

Clearwisdom Digest

Issue 31 • March 2005

Clearwisdom.net

Table of Content

News and Events from Around the World	1
<i>US Western Falun Dafa Cultivation Experience Sharing Conference Held in San Francisco..</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>New York: Practitioners Urge International Media to Pay Attention to their Moral and Professional Responsibility and Expose the Persecution</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Australian Organization Submits List of Persecutors' Names to the Government, Requests Ban on Their Entry into Australia</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Finnish TV Reports on the Second Wave of Telephone Propaganda against Falun Gong Practitioners.....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Switzerland: Local Government Official Expresses Support at an Anti-Torture Exhibition.....</i>	<i>9</i>
Facts of the Persecution.....	11
<i>Mr. Tan Yanjun from Hegang City, Heilongjiang Province Died After Being Paralyzed by Tortures in February 2005.....</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>The Savages in Tilanqiao Prison, Shanghai, China</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Exposing the inside stories in the Basement of Beijing Public Security Hospital</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>A Disabled Practitioner is Illegally Tried in Tiexi District Court, Shenyang City, Liaoning Province</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Ms. Bai Junjie from Zhangjiakou City, Hebei Province Is On Hunger Strike and Her Life Is In Peril.....</i>	<i>17</i>
Falun Gong Practitioners' Noble Actions in China	20
<i>Practitioners in Sichuan Province Cooperate to Tell the Facts to the Public.....</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Falun Gong Practitioners Step up the Momentum for Clarifying the Truth -- People Learn the Truth and Request Dafa New Year's Couplets.....</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>Detained Female Falun Gong Practitioners in Changping Detention Center Resist Persecution.....</i>	<i>25</i>
People Awaken to the Truth	27
<i>Elementary School Students Bring Petition Letter to a Jail to Help Rescue Their Innocent Teacher.....</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>Two Stories from Tangshan City, China.....</i>	<i>30</i>
Media Reports and Opinions	31
<i>U.S. Newswire, Washington DC: Attorney General Asked to Investigate Massive Harassment Calls</i>	<i>32</i>

<i>AFP: US Rebukes China's Human Rights Record.....</i>	<i>33</i>
<i>San Francisco Chronicle: Politics on Parade for Chinese New Year Fest [Excerpt]</i>	<i>35</i>
<i>Belfast Telegraph Newspaper: Show to Focus on Torture in China.....</i>	<i>36</i>
<i>Now Toronto Report Describes PRC's Worldwide Persecution of Falun Gong and Practitioners' Peaceful Resistance.....</i>	<i>37</i>
Falun Gong Practitioners' Personal Experiences	41
<i>Retired Official's Diabetes Healed After Cultivating Falun Gong for Less than Two Months</i>	<i>42</i>
<i>Falun Gong Brings a Seventy-year-old Back to Life.....</i>	<i>44</i>

News and Events from Around the World

US Western Falun Dafa Cultivation Experience Sharing Conference Held in San Francisco

On February 26, 2005, the US Western Falun Dafa Cultivation Experience Sharing Conference was grandly held at the Paramount Center in San Francisco, with about 2000 practitioners from around the world in attendance. At 1:35 p.m., our great benevolent Teacher came to the conference hall and received warm applause. He lectured for about 35 minutes, and then answered questions for about two hours.



In his lecture, Master Li stressed many issues mentioned in previous lectures, including that the cultivation way of Falun Gong practitioners is different from all other methods in history. The persecution has not ended and we need to move forward along the path. We need to cultivate righteously and in a dignified way. We should not be moved by a favorable turn due to the current situation, or the appearance of a new situation. In the validation of Dafa, everyone should be more clear-headed. Falun Dafa practitioners cannot reach Consummation while their thoughts are still in accordance with that evil party.

After the 35-minute lecture, Master Li considered that practitioners would have questions in cultivation and wished to have them answered, so He stayed for two more hours and answered all of the questions that were turned in.

After the lecture, a dozen young practitioners from pre-school to high school age presented fresh flowers on the stage. Master Li accepted the flowers and had a group photo taken with the young practitioners.

Before leaving, Master Li walked to the microphone and said to all the practitioners present, "I will wait for your good news."

At the conference, eleven practitioners gave speeches and shared their cultivation experiences. Participants of this conference also included some practitioners' family members and friends. Along with the progress of the Fa-rectification and truth-clarification of practitioners, in addition to supporting Falun Dafa, more and more people wish to learn about Falun Gong and how to practice.

A staff member at the Paramount Center said that she felt a strong energy field in the conference hall. She said, "There must be a great enlightened being here. My legs were hurting but now I don't feel pain. I am fortunate to be here today."

New York: Practitioners Urge International Media to Pay Attention to their Moral and Professional Responsibility and Expose the Persecution

On Tuesday February 22, 2005, the Falun Dafa Information Center and Eastern US Falun Dafa Association held a press conference at the New York Press Club and condemned the Chinese Communist regime's phone harassment campaign against Falun Gong practitioners outside of China. Regarding a recent *Associated Press* article that is being used by the Chinese authorities to legitimize a five-year brutal campaign against Falun Gong, the practitioners at the press conference also urged the media to pay attention to their moral and professional responsibility to dig into the story of the Falun Gong persecution, find the truth, and report it.



The Press Conference Venue

1. The Chinese Communist Party's phone harassment campaign

During the first half of February, several hundred Falun Gong practitioners across North America, Europe, the Middle East, Australia and Asia received a barrage of intimidating phone calls with recorded propaganda messages demonizing Falun Gong in relation to the Chinese Communist Regime's staged self-immolation incident of January 2001.

Practitioners have contacted federal and local law enforcement agencies, filed the cases and requested a detailed investigation.

Since July 1999, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and Jiang Zemin have exposed their cruelty and wickedness by brutally persecuting Falun Gong practitioners in China. They also shamelessly export their lies and intimidation overseas. They bully organizations and individuals to not support Falun Gong, using various interests as an exchange; they send letters containing lies and slanderous information to government officials, and block practitioners from participating in activities in the local Chinese communities outside of China.

For the past five years, practitioners have continuously spread Falun Dafa to the world's people and clarified the truth of Falun Gong. Countless people have come to know the grace of Falun Gong, the cruelty of the Chinese Communist Party and the truth of the staged self-immolation incident. More and more organizations and individuals have expressed their support for practitioners. Participation of Falun Gong in parades in Chinatowns is now welcomed in the U.S. from coast to coast. The lies of the Chinese Embassy and consulates are being exposed. The anti-torture exhibitions of practitioners worldwide, especially in Manhattan, have moved people's hearts.

Recently, the Chinese Communist regime has conducted an anonymous phone harassment campaign against Falun Gong practitioners in dozens of cities worldwide, demonstrating its puerile and irresponsible nature. This provides a chance for police and governments worldwide to recognize the wickedness of the Chinese Communist regime.

Practitioner Ms. Ma said that she was a successful businesswoman in China and was forced to leave enormous assets behind and come to the U.S.A. after the persecution of Falun Gong began in 1999. Three of her phone numbers received several phone calls each. Ms. Ma said, "Intimidation cannot change our belief. On the contrary, we will be more steadfast and diligent."

2. Urging the media to report fairly and expose the facts of the persecution

The harassment calls cited an article by the *Associated Press* on January 21, 2005 about the Chinese government-staged Tiananmen self-immolation incident.

A spokesperson for Falun Dafa gave a speech and pointed out the fact that, "The international media has a moral and professional responsibility to dig into the story of the persecution of Falun Gong, find the truth, and report it. Today in China, not only has the state-run propaganda apparatus been turned against Falun Gong, but the Communist leadership is now manipulating the international media for its purposes. The Chinese authorities prevent the international media from doing any real coverage of Falun Gong, going so far as to threaten to revoke licenses, and detaining and abusing foreign reporters. At the same time, the Chinese authorities make use of the international media - as they did with the carefully staged interviews for the AP - to portray the distortions and lies about Falun Gong as 'credible' media reports.

"The persecution of Falun Gong is vast in scope and horrifying in its implementation. We have documented over 35,000 cases of severe abuse or torture in prison camps and detention centers. Thousands are dead. Hundreds of thousands, if not millions, languish in labor camps and detention centers throughout China. Brainwashing centers have been established all across the country to use both psychological and physical

torture to destroy people's beliefs and implant the CCP line into their hearts and souls-- a process that often leaves people psychologically devastated, if not dead. The over 100 million people in China today who practice Falun Gong are forced to choose between their deeply-held spiritual beliefs or the state's system of brainwashing and torture."

