

Women of Conscience

A REPORT ON THE PERSECUTION OF
FEMALE PRACTITIONERS OF FALUN GONG
IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA



July 2001

Falun Dafa Information Center

www.faluninfo.net



Sponsored by Friends of Falun Gong

Open Letter from Female Falun Gong Practitioners in China

We are a group of female Falun Dafa practitioners from Mainland China. In the midst of great suffering and indignation, we write this open letter to you with an expectation: As we report the inhumane tortures inflicted upon innocent female Falun Gong practitioners by Jiang Zemin's government, we are looking forward to your help in upholding human rights and justice for those of us who cannot help ourselves.

During the last 18 months, the persecution carried out by President Jiang Zemin and his supporters has been escalating. It has become more and more brutal, vicious and inhumane. To give you just a few examples, in Tiananmen Square in Beijing, practitioners, ranging from children of 4 or 5 years old to elderly ladies 70 to 80 years old have been savagely beaten simply for saying out loud: "Falun Dafa is good!" A woman six months pregnant was kicked so hard that she couldn't stand up due to the unbearable pain. A woman in her 70's was beaten to the ground and dragged into a police car. There are far more of these examples than there is space to recount them all.

In labor re-education camps, the guards are more debased and unbridled than savage beasts. They have taunted us: "Don't you say you practice tolerance? I will see if you can tolerate it when I rape you!" They have ripped off women's clothes in public and shocked them with electric batons; they have used iron wire to pierce their nipples; they have sexually assaulted women with various objects. At Masanjia Labor Re-education Camp in Liaoning Province, 18 female practitioners were stripped of their clothes and forced into male prisoners' cells. At the Female Labor Re-education Camp in Jilin Province, the police put hot pepper powder into female practitioners' vaginal area and forced them to write "repenting letters" [letters that "repent" for practicing Falun Dafa and promise to no longer practice]. These same guards even inserted electric batons into women practitioners' vaginal areas to shock them. In Beijing, several policemen stripped a female practitioner and sexually harassed her in public.

We have been abused and persecuted only because we, as Falun Dafa practitioners, do not want to give up our belief in the universal principle of "Truthfulness, Benevolence, Forbearance." Because we choose to practice Falun Dafa, and follow our respected teacher, Mr. Li Hongzhi, our oppressors have assaulted our dignity and abused our bodies as well as our basic female nature. How can we bear to live with the humiliation done to us?

How many female practitioners have been expelled from their jobs, schools, and party memberships, and thus, lost their livelihoods? How many female practitioners have become destitute and wander homelessly? How many of them were beaten, arrested and sent to labor re-education camps? How many female practitioners have been beaten black and blue, or even tortured until deformed and handicapped? How many female practitioners have been sent to mental hospitals and injected with nerve damaging drugs? How many of them have lost their lives under the brutal tortures? How many have simply disappeared? We have to question at what point in history has anything approaching this degree of brutality appeared? Which leader in the long history of our country has behaved so inhumanely?

We are writing to you to ask for your help. We are asking you to uphold justice, help to stop the vicious persecution carried out by Jiang Zemin's government and protect the dignity and basic human rights of women everywhere, and especially in China at this critical time in history! We ask this not only for ourselves and not only for our own people - we ask this for all of the women in the world and for all of humankind! To allow this evil to exist is not only a humiliation to the Chinese people, it is also a humiliation to the whole human race, and even more so to the future development of human civilization.

We are waiting in pain and looking forward to hearing from you...



-- Falun Dafa Practitioners from Mainland China,
January 6, 2001

Women of Conscience

A Falun Gong Human Rights Special Report
Sponsored by Friends of Falun Gong

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An Introduction to This Report

“The day before Chen Zixiu died, her captors again demanded that she renounce her faith in Falun Dafa. Barely conscious after repeated jolts from a cattle prod, the 58-year-old stubbornly shook her head. Enraged, the local officials ordered Ms. Chen to run barefoot in the snow. Two days of torture had left her legs bruised and her short black hair matted with pus and blood... She crawled outside, vomited and collapsed. She never regained consciousness, and died on Feb. 21.”

-- Ian Johnson, Pulitzer-prize winning article for The Wall Street Journal

"I told him: 'Don't do this to Falun Gong practitioners. We live by the principles of 'Truthfulness, Compassion, Tolerance'...I felt no hatred. I just kept asking him to be good."

-- a female Falun Gong practitioner telling how she was beaten and raped by a Beijing police officer.

“Falun Gong... is, in my judgement, the single greatest spiritual movement in Asia today. There is nothing that begins to compare with it in courage and importance.”

-- Mark Palmer, Vice-Chairman of the Board for Freedom House and former U.S. Ambassador

The Falun Dafa Information Center has compiled this special report to clarify and document the brutal and systematic violence against women that has been carried out in the People's Republic of China during the nearly two-year crackdown against Falun Gong. Rape, torture, sexual abuse, illegal detention, forced labor, incarceration in Mental Hospitals and even murder of female practitioners have occurred regularly in police facilities and labor “re-education” camps throughout China. Many of these cases have been well documented by news agencies and human rights organizations, such as the Wall Street Journal and Amnesty International.

Because the sheer magnitude of these abuses against women would require several volumes to document, we have compiled only a small number of cases representing the specific types of torture and brutality being unleashed upon female practitioners by Chinese government officials. Therefore, this report does not seek to document every known case, but rather provide clear and comprehensive evidence of the types of cases that are widespread in China today.

Our primary source of information for this document is from reports sent to us by eyewitnesses and victims inside China, and secondarily from news media and human rights organizations. In particular, Amnesty International has recently released a comprehensive report on torture in China, which has served as a valuable source of information on violence against women in the crackdown against Falun Gong in China (See Amnesty International Index: ASA 17/004/2001).



*-- Falun Dafa Information Center
July, 2001*

An Overview of the Crackdown Against Falun Gong in China

Falun Dafa (also known as Falun Gong,) is a form of traditional Chinese exercise and meditation practice with ancient roots. It consists primarily of two components: self-improvement through study of the principles of Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance (Zhen-Shan-Ren) and practicing five sets of simple exercises. It was introduced to the public in 1992 in China, where it quickly caught on among the populace mainly through word of mouth. Falun Dafa is now practiced by over 100 million people in more than 40 countries around the world. All Falun Dafa activities are free of charge and organized by volunteers.



Primarily due to its overwhelming popularity among the populous in China, in July of 1999, President Jiang Zemin launched a vicious campaign against Chinese citizens to eradicate Falun Gong. For almost two years, Chinese law enforcement organizations have consistently ignored Chinese citizens' basic human rights as guaranteed by China's own constitution as well as 28 of the 30

Articles of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, which China has signed.

World media and human rights groups report that some 50,000 people have been arbitrarily detained: 25,000 have been sent to labor camps without trial, and at least 650 have been forced into mental hospitals. According to the information from the Chinese state-run media, Xinhua News Agency, at least 242 have been sentenced to prison terms of up to 18 years. In police custody, torture and humiliation of Falun Gong practitioners is common. To date, about 222 people are known to have died as a result of the brutal persecution, and the death toll continues to rise. Many others have faced arbitrary detention, house arrest, huge fines, and dismissal from work. As a result, countless families have been torn apart.

Among the victims, many are female practitioners. The government-sponsored persecution against female Falun Gong practitioners has targeted the women regardless of age, occupation, or physical condition. Authorities have arrested and detained girls as young as 11 years old, elderly women in their 80's, pregnant women, the highly educated and uneducated with equal fervor. Pregnant women have been subjected to forced late-stage abortion rather than be released from jail to give birth to their child. In police or government custody, female practitioners have suffered all types of sexual assaults as well as sanctioned torture.



Yet, despite these abuses, there is no place in China where Falun Gong practitioners can file a lawsuit or appeal for justice. Police and government officials are often promoted if they are more cruel than others when persecuting Falun Gong practitioners. In addition, the government censors all news of the persecution and threatens foreign journalists who dare to report on the crackdown. Meanwhile, the state-run media is directed to misinform and fabricate news for the Chinese public to cover up these crimes.

Despite the suppression by the Chinese government, however, these women continue to strive to follow the principle of Truthfulness, Benevolence, Forbearance. No matter where they are or under what condition they are detained, they strive to endure courageously and bear no hatred in their hearts. Their lives are in danger as this tragedy continues to unfold. They need assistance from all people of conscience around the world to speak out against this violence.

NEWSWEEK:

The Dangerous Pilgrimage

A Woman's Own Tale of Imprisonment and Suffering

By Mahlon Meyer

"You ask me why I'm crying," says Wang Meihong. After wiping her eyes, the slender young woman from mainland China-sitting in a Falun Gong conference in Hong Kong-tells her story.

She is too frightened to publicly reveal her occupation, hometown or age. (Her name is fictitious.) But she will explain why she's a Falun Gong follower, and why she's made a dangerous pilgrimage. Her account is impossible to corroborate, but it is consistent with those of other Falun Gong followers who've been jailed by Chinese police.

Wang says that when her father fell ill from a stroke 15 years ago, she resigned herself to paying his medical bills and to caring for him at home. By 1997, she was in a deep depression. A friend introduced her to Falun Gong, and she found the movement's message of self-abasement brought her spiritual strength. She taught her father the slow-motion breathing and arm movements that are said to promote good health. When Beijing abruptly banned the movement the following year, Wang went directly to the provincial government, her father's medical records in hand, to complain. She and the many others there were dispersed by the police.

A sense of deep injustice welled up in her. She began to make journeys to Beijing to petition the central government. She was arrested several times. Her husband and mother berated her for getting into trouble with the government. Wang's husband feared losing his job. Outraged by reports of torture and killings, she traveled to Beijing. In Tiananmen Square, she joined other believers living fearfully in a farmer's hut. They persuaded her to travel to remote parts of China to encourage practitioners. She left with them, feeling guilty. "I discovered my own selfishness," Wang says.

Her sacrifice would come soon enough. She spent two months in Sichuan and Hubei, rousing discouraged followers. Last April she went again to Beijing. Standing in Tiananmen, she unfurled a yellow banner in praise of Falun Gong. She was grabbed by undercover policemen and shoved into a van. When she pleaded with them to stop beating another practitioner, a policeman slapped her numerous times, saying, "Who's hitting people, who saw someone hitting people?"

After refusing to identify herself, Wang was held in a prison near Beijing for two weeks. When a policewoman ground her heel into her neck and arm, Wang said to herself: "I hate her ugly face. I then realized I needed to practice [Falun Gong principles] even more." After three days she was tied down and forcibly fed, though she had not been refusing food. A doctor admitted that it was a method to get her to reveal her identity. Wang was moved to a mental hospital. Her guards told her the milk and water being fed into her nose was kept in an unwashed basin the mental patients used to bathe their feet. In her cell she scratched phrases from the Falun Gong book on the wall with the end of an aluminum zipper.

The police finally learned Wang's true identity when a fellow prisoner, working for the authorities, tricked her into revealing it. Wang was then sent to a prison in her home province for two weeks. There she was forced to assemble light bulbs each day. When she eventually refused to work, saying she had committed no crime, she was beaten severely.

When Wang was released, her husband divorced her. Now she attends mandatory education classes, tailed by guards. When she heard of the Hong Kong conclave, she knew it was her only opportunity to learn if the movement was still alive. She risked even harsher punishment by slipping across the border to attend the meeting, then sneaking back home again.

Sitting in the audience earlier this month, listening to other accounts of torture and abuse, Wang discovered that other followers had suffered more than she. But she no longer felt unworthy. "I felt personally we are all one body; there are no differences in our hearts. No matter where I am, in Tiananmen or in prison, we all have the same goal, to spread the law." That, she said, was the reason for her tears.

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<http://www.msnbc.com/news/522662.asp#BODY>

Examples of Typical Torture Methods

We have documented more than 40 types of torture methods that are regularly used against women who practice Falun Gong. A small sampling of these methods include:

- Widespread use of electric stun devices to shock women on sensitive body parts such as the genitals, breasts, mouth, head, and anus.
- Force-feeding using liquid mixtures containing hot pepper or a thick saline solution with only a small amount of water added; this usually causes severe vomiting.
- Forced injections of higher than normal dosages of drugs that damage the central nervous system.
- Prolonged hanging from shackles on the wrists.
- Forced standing for long periods of time in freezing temperatures, wearing little or no clothing and drenched in ice water.
- Piercing through the fingertips with sharp bamboo sticks or through the nipples with wire.
- Prolonged and daily beating with instruments such as wire cables, nail studded batons, planks, etc.
- Sleep deprivation.
- Beaten with poisonous “huoma” branches, a hemp-like perennial plant, with downy branches and piercing thorns that causes red, blistered and extremely painful, itchy skin
- Public humiliation by being paraded through the streets wearing derogatory signs.
- Subjected to snake and scorpion bites or left outside without clothing in mosquito infested areas.
- Restrained with dirty items stuffed in their mouths, such as used sanitary napkins, cleaning rags, dirty socks, etc.



