

# Clearwisdom Digest

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## **News and Events from Around the World**

## ***Falun Gong Calls for Attention of the UN Human Rights Commission, Canadian MP Assists a Practitioner's Brother to Come to Canada***

As the annual meeting of United Nations Human Rights Commission in Geneva approaches, the persecution of Falun Gong has caught the attention of the international community again. On the evening of March 9, 2005, Falun Gong practitioners in Canada gathered in front of the Canadian Parliament in the below 20°C cold and called on the Canadian Government to take responsibility for respecting and protecting human rights and condemn the Chinese Communist Party for trampling the basic human rights of Falun Gong practitioners.



Falun Gong practitioners in Canada appeal before the annual meeting of the United Nations Human Rights Commission

On the same day, during parliamentary discussions, Member of Parliament Scott Reid put forward a request that the Canadian Government allow Falun Gong practitioner Lin Mingli to come to Canada and join his brother Li Shenli, a Canadian resident.

### **Protection of human rights is the moral and diplomatic responsibility of the international community**

One of the coordinators of the Canada Falun Dafa Association, Ms. Gongyu Dai, sent a letter to Members of Parliament on the same day, stating: "This occasion has given rise to deep pain and sorrow in my heart every year over the past 5 years, not only because of the horrendous human rights violations happening in China, but also because of the silence of most of the world's governments that comprise this prominent international human rights body."

She stated, "Over 100 types of horrific tortures have been inflicted on Falun Gong practitioners in China in the past nearly six years. But with this letter I highlight another alarming fact, that in the past three months there have been over 300 reports of practitioners being tortured to death. Among the hundreds of thousands of detained

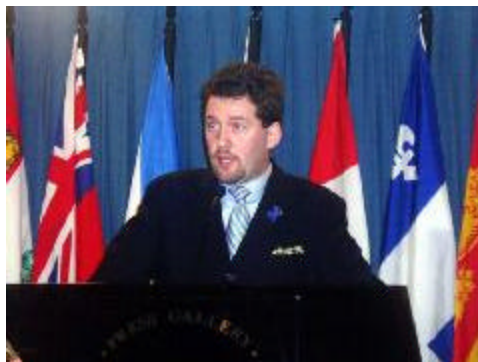
and imprisoned practitioners are 14 family members of Canadian citizens and residents. The destruction of conscience and traditional moral values continues to escalate in China. Yet the Chinese communist regime has managed to keep a large portion of the global community quiet on the Falun Gong issue."

She continued, "Hence we highlight the international community as another victim of the killing of conscience. Through hate propaganda, blacklists of overseas practitioners, economic pressure, diplomatic intimidation, and enticement of profit and self-interest, this persecution is systematically attacking moral stability and the rule of law on a global scale. In the guise of friendship and good relations, we have seen that reactions of neutrality, indifference, and silence in fact undermine the conscience and efforts of all countries to incorporate human rights and moral principles in their policies and actions."

She urged, "Canada has a moral and diplomatic responsibility to take a just stand at the UNCHR and other international and domestic forums, for example by sponsoring or co-sponsoring a resolution censuring the Chinese communist regime for its gross human rights violations, or in Canada by publicly condemning the atrocities committed by this tyrannical regime. We respectfully request that you help Canada take such a just stand, for the future betterment of both Chinese society and Canadian partnerships with China, and for stability and prosperity for all."

**Canadian MP: "I note that every single one of the practitioners who has been admitted to Canada has been a model citizen of this country."**

In the meeting of Canadian MP on the evening of March 9, MP Scott Reid asked the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration to issue a ministerial permit to allow Mr. Mingli Lin to rejoin his family in Canada. Mr. Mingli Lin, a Falun Gong practitioner, was unlawfully imprisoned for two years for persisting in his belief. He is the brother of Mr. Shenli Lin, a Falun Gong practitioner in Canada.



MP Scott Reid answers questions from reporters

MP Scott Reid said during the interview, "I note that every single one of the practitioners who has been admitted to Canada has been a model citizen of this country." He said that the practitioners were kind, peaceful and courageous and would not be a threat to any society.