The spokesperson urged, "Our common humanity calls upon us to stop this persecution, and it must begin with the media. Full disclosure of these atrocities will hasten their end, and no one is in a better position to disclose what is happening than the media."

At the press conference, reporters from several major English and Chinese media asked questions. The practitioners stated that they would not be intimidated by the harassment calls from the Communist regime, but would take this as an opportunity to further explain the facts of the persecution, especially the staged self-immolation, to phone companies, police and government agencies.

Australian Organization Submits List of Persecutors' Names to the Government, Requests Ban on Their Entry into Australia

The *Australian Association of Legal Assistance for Persecuted Falun Gong Practitioners* has recently submitted a list of names to the relevant Australian authorities, which includes 94 Chinese Communist Party officials who are actively persecuting Falun Gong practitioners in China. The Association is requesting the Australian government to deny entry to those who perpetrate crimes against humanity. This list includes Jiang Zemin, the former President of China, those principal members of the notorious 610 Office, set up solely to persecute people who practice Falun Gong, and those persons in charge of the forced labor camps that are heavily involved in the persecution of Falun Gong.

Falun Gong is a cultivation way from the Buddha School that benefits both the mind and body. It was made public by Mr. Li Hongzhi in 1992, and within seven years, until the persecution began in July 1999, it has been practiced by approximately one hundred million people in China alone. Looking at Falun Gong today, it has spread to more than 60 countries all over the world and has received more than a thousand proclamations and awards from various levels of governments in many countries. Only in China do Falun Gong practitioners suffer severe and unprecedented persecution.

So far, the verified deaths of Falun Gong practitioners in China as a result of the persecution have reached 1,353, while the actual number of deaths is probably far beyond that. As more information becomes available, the details of these practitioners' suffering will be made public. Countless Falun Gong practitioners currently suffer torture and inhuman abuse in prisons, forced labor camps and brainwashing centers across China.

The list of perpetrators provided by the *Australian Association of Legal Assistance for Persecuted Falun Gong Practitioners*, are all people who have actively participated in the persecution of Falun Gong and who have committed severe crimes against humanity, including torture and genocide. Some of these people have been sued in many countries.

According to Australian law, whoever is guilty of crimes against humanity is prohibited from entering Australian territory. Therefore, the *Australian Association of Legal Assistance for Persecuted Falun Gong Practitioners* submitted the name list, so that the Australian government and the people of Australia can utilize the relevant international and Australian regulations, to supervise the criminals' whereabouts and use justice to help reveal and terminate their crimes against humanity.

Finnish TV Reports on the Second Wave of Telephone Propaganda against Falun Gong Practitioners

On February 23 and 24, several Finnish Falun Gong practitioners were targets of a second wave of telephone harassment calls. The attacks were similar in nature to the first round, which occurred between February 6 and 8 in 23 different countries. In Finland, five practitioners received around 1,500 calls over the course of three days, with phones ringing for hours on end. If these automated calls were answered, a tape started playing information defaming Falun Gong. The nature of the recorded message is consistent with the propaganda that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has been trying to push all over the world since it banned Falun Gong in July 1999.

When the first wave of calls happened, news of the harassment was published in different media organizations around Finland. TV channel "Nelonen" extensively reported on the second wave of harassment in its evening news on February 25. A practitioner from the city of Oulu was interviewed in the report and suggested that the reason for this persecution campaign happening in western countries is that Falun Gong practitioners are exposing the CCP's human rights crimes to the world. The practitioner also stated that Falun Gong is an upright practice encouraging high moral standards, and Communist officials fear this due to the endemic corruption in China's official state organs.

A police officer from Oulu was also interviewed. He stated that the police had launched an official investigation based on the reports handed in by Falun Gong practitioners in Finland, and that records of the phone calls were being investigated. The news report also stated that the Finnish Foreign Ministry was ready to step in if the source of the calls was verified to be China.

Switzerland: Local Government Official Expresses Support at an Anti-Torture Exhibition

Although it is already mid-February, west Switzerland is still snow-covered with a bitter wind. On February 19th, some of the German-speaking practitioners braved the severe cold and held anti-torture exhibitions in both Murten and Schwyz. People were astonished as they read the poster boards and learned about the torture methods used on Falun Gong practitioners in China in cruel attempts to force them to give up their beliefs. They expressed their indignation at the persecution of 100 million practitioners, instigated by former CCP head Jiang Zemin and carried out by the Chinese Communist Party. They also expressed their great sympathy for Falun Gong practitioners who have lost their families, jobs, homes and even lives in a campaign of genocide that has lasted almost six years. Swiss people came and asked for Falun Gong leaflets; they listened to the practitioners talk about the persecution and signed a petition calling for an end to these horrific human rights abuses.



Anti-torture exhibit draws many people's attention. They come to learn more about Falun Gong.

The following are some stories that happened at the exhibition:

"Open her shackles!"

A lady approached our stall. When she saw someone dressed as a Chinese policeman and simulating an act of torture on a Falun Gong practitioner she was furious and said, "Stop your evil conduct!" Another gentleman saw a practitioner being tied up on a tiger bench and said, "Please open her shackles and release the rope!" Practitioners have found that simulating the torture methods is an extremely effective way of letting people know more about the violations of human rights against Falun Gong practitioners.

A carpet seller understands the truth

There was a carpet shop not far from our stall. The proprietor was moved when he saw how Falun Gong practitioners use their spare time and money to produce leaflets and brave the snow, handing them out free of charge. The practitioners told him that Falun Gong is good and the persecution is wrong. He expressed his agreement and asked practitioners to write Truthfulness, Compassion and Forbearance in Chinese calligraphy for him, which he happily took back to his store. Afterwards, he invited practitioners to warm up in his store and have a hot drink.

Murten government official comes to express support

The local governor who authorized the anti-torture exhibition came to our stall at the end of the activity. She said, "You've done very well! You have justified the significance of this exhibition and shown Truthfulness, Compassion and Forbearance to our inhabitants by your conduct and good behavior. I am extremely happy and I thank you a lot! I've already seen a lot of our locals sign the petition to support you and am certain you will succeed."

Facts of the Persecution

Mr. Tan Yanjun from Hegang City, Heilongjiang Province Died After Being Paralyzed by Tortures in February 2005

Falun Gong Practitioner Mr. Tan Yanjun was detained three times and suffered various methods of torture, resulting in whole body paralysis. In the middle of November, 2004, when it was apparent that his life was in danger, he was released on medical parole. He died on February 27, 2005. He is survived by two young children. His father Tan Guoyi died on July 3, 2004 as a result of constant harassment.

Mr. Tan Yanjun was 41 years old and lived in the Ninth Group, Forty-fifth Neighborhood, Gongnong District, Hegang City, Heilongjiang Province. On March 1, 2000, he was arrested for the second time at his home and taken to the Xinnan Substation by policeman Zhang Ping. The policeman handcuffed him and took his house key from his pocket, and then confiscated all of his Falun Dafa books, stereo, cash and many valuables. Mr. Tan was sent to a detention center and held for seven months, where he endured all types of torture. As a result, he could no longer walk and at one point, was unconscious for nine days. Police were afraid of being held responsible for his death and released him after extorting two thousand yuan.

On the morning of January 9, 2002, Mr. Tan was arrested again by policemen Zhang Jun, Liu Bing, and Jiang Jinsheng, and sent to the Hegang City First Detention Center. Gongnong District Station police deputy director Mr. Li Shujiang (also the city's 610 Office director) often interrogated him using brutal torture. Li Shujiang said viciously, "If you do not speak, we will beat your 206 bones one at a time. If we beat you to death, you will just be part of the quota we are allowed to kill. If you are not dead, your last breath would do!" Mr. Tan was beaten so brutally that he became sick with heart disease and a ruptured eardrum, and his whole body was paralyzed. He could only lie down on the floor and could not take care of himself.

Even though Mr. Tan Yanjun's life was in danger, he was still sentenced to nine years in prison. The detention center also denied his family visitation rights. The lawless police tried to have him admitted to the prison several times, but were rejected due to his severe physical condition. His family tried to rescue him many times from the police, but it was no use. When he was on his deathbed, he was bailed out on medical parole in the middle of November 2004, and died at around noon on February 27, 2005.