Zhu Hang, an Associate Professor from Dalian University of Science and Technology, lost consciousness from suffering of a device called “Di Lao” (translated as the “prison in hell”).

Typical Cases of Abuse and Violence Against Women

The atrocities being committed against women who practice Falun Gong are escalating. The accounts below are just a small sample of typical examples of torture being endured by these women in detention centers and forced labor camps throughout China.

- Shi Yingchun was arrested for practicing Falun Gong in a local park on October 5, 2000. While in custody at the Huludao Detention Center, she continued to practice the Falun Gong exercises in her cell. Because of this, two guards beat her buttocks using nail-studded clubs and plastic hoses. When she would not renounce her belief, she was beaten again even though her buttocks were already lacerated and bleeding. Meanwhile, she was forced to wear handcuffs and shackles for several days.



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

- A 14-year old girl was forced to walk with a heavy brick on top of her head and her feet were bound to heavy rocks. While she walked, guards repeatedly slapped her in the face. At night the officer ordered her to hold a position touching her toes with knees straight. When she could not maintain the position, the guards beat her with clubs. After being tortured like this for an entire night, she could not walk without being assisted by someone. In a similar incident, guards forced some practitioners to stand bent over with their hands pressed to the ground. Anyone unable to hold this position was whipped. One female practitioner was whipped for several hours because she was too fatigued to continue. Another was whipped until she collapsed and the guards continued to beat her as she lay on the ground. Guards threatened practitioners who protested the mistreatment saying they would stuff their mouths with used sanitary napkins.



- On November 15, 2000, at the Futian Detention Center (Shenzhen, Guangdong Province), six female practitioners, including a 60 year-old elderly woman, were stripped naked, dragged out and forced to stand in public. One female practitioner was forced to stand naked in the courtyard.

Photos of Women Who Were Beaten and Tortured

A Woman's Personal Account of Torture in Beijing



“I went to Tiananmen Square on October 17, 2000, to appeal for my right to freely practice Falun Gong. Upon arriving I was arrested and detained at the Tiananmen Police Station. Police there shocked me repeatedly with electric stun batons and kicked me for several hours. After the beating, several policemen held me down and threatened to inject me with something that they called a “vaccination.” I did everything I could to resist, and they finally gave up after awhile. Still, one police officer forced drops of an extremely strong liquid into my nostrils. Soon afterwards it took effect - I felt dizzy and unbalanced, it was very difficult for me to breathe, and my mouth felt extremely dry. It is difficult to describe my suffering adequately. When they asked me to tell them my name and address, I simply did everything I could to deal with the pain and did not say anything at all. Finally they had no choice but to stop the interrogation. They tied my feet to a metal fence and handcuffed my hands to the lowest point on the fence. This way, I could neither stand up nor sit down. I had no idea how long I stayed in that position, but eventually I lost consciousness. I faintly remember other practitioners carrying me away. The above pictures show my lower body five days after being abused by the Tiananmen Police.”



Photos of Women Who Were Beaten and Tortured (cont.)

Practitioner Brutally Beaten Unconscious In Tiananmen Square



Zhao Shujing 5 days after she was beaten

Zhao Shujing, a 51-year-old retired woman in Shijingshan district, Beijing, is a Falun Gong practitioner. At around 2 pm on November 18, 2000, she went to Tiananmen Square by herself to clarify the truth about Falun Gong to the people. A group of plainclothes policemen caught her and took turns beating and kicking her, causing her to lose consciousness in Tiananmen Square.

She was already in the police van when she regained consciousness. Blood ran out from her nose and mouth. There were bloodstains covering her entire body, her clothes and on the floor of the police van. The policemen searched her body while she was unconscious and they stole some money from her.

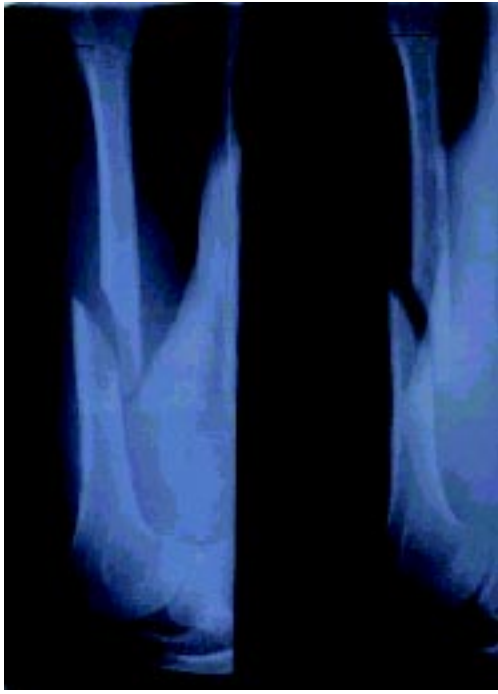
When Zhao Shujing was dragged to the Tiananmen police station, even the police officers there could not bear to look at her miserable state and they asked the policeman from her neighborhood to take her. However, this neighborhood policeman refused to take her back because of the severe condition of her injuries. By 8 or 9 pm, the Tiananmen police station asked Zhao Shujing to go home and said: "You just came to Tiananmen Square to practice exercises. You are not breaking any law. You can go home now."

When we met Zhao Shujing five days after she was beaten, her right eye was still swollen, her eyeball was congested with blood, the right side of her face was severely swollen, her skin was black and purple, a one-inch-long cut was inside her upper lip, the bridge of her nose was swollen, and her right shoulder was dislocated and dark purple.

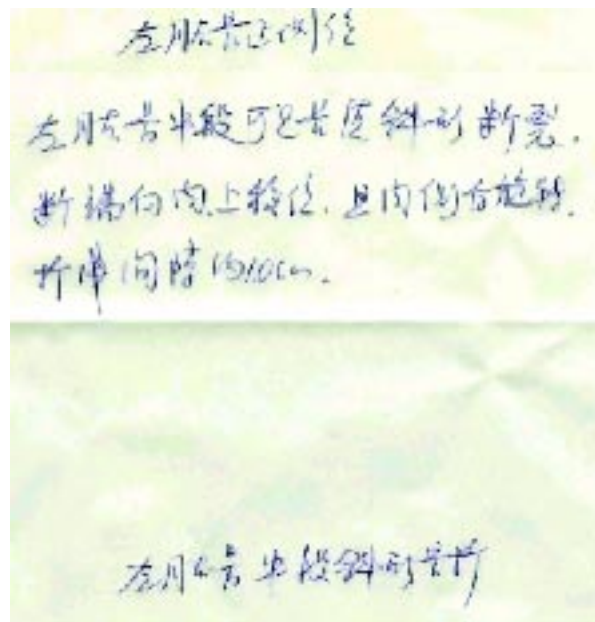
Police Fractured Arm While Beating Woman At Police Station



Xiang Jinying, age 28, from Haiyan County of Zhejiang Province, was arrested for appealing for Falun Gong, and later sent to the Tiananmen Square Police Station. Her left arm was fractured when tortured by police in the police station.



X-ray picture of Xiang Jinying's Broken arm



Doctor's diagnosis: (Brief translation: "The middle part of the upper arm has an inclined fracture.")

Woman Tortured at Tiananmen Square Police Station



Ms. Liu, female, from Jiangxi Province. She was arrested for appealing for Falun Gong, and was taken to the Tiananmen Square police station on December 22, 1999. On December 23, a police officer named Zhao tortured her. These pictures were taken after she was released from the police station.

Rape and Sexual Abuse By Police and Government Officials

Raped and Beaten in Beijing by Plainclothes Policeman

On the evening of May 14 in Beijing, a female Falun Gong practitioner was beaten and raped in the street when she was posting Falun Gong fliers.

According to this woman's account [name withheld to protect her identity], she was stopped by a plainclothes policeman when she was posting Falun Gong fliers along the city canal from Dabeyao to Yonganli. After being beaten for more than one hour, she was pulled under a bridge, her pants ripped off and then she was raped and sexually assaulted with a police baton. The policeman claimed: "there are commands from the top to beat Falun Gong practitioners to death when catching them." The practitioner lost two front teeth during the beating, and several places on her head were severely injured.

The woman gave the following account: "A little bit after 9:00 pm on May 14 evening, I was stopped by a patrolling policeman (He was in plainclothes at that time) when I was posting Falun Gong fliers. This policeman appeared to be about 30 years old, 1.65 meters tall. He was very strong. He beat me for more than one hour until I felt I was on the verge of dying. During that period more than ten onlookers came to see what was going on. The policeman shouted at them: "She is a Falun Gong practitioner, currently anti-revolutionary. Her being beaten to death will be counted as null". No one dared to stay, and everyone went away in a hurry.

I was beaten to the ground and was not able to get up, and soon lost consciousness. At this moment **he pulled me under a bridge, tore my pants apart and raped me. After that, he inserted a police baton forcefully into my vagina, and rode on my body.** When I regained my strength and was able to shout, I shouted with all the strength I had: "Help! Catch this hooligan!" The man seemed to have no fear. Finally, he got on his bicycle and rode away in a hurry, leaving me behind." I had heard from police, 'Jiang Zemin ordered that Falun Gong practitioners' being beaten to death will be counted as null and reported as a suicide.' I didn't dare to believe at that time. From my experience today, this is a cruel reality.



Photo of practitioner's body nine days after she was raped.

Government Officials Sexually Assault Two Female Practitioners

Chen Lihua (*pseudonym, real name can be provided upon request*), 36, female, a farmer from Dawangzhuang Township. She was detained in an office of the township government on January 4, 2000, for going to Beijing to appeal. Dozens of young male officials led by Li (an official in the office of the communist party committee,) came to the office and forced her to take off all her clothes. Official 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, and 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 pressed against her buttocks several times in a sexual manner with his genitals. By then she was unable to move at all because of the torture....

Fang Qingliang (*pseudonym, real name can be provided upon request*), 35, female, a farmer from Dawangzhuang Township, suffered similar humiliation and torture directed by the same group of officials in an office in the township government building on the evening of January 4, 2000....

A Practitioner is Gang-raped in Fuyu County Detention Center

In October 1999, several practitioners from Qiqihar City, Heilongjiang Province went to Beijing to appeal. The female practitioners were detained at the Fuyu County Detention Center in Qiqihar city. One of the practitioners was stripped and put into the male cells. She was then gang-raped by the male prisoners. This practitioner is currently being guarded by her family out of fear and is not allowed to contact anybody, especially other practitioners. Her family fears even more cruel and inhumane treatment if they were to make public what happened.

Labor Camp Officers in Wuhan City Burn Genital Areas of Practitioners

Many practitioners who had been forced to write a pledge renouncing their beliefs due to torture and severe abuse at the Hewan Labor Camp, later recanted these “pledges” and returned to practicing Falun Dafa. The policemen in the labor camp immediately targeted these practitioners for torture. After stripping the practitioners naked, the policemen burned the genital areas of the practitioners and hammered nails into their toes.

Deputy Mayor Silently Permits the Sexual Abuse against a Woman Practitioner

Since late July 2000, the Police station in Xitiange Village in Miyun County, Beijing has employed two local thugs at a cost of 20 Yuan each per day, and four security people to set up a secret interrogation center at the Shudi Middle School. One female practitioner went to Beijing to appeal for Falun Gong and was forcibly taken to the transformation class [*Note: where practitioners are forced to give up their belief.*] Once, she was beaten and abused three times within 5 hours in a single night. Shortly after she returned to the cell, she was interrogated again and forced to write a pledge to give up practicing Falun Gong. This practitioner declared that appealing is the legal right of every citizen. One of the thugs immediately beat her on her buttocks with a birch tree branch and kicked her genitals. At around 5:00AM, this practitioner was pulled out for the third time. Those thugs grabbed her breasts and verbally abused her with obscenities. This female practitioner shouted loudly for help and the deputy mayor of the town came and watched, but he didn't stop the thugs. With the silent permission of this deputy mayor, the brutal man (Chai Liang, a student at Tong County Railway Equipment School of Beijing) became more brazen—he shoved his hands inside the clothes of this female practitioner and grabbed her breasts, he then stripped off her skirt and underpants claiming he wanted to examine the bruises on her buttocks.

