong practitioners.¹⁵

Practitioners Paraded through the Streets

Persons who lived through the Cultural Revolution thirty years ago still dread their memories of those days and live in constant fear that they will come again. Unfortunately, for the Falun Gong practitioners at least, and for many others as well, those days have returned. Proof of this can be found in the types of punishments being meted out, some of which we have already discussed, some of which are yet to be revealed. One tactic often employed during the Cultural Revolution was to dishonor, embarrass, and humiliate people by parading them through the streets in front of their peers. On January 21, 2000, fifteen practitioners from Pengjia Town who had appealed in Beijing were paraded bare-foot through crowded streets on Market Day. Also last January, practitioners in Guangrao were forced to stand in the back of trucks posted with signs slandering Falun Gong. Each practitioner's name was painted on a board hung around his or her neck.¹⁶

“We Would Rather Arrest A Thousand People By Mistake than Let One Practitioner Go Free.”

On October 1, 2000, which was the important National Day, practitioners made a strong showing at Tiananmen Square,

tarnishing the government's “all powerful” image both at home and abroad, and causing the government and its minions to intensify their brutality toward Falun Gong. At the same time, they began taking stronger measures to hide what they were doing. For example, several days after the National Holiday, uniformed police officers became scarce at Tiananmen Square, as the government began to rely instead on plainclothesmen and hired “muscle” to seize practitioners' banners and force them into police cars. The intent here was to fool tourists into thinking they could help the police by stopping other practitioners from practicing the exercises or unfurling banners. Once inside the police cars and out of sight of the tourists and their cameras, however, the police would beat the practitioners violently—men and women alike. Some people who neither entered the square nor protested were also pushed into the vans and beaten. The police said, “We would rather arrest a thousand people by mistake than let one practitioner go free.” Plainclothes police are being used more frequently as time goes by and the government becomes more and more concerned with the tyrannical, totalitarian image being broadcast to the outside world. Now, sometimes practitioners are

not attacked immediately upon unfurling a banner or assuming an exercise posture on the square, but instead are followed surreptitiously by secret police, then arrested and beaten once they are well out of sight of the cameras.¹⁷

Beatings, Torture, Abuse of Women

The beatings usually begin behind closed blinds in the police vans, then intensify at the police stations and then intensify once again at the prisons and detention camps. The repeated beating of defenseless people is abhorrent to almost everyone in Western nations, and news accounts detailing the beating of women, children, and the elderly are very difficult for us to even believe. And yet these stories are true, and they are increasing in number as the persecution becomes more intense and more pervasive with the passing of time.

Consider the case of Huang Xiuling, a fifty nine year old female practitioner who was confined in Tongzhou's Qiaozhuan Detention Center four months ago. When she refused to recite the prison regulations, and insisted instead on practicing her Falun Gong exercises, the guards brought three or four male prisoners into the cell to beat her up. First she was handcuffed and chained. Then they stomped on her feet and used electric batons to shock her body. Not satisfied, they held up her breasts and pinched the tips of her nipples. Later, Huang said that it was so painful she couldn't breathe.

“In Changchun, the government is pressuring Falun Gong practitioners by appointing their family members as guarantors. Now, if a practitioner goes to Beijing to appeal, his guarantor will be fired from his or her job or be dismissed from school.”

They kicked her in her genital area, stopping only when they were too tired to continue.

She then went on a hunger strike. By this time, she had already been injured over her whole body. Her face and knees were dark purple, and her insteps were mutilated. The guards force fed her with a tube, which they inserted into her nose and pushed down into her stomach. It was extremely painful. Adding insult to injury, they demanded that she pay 10 Yuan for the single-use disposable tube. Since Huang didn't have any money, the guards left the tube in her body so they could use it again. In the evening, the pain became unbearable and Huang pulled the tube out. The next day, when she was force fed again, the guards tied her hands behind her back and filled the tube. One end of the tube was left in her stomach, the other end protruded from her nose. That evening, Huang developed a high fever so they gave her some medicine. But Huang's fever did not recede, and she started vomiting. When the guards realized that Huang's life was in danger, they were afraid she would die in the detention center, so they hastily sentenced her to a labor camp for one year and sent her away.¹⁸

In another incident, six policemen stepped on a young unmarried woman's abdomen when she refused to give her name and address. They stepped so hard that it made her vagina bleed and her face turn pale. Then they threatened, "If you continue to keep silent, we will strip you and rape you!"¹⁹

Death

Yang Guizhen, 40, was from the village of Taojialin in Shandong Province. She was arrested in September for distributing Falun Gong flyers and sent to the Zhucheng City Detention Center. She was interrogated on September 14th, and because she refused to sign a form that declared her to be a member of an "evil cult," the guards directed some inmates to give her a terrible beating. After the beating, she was handcuffed to a chair for four days and four nights, during which time she was not given any food or water, and was not allowed to go to the bathroom. When she was finally allowed to go to the bathroom, she was no longer able to walk on her own. She fell to the ground unconscious and stopped breathing. A guard revived her by pinching an acupuncture point, but as soon as she regained consciousness, they handcuffed her to the chair again. A short while later, she died.

After her death, an information blackout was imposed right away. Trying to prevent the news from leaking out, police surrounded her village, kept a close watch over her relatives, and arrested all practitioners who had known her or

were trying to find out what had happened to her.²⁰

Conclusion: One of History's Darkest Moments

At the time of this writing, one hundred and twenty five practitioners have died while in custody, and the numbers go higher every month. Worse yet, the rate at which people are dying is also increasing, giving us little hope that the situation will improve any time soon. The vast majority of these very good and decent human beings were tortured to death. The government's policy, openly declared by the highest authorities to those in the field, is that "no measures are too extreme that do not cause death."²⁰ Some might misinterpret this statement as meaning that subordinates should be careful not to kill people. That's not exactly what they are saying. Rather, they are saying this: "We don't want a lot of dead bodies on

our hands, because that presents a public relations problem. But we do want results, so 'no measures are too extreme' to be used against them. You have a license to be as merciless and brutal as your hearts' desire. Just try not to kill them."