Relevant phone numbers:

Hegang City First Detention Center, Director Office, 86-468-3400777, Operator, 86-468-3406171

Gongnong District Police Station in Hegang City, Director's Office, 86-468-3423113, Deputy Director's Office, 86-468-3422575

The Savages in Tilanqiao Prison, Shanghai, China

In Tilanqiao Prison of Shanghai, Falun Gong Practitioners were formerly detained in Ward 5. Because the evil crimes of the guards at Tilanqiao Prison have constantly been exposed and Falun Gong Practitioners resisted the persecution with righteous minds, Ward 5 has been shut down. Now Ward 2 is responsible for detaining Falun Gong Practitioners. Fu Kehu and Shen Yanrong, the former Party secretary and the former Group head of Division 5 respectively, were reassigned to other positions elsewhere. The current Group head of Ward 2 is Fei Chunlei; the political head of the Group is Zhang Jian. The director of the prison is Qiao Liguo, who was appointed as delegate to the District People's Congress, largely based on his primary "achievement" in suppressing Falun Gong practitioners. The deputy head is Wang Dongsheng.

The Group that detains Falun Gong Practitioners used to be the place for detaining criminals awaiting the death penalty. The original name was "Youth Experimental Group." It is a place with the most cruel management and punishment within the whole prison system in Shanghai. The Group is located on a certain floor of the building with a long and narrow layout. The ends of the building are designated as the Eastern Section and the Western Section, with the guards' office placed in between the two. In an attempt to further break down Falun Gong Practitioners, the guards incarcerate those who had been "transformed" in the Western Section, where a "relaxed management" is adopted. Those who steadfastly refuse to be transformed are detained in the Eastern Section, where the so-called "strict management" is applied. In order to stir up psychological terror and to prevent Falun Gong Practitioners from sharing with one another, the staff in Tilanqiao Prison ordered three criminal inmates to monitor and abuse Falun Gong Practitioners 24 hours a day.

The guards subject steadfast Falun Gong Practitioners to long-term incarceration in a small cell of 3.3 square meters (35 square feet). The longest term was four years, as in the case of practitioner Zhou Bin. The detainee is not allowed to get out at all. Eating, sleeping and using the toilet are all restricted to the cell. The guards force the detainee to get up at 5:30 a.m. and to sit still with both hands behind the back. The detainee is forced to take different postures, including crouching with both hands handcuffed behind the back, being forced to listen to recordings slandering Dafa for long periods of time with earphones, sitting on the floor with both legs bound together or sitting on a small bowl. All kinds of violent ways have been used to forcibly "transform" practitioners. Criminal inmate Hu Kaifeng beat Falun Gong Practitioner Tao Xiangwei four times a day - in the morning, at noon, in the evening, and at midnight. He even dunked Mr. Tao's head in the toilet bowl. Practitioners who are still not transformed and whose prison terms are up within a month are targets of brutal beating by Hu Kaifeng. The criminal inmates resort to violence and torture practitioners who persevere in doing the exercises and go on hunger strikes to protest the persecution.

Practitioner Hua Wei had been beaten three times by a group of four to six inmates until his legs turned bluish all over. Practitioners Yang Jiuqing and Zhang Qin had been brutalized by a gang of criminal inmates to the point where their bodies swelled up and turned purplish all over. Practitioner Du Ting went on a hunger strike for 431 days. When he tried to shout out words in support of Dafa, the criminals choked him until he passed out. When he was force-fed, the perpetrator dragged Mr. Du across the cement ground, seriously abrading and injuring his skin. Practitioner Xiong Wenqi also went on a hunger strike for 431 days. His hands and legs were bound 24 hours a day. Practitioner Qu Yanlai had been beaten numerous times in Ward 8, where guards often held so-called "comment and evaluation" meetings to viciously slander and attack Falun Gong. For those practitioners who refused to listen to the slander, the guards would force them to wear earphones to listen. For those very determined practitioners, the guards would transfer them to other wards for even more brutal torture.

Exposing the inside stories in the Basement of Beijing Public Security Hospital

I am a Falun Gong Practitioner who was recently abducted and held in the basement of the Public Security Hospital in Beijing. I would like to expose the evil that is happening there.

The way the evil persecutes Falun Gong Practitioners is that if you do not comply, they will tie you to the death bed until you yield and cooperate with them. I was tied to the death bed for over 60 hours. It was only when I almost died that they let me go. Right in front of me, a female practitioner had been tied for 25 days, with a tube inserted through her nose and another tube for her urine. It was an unbearable sight. When she was released from the death bed, one of her arms was not able to move. This cruel method is used to persecute older people as well. A white-haired lady from Beijing was tied to the death bed. A female nurse named Zhao Yan, who is extremely vicious, forced her. When the older lady refused to cooperate with her, the nurse slapped her on the face three times. The older lady resisted until they exhausted their methods. They had to release her in the end. It was said that four other female practitioners are still being jailed there.

The government covers all medical costs incurred at the Public Security Hospital in Beijing. The hospital uses all kinds of equipment on whoever comes through the door. Patients are given very expensive medications, and the medical staff gets commissions from using the equipment and medication. I heard that before me, three other female practitioners were sent from here to a forced labor camp for further persecution.

A Disabled Practitioner is Illegally Tried in Tiexi District Court, Shenyang City, Liaoning Province

On January 31, 2005, the Tiexi District Court of Shenyang City illegally tried Ms. Shi Shengying, a Falun Gong practitioner from the Tiexi District, in Courtroom 12 on the second floor of the courthouse. Shi Shengying, 65 years old, was arrested in early December 2004, while she was talking with the people about the truth of Falun Gong at Xinghua Park in the Tiexi District. Since then, she has been illegally detained in a Shenyang City jail.

During her so-called "hearing," the chief judge repeatedly interrupted Shi Shengying's testimony. Ms. Shi explained that she had been disabled due to a car accident and that she had recovered only after beginning to practice Falun Dafa. Although she had benefited from Falun Dafa both physically and spiritually, she was being inhumanly persecuted for her belief at the Masanjia Forced Labor Camp. The chief judge interrupted her, "Do not talk about these things. Just say whether you spread propaganda about Falun Gong in the park." Ms. Shi's family members questioned the interruption and said that it is absolutely legal for anyone to practice Falun Gong and to be a good person. The main judge then hastily announced, "That is the end of the hearing. A sentence will be announced on a selected date after a court discussion."

Right before the opening of the trial, a tall policeman threatened, pushed and hit Ms. Shi's husband while he was trying to inquire about some hearing-related questions. When Ms. Shi's daughter saw that her mother still wore a pair of plastic slippers in the wintertime, she brought a pair of cotton shoes for her mother. However, the police refused to allow the daughter to give them to her.

Ms. Bai Junjie from Zhangjiakou City, Hebei Province Is On Hunger Strike and Her Life Is In Peril

At 9:00 a.m. on February 16, 2005, Falun Gong practitioner Ms. Bai Junjie was illegally put on trial in Qiaodong Court in Zhangjiakou City. During the nineteen days from her arrest to her trial, the involved officials have not followed the law or legal procedures. Bai Junjie has been on a hunger strike for over twenty days in Zhangjiakou City Detention Center. She is very weak and her life is in great danger.

On the afternoon of January 28, 2005, about five policemen (including Wuyilu Police Station Chief Wang Fengjun, deputy chief Shi, and the political head Wu) arrested Bai Junjie's family members and brother-in-law, and brought them to the Wuyilu Police Station for interrogation. The police tried to force them to divulge Bai Junjie's whereabouts. Later, the Wuyilu Police Station, Administration Office, Qiaodong District Police Department, Criminal Police Team, and Qiaodong District Procuratorate acted together to ransack Bai Junjie's home. They also staked out selected sites near Bai's house to try to arrest her. At approximately 7:00 p.m. Bai went back home and she was arrested and taken to the Qiaodong Police Department. Around midnight the lawless persons released Bai Junjie's family members and brother-in-law. At the Qiaodong Police Department, the Wuyilu Police Station deputy chief Shi beat her and tried to get confessions from her. The next day she was sent to the Zhangjiakou City Shisanli Detention Center.