Public Humiliation At The Changchun Railway Station

In mid-December 2000, several female practitioners were waiting for a train to Beijing at the Changchun Railway Station. When some policemen found out they were headed to Beijing, they took them to an office on the second floor. After they found out that they were Falun Gong practitioners, two plain-clothes policemen began to kick one practitioner back and forth like a soccer ball, while grabbing her hair and hitting her in the face. They also stripped seven or eight female practitioners, and forced them to stand naked in the public hallway of the railway station, while policemen watched and laughed at them.

Torture and Rape in the Town of Houji in Zhenping County, Henan Province

Since December 2, 2000 (in the lunar calendar), county officials from Houji Town in Zhenping County, Henan Province, arrested 12 Falun Dafa practitioners including elderly women. During their detention in a “reform class,” these Dafa practitioners have been verbally abused, beaten and kicked almost everyday. In particular, every night from about 11:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m., the county officials and thugs, whom they hired, turned off the lights and then wantonly beat up Dafa practitioners either in the small yard, where all the practitioners were forcibly dragged, or in the rooms. Some Dafa practitioners were dragged to the yard before they had a chance to put on their clothes.

Among these practitioners was a female practitioner approximately 25 years old, a university graduate, working as an English teacher at a county middle school. She suffered all kinds of humiliation and torture after she and her husband, who graduated from the same college she attended and also a Falun Gong practitioner, were detained in the “reforming class.” At about 1:00 a.m., after all the lights had been turned off, she was forcibly pulled outside. A thug raped her while other Dafa practitioners were being beaten.

Mental Hospitals Used to Detain and Torture Women

“We can Make You Feel Neither Dead nor Alive:” Xuzhou Mental Hospital

Several Falun Dafa practitioners from Suining County, Xuzhou City, Jiangsu Province were arrested and subjected to severe torture in detention centers, mental hospitals and labor camps simply for appealing for Falun Dafa. They were detained at the Xuzhou mental hospital for over 3 months. During that time they were forcefully tied to beds and given injections and force fed medicines. The following is their personal account: Medical staff members “injected us with large dosages of unknown drugs. Right after the injections, we would lose consciousness. After a period of time, we would regain consciousness. The medical staff would then untie the ropes from us. When the drugs took effect, it was so painful that it was as if our internal organs were being torn apart. We would roll on the floor screaming with pain. After we regained consciousness, we questioned the medical staff, “Why did you inject and feed these drugs to people who are not sick?” They answered with shame, “It is not up to us; people at the top instructed us to do so. We don’t want to treat you like this but we don’t want to lose our job either.” They also said, “You will not die from these drugs but they will cause you great pain. If you stop practicing Falun Gong, we can stop giving you the drugs. Do not leave the hospital on your own. If we don’t gradually reduce the dosage, you would either go crazy or die. Even if you run away, people would treat you as an insane person and send you back here. The pain from the reaction of the drug is very scary and hard to imagine...” The mental hospital separated us female practitioners and locked us up with male mental patients.

One day, a practitioner put her legs in full-lotus position while sitting on a chair. The head of the hospital came over and viciously said, “Are you still practicing? We will increase the dosage until it is like you are neither dead nor alive. See if you still practice then!” It’s really hard to imagine how someone can be so evil and vicious!

Since the dosage given to us was so large and it was not reduced gradually before the police took us to the Judong women’s labor camp, the reaction of the drug was very strong. One practitioner all of the sudden acted as if she was insane. She was rolling on the floor in extreme pain and running around uncontrollably. Two people couldn’t even hold her down. Her body was shaking vigorously and her head was down; her eyes were lifeless and she could not sleep. The pain she felt was unbearable and she ran towards the wall and tried to kill herself by striking her head and body against it. Another practitioner’s whole body was cramped and in shock. She couldn’t stand up or walk. People had to carry her around. During the night she felt as if her heart was burning and she spat out saliva with blood. Practitioners had different degrees of reaction for nearly 50 days before the effects of the drug started to weaken. Even though physically our bodies are basically back to normal, our mental pain can never be erased. Due to the severity of the [physical] disorder, the Judong labor camp sent one of the practitioners to the Zhenjiang city mental hospital for an official check up. The official record sent back by them reads: “Her nerves in the brain are normal; severe disorder is due to the reaction of a strong drug dosage.”

A Nurse Sent To a Mental Hospital in Hunan Province

He Xianggu, female, 39, a nurse at the Health Center for Women and Children in Hunan Province

On December 12, 1999, He Xianggu was detained for 15 days after she went to Beijing to appeal. On January 1, 2000, He Xianggu was forcefully sent to the Hunan Mental Hospital for the first time by her work unit. On August 18, 2000, her work unit arbitrarily opened her locker and found some Falun Dafa books. The next day she was sent to the mental hospital for the second time. The following was an eyewitness account after visiting Xianggu in November 2000:

“I finally saw her. My eyes were brimming with tears. Xianggu didn’t look like a normal person any more, but a seriously mentally retarded figure. She stood there with a dull look in her eyes, with no expression on her face. Her back was hunched with her hands placed in front of her abdomen. She did not respond when being spoken to and she could hardly utter a sentence, even after being questioned for a long time. I asked her: “Did your husband come visit you?” She shook her head and finally told me: “Some officials from the Health Center for Women and Children had been here and brought some newspapers. They said I would be treated as a “counter-revolutionary” if I continued to practice. I was just given a shot a moment ago. Nowadays, I am given this kind of shot twice a month. Even for a real mental patient, an injection of this drug normally

would only be once a month.”

The drug that the Hunan Mental Hospital staff injected into Dafa practitioners is Haloperidol Deconoate, a long acting neuroleptics. This is the most potent drug used against schizophrenia, and it is usually reserved for the treatment of very severe cases of schizophrenia. While injecting the drug, the doctor lied about its effects by saying it was used to protect the brain.

Ye Hongfang’s Ordeal at the Huizhou Mental Hospital

Ye Hongfang, female, 31, from Heyuan City of Guangdong Province. Ye Hongfang was sent to the Huizhou Mental Hospital by the Heyuan Police Department and her work unit – the Heyuan Electric Power Bureau - for appealing for Falun Gong. She was tied down with ropes and forcefully given injections of a medication reserved for mental patients. The doctors in the mental hospital told her that if she persisted in practicing Falun Gong, they would give her injections every day. In addition to the injections, she was forced to take pills given to mental patients. The daily injections and other medications made her feel very tired and weak. After about one month, Ye Hongfang’s husband bailed her out.

During her detention in the mental hospital, she was injected with 26 bottles of narcotics. In late January 2000, because Ye Hongfang went to a neighboring county to visit a fellow practitioner, the Heyuan Police decided to send her to the mental hospital again. She refused to go with them, so the police pushed her onto a bed and injected a drug into her body. After a short while, she felt weak, muddle-headed, sleepy and itchy all over. Then, they forced her into the vehicle and took her to the mental hospital again. Doctor Luo gave her injections of narcotics, and forced her to take medication. If she refused, she was shocked with electric batons. This time, the side effects from the medication were even worse. She suffered cramps all over her body, loss of feeling in her arms and legs, blurred vision, lack of strength, stuffiness and her menstrual periods were disrupted. By March 10th, she felt disabled and near mental collapse. She was not allowed to return home until March 20th. By then, her health was ruined and she had become extremely weak. It was not until two months later that her health began to recover.

Laiyang Psychiatric Recovery Hospital Tortures Falun Gong Practitioners



Front door of the
Laiyang (Yantai)
Psychiatric Hospital

Wang Xingying, female, is an employee of Sanhuan Lock Manufacture Corp., Shandong Province. Her home address is 77-10, No. 4 Culture Street, Zhifu District, Yantai, Shandong Province. The following is her account:

On February 20, 2000, my company took me from the South Street Police Station to the Laiyang Psychiatric Recovery Hospital for a check-up. The result showed that I had no abnormalities. However, because I went to Beijing to appeal, and refused to renounce my belief in Falun Dafa, my company forced my family to have me committed to the Laiyang Psychiatric Recovery Hospital on March 2, 2000.

The hospital had many sections, which were used to detain several dozen Dafa practitioners from places like Yantai and Laiyang City. I was detained in the No. 2 ward. Beginning on the second day, the staff tied me to the bed and forced me to take one IV infusion and two needle injections every day. I received a total of 20 bottles of IV infusion and 40 needle injections. Every day I had to take twelve pills, the doctor would not tell me what the pills contained. Two nurses watched me closely to make sure I swallowed the pills. At that time, there were six Dafa practitioners being detained like me in ward No. 2. I learned from them that other practitioners had been detained here before me. I believe that more were held there after I left.

Because of the drugs and injections, I could not eat, my entire body felt fatigued, both of my legs became crooked and could not be held straight, my upper eyelids drooped so that my eyes only opened halfway, my jaw slackened so I could only close my mouth halfway, and I suffered constipation. The worst part was that I couldn’t sleep because my feet jerked uncontrollably; sitting and standing became very difficult, and my unsteady legs would always knock me off balance. I had to cover myself with clothing, hunch over my body, kneel on the bed and sit on my legs. This was the only way I was able to control the twitching.

As we were found practicing Falun Gong, we would be beaten or tied to our beds. Seeing my tortured and badly emaciated body, my husband insisted that I be released on March 30. Four days after I got home, the skin on my entire body turned yellow, my eyes became yellow-greenish, and I vomited. The emergency examination at a hospital showed that my liver was seriously poisoned by all the drugs forced upon me. My ammonium transferase level was 40 times higher than the normal level I had before imprisonment in the mental hospital. When my fellow practitioners finally saw me, they were all shocked. The staff at the mental hospital caused severe physical damage to my body: my eyes stared blankly, my eyelids could not open fully, my chin sagged, and I suffered significant hair loss.

During the period of my forced detention at the mental hospital from March 2 – March 30, 2000, my husband and I had to pay for all expenses incurred during my enforced stay in the hospital.

Government Enforced Divorce

Fan Ping's Husband Forced to Divorce Her to Avoid Further Punishment

Fan Ping, female, 33, family member of a employee of the Municipal Scenery Administration Bureau, Fukang City, Changji Prefecture, Xingjiang Autonomous Region. At first Fan Ping's husband's monthly living expense allotment was reduced to only 200 Yuan because Fan Ping practiced Falun Gong. Later, his employers threatened to fire him. Having no further choice, he divorced her while she was still in the detention center. She was detained twice for a total of over 3 and a half months. Upon release, she was forced to sign a promissory note for failing to pay the extorted cash. She was not given any receipt.

Husband Forced to Sign Divorce Agreement, Son Terminates Relationship

Liu Xinlan, from Gaomi, Weifang, Shandong Province. The street committee detained Liu Xinlan for seven days in July 1999, because she practiced Falun Gong. In July 2000, she was again illegally detained for five days because she wanted to go to Beijing to appeal. She was later sent to the Gaomi detention center and was held for another fifteen days. After that, she was again sent back to be supervised by the street committee, which demanded that she meet the following requirements: She could go home only after she renounced Falun Dafa; If she refused, she would be sent back to the city detention center and then forced out from her hometown (because her registration documents are not from her hometown). In addition, the officials asked her to sell her house and give them the money from the sale. Her family was unable to sustain the enormous pressure. Her husband signed a divorce agreement. Her child signed the agreement, which stated that he wanted to terminate his relationship with her, and forced her to sign this agreement also. The whole family is now in a state of chaos.

Washington D.C. Resident Forced to Divorce Husband and Lose Custody of Child

Amy Lee was sentenced to a labor camp for going to Beijing to appeal. The following is her personal account: My husband had been summoned to the police station and was interrogated for 6 hours. The authorities asked me to choose between Falun Gong and my marriage and then they told my husband that if he would not get a divorce, our child would have no chance to go to school. Under pressure, my husband submitted a divorce request to the political department of his workplace. The court granted our divorce and gave custody of my child to him without my knowledge. The court paper cited the reason that I had "severely disturbed my husband and his workplace", and I was not "benefiting the child's body and mind by teaching him Falun Gong." Now my family is torn apart.

A Serviceman Forced to Divorce His Wife Because She Practiced Falun Gong

The following is an account of a female practitioner working at the Shandong Television Design Center regarding her experience at the Liuchangshan Detention Center, Shandong Province:

"I staged a hunger strike and was handcuffed and tied to a bed called the 'Dragon Bed,' which is a very inhumane instrument of torture. They told me that I wouldn't be allowed to get off the bed as long as I continued the hunger strike. I had to relieve myself while in the bed with help from other prisoners. ... The other prisoners became irritated at constantly having to help me, and they wanted to leave me unattended in a dirty bed. I was force-fed twice a day and this stained my hair and sweater with milk.... At last, I was released after my family paid 5000 Yuan (about 10 months' wage of an average worker in China) for bail. Because I insisted on appealing, my work unit was forced to fire me under great pressure from the higher authorities – Shandong Provincial TV Station. My husband is a serviceman in the 71777 Army unit and his supervisor is forcing him to divorce me."