MP Scott Reid said that Mr. Mingli Lin was freed but still in a very difficult situation. Based on humanitarianism and compassion, the Canadian government should allow Mr. Lin to unite with his family in Canada.

After the meeting was over, MP Reid came to meet Falun Gong practitioners in the cold winter night, gave a speech and had a group photo with practitioners.



MP Reid poses for a group photo with practitioners



## ***White Plains: NY: Falun Gong Practitioners Invited Again to Participate in the St. Patrick's Day Parade***

On March 12, a large-scale parade for St. Patrick's Day took place in White Plains, New York. Groups from different ethnic communities participated in the event. Last year, Falun Gong practitioners' performance was well received and they were invited again this year. The organizers also provided free parking for Falun Gong practitioners this time.



The Falun Gong procession in the parade

St. Patrick's Day was created to commemorate the Christian missionary St. Patrick, who brought the Gospel to Ireland in 432. He died on March 17, 493, so the Irish people made this day a holiday to commemorate him. The United States began to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in 1737. Usually there will be a parade, church activities and a community dinner party.



Spectators wave to Falun Gong Practitioners

In this year's parade, Falun Gong was the only group representing traditional Eastern culture. The procession was led by the Lion Dance team and followed by the Waist

Drum team. The last team was made up of dancers performing the Green Lotus Flower and Celestial Maiden Dances.

The Waist Drum team of the Greater New York Area has participated in many large events. The procession marched in good order, and the bright yellow exercise suits worn by the practitioners were made a beautiful contrast against the blue sky. The "Celestial Maidens" danced in the chilly weather with soft fans, displaying the purity of cultivation practice.



Celestial Maiden dancers pass the stage

When the Falun Gong procession was passing the stage, the host said, "What a beautiful group!" The spectators were kind and enthusiastic. They waved to Falun Gong practitioners and applauded warmly. Some children imitated the movements of the "Celestial Maiden Dance."

Reporters and cameramen pointed their lenses toward Falun Gong.

There are only a small number of Chinese people in this area, but when they saw the Falun Gong procession, many of them smiled and waved. A young couple from the Chinese Mainland saw the Falun Gong procession and said, "Falun Gong!" and took out a digital camera to take photos.

The country of origin of the St. Patrick's Day celebration, Ireland, has also embraced Falun Gong, as there are many practitioners in Ireland. Ireland's Prime Minister Bertie Ahern expressed his concern over the persecution of Falun Gong when he met China's Prime Minister, Wen Jiabao, in 2004. Both the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister (Mary Harney) have made efforts to rescue Chinese international students persecuted in China.

## ***Falun Gong Human Rights Working Group Appeals to the United Nations on Behalf of Chinese Attorney Guo Guoting***

On March 8, 2005, the Falun Gong Human Rights Working Group, which has been working in conjunction with the United Nations for a number of years, formally appealed to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights regarding the case of attorney Guo Guoting from Shanghai's Tianyi Law Firm. Mr. Guo Guoting's license was revoked and his office computer was confiscated by personnel from the Shanghai Bureau of Justice. The reason for Mr. Guo being subjected to such suppression and harassment is because he not only defended dissidents in China, but he also acted as defense counsel for Falun Gong practitioners Mr. Qu Yanlai, Mr. Chen Guanghui and Mr. Lei Jiangtao, against enormous pressure from the government.

The Falun Gong Human Rights Working Group sent their petition simultaneously to three UN Human Rights supervising systems: the Commissioner for Human Rights Defenders, Human Rights Commissioner for Freedom of Speech and Human Rights Commissioner for the Protection of Independence of Judges and Lawyers in

Executing their Judicial Rights.

The petition not only details the threats and harassments Guo Guoting has been subjected to at the hands of the Chinese Communist Party, including how they confiscated his law license, but it also details how lawyer Guo Guoting fought for the freedom of Falun Gong practitioner Qu Yanlai, who is on the brink of death due to the Jiang regime's persecution. It also included the specific content of the appeal he made on behalf of Qu Yanlai and relevant international media reports about Guo Guoting's case.