Bai Junjie is a retired employee of the Zhangjiakou City No. 1 Shoe Factory. She was previously often ill, with heart disease, cholecystitis, pelvic infection, cervical vertebra osteophytosis, and other illness. When her heart disease severely relapsed, she experienced prostration and whole body edema. In early 1995, she started practicing Falun Gong. She strictly followed the xinxing requirements of Falun Dafa. As she kept upgrading her xinxing and purifying her heart, her illnesses were all cured. In the ten years since she began practicing Falun Gong, she had not needed any medicine, and her health has been excellent. After Jiang Zemin's gang started to persecute Falun Gong on July 20, 1999, Bai went to Beijing several times to appeal and speak out about the injustice that Falun Gong has received. For this she was illegally detained many times by the Wuyilu Police Station.

At the end of October 2000, the persecution of Falun Gong was continually worsening. Bai and fellow practitioners planned to send out doves of peace to tell people about the beauty of Falun Dafa, but they were stopped by the police from Qiaodong Police Department when they walked to the Xiahuayuan District. Zhangjiakou City Police Department, the 610 Office, and the Qiaodong Police Department reported this incident to the provincial, city, and the CCP Central Committee as a severe case. They also considered Bai Junjie to be a leader of Falun Gong. Former Qiaodong Police Department

chief Yan Zhiyou, deputy chief Ma Fuwei, political head Li Quanfu, and other police interrogated Bai continuously for nine days, during which time she was not allowed to sleep. She was forced to sit on a tiger bench, and the police tried to force a confession from her through both coercion and trickery.

On the eighth day after this arrest, Bai's blood pressure became very high, and her life was in danger. Li Quanfu and the other police sent Bai to the No. 3 Hospital, where she was cuffed and tied to a bed for barbarous force-feeding and intravenous infusion. The police also extorted 1000 yuan from her employer. Nine days later, Bai was again sent to the Shisanli Detention Center.

During the illegal detention of 40 days, Bai protested by holding a hunger strike. The Criminal Police Team of the Qiaodong Police Department and medical staff of the No. 3 Hospital force-fed her nine times in a barbaric manner. During the force-feeding, six males acted together, some holding her head down, some pressing down her legs, and some squeezing her nose. They fiercely inserted a finger-thick rubber tube into her stomach through her nose, which was so painful for her that she could not straighten her back.

After a total of 49 days of two imprisonments at the detention center, Bai became extremely weak due to the torture. But political head Li Quanfu led others to the detention center, declaring that she was formally arrested and transferred to Yuanhua City Detention Center. To resist the persecution, Bai staged a hunger strike for seventeen days. Her life was in peril, and only then was she allowed medical bail to seek treatment. Ten days later Qiaodong Police Department informed her that she would be put on trial and sentenced. Since then, Bai was forced to leave home and become destitute to avoid further persecution. Later, the Qiaodong Police Department and Wuyilu Police Station put her on the wanted list and kept trying to arrest her. Local policeman Li Yingbin also continually harassed her family members.

On February 9, 2002, when Bai went home to wash her clothes, policeman Li Yingbin illegally broke into her home to harass her. Li was plotting to arrest Bai, but Bai's family resisted the illegal persecution. Bai finally escaped with by maintaining a righteous mindset. The Qiaodong Police Department director Yan Zhiyou, deputy director Ma Fuwei, and Wuyilu Police Station chief Deng Jianmin illegally arrested Bai's daughter and son-in-law. They also broke into her home and ransacked it. The police threatened her family members and attempted to extort 80,000 yuan. The police also staked out many locations in an attempt to arrest Bei. Bei's family members went everywhere to borrow money, and the lawless persons took the chance to frenziedly collect money for themselves. Among them, local policeman Li Yingbin extorted 6,000 yuan, Qiaodong Police Department got 20,000 yuan, and Wuyilu Police Station took 2,000 yuan. Despite the payments, Bei's daughter was still sentenced, and her son-in-law was illegally

detained for over thirty days. In addition to Bei being persecuted, the persecution has bankrupted her two families, broken the families apart, and put them into great debt.

During the 16th Chinese Communist Party (CCP) National Conference, former Wuyilu Police Station chief Deng Jianmin led the police to the home of Bei's daughter to threaten them into divulging Bei's whereabouts. Political head Wu led two policemen with two police vehicles to stake out some selected places, including the homes of Bei's relatives and friends, in order to arrest Bei. The police also ordered Bei's employer to stop paying Bei her pension.

On January 28, 2005, Bei was again arrested. She has been on a hunger strike in Zhangjiakou City Detention Center for almost twenty days, and she is very weak. Her life is in grave danger.

Falun Gong Practitioners' Noble Actions in China

Practitioners in Sichuan Province Cooperate to Tell the Facts to the Public

Since the head of CCP began the persecution of Falun Gong more than five years ago, the practitioners in Sichuan Province have steadfastly marched through the ordeal with Teacher's care and blessings. It was joyful to witness people learning the truth. It was also painful to learn some difficult lessons. I am describing the experiences of practitioners in a particular location in Sichuan Province where they persisted in their efforts in the past five years to clarify the facts to the public, gradually changing the whole atmosphere.

At first practitioners there were severely persecuted. Some practitioners had their livestock or staples taken away. Some had their houses torn down. Some were deprived of their sleep and then beaten and forced to kneel while holding a bucket of water over their head. Some, carrying a baby on the back, were forced to wear a hat made for ridicule and openly criticized and humiliated in public, then forced to walk the streets. Some practitioners were beaten and injured or paralyzed, or even killed. Although just a small city, they applied all sorts resources to the persecution. Facilities included the detention center, jail, brainwashing classes, and psychiatric hospitals. The whole atmosphere was horrifying.

The practitioners were never intimidated. Rather, they steadfastly trusted Teacher and believed in Dafa. They were diligent in cultivation and followed Teacher in the process of Fa-rectification, and caused the local environment to change dramatically.

In March 2004, I visited again. When my car drove past a police station in a local town, I saw two banners hung from the telephone pole across the street. One said: "Falun Dafa is Great," the other said: "The Whole World Tries Jiang Zemin." The banners fluttered in the wind and appeared to have been there for days. I knew immediately that the practitioners there were truly doing great. After I arrived at the practitioner's house, I rode a bike to invite another practitioner over for experience sharing. On my way I found that the banners showing "Falun Dafa Is Great" were everywhere - on the roadside, at the intersection, on the utility poles by the fields, and on trees. During the experience sharing, I said: "You are doing great here. Banners are everywhere." She said: "It's nothing now. It would be fantastic if you came here half a month ago. You would see pairs of banners everywhere: on big streets, in small alleys, on trees and utility poles on roadsides and by the fields. One banner of the pair said: 'Anniversary of practitioner xxx's death,' and was decorated with little white flowers. The other said: 'Falun Dafa is great.' They were hung there for a long time and effectively suppressed the evil."

Practitioners even went to the homes of local party officials, policemen, and the 610 Office staff in person to explain to them the facts about Falun Gong. They were perserverent and would not give up until the listeners indeed accepted the truth. On

swap-meet days, everyone would gather in a practitioner's house around 10 am for experience sharing. The number of participants ranged from 20 to as many as 80. They had several mock trials of Jiang Zemin. The meeting would dismiss after practitioners sent forth righteous thoughts. The practitioners indeed formed one body and the news of the events spread fast.

When a practitioner was killed due to persecution, all practitioners in surrounding areas were informed and asked for support. As many as a thousand practitioners gathered during the few days around the funeral and studied the Fa and shared experiences in groups. The city 610 Office and the police department were alerted and came to check. They found that the practitioners had formed an indestructible body so they just drove away quietly. On the journey to the funeral house to cremate the deceased practitioner, practitioners lined up for miles and chanted all the way: "Falun Dafa is great. Falun Dafa is righteous. Clear Teacher's name, Clear Falun Dafa's name. Falun Dafa has been wrongfully accused." The scene strongly intimidated the evildoers.

Local residents witnessed the spirit of the practitioners and observed the way practitioners were helping each other and were quite moved. They joined the Falun Gong Practitioners one after another, leading to a shortage of Dafa book supplies. None of the local practitioners were jailed in the local jail, detention center, brainwashing classes or the psychiatric hospitals.

The evil put three practitioners on trial in the city. Because the news was learned too late, only 200 practitioners were informed in time to attend. They crowded the court, both on and off the stage. Practitioners formed an indestructible unity, chanting, "Falun Dafa is great" and other slogans. The judge was forced to close the session in a hurry. Afterwards practitioners voluntarily formed groups of a few people and went to the city court, city police department, the 610 Office and the city national police team to demand the release of jailed practitioners. Two of the practitioners were unconditionally released. Practitioners were doing their best to rescue the third one.