Government Enforced Abortion

Female Practitioners Forced to Have Abortions

Liu Qihong, 39, an employee of Zhong Ce Medicine Inc, is a practitioner from Yantai in Shandong province. Police arrested her from her home when she was more than 8 months pregnant. Police then took her and forced her to undergo an abortion in her late stage of pregnancy. When the child was forced out, it was still alive and could cry. The baby was taken away and no one knows where it is and whether it is still alive or not. The Police refused to allow any recovery time for Ms. Liu after her forced abortion. She was detained at the Fenghuangtai Office “transformation center” for one month, and then recently was recently thrown to a labor camp without any due legal process.

Yang Ping, female, 43, employee of the Caidian Aquatic Products Company, Wuhan, Hubei Province. Yang Ping was arrested and was escorted back to her hometown for appealing in Beijing. Although she was two months pregnant, she was nonetheless still detained for several days at the Zhonghualu Police Station in Wuchang District of Wuhan City and for 25 days at the Caidian Police Station. Afterwards, she was forced to undergo an abortion in the Health Center for Women and Children in the Caidian District. Twenty four days later, she was sent to the Wuhan City Drug Rehabilitation Center for one and a half years of forced labor. 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 upon returning home.

Wang Shaona, female, from Shekou City of Shenzhen, Guangdong Province. Wang Shaona and her husband Li Weijun were arrested in February 2000, on their way to Beijing to appeal. Li Weijun was sent to the Shekou Detention Center. Wang Shaona had been pregnant for 6 months. In order to keep her in detention, police forced her to undergo an abortion.

Lu Yuzhen, female, 31, from Feng City of Jiang-Xi Province. In January 2000, she went to Beijing to appeal to the State Council Petition Office. Later, she was arrested by the Jiang-Xi police station. The authorities are pressuring her to have an abortion because they decided to detain her for a longer term.

Five practitioners of Guilin City, Guangxi Province, Lin Jiangjin, Wei Yuemei, Li Xiaoying, Li Xiuliang, and Ouyang, were arrested for practicing Falun Gong exercises together on July 13. Because all of them refused to sign repentance and pledge statements, giving up their belief, they are detained in the second detention center of Guilin. Later, because Ouyang was pregnant, she was allowed to go home only after she paid 10,000 Yuan. Now the police are forcing her undergo an abortion citing the excuse that she does not have a “permit to give birth”.

Miscarriages Due to Hard Labor and Poor Conditions in Detention Facilities

Dou Jianhua, female, 28, a kindergarten teacher in Mishan city, Heilongjiang Province. In June of 2000, she went to Beijing for the second time to appeal. After being escorted back, she was sent to the Beishan Detention Center in Lianzhushan Town by the Nongken Police Department in Mudanjiang, Mishan City. All practitioners in the detention center were forced to do hard labor. Especially after knowing Ms. Dou was pregnant, they continued to make her move heavy bricks, which caused massive bleeding, resulting in a miscarriage.

Jiang Zhongli, female, employee of Hengyang Blood Bank, Hengyang, Hunan Province. She was pregnant while detained with drug addicts and drug dealers at the Hengyang Detention Center in Hunan Province. Her husband was serving in the army. In February 2000, she had a miscarriage at the detention center and suffered from severe hemorrhage. She was taken away by her work unit when she was hovering between life and death. She was fined 1,500 Yuan and denied 3,000 Yuan of her wages.

The Persecution Also Targets Mothers

Falun Dafa Practitioner Wang Lixuan and Her Son are Tortured to Death in the Tuanhe Labor Re-Education Camp in Beijing

Ms. Wang Lixuan, age 27, was a Falun Dafa practitioner from Nangou Village, Qixiasikou Town of Shangdong Province. Her son, Meng Hao, was less than 8 months old. Since July 20, 1999, Lixuan went to Beijing to appeal for Falun Dafa on several occasions. On October 21, 2000, she was arrested on her way to Beijing. When she later ran away from the detention center, she went to Beijing again October 22 to ask the government to lift the ban on Falun Dafa. On November 7, 2000, Lixuan and her son were tortured to death. When her family received the death notice and arrived in Beijing, they found the frozen corpses of Lixuan and her son [a baby who was less than 8 months old]. According to the coroner's exam, her neck and knucklebones were broken, her skull was sunken and there was a needle stuck in her torso. There were two deep bruises on her son's ankles. There were two black and blue spots on his head and there was blood in his nose. His ankles bore clear marks from handcuffs and had wounds all over his body. It was deduced that the bruises were possibly caused when the thugs handcuffed little Meng Hao's ankles and hung him upside down. The authorities declared on the death certificate that the two "had committed suicide by jumping off a building" even though it was inconsistent with their injuries and the coroner's report.

All 5 family members of Wang Lixuan are Dafa practitioners. Her sister, Wang Lihui, was sent to a labor camp because she practiced Falun Dafa at Yantai University, and her brother was also sent to a labor camp for practicing Falun Gong at Jinan Industrial College.



Wang Li Xuan and her new-born son.

Nursing Mother Detained and Beaten

Liang Mei (pseudonym) is a 29-year-old Falun Dafa practitioner from Sichuan province who was still nursing her baby at home. She was locked up in the local Agronomy School together with several other practitioners. As part of her torture, several policemen grabbed her by her arms and legs, lifted her up in the air and then threw her repeatedly onto the ground. **The police told Ms. Liang "We were told by the top [officials] that we do not need to reason with Falun Gong practitioners. Never mind the laws and legal processes, we can do whatever we want to!"**

They ignored her pleas that she had a young baby at home who still needed to be breast-fed. This time she was handcuffed with her hands twisted behind her back around a tree. Her mouth was sealed with tape. Ms. Liang's shirt and pants were wet with her milk while the baby was starving at home. As time passed by, her hands, handcuffed backward around the tree, began to swell and the pain became unbearable. She asked again to be released but her request was denied. The next evening around 6pm, She was sent to the detention center for a period of 15 days.

Mother Abused During Pregnancy and After Giving Birth is Forced to Leave Home

Li Dan (pseudonym) is from Linhe City, Inner Mongolia Region. Below is her account of her experience while being detained and persecuted after she went to Tiananmen Square to appeal for Falun Dafa in February 2000.

"The Linhe City policemen took me back to Linhe City after I appealed on February 19, 2000, in Beijing. They interrogated me one by one for an entire night, and then three of them took turns beating me. They shackled me and forcibly sent me to the Hohhot City Female Labor Camp without any legal procedures. They held me there from February 19 until July 30, 2000. Around July 10, while doing heavy labor, I felt a severe pain in my stomach. An exam showed that I had been pregnant for a few months. I had suffered tremendously during that time. I had to unload 30 tons of coal per day. I loaded and unloaded cow manure and tilled the soil.

Teenage Students Abused and Tortured



Chen Ying

18-Year-Old Dies In Police Custody

In August 1999, Chen Ying was being escorted back to her home town after appealing for Falun Gong in Beijing. During the trip she was threatened, beaten, and verbally abused by the police. Reports indicate she died after falling off a moving train. It is unclear whether or not she jumped or was pushed.

A 19-Year-Old College Student Tortured with Electric Stun Batons in a Labor Camp

Chen Lili, age 19, was expelled from Qingdao University and sentenced to forced labor at the Women's Labor Camp of Jinan, Shandong Province, for going to Beijing to appeal for Falun Gong. Whenever the police found out that someone was practicing Falun Gong exercises, they would come over with electric batons and shock them until the electric batons ran out of power. Chen Lili's arms were full of blisters caused by the electric shocks but the policemen still persisted in torturing her using this heinous method.

A 14-year-Old Girl Beaten by Police in Beijing

Xin Ran, female, 14, freshman student of a middle school in Sanhe, Hebei Province, and Xin Fei, female, 13, are sisters. They went to Beijing with their mother, Gao Shuying, to appeal for Falun Dafa on December 16, 2000, and were detained at Fangshan County [Beijing]. Xin Ran was slapped, pinched on her face, and beaten on her buttocks with a stick by the Fangshan police. They tried to force her to tell them her address. Three days later, the sisters were brought back to their school by the local policemen from Sanhe City. The principal sent someone to watch them and forced them to write the "pledge" to renounce Falun Gong. Later, their aunt wrote a pledge for them and took them home. The school claimed that it was not yet done. Their mother, Gao Shuying, was on a hunger strike and was released on December 22, 2000.

A 16-Year-Old Girl Detained and Humiliated in Beijing

Gao Shanshan went to Beijing to meet her mother on September 20 and stayed in a hotel that night. The owner of the hotel saw her Falun Gong book and turned her in to the police station. She was given only a piece of dry bread to eat after being detained for seven hours. During that time, a policeman verbally abused her and later added some unknown foul substance to a plate of cooked meat. The police officer then grabbed her hair and forced the food into her mouth. Other policemen on the side commented sarcastically that the food was very good and roared with laughter. The police officers also threatened her that they would arrest her mother if she still would not give up her belief in Falun Gong.

A 15-Year-Old Girl Beaten Because Her Parents Practice Falun Gong

In mid-July 2000, a practitioner and his daughter (15 years old) from Fangshan District, Beijing, were taken from their home by Secretary Zhou of the Chengguan Street Administration Office. This girl's mother had already been sent to a labor camp. The practitioner and his daughter were beaten and electrically shocked by brutal men under Zhou's orders. The girl rolled on the ground in pain from the beating. Because her body was dirty due to the torture, the men forced her to take a bath and then continued to mistreat her for one entire week.

Note: Currently all students who do not renounce their belief in Falun Gong and issue a written statement to this effect are expelled from school. This directive includes elementary school children all the way up to highly educated students in University programs.

Persecution of Overseas Female Practitioners

U.S. Permanent Resident Imprisoned for “Leaking State Secrets”

Dr. Teng Chunyan, female, 37, acupuncturist, a resident of New York, is a permanent resident of the United States and is married to an American citizen.

Dr. Teng entered China through the southern city of Shenzhen in March 2000, and lost communication with her family for seven months. She was arrested in May 12, 2000 while attending an experience sharing conference. However, it was only in October that her family in Mainland China was informed that she was being held in Beijing’s Banbuqiao detention center and that the state was bringing criminal charges against her. Dr. Teng was later subjected to a closed-door trial and was sentenced in mid December 2000 to three years in prison under the charge of “prying into state intelligence for overseas organizations.” Dr. Teng allegedly helped foreign news reporters gain interviews with Falun Gong practitioners who had been sent to psychiatric hospitals.

It is said that she is currently being detained in the 7th Division of Beijing Police Bureau, and will be sent to prison to serve her sentence in the near future. While in detention, she was swindled out of US\$15,000 by the police authorities when she demanded a lawyer. She tried to have them exchange US\$3,000 for Yuan (Chinese dollars) for her daily expenses, but the 7th Division took 30,000 Yuan from her under the excuse of a service charge. She is often forced to stand for long periods of time whenever she has been discovered practicing the Falun Gong exercises. On one occasion, a guard became angry and verbally abused her when seeing her practice. The guard ordered her to stand from nine in the morning until four in the afternoon. Then, the guard interrogated her until late at night, and forced her to stand again after her interrogation until the next morning. Dr. Teng has been interrogated over 50 times while in detention. U.S. State Department spokesman Richard Boucher characterized this event as “deeply disturbing” and has requested her release to the United States.



Australian Citizen Arrested, Beaten and Shackled in Chinese Jail for 8 Months



Zhang Cuiying is 38 years old, an Australian citizen, and works as a jewelry designer and visual artist. She had attempted to go to Beijing with another female Australian practitioner to appeal for Falun Gong in March 2000. However, before they could make the appeal, they were found carrying Falun Gong books in their bags and were detained in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province. The Shenzhen Intermediate Court sentenced them to 8 months of imprisonment. Before the sentence, she was arrested three times: once on December 31, 1999, while she was standing in Tiananmen Square watching a national flag-raising ceremony; once on January 26, 2000, while she was practicing the exercises in Rending Lake Park in Beijing; and once on February 4, 2000, while she was having a meal with her husband in a restaurant of Beijing.