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights is very concerned with such cases. During the annual sessions of the UN Commission on Human Rights, the Commissioner has repeatedly stressed the importance of protecting the safety of human rights defenders because they are the guarantee of the improvement of the human rights situation in each country.

Last year, in his report on reinforcing the law, the UN Secretary General mentioned China in particular. He also addressed how senior officials from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has worked in cooperation with the Chinese government in reinforcing the rule of law.

The actions against Attorney Guo Guoting once again exposed to the international community the deceptive tricks of the Chinese Communist Party. Instead of observing

the UN's Human Rights Memorandum, the Chinese Communist government has violated a number of basic human rights laws.

The Falun Gong Human Rights Working Group will continue to pay close attention to the case of Attorney Guo Guoting. If the Chinese Communist Party continues to persecute Mr. Guo or cause him any bodily injury, the Falun Gong Human Rights Working Group will present his case to the 61st Session of the UN Commission on Human Rights, to be held in Geneva this month, and to all delegates from various countries.

## ***UK: The People of Liverpool Show their Support for China's Persecuted Falun Gong Practitioners***

On Saturday March 12, practitioners from Liverpool, assisted by more than a dozen practitioners from around the UK, held an anti-torture exhibition in Liverpool. The event, which took place in the busiest part of the city center, attracted a great deal of attention, drawing people away from their shopping to find out more about the persecution against the peaceful meditative practice Falun Gong in China.

Despite the chilly, windy weather, the sun shone brightly and spirits were high. Many people asked for more information and were glad to receive leaflets. Passers-by stopped to read the display boards exposing the methods of torture in cruel attempts to force Falun Gong practitioners to give up their beliefs. Most on-lookers were shocked by the torture re-enactments and wanted to know why this is happening in today's world.

After practitioners patiently explained the situation in China and told people about the 6-year campaign of genocide that former Chinese leader Jiang Zemin and the Chinese Communist Party have waged against Falun Gong practitioners, many understood and wanted to show their support by signing petitions to bring Jiang to justice and rescue the family members of UK Falun Gong practitioners who have been imprisoned because they refuse to renounce their beliefs. One young lady exclaimed, "This is disgusting!" as she rushed over to sign the petition. Another young lady was even moved to tears. Several people stood watching for a long time. One middle-aged man was so touched after he learned about the suffering of people who practice Falun Gong in China; he even joined the practitioners and started to tell passers-by about Falun Gong.

Another middle-aged man asked to sign the petition and then afterwards told his three children, "If you have sympathy, you should also sign!" which they did. A group of Chinese students asked questions about Falun Gong. After understanding the truth, they felt very happy and asked for leaflets to take home. One of them signed the petition.

After learning the truth and watching practitioners performing the beautiful, peaceful exercises, many people were interested in learning and asked for information on the nearest class where they can learn the Falun Gong exercises for free. A kind businessman, who had been to previous Falun Gong activities and had once taken a Falun Gong flag to hang outside his house, came over and told practitioners, "I know you are all nice people". He wanted to learn the exercises with his wife.

The previous day, in preparation for the exhibition, practitioners visited the local media and police stations to let them know their plans and tell them about the persecution

against the practice in China. Consequently, the local newspaper, Liverpool Echo ran a positive article on Monday 14th March and Radio Merseyside also interviewed a practitioner about Falun Gong.

Around 1700 signatures were gathered that day, revealing the kind-hearted support of the Liverpool people.