One hundred and twenty five people have now died, and this is tragic, but for every one of those practitioners who has died, there are most likely at least a thousand who have been seriously and permanently injured by the horrendous abuse being meted out to Falun Gong practitioners in captivity. Unpleasant though it may be, we have to tell the truth, and the truth is this: that when the historical record of the twentieth century is completed, and all the crimes against humanity have been duly recorded, the accounts of China's persecution of the peaceful Falun Gong practitioners will go down as one of its darkest chapters.

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Randall W. Effner, Dipl. C.H. (NCCAOM) lives in rural Jamestown, Missouri, where he oversees a family business, and spends his spare time writing.

Endnotes for “ Architect of the Crackdown” starting on page 8

- 1 Shanghai TV Program (1998) entitled “Falun Gong has numerous practitioners”, reported by Shao Zhihua and Shen Zhenyu.
- 2 Central Daily 26/04/99
- 3 Mayor Robert C. Lanier Houston Texas USA on proclaiming Mr Li Hongzhi an “Honorary Citizen and Goodwill Ambassador”; Declaration of Li Hongzhi Day 12/10/96
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- 5 Far Eastern Economic Review
- 6 Information leaked by an anonymous member of the Communist Party, Clearwisdom.net 14/09/00
- 7 Epoch Times, 25/10/00
- 8 October 24th, 2000, Epoch Times News Agency
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- 1 <http://clearwisdom.net/eng/2000/Oct17/NMR101700html>
- 2 <http://www.faluninf.net/displayAnArticle.asp?ID=1012>
- 3 “A Report on Severe Human Rights Violations,” p.220 <http://media.fldf.net/HumanRightsReportBook3>
- 4 Ibid., p.223. Also, http://clearwisdom.net/eng/crisis_bulletin/bulletin30.html
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- 7 “A Report on Severe Human Rights Violations,” p.223
- 8 Ibid., p.226
- 9 Sydney Morning Herald, August 18, 2000
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- 1 <http://www.hrw.org/press/1999/nov/china1109.htm>
- 2 http://www.clearwisdom.net/eng/2000/july/21/MR072100_7.html
“China Ready for Long Fight After Crackdown on Sect” Associated Press Story
- 3 <http://abcnews.go.com/wire/World/ap20000124867.html>
- 4 <http://uk.news.yahoo.com/001120/80/apjzp.html>
- 5 <http://www.faluninfo.net/>
- 6 <http://hrreport.fldf.net/book2e/eb202.html>
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- 8 <http://hrreport.fldf.net/book2e/eb204-2.html#2>
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How Can You Help?

The crackdown on Falun Dafa in China is unprecedented in its severity and scope, but the situation is far from hopeless. Many kindhearted people have stepped forward in support of Falun Dafa and freedom of belief in China. If you would like to get involved, on behalf of the thousands of people in China denied the right to defend themselves against brutality and persecution, we thank you! Please see the list below for different ways you can get involved. Together we are making a difference...

Stay Informed!

There are many publications and materials maintained by dedicated volunteers to provide news and information about Falun Dafa. Here's how you can get access to these resources...

Crisis News Bulletin:

Once a week, we send out a news bulletin highlighting some of the major stories in the news as well as excerpts from news from inside China. Send an e-mail to bulletin_subscribe@faluninfo.net to receive the bulletin each week free of charge.

Falun Gong Human Rights Update:

Once a week, we send out a newsletter documenting the cases of abuse against practitioners in China. The cases are broken down into categories, such as torture, death, labor camp, women's cases, etc. Send an e-mail to hrupdate@faluninfo.net to receive the newsletter each week free of charge.

Compassion, The Quarterly Journal of Falun Dafa:

Send an e-mail to quarterly_subscribe@faluninfo.net to learn more about subscribing to this journal.

www.faluninfo.net:

The official website of the Falun Dafa Information Center, www.faluninfo.net contains extensive resources and information about Falun Dafa around the world, as well as all the latest information regarding the crackdown against Falun Dafa in China.

Get Involved!

Practitioners and concerned citizens around the world are helping to educate people about the crisis in China, as well as appealing to governments and organizations.

Host a Presentation:

At your invitation, local Falun Dafa contact persons can create an event tailored to your time and interests. Practitioners all over the world volunteer their time to speak to communities, organizations, companies and schools about the crisis now happening in China and the practice of Falun Dafa. If you would like to have a practitioner give a presentation in your area, please send an e-mail to request@faluninfo.net or call toll-free 888-842-4797.

Appeal to Government Officials and Concerned Organizations:

Governments and concerned organizations around the world have condemned the human rights violations in China, but the action taken by the world community remains far too little. Each and every individual can make a difference by appealing to governments and organizations to take action in order to stop the torture and wide-spread suppression of Falun Dafa practitioners in China. To learn more about how you can appeal to your government for the sake of practitioners in China, please visit www.faluninfo.net or write to the Falun Dafa Information Center (address is located on the back of this journal).

An Appeal to People Around the World.... Help Stop the Persecution in China.



The Falun Dafa Information Center
331 West 57th Street, Suite 409
New York, NY 10019 U.S.A.
www.faluninfo.net