Zhang Cuiying was locked in a male cell for over two months and it was only until the Australian consul intervened the police moved her into a female cell. Because Zhang did not want to renounce her belief and continued her practice in the prison, police stripped her clothes off and threw her into a male cell once again. She was beaten badly and was kept in shackles. The police also forced prisoners to monitor Zhang to stop her from practicing; they even encouraged and rewarded prisoners to abuse Ms. Zhang. A female prisoner with last name Zhang was reported to be most violent in persecuting Ms. Zhang. She pushed Zhang’s head to ground to beat her, stomped on Zhang’s hands with her

shoes. Rewarded for her cooperation with police to persecute Ms. Zhang, the prisoner, who was supposed to serve for at least five years, was set free after serving less than one year. In order to protest the inhumane treatment, Ms. Zhang went on a 50-day hunger strike, however, the Chinese public security officers showed no sympathy, and on the contrary, they cursed her “Your life is not worth a dog even if you die.”

As an Australian citizen, Ms. Zhang was threatened by the police to give up her Australian citizenship in order for them to torture her at will. Zhang Cuiying was denied any access to the outside world; the police refused to allow Ms. Zhang to meet the Australian consul for one month and gave no reason. In the dimly lit jail, Zhang Cuiying was forced to labor over 10 hours every day for the products such as toothpicks and Christmas lights for export. Ms. Zhang was deprived of basic personal supplies for everyday life. Her bathroom tissue was even brought by an Australian consul. Her health was deteriorating and she was losing her weight and hair. She was not allowed to sleep in a bed and had to sleep on the frozen concrete floor and she was deprived of sleep for five straight days. The official from the Australian Foreign Affairs Office visiting her expressed concern about her poor physical condition.

In prison, police confiscated all writing instruments to prevent her from writing anything. She could only use toothpaste to write things. In the prison, amidst all the torment, she wrote a poem on her T-shirt: just in order to say one sentence of fairness—“Falun Dafa is the righteous way”, in order to gain back justice, I spent eight months in the jail, I went through all types of ordeals. For justice, I would rather have my head cut off or shed my own blood. The prison can witness my pure heart and my determination. The Chinese government persecutes Falun Gong; its criminal acts will be known for thousands of years.

Canadian Resident Detained in China and her Whereabouts Unknown

Ms. Ying Zhu is a Falun Gong practitioner and a student at Concordia University. She is a permanent resident of Canada and the wife a Canadian Citizen.

She went missing when she went to China to visit her husband and her ailing mother on May 10. Ying’s mother recently underwent two heart operations and urgently wished to see her daughter. She was arrested by the notorious “610 Office” created to persecute Falun Gong practitioners. Her whereabouts is still unknown.

[MONTREAL GAZETTE, May 26, 2001] — The last time anyone saw or heard from Ying Zhu was when she said goodbye to a friend at a Hong Kong train station. That was May 10. This week, the worst fears of her friends were confirmed by information obtained by a Hong Kong human-rights group: the 35-year-old Montreal woman and Falun Gong practitioner was arrested in China on her way to visit her husband and parents. Friends of Zhu, a Concordia computer-science student who is a permanent resident of Canada, are calling on the federal government to put pressure on China to free her... Canadian Alliance MP Scott Reid, who has taken up the cases of other persecuted Falun Gong followers, is poised to begin a letter-writing and awareness-raising campaign.

The Experience of An Australian Citizen in a Chinese Jail: The Case of Feng Xiaomei

My Name is Feng Xiaomei. I am an Australian citizen. I visited China several times in order to peacefully convey to the Chinese government the truth about Falun Dafa. However, on several occasions, I was illegally detained, interrogated, and finally sentenced to eight months (from March 5 to November 4, 2000) in prison without any due process.

During those eight months, based upon directives issued from Chinese President Jiang Zemin to various levels of government, the police tortured me daily. For example, when I sat in silent meditation in the detention center, the inmates were ordered to abuse me physically and verbally. I did not react. Seeing their intimidation was to no avail, they put a towel around my neck and forcefully pulled it backwards and upwards in an attempt to suffocate me. At that moment my vision blurred and I could not breathe. I almost fainted. They noticed my tongue was hanging out and my neck was nearly bleeding; yet I was still in my meditation position. They then carried me to a very wet area of the concrete floor; I was on my menstrual period at that time. In spite of that, they stripped off my clothes and gave me an ice cold shower.

The authorities installed surveillance equipment both inside and outside of my cell so as to monitor me 24 hours a day from all angles. Additionally, they used sophisticated coercion tactics and approaches to threaten me and destroy my spirit.

One day, as I was putting on my clothing after my shower, I discovered a fine thread-like device, approximately 2mm, sewn into the center of my brassiere. Its color was identical to the fabric and was not easily detected. When I ripped it off, I heard a strange noise somewhere in the room, although I could not pinpoint the exact location.

If the authorities detected that I was reciting Falun Dafa teachings, no matter if it was day or night, they would immediately send out noises from various locations of my cell to disturb me; noises such as human screaming, pigs snorting, dogs barking and gun shots. Or they would use a remote control to let out huge rats from the toilet. The rats ran around me, squeaking. They even put drugs in my food to cause nausea, vomiting, headaches and heart palpitations. When the drug was to take effect, they would release an extremely vile smell of excrement, thinking I would not be able to bear it. These disturbances both psychological and physical were intensified greatly in the last month of my detention.

Women Who Have Died for Their Belief in Falun Gong

The following pictures are some of the female practitioners who have died due to torture and persecution while in police custody:

Zhao Xin, age 32, assistant professor at Beijing Business College



According to AFP, BEIJING, Dec 13, 2000, Zhao Xin died six months after being badly beaten by police while in the Haidian District Detention Center.

Due to the torture, the vertebra at the fourth to sixth joints of her neck were fractured; her left eye lost eyesight.



Zhao Xin in hospital after being tortured by Beijing Police

Gong Baohua, age 35



Brutally beaten by police caused the bridge of her nose to be fractured. Around 8pm of June 25, 2000, the guards force-fed Gong Baohua through the nose, despite the fact that she suffered injury to her nose. About 10 minutes later, she suddenly lost consciousness.... Around 9pm of June 27, 2000, Gong Baohua was announced dead in the hospital.

Wang Lixuan, age 27 and 8-month-old son

Ms. Wang Lixuan was a Falun Dafa practitioner from Nangou Village, Qixiasikou Town of Shangdong Province. Her son, Meng Hao, was less than 8 months old. Since July 20, 1999, Lixuan went to Beijing to appeal for Falun Dafa several times. On November 7, 2000, Lixuan and her son were tortured to death. When her family received the death notice and arrived in Beijing, they found the frozen corpses



of Lixuan and her son [a baby who was less than 8 months old]. According to the coroner's exam, her neck and knucklebones were broken, her skull was sunken and there was a needle stuck in her torso. There were two deep bruises on her son's ankles. There were two black and blue spots on his head and there was blood in his nose. His ankles bore clear marks from handcuffs and had wounds all over his body. It was deduced that the bruises were possibly caused when the thugs handcuffed little Meng Hao's ankles and hung him upside down.

Li Jingchun, age 47



Li Jingchun went to Beijing to appeal on Dec 18, 2000, after which she was detained in the Mentougou Detention Center in Beijing. There she opposed the inhumane torture by going on a hunger strike. On the 5th day of her hunger strike the guards started to feed her through her nasal passage. They forced half a bottle of soymilk into her stomach and afterwards she had a fever and kept coughing. On Dec 30, 2000, Li Jingchun returned home. However, her fever and coughing got worse. She also started to throw up white liquid which had a strong and strange smell. She died on January 4, 2001.

Chu Congrui, age 19



Chu Congrui was a 19-year-old female practitioner from Tiande Township, Shulan, Jilin Province. She went to Beijing to appeal on December 1, 2000 and was arrested in Tiananmen Square. She died in the Haidian District Detention Center around December 13, 2000. Her face and lips were severely swollen.

Both ears were plugged with blood soaked cotton swabs. Her nose was collapsed, indicating that she had been violently beaten before she died. Her body was cremated in Changping County of Beijing on December 18.

Wang Gaizhi, age 47

While Wang Gaizhi was detained in Zhenping Detention Center, she was forced to do hard labor for more than ten hours every day and was often tortured in various ways. She was tortured to her last gasp of breath. Under the strongest requests from her relatives, police released her to them after extorting 500 Yuan. Twenty days later, on May 26, 2000, she died at home, due to the brutal tortures inflicted on her by those guards.



Shi Bei, age 49

Ottawa Citizen, December, 2000 - Chris Xu, an MBA student in Newfoundland, says his mother Shi Bei is one of scores of Falun Gong practitioners in China who have paid with their life for defying Beijing's ban on the meditation exercise. "On September 10, my Mom was murdered in the Seventh Hospital of Hangzhou City (a psychiatric hospital), only because she was a Falun Gong practitioner.... In May 2000, the police department of Fuyang City forcefully "committed" Mom to the Seventh Hospital of Hangzhou City. This hospital is a psychiatric hospital for mental patients, (yet) there was nothing wrong with her.... In the end, my Mom was starved to death by the police. They did not allow her any food for a whole week, in order to prevent her from speaking on behalf of her faith."



Qi Fengqin, age 43

One day in early September 2000, Qi Fengqin went out to distribute Falun Gong print materials. As a result, she was arrested and thrown in jail. A month later (around October 11, 2000), the news came out that she had passed away.



Zhang Guiqin, age 37

....On August 24, 2000, authorities at the detention center realized that Zhang Guiqin's physical condition had deteriorated too far because of the torture. Being afraid of the responsibility, they then contacted her family to take her home. She died at 1:03 PM on January 17, 2001 after 5 months of suffering



Several days before Zhang Guiqin's death

Sun Shaomei, age 37



Sun Shaomei went to Beijing to appeal for Falun Dafa several times since July 20, 1999. She was illegally detained by the local police for several months. The second day after she was released, Sun Shaomei went to Beijing again (around November 18, 2000) and was not heard from again. About mid-December 2000, her family received a death announce-

ment from Tuanhe Labor Camp, Daxing County, Beijing. Later on, it was revealed that she had been beaten to death in the labor camp.

Wang Xiuying, age 45



On May 13, 2000, Wang was arrested when she was practicing Falun Gong exercises on Tiananmen Square. She was detained in the Jiaomen Detention Center of Chongwen District after. After 3 days of a hunger strike, four men pushed her to the ground and brutally force-fed her through nose. She was force-fed with high-density salt water five times within nine days. On May 22, 2000, she lost consciousness and died at 7pm.

Lou Aiqing, age 34

Lou Aiqing was arrested when she was posting Falun Dafa flyers in Qingdao, Shandong Province, on December 20, 2000. She was then escorted back to Kuiwen District Detention Center, Weifang, on December 22. At about 5 pm on December 25, the detention center called Lou's family saying that she had died 36 hours before (at about 5AM on December 24). The next morning, her family arrived at the funeral chapel, only to discover the place filled with police. They also noticed that Lou had been given heavy makeup, and that her body was covered with injuries and wounds.



Yin Shuyun, age 46

During the annual session of National People's Congress, Yin went to Beijing to petition the government to stop persecutions against Falun Gong. After she was taken back from Beijing, one side of her face was purple and black due to severe beating. She died in the Heizuizi Labor Camp where she was detained.



Sun Lianxia, age 50

On January 16, 2001, the Dalian Labor Camp tortured practitioner Sun Lianxia to death simply because she persisted in practicing Falun Dafa.

Li Mei, age 28

In June of 2000, Li Mei, a 28-year-old lady from Hefei, Anhui Province, was arrested and put into the Feidong Detention Center for appealing in Beijing for Falun Gong. She was later transferred to the Women's Labor Camp of Anhui Province. During her detention, the persecutors fiercely tortured her. The torture caused severe damage to her internal organs and left her in a coma. She died in the No. 105 Hospital in Hefei City.



Chen Ying, age 18

In August 1999, Chen Ying was being escorted back to her home town after appealing for Falun Gong in Beijing. During the trip she was threatened, beaten, and verbally abused by the police. Reports indicate she died after falling off a moving train. It is unclear whether or not she jumped or was pushed.



Tian Baozhen in her 40s



In November 2000, Tian Baozhen went to Tiananmen Square to appeal for Falun Dafa, and was arrested by the Tiananmen Police Station. Because she refused to reveal her name and address, she was sent to Xuanwu District Detention Center in Beijing. She went on a hunger strike for her freedom and was subsequently interrogated, beaten up, and force-fed. At the sight of her extreme physical weakness due to her hunger strike and the brutal abuse she had suffered, the police released her. After several days at home, Tian Baozhen passed away on December 11, 2000.