Torture Methods Demo



Torture Methods Demo



A lady signs a petition. About 1,700 people signed the petition during the event

## **Facts of the Persecution**

### ***Teeth Knocked Out and Toenails Torn Off -- The Torture Endured by Practitioner Mr. Li Helongjiang Province***

The labor camp in Shuihua City, Helongjiang Province has done much to harm Falun Gong practitioners in recent years. On September 14, 2004, the Railroad police department in Jiamusi city sent Mr. Li Shaotie from Fujin city to the Shuihua labor camp. Within two days they began to torture him. They prevented him from sleeping by beating and cursing him whenever he closed his eyes. They made other prisoners beat him and they forced him to work. The guards ordered other prisoners to beat Mr. Li while he worked. Because Mr. Li would not renounce Falun Gong, the guards often beat him very badly. Four or five of them dragged Mr. Li to an empty room. After they sealed his mouth with tape, No. 2 group leader, Cong Handong, asked, "Do you need me?" The officer with the last name Diao replied, "No, we will take care of him." The middle group leader Long Kuibin shocked Mr. Li with a high voltage electric baton. Officer Shi Jian slapped his face, alternating hands, until his face was misshapen and bruised. Diao Xuesong took over when Shi Jian felt tired. Mr. Li's mouth was injured and his teeth were knocked out. His blood seeped through a slot in the tape that was sealing his mouth. He bled so profusely that his blood washed away the tape, and spurting out heavily. The men also kicked Mr. Li in his legs over 100 times, from top to bottom, with their military shoes. Gao Zhonghai asked him, "Do you still want to practice?" Mr. Li replied, "Yes." Gao Zhonghai then ground on Mr. Li's toenail with the heel of his shoes. Fresh blood spurting from his foot and two of his toenails were torn off. Mr. Li fainted. When he woke up, the prison doctor was rescuing him and measuring his blood pressure.

After nearly a month of torture, Mr. Li Shaotie's firm cultivation heart remained unshaken. He developed a deeper understanding of what was truly good and what was truly bad. On October 11, the guards transferred him to a determination team. Two prisoners monitored the practitioners there day and night. He had no freedom. He could not see his family on visiting days. His family came three times and could not see him. The fourth time, they reluctantly let his family visit. Four family members went there but only Mr. Li's brother was allowed to see him. He was allowed 10 minutes and was strongly told to persuade Mr. Li to give up his belief in "Truthfulness-Benevolence-Forbearance." Mr. Li's brother saw that he looked totally different from before, because, before coming to the camp, Mr. Li had been known for his strong and healthy body. The living hell of Shuihua labor camp has caused bitter pain for many people.

This is just one example of the extremely evil persecution means in Shuihua labor camp, where five or six hundred practitioners have been detained.



## ***Torture Methods in Heilongjiang Women's Prison: "Hang Up" and Injection with Drugs***

The "Hang Up" torture method raises cuffed hands and feet just off the ground and is not permitted according to prison rules. However, in Heilongjiang Women's Prison, recently assigned officers Xu Longjiang and Liu Zhiqiang adopted this vicious technique to persecute Falun Gong practitioners. Team Two in Jail One was the first to use it, then it spread to other teams.

Two practitioners who exposed this to jail officials, Zhang Linwen and Yu Xiuying, were severely punished. Zhang Linwen was taken by prison inmates to the very same Team Two while Yu Xiuying was handcuffed at night.

On December 21, 2004, practitioner Guan Shuling from Team Two, Jail One was handcuffed and sitting on the bare ground, her eyes glazed and red-rimmed. She was on the verge of falling unconscious. Guan Shuling said she was injected with drugs and fell into a coma-like sleep. The drug was known to have coma-inducing effects, and caused vomiting so severe that Guan Shuling needed assistance even to use the bathroom.

Seeing Guan Shuling teetering on the edge of consciousness, practitioner Zhang Jing sat in the lotus position, held her hand up and began to send righteous thoughts. Prison inmate Wang Wenhua and others immediately rushed over and uncrossed Zhang Jing's legs, and called out to guards Liu Xiaofang and He Jing. The two began to interrogate Zhang Jing but she refused to answer. Liu Xiaofang said viciously, "Don't waste any more time with her. Handcuff her."

Other inmates piled on her, forcing her to put on prison clothing, and then pushed her to the ground. Liu Xiaofang directed inmate Man Yunyue to handcuff Zhang Jing. She refused to be handcuffed and called out loudly, "Falun Gong is great." Li Fenghua then pressed against her head.