Falun Gong Practitioners Step up the Momentum for Clarifying the Truth - - People Learn the Truth and Request Dafa New Year's Couplets

By a Falun Gong Practitioner from China

After Master Li's article "Let Go of Human Attachments and Save the World's People" was published, our local practitioners strengthened the momentum of truth-clarification efforts. Practitioners in the countryside, especially, began clarifying the truth door-to-door. After finishing truth clarification in their own villages, they went to villages where there were no Falun Gong Practitioners. Some practitioners went to villages far from their own to clarify the truth. After they learned the facts, some people asked the practitioners to have meals with them, some invited the practitioners to stay overnight, and some even wanted to clarify the truth together with the practitioners. There were also some people who wanted to learn Falun Gong right away. The number of new practitioners in the area has reached more than a thousand. The number of practitioners who stepped forward to clarify the truth has reached more than 3,700. Truth-clarifying materials in the area were also very plentiful, including calendars with facts about Falun Dafa on them, truth clarifying cards, VCDs, New Year's couplets (1), and pamphlets. Practitioners gave these materials to people right after they clarified the facts to them face to face. The majority of people in the area have gained a good understanding of Dafa as a result of the renewed truth-clarification efforts of practitioners.

In previous years, it was Falun Gong Practitioners who took the initiative in sending out New Year's couplets to people. This year, before New Year's Day arrived, many ordinary people had already asked for the New Year's couplets ahead of time and said, "We just put up your Falun Gong couplets. See how wonderful the words are!" Some of the couplets were as follows: "Always remember Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance. May happiness fill your home your whole life," with the streamer "Heaven extends huge blessings," and "People's hearts return to righteousness and they cherish virtue and do good. Family is in harmony and life is in safety" with the streamer "Honesty and Tolerance from above."

Some people obtained good fortune after they put up the couplets that practitioners sent to them last year, so they wanted to put up Dafa's couplets again this year. Some ordinary people didn't even put up the couplets that their family members bought, but put up Falun Gong couplets instead, because they thought they would obtain good fortune by doing so.

This year, Dafa disciples created over 20,000 pairs of New Year's couplets, 20,000 cut-outs of the character "Blessings," and 20,000 hanging banners. On the characters of "Blessings" and the banners were printed, "Falun Dafa is Good," and "Truthfulness-

Compassion-Forbearance is Good." The amount of couplets made was several times more than last year, but even so, all the couplets were taken by people. A few days before New Year's Day, the couplets that Dafa disciples had saved for themselves were even asked for by people. And still other people said, "Please save some for me next year if you still make the New Year's couplets."

All this has had a great effect on helping people to know the facts about Dafa, and on spreading Dafa.

The day before New Year's Eve 2005, Dafa disciples in a county in Northeast China hung many scrolls and banners and made a lot of couplets.

Two days before New Year's Day, eighteen huge banners over ten meters long, and five thousand small banners gently waved in the wind. An eighteen-meter long golden banner saying "All Dafa disciples around the world send New Year's greetings to our revered Teacher! Wishing Master Happy New Year!" printed on it was shining on a cell phone tower that is sixty-meters (197 ft.) high. A banner over twelve meters long saying "All Dafa disciples throughout the world send New Year's greetings to our great revered Teacher!" hung high up over the street. Colorful banners also hung on both sides of the streets, and became a unique aspect of the local scenery.

(1) New Year's couplets are a traditional custom of the Chinese Spring Festival. On the lunar New Year's Eve, households decorate their gate posts or door panels with the couplets, written on two strips of red paper and composed of two sentences that complement each other and often rhyme expressing their hopes for the coming year.

Detained Female Falun Gong Practitioners in Changping Detention Center Resist Persecution

During the past three months, the female Falun Gong practitioners detained in Changping Detention Center have denied the persecution using their righteous thoughts and righteous actions.

In an attempt to stop the practitioners' sending forth righteous thoughts, Changping Detention Center made a rule that forces Falun Gong Practitioners to lie down to sleep during three of the four global times for sending forth the righteous thoughts each day. Practitioners are not allowed to sit up during these times. It is very easy to fall asleep when sending forth righteous thought while lying down, so the practitioners decided to send forth righteous thoughts in a sitting position during all four times every day. In the beginning, some of the guards tried to stop the practitioners from doing it. The practitioners gave letters to the police telling them the reason and purpose for their sending forth the righteous thoughts. They also clarified the truth about Falun Gong and advised the authorities against participating in the persecution.

To deny the persecution entirely, the practitioners refused to follow the rules of the detention center and practiced the Falun Gong exercises when they were required to sit on the floor. They practiced the first four exercises in the morning and the sitting meditation in the afternoon. They refused to eat or drink. Two days later, on October 8, 2004, the guards separated Ms. Liu Bing and Ms. Zhu Jiaying and sent them to different detention cells with handcuffs and fetters.

Ms. Liu Bing, 31, is an advanced English teacher with double bachelor degrees. She was abducted in April 2004 by the officials from Changping 610 Office and police from the National Security Brigade while she was at work. Now, her unemployed husband is barely making a living while supporting their two-year-old child. Ms. Zhu Jiaying, 51, is an award-winning teacher. With the handcuffs and fetters, Ms. Liu has been experiencing great difficulties. She can't use the bathroom or even eat by herself and has to stoop over while walking. It is even more painful while sleeping.

In such harsh conditions, Ms. Liu wrote a few letters to the section chief and the director asking them to release her from the torture instruments. Other practitioners also tried different means to rescue Ms. Liu from the persecution. Ms. Liu was released after seven days, but it didn't last long. Seven days later, police put the handcuffs and fetters back on her because she practiced the exercises during the forced sitting time.

Two days later another practitioner, 41-year-old Liu Zhujiang, was abducted and taken to the detention center because she distributed truth clarification materials about Falun Gong. As soon as she arrived she called out "Falun Dafa is great," and "Unconditionally release all the detained Falun Gong practitioners." Two other practitioners joined her.

The detention center director sent the three practitioners to confinement immediately, and the guards put torture devices on Ms. He Tongjuan, and Ms. Liu Taojiang. (Ms. He Tongjuan, 63, is a senior engineer from the Chinese Space Navigation Bureau. Her employer has suspended her salary for more than four years.) The three practitioners asked Gao Deying, the detention center director, to stop the torture and release them from the handcuffs and fetters. From 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., the three practitioners loudly shouted "Falun Dafa is great." They were released back to the detention cell at about 8:00 p.m., still wearing the handcuffs and fetters.

When Ms. He Tongjuan was shouting "Falun Dafa is great," she was dragged out and handcuffed and fettered. Because the handcuffs were so tight, her hands became swollen and she couldn't feed herself. Soon after, she developed a heart condition. After a two-day hunger strike and several days of sleep deprivation, she passed out on the floor. An examination showed that she was very sick. Given this situation police finally removed the handcuffs and fetters, but her hands are still numb and she still has chest pain.

After Ms. Liu Taojiang was handcuffed and fettered, her hands became badly swollen. Thirteen days later when she was released, she almost fell down as she tried to stand up, but Ms. Wang Aimin caught her. While walking back to the detention cell, she couldn't feel her legs and couldn't stop in the door by herself. Inside the cell, she had to practice walking for a long time while being aided by Ms. Wang Aimin. Her legs are still numb. Her hands and legs have many injuries, and remain black in color.

Ms. Liu Taojiang and Ms. Liu Bing have been shouting "Falun Dafa is great" every day after they were handcuffed and fettered. They also wrote letters to the section chief and the director of the detention center demanding that the torture stop. On the twelfth day, Ms. Liu Bing took off the handcuffs herself. She continued practicing while still wearing the fetters. Before she was sent to court, she gave the handcuffs to the director and asked the director again to remove the fetters, but was refused. The police from the court said that she was the first lady they had seen who had to go to court with fetters on. Other practitioners actively tried to rescue the three heavily tortured practitioners. They sent letters to the director, appealed their concerns to the section chief, and sent forth righteous thoughts. On the fifteenth day, the other two practitioners were released from the torture devices.

Practitioners call out "Falun Dafa is great" every day. Gao Deying, the director, told the other detainees to swear back at the practitioners, but they all understand the truth and no one followed the order.

People Awaken to the Truth

Elementary School Students Bring Petition Letter to a Jail to Help Rescue Their Innocent Teacher

By a practitioner in Hunan Province, China

I am a grade school teacher. After I began my cultivation in Falun Gong (Falun Dafa), I worked even harder and cared even more about my students. Through my speech and conduct, the students felt the righteousness of "Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance" that Falun Gong teaches.