The following is an incomplete list of female practitioners who have died due to torture and abuse while in police custody:

Chen Ying, female, 18, Jiamusi City, Heilongjiang Province
Zhao Jinhua, female, 42, Zhangxing Town, Zhaoyuan City, Shandong Province
Zhang Shuqi, female, 52, Xicheng District, Beijing
Chen Zixiu, female, 59, Weicheng District, Weifang City, Shandong Province
Sun Xiuqing, female, in her 50s, Hegang City, Heilongjiang Province
Mei Yulan, female, 44, Chaoyang District, Beijing
Yin Shuyun, female, 46, Changchun City, Jilin Province
An Xiukun, female, 49, Henghui City, Hebei Province
Zhang Yuzhen, female, 46, Hegang City, Heilongjiang Province
Li Guihua, female, 47, Jiangbei Town, Jiangbei District, Chongqing City, Sichuan Province
Yu Xiangmei, female, around 35, Changshou County, Chongqing City, Sichuan Province
Liu Fengchun, female, 56, Nanchang City, Jiangxi Province
Sun Xiaobo, female, 36, Weicheng Chengguan, Weifang City, Shandong Province
Lin Limei, female, Qitaihe City, Heilongjiang Province
Ge Xiulan, female, 51, Huaian City, Jiangsu Province
Shi Bei ⁽³⁰⁾, female, 49, Fuyang City, Zhejiang Province
Zheng Junshu, female, 24, Jilin City, Jilin Province
Huang Xinjin, female, over 40 years of age, a teacher at the Xiyang Elementary School in Wuwei County, Gansu Province
Qi Fengqin, female, 43, Liaocheng, Shandong Province
Xie Guiying, female, 32, Huainan, Anhui Province
Ms. Shi, female, 21, Town of Duo, Mengyin County, Shandong Province
Wang Lixia, female, 46, Chaoyang City, Liaoning Province
Ma Yanfang, Female, age unknown, Zhucheng City, Shandong Province
Wang Lixuan, female, age unknown, Yantai City, Shandong Province
Tian Baozhen, Female, 40, Dies Shortly After Her Return from Police Detention in Beijing
He Jun, Female, Acheng City, Heilongjiang Province
Su Qionghua, female, 32, Suining City, Sichuan Province
Lou Aiqing ^(33,34), female, 34, Weifang City, Shandong Province
Zhong Yunxiu, female, 27, Fushun City, Liaoning Province
Wang Gaizhi, female, 47, Zhenping County, Henan Province
Zhu Yourong, female, in her 40s, Zhangjiakou, Hebei Province
Zhang Zhibin, female, 34, Qinglong Man Nationality Autonomy County, Hebei Province
Sun Lianxia, female, 50, Dalian, Liaoning Province

Liu Rongxiu, female, Shijiazhuang City, Hebei Province
Sun Shaomei, female, 37, Zhaoyuan County, Shandong Province
Shang Qingling, female, 38, Laiwu City, Shandong Province
Fang Cuifang, female, 40, Jiamusi City, Heilongjiang Province
Zhou Fenglin, female, 32, Changzhou City, Jiangsu Province
Dong Buyun, female, 36, Linyi City, Shandong Province
Zhu Shaolan, female, 50, Jinzhou City, Liaoning Province
Liu Zhilan, female, 40, Fangshan District, Beijing
Li Yanhua, female, 45, Nanchang City, Jiangxi Province
Wang Xiuying, female, 45, Harbin City, Heilongjiang Province
Yao Baorong, female, 52, Anning District, Lanzhou City, Gansu Province
Miu Qun, female, age unknown, Qu County, Dazhou City, Sichuan Province
Sun Shuqin, female, 58, Hegang City, Heilongjiang Province
Gong Baohua, female, 35, Liudian Village, Pinggu County, Beijing
Xia Wei, female, 43, Guanyin Qiao, Jiangbei District, Chongqing City, Sichuan Province
The mother of Fu Xiaojuan, 56, Gaoan City, Jiangxi Province
Zhou Chunmei, female, 62, Weicheng District, Weifang City, Shandong Province
Zhang Tieyan, Female, 29, Daqing City, Heilongjiang Province
Gao Hua, female, 31, Baiquan County, Heilongjiang Province
Tian Xiangcui, female, 61, Qujiagou, Fengyi Town, Longkou City, Shandong Province
Cui Xiaojuan, female, 40, Daqing City, Heilongjiang Province
Yan Huiqin, female, age unknown, Xi'an City, Shanxi Province
Wang Yuru, female, 60, Qu County, Sichuan Province
Wang Youju, female, 64, Wafangdian, Dalian, Liaoning Province
Cui Aiyuan, female, 42, Taiyuan, Shanxi Province
Pei Ouhua, female, 61, Hengyang City, Hunan Province
Yang Guizhen, female, 40, Zhucheng City, Shandong Province
Zhao Jing, female, 19, Jilin city, Jilin Province
Zhao Xin, female, 32 years old, Beijing
Zhao Qiyang, female, in her 30s, Panzhihuan, Sichuan Province
Huang Yaoying, female, 68, Gaozhou, Guangdong Province
Xu Bing, female, 33, Weifang City, Shandong Province
Chu Congrui, female, 19, Shulan City, Jilin Province
Yu Shuqin, female, age unknown, Heilongjiang Province
Yu Lianchun, female, 49, Dezhou City, Shandong Province
Liu Guimin, female, 30, Miyun County, Beijing

[Continued on page 29]

Case Studies: A Family Tragedy

Wall Street Journal: Mother Tortured to Death; Daughter Arrested

Reminiscent of the Cultural Revolution, the Chinese government has expanded the scope of its persecution of Falun Gong practitioners to include their family members. Countless families have been broken up and many children are left without their detained parents. This is a heart-breaking account of a mother who was tortured to death, and her daughter who was in turn persecuted because she tried to bring the abusers to justice.

Chen Zixiu was a 59 years old Falun Gong practitioner. She lived in Xujia Little Village, Beiguan Street, Weifang City, Shangdong Province. On February 21, 2000, after 3 days of brutal torture, Ms. Chen died from the injuries, because she refused to renounce her beliefs.

Chen Zixiu's daughter, Zhang Xueling, sought legal recourse to reveal the abuse. However, all her endeavor was in vain and she was arrested after the story of her appealing appeared on Wall Street Journal.

Wall Street Journal: Practicing Falun Gong was a Right, Ms. Chen Said, up to Her Last Day (Excerpt)

(By Ian Johnson, *The Wall Street Journal*, 4/20/2000)

WEIFANG, China — The day before Chen Zixiu died, her captors again demanded that she renounce her faith in Falun Dafa. Barely conscious after repeated jolts from a cattle prod, the 58-year-old stubbornly shook her head.



...
Carte Blanche

.... Ms. Chen was taken back into the room. After again refusing to give up Falun Gong, she was beaten and jolted

Enraged, the local officials ordered Ms. Chen to run barefoot in the snow. Two days of torture had left her legs bruised and her short black hair matted with pus and blood, said cellmates and other prisoners who witnessed the incident. She crawled outside, vomited and collapsed. She never regained consciousness, and died on Feb. 21.

with the stun stick, according to two prisoners who heard the incident and one who caught glimpses of it through a door. Her cellmates heard her curse the officials, saying the central government would punish them once they were exposed. But in an answer that Falun Gong adherents say they heard repeatedly in different parts of the country, the Weifang officials told Ms. Chen that they had been told by the central government that “no measures are too excessive” to wipe out Falun Gong. The beatings continued and would stop only when Ms. Chen changed her thinking, according to two prisoners who say they overheard the incident.

Two hours after she went in, Ms. Chen was pushed back into her cell on the second story of the main building, an unheated room with only a sheet of steel for a bed. Her three cellmates tended to her wounds, but she fell into a delirium. One of the cellmates remembers her moaning “mommy, mommy.”

The next morning, the 20th, she was ordered out to jog. “I saw from the window that she crawled out with difficulty,” wrote a cellmate in a letter smuggled out by her husband. Ms. Chen collapsed and was dragged back into the cell.

Denied Treatment

“I was a medical major. When I saw her dying, I suggested moving her into another [heated] room,” the cellmate wrote in her letter. Instead, local government officials gave her “sanqi,” herbal pills for light internal bleeding. “But she couldn’t swallow and spat them out.” Cellmates implored the officials to send Ms. Chen to a hospital, but the officials — who often criticize Falun Gong practitioners for forgoing modern medical treatment in favor of a superstitious belief in their exercises — refused, her cellmates said. Eventually they brought in a doctor, who pronounced her healthy.

But, wrote the cellmate: “She wasn’t conscious and didn’t talk, and only spat dark-colored sticky liquid. We guessed it was blood. Only the next morning did they confirm that she’s dying.” An employee of the local Public Security Bureau, Liu Guangming, “tried her pulse and his face froze.” Ms. Chen was dead.

That evening, officials went over to Ms. Zhang’s house and said her mother was ill, according to Ms. Zhang and her brother. The two piled into a car and were driven to a hotel

about a mile from the detention center. The hotel was surrounded by police. The local party secretary told them Ms. Chen had died of a heart attack, but they wouldn't allow them to see her body. After hours of arguing, the officials finally said they could see the body, but only the next day, and insisted they spend the night in the heavily guarded hotel. The siblings refused and finally were allowed to go home.

A Bag of Clothes

On the 22nd, Ms. Zhang and her brother were taken to the local hospital, which was also ringed by police. Their mother, they recalled, was laid out on a table in traditional mourning garb: a simple blue cotton tunic over pants. In a bag tossed in the corner of the room, Ms. Zhang said she spotted her mother's torn and bloodied clothes, the underwear badly soiled. Her calves were black. Six-inch welts streaked along her back. Her teeth were broken. Her ear was swollen and blue. Ms. Zhang fainted, and her brother, weeping, caught her.

That day, the hospital issued a report on Ms. Chen. It said the cause of death was natural. The hospital declines to comment on the matter. Ms. Zhang said she challenged officials about the clothing she had seen, but they told her mother had become incontinent after the heart attack and that was why her clothes were soiled.

Ms. Zhang and her brother tried filing a lawsuit, but no lawyer would accept the case. Meantime, her mother's body lay in refrigeration, until the threatened litigation was resolved.

Then, on March 17, Ms. Zhang received a letter from the hospital saying the body would be cremated that day. Ms. Zhang called the hospital to try to prevent it, but she said officials didn't give her a clear answer and said they would have to call her back. They didn't. Ms. Zhang never saw her mother's body again.

Wall Street Journal: A Daughter in China Follows Tortuous Path to Seek Justice (Excerpt)

(By Ian Johnson, The Wall Street Journal, 10/2/2000)

.... Ms. Zhang couldn't let her mother's death go at that. "I felt that something wasn't right, and that they were hiding something," she says.

She sent letters to the State Council, the highest body of civilian power in China, and to local media, asking for copies of her mother's death certificate. Both groups ignored her. The police didn't; Ms. Zhang calculates that by late April, when she was finally sentenced to 15 days in prison for "distorting facts and disturbing social order," she had been interrogated by police for 107 hours in numerous sessions over several weeks.

The detention was a turning point. "I was thrown in with common criminals and could finally see the injustice that

my mother had suffered," Ms. Zhang says. "I decided to learn everything I could and challenge the authorities using their own language."



Upon her release, she stopped working as a matchmaker to devote herself full time to pressing her mother's case. She bought handbooks on the law and learned how to make official requests for documents and how to appeal refusals. Her husband, a carpenter, supported her throughout.

....

Ms. Zhang has exhausted all legal channels, and figures that even clearing her record will be impossible....

Chen Zixiu's Daughter is Arrested Again after Her Story was Published in the Wall Street Journal

According to information received on November 1, 2000, Zhang Xueling, the daughter of Ms. Chen Zixiu, was arrested again for petitioning for her mother Chen Zixiu, after her story was published in the Wall Street Journal on October 2, 2000. At present, her whereabouts and situation remain unknown.

Wall Street Journal: Daughter of Falun Gong Member Is Sent Without Trial to Work Camp (Excerpt)

(By Charles Hutzler, The Wall Street Journal, 05/10/2001)

BEIJING — A woman who unsuccessfully battled China's bureaucracy to make police admit they tortured her mother to death has been sent without trial to three years in a labor camp, in another sign of the government's intensifying efforts to suppress the Falun Gong spiritual movement.

Police in the eastern city of Weifang ordered Zhang Xueling's punishment on April 24, sending her to the Wang Village labor camp in the nearby city of Zibo, according to a Falun Gong spokeswoman in New York and the Hong Kong-based Information Center for Human Rights and Democracy. The Hong Kong group said Wednesday that she was accused of "using a cult to undermine the implementation of law" — a vague, catchall charge that has been frequently used against Falun Gong followers to send them to labor camps.

...

...her fate fits the pattern of an increasingly vigorous government campaign to wipe out the group by coercing followers to renounce their beliefs and jailing those who won't.