From December 21 to 29, Zhang Jing was handcuffed. During the day, she was handcuffed behind her back and at night she was handcuffed in the front. From December 21 to 26 she was handcuffed to the ground, and from December 27 to 29 she was handcuffed and made to stand, with her hands bound to an upper level bed. Even then her captors would not stop. On December 29 at 3 p.m., guards Cui Hongmei and Xia Fengying directed the worst inmates to hang up five practitioners including Chen Weijun, Zhang Liping, Liu Xuewei, Guan Shuling, and Zhang Jing.

Three police officers, Yu Li, Yue, and Lv Cuijun, led inmates Li Yanping, Sun Xiuyun, Liu Chao, and Feng Xiaobo to Zhang Jing's cell. They covered the window with a

bedsheet. Inmate Wang Jingdan climbed to the upper bunk, hooked Zhang Jing's handcuffs to the highest place on the bed, and left her hanging there for 20 to 30 minutes until she agreed to wear prison clothes. Zhang Jing was then forced to give her fingerprints. The handcuffs cut deeply into her flesh. Marks remained on her skin for two days, and her left thumb continues to experience numbness.

Practitioner Chen Weijun was hung up by inmates at 3 p.m. on December 29, 2004. At the time, seven guards including Cui Hongmei and Xia Fengying were present. The handcuffs cut into her skin as Chen Weijun was hung for over an hour. When her wrist began to turn black and she could not stand it any more, she was carried back to her team cell. This was Chen Weijun's second "hang-up," with the first occurring on July 10, 2004, because she refused to report to work duty. At that time, she was hung up in the guard's office on the sixth floor.

## ***The Persecution Related Deaths of Eighty-One More Falun Gong Practitioners Were Confirmed in February, 2005***

During February 2005, we confirmed 81 cases of Falun Gong practitioners dying as a result of the persecution. Non-governmental channels have confirmed that since July 20, 1999, when Jiang Zemin's regime began its persecution of Falun Gong, at least 1,427 Falun Gong practitioners have died as a result of the persecution.

Of 81 Falun Gong practitioners, 45 were women, and 46 were older than 55, including 17 who were over 70 years old.

Three Falun Gong practitioners were not even 30 when they died as a result of the persecution. They were: 24 year-old Ms Luo Qiaohong, a teacher from Jiahe County, Binzhou, Hunan Province. She has a 2-year-old child; 27-year-old Mr. Wang Zhehao, an employee from the Dalian Chemical Research & Design Institute, who majored in Investment Economics at the Dalian Institute of Light Industry; 27-year-old Mr. Dai Jianming, a university student from Wuhan University of Technology.

Five of the practitioners killed in February were 52-year-old Mr. Shijun from Harbin City; Tianjin practitioner Mr. Liu Jinghua, 57 years old; Mongolian practitioner Mr. Gao Yunhu, 63 years old; Liaoning practitioner Mr. Qian Naizhang, 42 years old; Shanghai practitioner Ms. Chao Qiangzhen, 53 years old.

These 81 confirmed deaths cases of practitioners span seventeen provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities, with fifteen deaths in Hebei Province; fourteen deaths in Liaoning Province; nine in Heilongjiang Province; seven in Hubei Province; five in Jilin Province; four deaths each in Hunan Province, Shandong Province and Sichuan Province; three each in Henan Province and Chongqing; two each in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, Guizhou Province, Shanghai, Tianjin, Shaanxi Province and Shanxi Province; and one death in Beijing.

Just because the practitioners adhered to their belief, they were subjected to inhuman physical and mental torture at the hands of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and Jiang's political group. Many families were illegally imprisoned. In some cases, several family members died as a result of the persecution. They died in the CCP's detention centers, forced labor camps, prisons, or in the "610 Offices" that are specifically used to persecute Falun Gong. Some were released home when they were at their last gasp of breath and passed away shortly after; some had their homes searched, were fined, abducted and harassed; many of them left behind young children and elderly parents.