In March and April 2004, corrupt officials distributed a bunch of cartoon booklets to all the schools, attacking Gong as a [slanderous term omitted]. Some schools that did not know the facts organized the students to have speech contests. The students had no way of telling what was true and what was false and were badly harmed by the lies. I began to explain the facts about Falun Gong to the school officials to prevent them from distributing these materials. I also went out in all kinds of weather to distribute Dafa fliers on weekends. One day at the end of May, I was arrested by police and locked up in the county jail.

When the students learned the news they were all shocked and very concerned that their teacher was going to be persecuted again. The whole class cried, all wanting to do something. A student called his home and asked his father who worked in Guangzhou City to ask his relatives for help. His father was very sympathetic and immediately called some of his relatives working at the county courthouse jail. One student suggested that they write a petition letter and then solicited signatures from pupils as well as their parents. All the students worked together to save their teacher. A student wrote in his letter to me, "My mind wanders away quite often during class. I think of you constantly, and whenever I do, my tears fall. Several of us sang at the podium on Children's Day and could not help crying." During those days, people came to my house every afternoon to inquire about my situation. Some wrote letters to me and were crying at the same time. The substitute teacher found that no matter what nice words she said to the students, she was not able to keep the class going. Not intimidated by their young ages, the students decided to get together at 9 a.m. on Saturday and go to the jail with their petition letter.

It was an unforgettable meeting. I was called out to meet some visitors at around 10 a.m. that morning and was surprised when I saw the students' faces on the TV monitor. They began to cry as soon as they saw me. I could not control my tears either when I saw their crying faces. We were only allowed to communicate in writing. Seeing me in my prison uniform with an unshaven face and having lost weight, the student who was writing cried harder and had to let another student take over. They expressed their condolences one after another. Each of them stuck his head in front of the camera trying to see their teacher longer. Their actions showed their pure and kind hearts. I wrote,

"Bye" when the meeting time was up. But they did not want to go. A while later the guards let me go back and see them one more time. When I walked from my cell toward them, I could hear their cries and weeping. They all pushed against the iron gate from outside the jail and stared at the cell area. They waved their hands and cried and shouted at the first sight of me, and cried even louder as I walked closer. Being only little kids, all they knew is that their teacher is kind. They did not know what else to do other than cry. Their crying caused the warden to also start shedding tears and the police officers to lower their heads. Passers-by stopped to find out what was going on. The children's crying was heard all over the jail. They stuck their hands through the gate, attempting to pull me out, but could not reach me. My tears kept falling, and I could not utter a word. Suddenly a thought came to me and I said, "People need 'Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance.'" The warden turned back to wipe away his tears. A policeman said thoughtfully, "Falun Dafa, with its 'Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance,' is truly good. If everyone followed 'Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance,' there would be no criminal offences anymore." People were moved by his words. The time that the students and I met was too short. I waved "Goodbye" to them in order to stop their sadness. They said, "Please take care of yourself. Come back soon. We are waiting for you to teach us." I turned my head and saw that they were all staring at my back and did not want to let me go. Back in the cell, everyone was moved when they read the big pile of letters the students had written to me. Everyone especially liked "Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance."

I returned to the school after about 10 days. The students were like triumphant warriors seeing their long-departed family, smiling and laughing happily. Groups of students would surround me at recess. The semester was almost over and they were about to graduate. They planned a party to welcome me back. Individuals chipped in money and they bought watermelons, pumpkin seeds and drinks. They prepared programs and invited the other teachers and school officials. The children made all the arrangements themselves. They let the teachers and school officials sit down first and then poured the drinks and served the watermelon. Then they sat down themselves. They asked the school officials and me to give short speeches, followed by their dancing and singing programs. Everyone enjoyed the party. The teachers all said that they had never been treated so nicely before.

It was truly unforgettable. The sight of my students and their cries, tears, and outstretched arms will remain in my mind forever. This experience of going from sorrow to joy is a manifestation of Falun Gong to those who are being saved.

Two Stories from Tangshan City, China

The impression of a Tangshan City resident after he read *Zhuan Falun*

I am a resident of Tangshan City. I am extremely fortunate to have had an opportunity to read Mr. Li Hongzhi's book "*Zhuan Falun*." I have a very good feeling about it. My thoughts tell me that the content of this book has nothing to do with politics, nor does it say anything that would harm society, as the Communist Party would have us believe. On the contrary, if you are able to read this book, you will understand that it will benefit society even more. There is not anything in the book that forces anyone to do anything. What the book asks is for people to improve their xinxing, follow the principles of Truth-Compassion-Forbearance, be good people and continue to improve themselves.

People around me also commented: If everyone practiced Falun Gong, this world would have become a peaceful one a long time ago. I sincerely hope that anyone who can get a copy of *Zhuan Falun* will take a look at this book.

An official from the cultural bureau: "Those who behave well are Falun Gong practitioners and those who behave badly are the policemen."

An official in the cultural bureau would say whenever Falun Gong is mentioned, no matter where: "The city Party school organized two "transformation" classes, but it did not "transform" any Falun Gong practitioners. On the contrary, I was transformed! Falun Gong practitioners behaved themselves very well in this "transformation" class. When they got up in the morning they began to do the clean-up work. After they finished eating, they cleaned up everything. Falun Gong practitioners are civilized and polite. They speak reasonably and never use bad language. The policemen really behaved badly. They spit everywhere, threw their cigarette butts down everywhere and were foul-mouthed. I have witnessed all of this with my own eyes."

This official stated, "As good as Falun Gong practitioners are, what do the authorities want to "transform" them into? It would be a great thing if every Chinese would learn Falun Gong."

Media Reports and Opinions

U.S. Newswire, Washington DC: Attorney General Asked to Investigate Massive Harassment Calls

WASHINGTON, March 2 /U.S. Newswire/ -- On Monday, Feb. 28, 2005 a legal representative for Falun Gong practitioners sent a letter to Attorney General Alberto Gonzalez, requesting that he initiate an investigation of a massive telephone harassment campaign against Falun Gong practitioners in the United States and worldwide that occurred between Feb. 6 and 8, 2005, and again on Feb. 23 and 24, 2005, despite victims' reports to local law enforcement agencies, the FBI, and Congress.

The letter was prepared by Martin F. McMahon, attorney for several Falun Gong litigants who had filed a complaint in 2002 against various Ministries of the People's Republic of China for more than 60 specific criminal acts that were performed on U.S. soil that include harassment, threats, and physical assault against practitioners. Mr. McMahon will be sending letters with the same information to the chief prosecutors in the eight states where the victims were.

Since Feb. 6, hundreds of Falun Gong practitioners in America and in over 20 countries throughout Europe, North America, Asia, and Australia have received repeated phone calls with pre-recorded messages disparaging Falun Gong. Some victims have received more than 20 phone calls, not only on publicly known phone numbers but also on their cellular phones and on other private numbers. The calls, at least some of which originated in China, were consistent with the pattern of intimidation and harassment set forth in the lawsuit.

In October 2004, the House of Representatives unanimously passed House Concurrent Resolution 304, which instructs the Attorney General to, "investigate reports that Chinese consular officials in the United States have committed illegal acts while attempting to intimidate or inappropriately influence Falun Gong practitioners or local elected officials, and, in consultation with the Secretary of State, determine an appropriate legal response." Thus, it is the will of the House to look to the U.S. Attorney General of the United States and the State Department for their active intervention in this affair.

AFP: US Rebukes China's Human Rights Record

Monday February 28, 2005

The United States, in its annual human rights report, accused China of muting dissent, suppressing religious rights and restricting freedom of speech.

"The Government continued to commit numerous and serious abuses," said the 2004 report, which also said Beijing's cooperation and progress on human rights last year was "disappointing."

The report said there were cases of extrajudicial killings, torture and mistreatment of prisoners.

"The lack of due process was particularly egregious in death penalty cases, and the accused was often denied a meaningful appeal. Executions often took place on the day of conviction or on the denial of an appeal," it said.

As many as 600 people were serving sentences for the now-repealed crime of counterrevolution and "many of these persons were imprisoned for the nonviolent expression of their political views."

"The Government maintained tight restrictions on freedom of speech and of the press, and a wave of detentions late in the year signaled a new campaign targeting prominent writers and political commentators," the report said.