Case Studies: A Young Female Teacher Suffers Long-Term Torture

Wang Xiaodong was a young teacher in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province. She had been dismissed from public employment because she appealed in Beijing. She was sent to the Nanshan Detention Center on April 29, 2000, and transferred to the Sanshui Women's Labor Camp after being sentenced to two years of forced labor on July 13, 2000. However, in the middle of August, an expert group of forensic doctors from Foshan, Guangdong Province diagnosed her as having a prison-type mental disorder with loss of control of behavior. It was less than 100 days after she entered the detention center that she was diagnosed as having a mental disorder. How did it happen?

Since being sent to Nanshan Detention Center, in order to protest the illegal detention, Wang Xiaodong refused to wear prison clothes and went on many hunger strikes, which resulted in persecution by the detention center. She wrote a letter to the higher authorities and the people's procuratorate to report the persecution against her and other Falun Gong practitioners. However, the director of the Nanshan Detention Center, Wang Churong, did not submit it to the higher authorities, but instead showed the letter to the guard, Li Yanzhi, who is personally responsible for many cases of abuse. As a result, they began their retaliation. They transferred Wang Xiaodong from cell No. 6 to cell No. 1, which was notorious for tormenting inmates.

When Wang Xiaodong went on a hunger strike in the new cell, all inmates were punished by not being given food for a whole day. This aroused the hostility and anger of inmates towards Wang Xiaodong. After that incident, the inmates beat and insulted Wang Xiaodong whenever they were not satisfied with her. Every day she was punished with a variety of methods. Director Wang Churong and guard Li Yanzhi thought Wang Xiaodong did not defer to them and should be punished. They held meetings several times to discuss how to torture Wang Xiaodong. They fastened a shackle weighing 35-kg to her that was almost the same as her own body weight, for an indefinite period of time. They assigned two inmates to monitor her 24 hours a day and record what Wang said and did each hour. In order to inflict harm upon her, the two inmates intentionally fabricated words that Wang did not say at all in their report. They justified their methods by stating it could prevent Falun Gong practitioners from committing suicide, but in fact they were pushing Wang into a dead end.

According to a document passed down by the Ministry of Public Security, "Notice about Using Instruments in the Detention Centers," female prisoners should not be shackled. If it is necessary, the shackles should weigh less than 5 kilograms; female prisoners, except on death row, should not be shackled for more than 15 days. Indefinite long-term use of overweight shackles was to punish this Falun Gong practitioner and force her to give up her belief.

Wang Xiaodong became extremely thin. She was too weak to stand, and could not walk at all. Two inmates dragged her back and forth every day. The rings surrounding her ankles had dug deeply into her muscles, which caused her ankles to fester and bleed. It was extremely painful when the iron ring touched her naked bone. Yet, director Wang Churong still did not take the shackles off and her ankles festered even more severely. Even after Wang Xiaodong was transferred to the Sanshui Women's Labor Camp, her legs and feet remained swollen for several months. Policemen at the Sanshui Detention Center had never seen nor heard of a person being shackled to such a degree.

Because Wang Xiaodong could not walk, two inmates dragged her to the bathroom and sometimes left her lying on the floor of the bathroom. Wang Xiaodong could not move and had to sleep in the bathroom during the night. When an inmate went to the bathroom, she dragged her out. After finishing using the bathroom, the inmate dragged her back into the bathroom. Day after day, anyone who showed sympathy to her would be punished harshly. Guard Li Yanzhi, punished one inmate who spoke just one sympathetic word, by forbidding her to purchase anything for three weeks, as a punishment.

More miserably, one afternoon, under the instigation of guard Li Yanzhi, one inmate who was in charge of arranging labor, pierced Wang Xiaodong's insteps and lower legs with a thick needle used for handiwork. Wang Xiaodong's feet and legs were full of perforations and there was blood all over. Wang bore the pain and dared not to shout, since the inmates would beat her face with their shoes whenever she shouted. The torture lasted for almost one hour and was witnessed by many inmates.

That night, the persecution became more severe. Around 1:00AM, the two inmates who were monitoring Wang

Xiaodong wanted to sleep. They made a rope out of thin string and tied Wang's hands tightly together, and forced her hands to be pressed under her body. With 35-kg shackles and hands fastened behind her, she could neither turn her body nor sit up. Her body was numb and swollen. The inmates would beat her if she made any sound. The torture lasted for six and a half hours until the next morning. When a policeman was patrolling the cells the inmates untied her, and Wang Xiaodong reported loudly to the policeman about the torture she had received. The policeman just left without a reply. Two hours later, another policeman came to patrol the cells. With the string in her hands, Wang reported the torture to this policeman, but the police ignored her as well. The inmates laughed violently, grabbed the strings from her hands and threatened her saying, "Do you dare to report again? We do not fear if you report to the director. Wait and see how we torture you tonight!" Wang was in deep fear. Later, an old doctor in the detention center patrolled the prison. Wang reported again to the doctor about the process of being pierced with a needle and tied up the previous night. She requested the doctor to tell the director. The doctor shook his head sympathetically and went away. Never-ending restraint



with shackles, day-by-day torture, the instigation of guards, policemen's negligence, and recently more horrible threats took away all her hope. Around 1:00 pm, Wang Xiaodong tried to commit suicide by ramming her head against the wall, still with the shackles on her feet.

After regaining consciousness, Wang Xiaodong told the deputy director on duty about the process of being tortured and the reason of her suicide attempt. The deputy director said, "Is there such a thing? I will investigate it and deal with it seriously." However, what he meant by "dealing with it seriously" was to give each inmate in Cell 1 three whips, and forbid them to mention this issue again. Long-term brutal persecution forced Wang to collapse. The prison not only did not provide any mental examination or treatment, but also failed to provide treatment to her swollen feet. Her family asked to visit her many times but was refused. On July 13, when she was sent to the Sanshui Women's Labor Camp, Wang Xiaodong was extremely thin, and bruises were all over her body. She had atrophy of the muscles and her feet and legs were swollen severely. She had a dull look in her eyes, had lost her ability to speak and respond. However, Director Zeng of the Political Security Section from Nanshan Police Branch and director Wang Churong of Nanshan Detention Center drove in person to Sanshui Women's Labor Camp to conceal their crimes and planned further persecution. It was not until over a month later did Wang's family find out about her whereabouts.

Address of Nanshan District Police Branch:

1, Zhongshanyuan Road, Nanshan District, Shenzhen, Guangdong Province,
P. R. China; Postal code: 518052

[List of deaths continued from page 25]

Li Jingchun, 47, Jiujiang, Jiangxi Province
Zhang Guiqin, female, 37, Hefei City, Anhui Province
Wang Yan, female, in her 50s, Changchun City, Jilin Province
Li Mei, female, 28, Hefei City, Anhui Province
Tang Hong, female, 37, Jiamusi City, Heilongjiang Province
Han Yuzhu, female, age unknown, Yushu City, Jilin Province
Zhou Fenglin, female, 32, from Changzhou, Jiangsu Province
Zhao Yingfeng, female, Xiangfan, Hubei Province
Liu Zhifen, female, in her 60s, Xingyun Township, Chongyang Town, Chongzhou
Li Yanhua, female, in her sixties, Dongjiang Village, Dashiqiao City, Liaoning Province
Wang Xiujian, female, in her 30s, Weifang, Shandong Province
Ye Xiufeng, female, 65, Daqing City, Heilongjiang Province
Ren Tingling, female, 50, Haiyang Town, Yantai City, Shandong Province
Jiang Liying, female, Zhaoyuan City, Shandong Province
Liu Lanxiang, female, Minqin County, Gansu Province
Wang Aijuan, female, 43, Weifang City, Shandong Province

Lu Hongfeng, female, Lingwu, Ningxia Province
Wang Suqin, female, Qingdao, Shandong Province
Sun Hongyan, female, Liaozhong County, Shenyang City, Liaoning Province
Lu Xinghua, female, 30s, Wutai Township, Dehui City, Jilin Province
Tan Sufen, female, 58, Guanghan City, Sichuan Province
Mrs. Tian, female, Changchun, Jilin Province
Zhang Fuzhen, female, 38, Pingdu, Shandong Province
Pu Xinjiang, female, 50s, Chongqing
Zhang Qingmei, female, 35, Ningyang County, Shandong Province
Ms. Liu, female, 35-40, Wuwei City, Gansu Province
Wang Yaxuan, female, 50s, deputy mayor of Chifeng, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region
Li Yingxiu, female, Wuhan City, Hubei Province
Hu Xiuying, female, Goubangzi, Liaoning Province
Liu Xiaoling, female, 37, Zhaodong City, Heilongjiang Province
Yu Lixin, female, 27, Dalian City, Liaoning Province
Gao Feng, female, 31, Wuchang City, Heilongjiang Province
Wang Ailing, female, 51, Zhangjiakou City, Hebei Province
Ms. Zhang, female, 49, Tanggu District, Tianjin

Case Studies: Young Woman Brought To Funeral Home While Still Alive

In June of 2000, Li Mei, a 28-year-old lady from Hefei, Anhui Province, was arrested and put into the Feidong Detention Center for appealing in Beijing for Falun Gong. She was later transferred to the Women's Labor Camp of Anhui Province. During her detention, the persecutors fiercely tortured her. The torture caused severe damage to her internal organs and left her in a coma. She died in the No. 105 Hospital in Hefei City.

While Li Mei was in this labor camp, she insisted on practicing Falun Gong exercises and suffered repeated mistreatment. Since October 2000, she was transferred to a strict supervision team (the labor camp has three different levels of "managing"; loose supervision, normal supervision and strict supervision). She was exposed to severe torture.

On the afternoon or evening of Jan. 31, 2001, Li Mei's parents were instructed to go to No. 105 Military Hospital to visit their daughter. In the hospital, the family of Li Mei was surrounded and forbidden to approach her bed. Li Mei's body was covered with a quilt; only her head could be seen. Bloodstains were vaguely visible around her nose, the corner of her mouth and her ears; there were black and blue wounds on her face and her neck was enclosed in gauze. According to the doctor, Li Mei's brain had atrophied, her organs could not function well, and she had only a faint heartbeat.

On February 1, 2001, Li Mei's family members were notified that Li Mei had died at 6AM on that day. They were brought to the funeral home to see her body in the afternoon; they were not allowed to bring any camera with them. When the family was changing her clothes, they discovered that her ears, mouth and nostrils were all plugged with cotton. The back of her head was bloody, her back was dotted with blood spots, and her legs were deformed. However, her body was still warm. Li Mei had a very thin layer of clothes on. February 1st was a very cold day, and it was claimed that she was dead at 6AM. How could her body still be warm at 6PM unless Li Mei had been brought to the funeral home while still

alive? Li Mei's father could no longer control the pain in his heart. He questioned the officials and police, "Why is Li Mei's body still warm! You did not try to save a live person but sent her here to the funeral home! Is there no goodness in you?" However, the officials and police giggled to themselves instead of feeling embarrassed. Finally, under Li Mei's father's strong insistence, there were two people who came over to touch Li Mei's body and agreed that she was still warm.



To cover up the evidence of the torture, the officials present (including a Vice Governor of Anhui Province) insisted that the body must be cremated. At the time of cremation a virtual army of police heavily guarded the crematory and no one was allowed to get in. Officials of all levels of government pressured Li Mei's family members, prohibiting them from disclosing "secrets" to anyone else. Under direction of Chinese President Jiang Zemin's policy "If you

beat them to death, you can say that they committed suicide." Hence, the label "suicide" would probably be used in this person's tragic death.

Note: In fact, this is not the only case of a practitioner being sent to a funeral home before death. Zhang Zhenggang, a male practitioner from Huaian City, Jiangsu Province, had been in a coma as the result of torture by the Huaian police. On Mar. 30, 2000, he was taken to the crematorium from the hospital by police officers and cremated when he still registered a weak heartbeat and breath.

Case Studies: From Behind Prison Walls

Masanjia Labor Camp: A Grave View of “Reeducation.”

Masanjia Labor Camp in Liaoning Province resorts to various inhumane means to persecute Falun Dafa practitioners. Nearly 2,000 Falun Gong practitioners, mostly female, have been detained at the Masanjia Labor Camp since October 1999. It is there that guards commit atrocity against Falun Dafa practitioners as part of daily routine.

The First-Hand Experience Of Practitioners At The Masanjia Labor Camp

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 refuses is forced to lower his/her head, press the back to the wall, and raise the hands up in a vertical position. The guards call this pose “lifting-up.” The practitioners are forced to remain in this position for long hours at a time throughout the day. Even as nighttime falls, they are forced to remain there while others in the prison sleep restfully.