## ***Persecution of Falun Gong Practitioners at Guangxi Women's Forced Labor Camp***

According to China's labor camp laws, inmates should not be deprived of a citizen's basic rights. Freedom of speech is a well-known fundamental right granted by the Constitution, yet Falun Gong practitioners at Guangxi Women's Forced Labor Camp have been put under 24-hour surveillance. They are prohibited from talking to each other or freely using the restroom. This form of humiliation is a blatant violation of human rights. Practitioners refusing to renounce their belief face even worse abuse. They are deprived of sleep, prohibited from using the restroom, forced into overtime slave labor, held in isolation, hung up by their arms for vicious beatings, held in custody beyond the terms of forced labor sentencing, and other abusive measures. The following cases demonstrate how labor camp officials have seriously infringed upon practitioners' legal rights and have committed criminal offences while abusing their authority.

Ms. Mo Qingbo from Nanning City refused to renounce her belief. Labor camp officials ordered her to squat in the hallway all night for so-called "self-examination," and still required her to work fifteen to sixteen hours a day. If she dozed off or could not complete her quota, she was punished with a deduction of points. For each 100 points deducted, the officials extended her forced labor term by an extra day. After three months of this, they put her into an isolated cell called the "dragon palace," where high frequency noise was played at night. She was tortured like this every night for about three months. Ms. Mo appeared numb and insensitive when she was finally released from the "dragon palace," after a total of six months in the labor camp, yet she was not released for another year. She eventually suffered a nervous breakdown.

Ms. Du Jing, a graduate with an associate degree, is from Nanning City. She was also locked in the "dragon palace" for over three months. She went on a hunger strike to protest the inhumane treatment. She was brutally force-fed and prohibited from using the restroom. She passed waste involuntarily and was punished with a deduction of 300 to 500 points. She was not released from the labor camp until one year after her term ended.

Because she read Teacher's new articles and refused to renounce her belief, officials handcuffed Ms. Lin Tiemei and threw her into the "dragon palace," sealing her mouth with duct tape. They removed the tape after the skin around her mouth had festered and become infected. Thugs often beat her and even stuck a broom handle into her mouth. Ms. Lin then went on a hunger strike to protest. She was brutally force-fed and experienced further inhumane treatment.

Ms. Zhang Shuxue was formerly the head nurse of the Neurology Unit at the Minzu Medical Institute in Youjiang, Guangxi. Labor camp officials forced her to squat for 24

hours a day without interruption. They didn't allow her to use the restroom and tied her pants at the bottom so that waste could not be released to the ground. Her legs became deformed. Unable to walk, she was dragged from place to place. Her condition continued to deteriorate, but no medical treatment was granted. Instead, she continued to be hung up by her arms, beaten and cruelly tortured.

Ms. Yu Ping is from Lingshan County in Qinzhou City. Her arms were pulled backwards and tied to a bed frame. She was deprived of sleep for up to seventeen days. She can no longer see clearly, yet continues to suffer such physical abuse.

Ms. Meng Gui is from Lingshan County in Qinzhou City. Ms. Meng has been forced to participate in rigorous labor despite her heart condition. Her health has been severely damaged.

These are just a few of the many crimes being committed every day at the Guangxi Women's Forced Labor Camp.

### ***Couple from Dezhou City Sent to Forced Labor Camp; Their 10-year-old Son Loses His Parents Again***

In the middle of December 2004, the police arrested Falun Gong practitioners Mr. Luo Yulin and Ms. Meng Qingwen, a couple from Dezhou City, Shandong Province and sent them to a forced labor camp. Their 10-year-old son Luo Daming has been deprived of his parents' care. Mr. Luo's mother is over 80 years old and her health condition is so serious that she is nearly comatose; his mother-in-law has heart disease. Neither of the women can take care of themselves, yet nobody is looking after Luo Daming or the elderly women.

Falun Gong practitioner Ms. Meng Qingwen is about 35 years old and works in a cow-raising plant on New Hubei Road in Dezhou City. Her husband Mr. Luo Yulin works in Dezhou City's Demian Group Knit Goods Mill.

On December 15, 2004, officers from the Jianshe Police Station affiliated with the Decheng Police Branch Department illegally arrested Ms. Meng while she was distributing truth-clarifying materials. The Jianshe Police Station and the Dezhou Development District Police Station plotted together to ransack her home with two truckloads of police guards. Around seven o'clock that night, Mr. Luo and his son were having dinner together. When Mr. Luo didn't open the door, the guards forcibly broke in without showing any legal documents. They illegally searched his home and took his Falun Gong books and some truth-clarifying materials. They arrested Mr. Luo, and took him to the Dezhou City Detention Center, leaving his 10-year-old son crying loudly in the yard alone.