Beijing also barred commemorations of the bloody military crackdown on the 1989 Tiananmen Square protesters and in April and June detained many people who planned to mark the event, the report said.

In the western Xinjiang region, Beijing "used the international war on terror as a pretext for cracking down harshly on suspected Uighur separatists expressing peaceful political dissent and on independent Muslim religious leaders."

"The human rights situation in the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) and in some Tibetan regions outside the TAR also remained poor," the report said.

The Chinese government has also continued its crackdown against the Falun Gong spiritual movement, it said.

"Several hundred Falun Gong adherents reportedly have died in detention due to torture, abuse, and neglect since the crackdown on Falun Gong began in 1999." (1)

Women have also suffered under the communist regime, the report said.

"Violence against women, including imposition of a coercive birth limitation policy that resulted in instances of forced abortion and forced sterilization, continued to be a problem, as did prostitution."

(1) To date, 1379 Falun Gong practitioners are verified to have died in the persecution, but the real number is believed to be far higher.

***San Francisco Chronicle: Politics on Parade for Chinese New Year Fest
[Excerpt]***

Organizers of the Chinese New Year Parade typically try to keep politics out of the annual procession, but [...] one honoring the spiritual movement Falun Gong will be notably absent from today's parade celebrating the Year of the Rooster.

The Falun Gong group submitted a proposal for a float that would include people in traditional Chinese dress demonstrating the traditional Chinese breathing exercises known as qigong.

"We feel we are part of the Chinese community, and the Chinese government spent so much time spreading propaganda," said Huy Lu, 37, of Daly City. Since 1999, the Chinese government has cracked down on Falun Gong -- also known as Falun Dafa -- [a practice for both mind and body improvement] that emerged in 1992. But organizers rejected the group's application, saying the parade couldn't accommodate everyone who wanted to participate.[...]

The float will be a small part of the parade, which caps two weeks of festivities honoring the start of Chinese Lunar New Year 4703. This year's celebration will showcase about 25 floats. Elaborate corporate-sponsored floats can cost \$12,000 to \$20,000. The parade also will include marching bands, choruses, folk dancers and a group from China demonstrating a type of kung fu that dates back 1,500 years. A 201-foot-long "golden dragon" will bring up the caboose, as usual.

The parade, which drew an estimated 550,000 spectators last year, will follow the same route from Second and Market streets to Kearney Street and Columbus Avenue. The event runs from 5:30 to about 8 p.m. today. Viewing the parade The Chinese New Year Parade will begin at 5:30 p.m. today at Second and Market streets.

Street closures will begin at 5 p.m. Once the parade has passed and the route has been cleaned, streets will reopen. The parade will end at about 8 p. m.

During the parade, northbound traffic will be able to cross Market Street using Fremont Street to Front Street. Southbound traffic will be able to cross Market Street using the Battery Street to First Street connection, except when parade contingents are passing.

Belfast Telegraph Newspaper: Show to Focus on Torture in China

An open-air exhibition will be held in Belfast's Corn Market today and tomorrow to highlight persecution and torture in China.

Called "Persecution Meets Principle", the show has been organized by followers of Falun Gong, a traditional Chinese spiritual discipline.

The practice combines exercises, meditation to give greater wellbeing.

Advocates say former Chinese leader Jiang Zemin saw the popularity of the practice as a threat to his power and banned it in 1999, ordering systematic and brutal persecution.

They claim there have been more than 1,250 known deaths to date.

The exhibition of photos, props and actors are used to explain how torture is used to attempt to "transform" practitioners.

Techniques used by the torturers include force feeding, burning with cigarettes, electric shocks and confining people in small cages for months.

The exhibition has already been shown in more than 15 cities and will tour the UK.

One of the organizers Christina Jing Ha said: "We believe that the persecution of Falun Gong is a persecution of conscience, and of fundamental principles essential to our humanity."

Local people will be asked to sign a petition appealing to the United Nations Human Rights Commission to urge the Chinese government to stop.

Now Toronto Report Describes PRC's Worldwide Persecution of Falun Gong and Practitioners' Peaceful Resistance

Sigcino Moyo has filed a report in the weekly newspaper *Now Toronto*, which exposes the five-year persecution of Falun Gong practitioners in China and overseas, and describes how practitioners have peacefully responded to the violation of their human rights with appeals, anti-torture exhibitions, and lawsuits.

The author begins,

"Like most people's, my exposure to Falun Gong consisted of noticing from afar its around-the-clock vigils outside the Chinese Consulate on St. George."

Then the reporter goes on to state that practitioners of Falun Gong, who follow the principles of Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance, are suffering greatly from persecution in China and overseas.

"Not only are they being tormented by the Chinese government on its own turf, but they're now targets of espionage, slander and dirty tricks by the same authorities globally, including right here in Canada.

"Embassies and consuls supposedly geared to travel, trade and diplomacy have become hotbeds of conspiracy where officials plot discrediting campaigns, often in the form of letters that read like SCTV send-ups.

"But the Falun Gong's band of early-morning exercisers aren't merely passive victims to this orchestration. Whatever power they lack in China (Falun) Gong has more than made up for in the West, where the group is aggressively pursuing litigation and lodging complaints with human rights tribunals."

The author describes the recent case in which practitioner Joel Chipkar won a libel lawsuit against a deputy general at the Chinese consulate.

"A Toronto real estate agent and Falun Gong spokesperson, Chipkar had written a letter to the Toronto Star challenging the Canadian government to publicly out China for its human rights abuses. Pan Xinchun, the former Chinese deputy consul general here, responded in the same paper, labeling Chipkar a 'sinister cult' member out to 'instigate hatred' and 'confrontations between China and Canada.'

"Chipkar got a lawyer and launched a defamation suit against Pan, which he eventually won. In December of last year, a judge awarded Chipkar \$11,000, but Pan has since skipped town. Efforts by Chipkar to have him declared 'persona non grata' by the Canadian government have apparently disappeared into the bureaucratic ether in

Ottawa while government lawyers "formulate a legal opinion," says a Department of Foreign Affairs spokesperson."

The reporter cites various official PRC websites that post all kinds of slanderous propaganda that demonizes Falun Gong, and then reveals that:

"In 2002, smuggled documents authenticated by New Jersey-based democracy leader Su Xiaokang, author of *A Memoir Of Misfortune*, revealed a Chinese government plan for building worldwide "intelligence and data portfolios" on Falun Gong and its supporters.

"Nowhere is that effort more visible than on the Internet, as [practitioner] Zhang Haitao found out in 2000 when he was incarcerated for creating the only Falun Gong website in China. To this day, no one knows what has become of him.

"China has rigged a totally integrated, hyper-high-tech surveillance net with the goal of ultimately having at its fingertips access to every move any Chinese citizen dares to make online. We're talking a kinetic online database meshing speech and face recognition, credit activity, closed-circuit monitoring and smart card tracking a proverbial wet blanket over the Internet, with some 40,000 Big Brothers employed to search for online transgressors.

"Could that explain the harassing pre-recorded phone calls in broken English that people associated with the movement across the world reported earlier this month?

"Practitioners claim there is an outright 'genocide' against Falun Gong in China, and human rights groups concur. Both Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have documented incidents of labour camp torture, including force-feeding of feces through tubes jammed up prisoners' nostrils. The groups have also noted reports of imprisoned practitioners being injected with needles full of mystery toxins. It seems that Falun Gong members are prime candidates to trip, fall and die or toss themselves from moving vehicles while in the custody of Chinese authorities.

"Closer to home, both the Chinese government and its supporters have learned the power of the plant, using the pages and screens of Chinese-language media outlets to carry on the vendetta. Shortly after 9/11, for example, Sing Tao, the Chinese language paper partly owned by the Toronto Star, ran a full-page article taken virtually word-for-word from the official Chinese Xinhua News Agency placing Falun Gong among "radical religions [that] advocate destroying the world."

"Similar rants landed Vancouver-based Talent Vision, a Chinese-language broadcaster, in trouble. The outlet was found to be in breach of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters code of ethics and violence in 2002. A ruling by the Canadian Broadcast

Standards Council noted that a segment lifted directly from China's official station about murders committed in China amounted to "nothing less than a biased attack on Falun Gong."

"Bias was booming again in Montreal, where a Quebec court ordered Chinese-language newspaper Les Presses Chinoises to cease and desist from "defamation and producing hate literature." It did not heed and now finds itself in contempt hearings.