I. Physical Tortures

Masanjia exhausted every means possible in order to force female practitioners into renouncing their spiritual beliefs. They hang them by their shackled hands with only their toes touching the floor. Then they put a basin underneath them and force them to urinate and defecate while in this condition. The practitioners are not let down until they have agreed to sign a letter recanting their spiritual beliefs. Guards often focus their beating on women’s private parts, some female practitioners couldn’t walk for days because their genitals suffered severe physical trauma from the beating. “Small Cell”, “Arching/Bending”, “Punitive Standing”, “Square Squatting”, “Electrical Shock” provided below are a few examples of the physical tortures.

“Small Cell” is to be kept in isolation in a small room, with only one washbowl and a pair of handcuffs. The same

bowl is used for washing as well as a toilet. The person in the cell is handcuffed to the door rail. There are 3 different positions for handcuffing, the highest position would require the whole arm being pulled upwards vertically, the middle position is at waist height, only the lowest position would allow the person to sit down.

The so-called “Arching” is to be kept in a head down bending posture constantly, except during meals, sleep, or on the toilet, and lasting for 17-18 hours a day.

“Punitive standing” is to force a person to stand against the wall and remain there at all the times. The only times they are allowed to leave are times when they are eating, sleeping or going to the restroom. This punishment lasts every day until 1:00 to 2:00 AM and continues again at 5:00. Many people fainted after several days of the punishment. But they were forced to continue with the help of so-called “medical treatment”. If this punishment had no effect, there was another one ahead.

The “square squatting” position is to force a person to squat within a small area in which the sides are only 30cm. The feet of the person are not allowed to cross the boundary, thus forcing the person to remain in an intolerable crouching position. If he or she does cross the boundary line, they are beaten terribly. They forced Falun Dafa practitioners to squat this way for 16-17 hours at a time. Such brutality is beyond imagination.

The “electrical shock method” is to apply the high voltage electricity to the practitioners through means of electric batons. The guards especially like to use the electric batons to shock the breasts and private parts of the female practitioners. Whenever a practitioner was taken out to the corridor for such a punishment, the guards ordered all rooms to turn up the volumes of their televisions to maximum, lest the groan of the practitioner should be heard and their crime be known by others.

Apart from brutal torture, they imposed extra-heavy workloads on practitioners, often forcing them to work fifteen or sixteen hours well past their point of exhaustion. Af-



Front gate of the Masanjia Labor Camp

Case Studies: From Behind Prison Walls (cont.)

terwards, there were physical punishments that lasted deep into the night.

II. Mental Persecution

To brain wash practitioners, police force practitioners to repeatedly watch news recordings full of fact-distorting propaganda and manipulated “transformation” stories. Police also uses relatives and loved ones to achieve their aim. Once a guard called a practitioner’s husband and young daughter and let them come to Masanjia to see her. When they arrived at that place, they were, however, forbidden to meet the practitioner and were told it was possible only after the practitioner wrote a guarantee to relinquish Falun Dafa. After the practitioner refused to renounce her belief, police slapped her insulted her. Police also threatened a practitioner who was imprisoned for 3 more months after the one-year sentence had been completed that “If you don’t transform, we’ll prolong your sentence unlimitedly until you are tormented to death. Then you will be declared to have died normally.”

Considering the fact that the practitioners imprisoned there were not able to reach Falun Dafa founder’s new articles, the police changed the words and meaning of the articles and then read the distorted articles to the practitioners. Moreover, they often interpreted Mr. Li’s article out of context, trying to lead the practitioners to misunderstand Falun Dafa and renounce their belief.

III. Horrific Conditions of the Labor Camp

Detainees are given moldy rice for meals and live in cramped and over crowded cells with dozens of other practitioners. They are given one basin of water for many people to use for washing. When the female practitioners were menstruating, they did not even have feminine pads supplied and had to use their own clothes as replacement. The camp officials also forced practitioners to drink dirty water from an old well that was ripe with con-

tamination. After consumption, practitioners all showed symptoms of being poisoned.

Before the practitioners were sent to Masanjia, it was clearly written on the detention ticket that appeal is allowed, but the police said: “Criminals with death sentence can appeal, but you Falun Gong cannot.”

A Few Examples

· According to inside accounts, the police posted at the Masanjia Labor Camp stripped eighteen female Falun Gong practitioners naked, and threw the women into the cells of male inmates.

· Jia Naizhi, a female practitioner around 40, was “small celled” for 19 days and nights because she refused to “transform”. Her ankle became swollen up to the diameter of a saucer; as she could not bend her legs, she had to grovel on the floor in order to secrete. She was cuffed at the highest position for six days and nights until she was running a high fever all over her body, and even then the torture did not stop. In mid October, in Shenyang city, the temperature reached near freezing conditions. Yet the windows in her cell were

kept wide open by the guards with the excuse of venting the smell and providing a sanitary environment for her to live in. Thirsty, Jia Naizhi asked for water but was refused with no reason given. Her request for warmer clothes was also rejected. Jia Naizhi, originally a healthy person, was tortured in such way for 19 long days and nights, until she ran a high fever, had serious heart complications, and was consumed with infirmity. Because she still would not give up her faith, the Center was prepar-

ing to apply the next torture – electrocution. But because of her heart irregularities, doctors hinted that such electrical charges could be life threatening. Feared to cause a death case, only then did Masanjia discontinue the brutal torture.

· Shen Roulin was punished by “Arching” for persisting



Tower building of the Masanjia Labor Camp

in her belief. She was forced to keep the posture for 19 consecutive days! The back flow of blood for such a long time caused her eyes to become severely bloodshot and project outwards in a terrible gaze. She was swollen all over beyond recognition. The guards, however, sneered at her in her torment. They said: "Look, how could you be like this if you are a good person." Even under such a persecution Shen refused to be "transformed", so the vicious police there prepared to apply electrical shock treatment against her. The torture was suspended only after Shen was found with heart problems. Due to her determination to maintain her belief, she was sent to labor with the real criminals. The work lasted from 7:00 AM to 9 PM and she was often forced to work overtime.

· Lin Yan, a 29-year-old practitioner, went four times to Beijing to appeal. She was sent to the labor camp on October 27, 1999. In order to force her to write repentance statements, the guards from the labor camp instigated four inmates to apply electric shocks to her by beating her with electric prods, stamp stomping on her feet, stretching her arms so that she could not move, and even strangling her. She was then sent to the hospital. In order to restrict information, no family members were allowed to visit her in the hospital. And as soon as stitches were removed, the guards took her back to the labor camp. Neither the doctors nor the nurses agreed to her removal from the hospital, and they regarded this as a serious inhumane action. The guards responded that they needed to "take her back to educate others." Within 7 days of her returning to the labor camp, she was forced to do hard labor again.

· Qi Yuling was shocked on her nipples and constantly endures solitary confinement.

· Zhao Xue received shocks in the ear, the back of the neck, and the throat. She was sent to solitary confinement and deprived of sleep for two days and two nights. The chief officer of the team was notified that she was feeling ill, but he ignored it. Instead of offering her help, he deployed every means possible to destroy her spirit. Whenever she requested help, they accused her of inciting trouble. If she refused to speak, they would beat her for not being cooperative. Guards had ordered other prisoners to persuade her day and night, attempting to break her will. The mental torture was relentless. Under such torment, Zhao Xue's blood pressure reached 220/140. However, instead of receiving medical attention, she was forced to stand or squat until midnight.

· In a meeting involving government officials on Jan 17, 2000, when a so-called "transformed" person said, "The guards were wonderful to the practitioners. They never beat or cursed at them, and they treated practitioners like parents treat their children", Zou Guirong stood up and refuted the lie loudly: "You are not telling the truth!" She barely finished before her mouth was covered. The "transformed" people around her grabbed her by the hair and neck, and dragged her out of the room. Ding Shifa, Chairman of the Policy and Law Commit-

tee in Liaoning Province, referred to this event in a speech as "help and salvation to Falun Gong practitioners" by "the Party and the government". Ding Shifa did not allow Zou Guirong to refute the lie told by the "transformed practitioner", and he did not stop the violence that happened right in front of him. On the contrary, he praised the so-called transformed people as "a special combat team". More than one thousand Falun Gong practitioners, who were forced to attend the meeting, saw clearly what had really happened.

Zou Guirong has gone through multiple severe beatings and electric shocks during her time at Masanjia. They have even impaled toothpicks under her fingernails. After causing wounds and bruises all over her body, the guards even wrote Mr. Li's name on her arm and back, forcing her to bare her back and walk from one cell to another.

Note: The Masanjia Re-education Labor Camp has been commended as a model center for the so-called "transformation of Falun Gong practitioners". Personnel from this camp have been sent to many other labor camps to train authorities how to effectively persecute Falun Gong practitioners. As a result, reports are coming in of similar abuse against women from many other labor camps. After learning the "transformation" experience in Masanjia Labor Camp, a policeman in Dalian told the local practitioners, "What is 'Forbearance?' 'Forbearance' is that you are raped and you don't sue!" [in reference to Falun Gong's belief in Truthfulness, Benevolence, Forbearance]

Su Jing, female, 48 years old, chief female instructor of Masanjia Labor Camp, was awarded "Secondary Contribution" for her crackdown on Falun Gong during the National Day holiday. She once said, "It's just a piece of cake to transform them (practitioners), I have a lot of tricks".



PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Torture - A Growing Scourge in China

Time for Action (excerpts)

This document is excerpted with permission from Amnesty International. The complete report is available online at www.amnesty.org, or through your nearest office of Amnesty International.

1. INTRODUCTION

...

Torture and ill-treatment are prevalent during high profile political campaigns such as the crackdown on the banned Falun Gong organization. On the few occasions when officials have responded to the detailed testimonies provided by victims and their families, they have issued contradictory statements or absolute denials of wrongdoing. There is little indication that allegations have been thoroughly investigated. Such indifference may be interpreted as official acquiescence in torture and ill-treatment when it is undertaken during national priority campaigns. It calls into question the government's sincerity in the fight against torture. All citizens deserve and must be provided with protection against torture.

...

2.3) Torture By A Growing Range Of Part-time Police "Defence" And "Security" Teams

...

Mutual Defence Teams were frequently reported to be the perpetrators of torture and ill-treatment against members of the Falun Gong (FLG), in the immediate aftermath of the ban on the spiritual group in July 1999. For example, in Hunan Province on 25 July in Anhua county, Ms. Li Juhua, a FLG practitioner at the Meicheng Town practice site, was allegedly apprehended by the local Mutual Defence Team and raped by members of the team, suffering severe mental trauma as a result. On 26 July in Xiangtan city, Mr. Yang Junhua, the contact person of the FLG Shaoshan practice site in Xiangtan City, was allegedly beaten and injured by members of the No. 7 Joint Defence Team of Xiangtan City. There is no indication that these serious allegations have been properly investigated.

...

2.8) Torture of the Mentally Ill and Misuse of Psychiatric Hospitals

...

Many cases have also been reported in which Falun Gong practitioners, alone or in groups, were taken by police to mental hospitals where they were detained for periods varying from a few days to many months. Reports indicate that they did not have a psychiatric examination before being detained and were often forced to take drugs against their will. On 20 January 2000, Yang Yong, a spokesman for the Changguang police station in Fangshan district in Beijing, confirmed to a foreign journalist that around 50 practitioners, mainly women, were being held at the Zhoukoudian psychiatric hospital near Beijing. He said they "are not patients, they are there to be re-educated ... Most of them are Falun Gong extremists who have been to Beijing to protest at least 10 times".⁽¹³⁾



Friends of Falun Gong

Friends of Falun Gong is a U.S. based non-profit organization of individuals who firmly support and advocate for freedom of belief and other human rights. Friends of Falun Gong seeks in particular to free the Falun Gong prisoners of conscience in the People's Republic of China and to end the persecution of Falun Gong in China. To this end, FoFG intends to obtain broad support for this cause, and to raise international awareness about the rights violations in the persecution of Falun Gong.

Friends of Falun Gong is actively involved in documenting the torture and abuse of those who practice Falun Gong in China. Prior and ongoing activities include:

1. Documentation of torture, abuse, and deaths of those who practice Falun Gong.
2. Public campaigns to rescue imprisoned or physically injured practitioners.
3. Outreach to international human rights organizations, media, and government bodies for assistance in stopping the persecution.

You can assist in Friends of Falun Gong's work by becoming a Friend yourself at no cost. All Friends receive FoFG's monthly newsletter, which includes notices of campaigns and events, along with updates on the situation in China.

Friends of Falun Gong welcomes your support.

Friends of Falun Gong is a Not-For-Profit Corporation registered in the state of New York, on November 20, 2000. The application for the tax-exempt status 501(c)(3) has been filed with the United States government.

Contact Friends of Falun Gong

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Help stop the violence against female practitioners of Falun Gong



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