The next day, they went to search Luo Yulin's workplace. They found an open letter that Mr. Luo had addressed to his work leaders. In the letter, Mr. Luo disclosed that in 2001 the mill directors set up a private tribunal and detained Mr. Luo for two months. It also included facts about how these leaders cooperated with the police and sentenced Mr. Luo to three years of forced labor. Mr. Luo had recently gotten out of the Wangcun Labor Camp after he had been held there for about a year.

On the third day, December 18, the Decheng police branch gave approval to detain Mr. Luo. The detention approval did not have anyone's signature, nor did it specify a detention period. The reason given was "interfering with the social order and influencing the execution of the law." Over 20 people from the Decheng police branch ransacked Mr. Luo's home for a second time on December 21. Village leaders helped them to get in. After Ms. Meng Qingwen had been detained for 10 days, the Decheng District police branch sent Ms. Meng and Mr. Luo to a forced labor camp again. Ms. Meng was sent to Jinan Women's Labor Camp for two years and Mr. Luo was sent to the Wangcun Men's Labor Camp.

When he was examined on the way to the Wangcun Labor Camp, Mr. Luo was found to have three different diseases (including kidney problems) and his health did not meet the acceptable requirement of the labor camp. The labor camp guards took advantage of this and extorted money from the four people who escorted Mr. Luo to the camp. There were two from his workplace and two police guards from the Decheng branch. They were asked to pay 1,000 yuan if they really wanted to detain Mr. Luo in the labor camp. The four of them put together 1,000 yuan and gave it to the labor camp guards. Just like that, though he was in very bad health, Mr. Luo was illegally placed in the labor camp.

Ms. Meng's labor camp notice didn't have her and her husband's signature. It only had a fingerprint of her mother-in-law, who is already 84 years old and has mental problems; she can neither speak clearly nor take care of herself. Two police guards broke into Mr. Luo's parents' home, grabbed Mr. Luo's mother's hand, pressed a finger on Ms. Meng's labor camp notice, and thus completed their so-called legal procedure.

Ms. Meng and Mr. Luo's workplaces helped with the police persecution. The boss of the cow-raising plant where Ms. Meng worked is around 26 to 27 years old, and was transferred from an armed police troop in Beijing. In 2000 and 2001 he had participated multiple times in persecuting Falun Gong practitioners who were appealing peacefully on Tiananmen Square. It was he who set up an undercover agent to contact Ms. Meng to learn the truth and watch a truth-clarifying CD in her home. Three days later, Ms. Meng was followed, arrested, and her home was ransacked.

Mr. Luo's workplace also cooperated with the police multiple times to detain him and send him to a forced labor camp for three years. They also sent another male practitioner who is in his 30s to a labor camp.

In 2001, Ms. Meng was sentenced to one year at a labor camp. Her husband Mr. Luo was sentenced to three years of labor while detained in the Wangcun Labor Camp. At that time, their child Luo Daming was only six years old. Now the child is ten years old and goes to Dezhou Tianqu East Road Elementary School. Both of his parents are imprisoned, and young Luo Daming misses them.

Ms. Meng's parents are both over 70 years old. Her mother has heart disease and needs someone to take care of her. Mr. Luo's parents are both over 80. His mother has mental problems and is nearly comatose. She also needs care. These elderly grandparents cannot even take care of themselves, so who will raise Luo Daming? The villains who persecute good people who simply believe in Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance, have put this family in this difficult situation.

## **Falun Gong Practitioners' Noble Actions in China**



***Practitioner Ms. Bo Gendi, 50, Walks Out of Shanghai Women's Forced Labor Camp With Righteous Thoughts***

Fifty-year-old practitioner, Ms. Bo Gendi, is from Leshan New Village, Xuhui District, Shanghai City. On February 5, 2005, three years after she was put into the Shanghai Women's Labor Camp for the second time, she walked out of the labor camp with righteous thoughts.