"At issue was the publication of various claims, including that Falun Gong members "suck all the blood of the Chinese people, eat their flesh" and engage in bestiality. According to Tony Wang, president of New Tang Dynasty TV (NTDTV), "Willingly or unwillingly, the [Chinese-Canadian] media here are slowly influenced and gradually controlled by the Chinese authorities. They just pick up any report that may appear to be neutral, and that's exactly what the PRC wants."

The author consulted a noted expert, and asked his opinion of the Chinese Communist government's claim that Falun Gong is a cult:

"If Chinese government bloodsucker charges strain credulity, what of the criticism that the movement is cultist? Falun Gong employs ancient Buddhist and Taoist principles, but its leader was born in the 50s and codified his own version of old teachings." Barry Beyerstein, a psychology prof and cult expert at Simon Fraser University, is clear that (Falun) Gong displays none of the typical characteristics of psychological, financial or physical coercion or deceptive recruiting practices.

"They've don't fit the profile," he says. Certainly, (Falun) Gong are not without influential backers. Letters of support have come from Justice Minister Irwin Cotler, Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister John Godfrey and Sub-committee on Human Rights Chair David Kilgour.

"Still, China is a global force that holds major sway with trading partners, so 'governments have been trying to find a way to respect Falun Gong claims about the suppression of their rights while at the same time not endangering commercial relations with China,' says David Ownby, a Chinese-speaking University of Montreal history professor and author of books about Falun Gong.

"The long arm of a government halfway across the planet can be felt in many places. At city council, Councillor Michael Walker tried and failed to declare a Falun Dafa Day last year. It looked like a no-brainer until Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti killed the motion by brandishing a threatening letter from the PRC that read like an ultimatum. 'If passed, the motion will have a very negative effect on our future beneficial exchanges and cooperation,' reads the letter, signed by the PRC's Toronto consul general.

"Even over here, the Chinese government has the audacity to come in and threaten,' says Susan Prager, communications director of New York-based Friends of Falun Gong (FOFG).

Among the many curious interventions is the case of high school teacher Brian Grandy at Thomas L. Kennedy Secondary School in Mississauga, who had his students sign a petition of support for Falun Gong and then found himself the recipient of a letter signed by Chinese Ambassador Mei Ping. The missive likened (Falun) Gong to notorious cults in Japan and Uganda.

"Says NTDTV's Wang, 'The Chinese government is spreading hate among the Canadian people. It's literally illegal and should be stopped.' Wang is still waiting for an explanation from Chinese officials about why two of his reporters had their visas to China revoked at the last minute before Prime Minister Paul Martin's January junket there.

The author states that Falun Gong has responded to the persecution "with robust measures worldwide. There are now at least two cases before the Ontario Human Rights Commission. One was brought by a practitioner claiming she lost her job because of her affiliation with the org, and another involves a member allegedly removed from a retirement home in Ottawa.

"Chinese vice-president Zeng Qinghong [ran into problems] in January while visiting Peru. There, the Peruvian Falun Dafa Association convinced the public ministry and Supreme Court to accept its lawsuit charging politburo members with 'genocide' and 'crimes against humanity.'

"Earlier this month, human rights attorneys filed an appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court in a civil lawsuit charging former Chinese Communist Party Chair Jiang Zemin with genocide and a 'conspiracy to commit violations of civil rights within the jurisdiction of the United States.'

"In all, the Falun Gong have initiated about 30 separate cases worldwide against current and former top officials of the PRC. Says Prager, 'It's been very successful in terms of public education, and that's really what this is about.'

Chinese officials at both the Toronto consul general's office and the Ottawa embassy declined to respond to requests for comment for this story.

Falun Gong Practitioners' Personal Experiences

Retired Official's Diabetes Healed After Cultivating Falun Gong for Less than Two Months

I am a 74-year-old retired official. Twenty years ago I began suffering from diabetes. I took many different medications that failed to control the illness, and I also had complications with high blood pressure, heart disease, and failing eyesight. During the last few years, my blood sugar was 27 or 28, and my face had become swollen. I went to the hospital for treatment numerous times, but nothing helped. In 2003, I spent nearly the entire year hospitalized. I would go home, and after only one day, I felt that I had no grasp on my life. In the hospital, I received insulin shots, I was lightheaded and dizzy and needed someone to support me as I walked, and I felt that I had few remaining days. I even prepared my funeral affairs.

I returned home in 2004, on the day before the Lunar Calendar New Year. Over the course of the celebrations, a visiting friend introduced me to Falun Gong. He said that Falun Gong teaches people to be compassionate, and helps one purify the body and keep fit. He also said that after practicing Falun Gong, many people's decade-long chronic diseases disappeared. At the time I thought to myself, "I am a retired official, and an old Communist Party member. For years and years I have done government work, was an atheist, and rejected what I thought was superstition. Moreover, the government does not permit Falun Gong, so how can I practice it?" Later, friends and relatives patiently advised me to first take a look at some Falun Gong books, and then make my decision. With the mentality of "just taking a look at it," I began to read *Zhuan Falun*. As I went on, I wanted to read more and more, and my body gradually gained energy. The first time I finished reading it, I did not find anything superstitious, or any content against human beings, science, or society, as was claimed by the state media. *Zhuan Falun* only taught people to be good, and to follow "Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance." It then occurred to me that this is such a good book, Falun Gong is so good, so why would the central authorities not allow anyone to practice it? On television, there is always news denigrating Falun Gong and misleading people. I firmly set my heart on practicing Falun Gong, a truly magnificent practice.

I read *Zhuan Falun* a second time. Besides changes in my body, my face also showed a healthy luster, like I was a new person. I stopped taking insulin shots and medicine. Some family members in my home measured my blood sugar, and found that it had become normal. My eyesight gradually became better, and my blood pressure and heart became normal. This was all unexpected by my entire family.

After reading and practicing cultivation for not even two months, my body is much stronger and healthier. I have gained weight and can even do some appropriate physical exercises, such as ping-pong. I have realized that Falun Gong is a great practice. I have also realized that people from different countries all over the world

support Falun Gong. In many countries, Falun Dafa associations have been established. Falun Gong has also been given many proclamations and appreciated by their local communities.

Jiang Zemin's suppression of Falun Gong is an enormous mistake, and is a crime directed at the people. Hopefully, instead of listening to Jiang's deception and slander, people will make a clear distinction between right and wrong, and realize that Falun Dafa is good.

Falun Gong Brings a Seventy-year-old Back to Life

By a Falun Gong practitioner in Jilin Province

I am seventy-two years old this year. For many years, I was the village leader, though I left the post in 2004. During my tenure in office, due to pressure from the authorities above me, I regrettably participated in the unscrupulous persecution of Falun Gong. I listed the names of the Falun Gong practitioners for "black listing" purposes. My actions had a negative influence and caused damage to Dafa.

On March 27, 2004, I lost consciousness due to a sudden severe illness. The doctor at the nearest township hospital, where my family members took me, did not admit me because my illness was quite severe. My family members then rented a car and took me to the county hospital. The physicians at the county hospital later diagnosed the illness as a heart disease, accompanied by a lack of blood circulation to the brain. A thorough check-up later revealed a tumor about the size of a finger knuckle inside my brain. My family members then transferred me to the Changchun City hospital to continue the hospital treatment. The expenses for all this came to about 6000 yuan. I was terminally ill. Seeing my critical condition and anticipating the worst, my family members began to prepare for all the things to do after my death. Awaiting death, I lay helpless on the bed.

At the time when I was about to give up all hope, I was most fortunate and lucky to have obtained a treasured book -- *Zhuan Falun*. This marked a significant new transition in my life. I anxiously read the entire book, assimilating the teachings like a hungry and thirsty person. By reading and studying the book, I became aware of the truth about life and the universe.

In the book *Zhuan Falun*, Master Li taught us to follow the universal characteristics of "Truthfulness, Compassion, Tolerance," to model ourselves as good people, striving to become better and better, eventually being the best we can be. This motivated me to search inside to reflect on all the bad deeds that I had done in the past. I then decided to turn over a new leaf and to thoroughly rectify my past bad actions and behavior in life. Additionally, I constantly studied the Fa and continuously uplifted my understanding. At the same time, as Master Li purified my body, my body was gradually restored to good health.

After studying and reading *Zhuan Falun* many times, I started walking by gradually leaning on a stick, which I have now discarded to walk freely. The people around me initially thought that I would not live because of my severe illness. My recovering at such a rapid pace was a big miracle as it was beyond imagination.