In 1999, Bo Gendi was illegally sentenced to two years of forced labor for the first time. She is the first practitioner who was sentenced to forced labor in the Shanghai area. At the labor camp, she maintained her upright state of mind, refusing to cooperate with the labor camp's demands, and left the camp with dignity. One month after escaping the various tortures of the forced labor camp, she was arrested for the second time. In April 2002, she was sentenced to three years of forced labor.

In April 2002, the Shanghai Procuratorate held a seminar in the labor camp to spread rumors created by the 610 Office to slander Falun Gong. Bo Gendi shouted at the seminar site, "Don't fabricate rumors." The guards were outraged. Bo Gendi was put through the "riding an airplane" torture (1) by the head of the 3rd Group. She was handcuffed and hung in the "riding an airplane" position for over 10 hours, with her feet not touching the floor, causing her hands to lose all feeling.

Bo Gendi was later transferred to the 5th Group, which was set up to monitor practitioners more closely. When the Group showed inmates videotapes that slandered Falun Gong, Bo Gendi shouted the truth and resisted the evil. The guards didn't know what to do so they transferred Bo Gendi to the 3rd Group to separate her from other practitioners and to single her out for more persecution.

Bo Gendi spent the three long years at the labor camp in the 3rd Group under second-level strict monitoring. The food was terrible. Even in such a harsh environment, she firmly resisted the guards' requirements and managed to practice Falun Gong and send forth righteous thoughts in the labor camp.

Each month the labor camp would pay inmates a tiny, symbolic salary for their work. Bo Gendi never took the money since she never considered herself an inmate.

## Clarifying the Truth to the 610 Office and the Police Department by a Falun Gong Practitioner in China

Ms. Liu is a Falun Gong practitioner from Hunan Province. She is in her 60's. Since the last half of 2004, several Falun Gong practitioners in the local area have been unlawfully sentenced to hard labor terms. Some practitioners were confused by the illusion of the evil and slowed down their Dafa practice. Ms. Liu saw what was happening and became worried. She decided to clarify the truth to the 610 Office and the police department.

Actions speak louder than words. She set out after some preparation. She walked straight into the 610 Office. A leader and some office workers were on duty at the time. Ms. Liu went straight to the point and said, "I am clarifying the truth today and I am sincerely concerned about your future..." Then she exposed the facts regarding the fabricated self-immolation incident, Falun Gong worldwide popularity, and the lawsuits which have been filed around the world implicating Jiang Zemin for crimes against humanity. The people she met in the 610 Office were helpless and didn't know what to say. While she was there, she also gave them truth clarifying materials and CDs. The leader of the 610 Office became nervous and quickly called the Police Department. Ms. Liu was arrested and directly taken to the Police Department. She thought it would be a good opportunity to clarify the truth there as well.

After getting out from the car, she met the deputy chief who was previously the director in charge of persecuting practitioners. Ms. Liu said hello to him and explained the purpose of her visit. The deputy chief said "I do not handle this matter at present" and he then left. Upon arriving at the political security military unit, she sent forth righteous thoughts. The corrupt policemen tried to avoid talking to her and took her to the detention center.

Ms. Liu not only clarified the truth but also distributed the clarifying materials. By maintaining her righteous thoughts, Ms. Liu walked out of detention with dignity after three days.

Several practitioners were inspired by this event and strove to be more diligent again in their practice.

### ***A Practitioner with Righteous Thoughts and Righteous Actions***

In the Masanjia Forced Labor Camp during 2002, I met a fellow practitioner from Lingyuan City, Liaoning Province. She is 53 years old this year.

One time, during a meeting with hundreds of people, the police chief ordered everyone to talk about their understanding of Falun Gong. This woman said firmly, "I am a beneficiary of Falun Gong. In the past I had many illnesses and could not lead a normal life in terms of working and taking part in daily activities. I frequently had to take medical leave and, although I spent a lot of money, I was still not cured. While in immense pain and feeling that I would be better off dead than alive, I started to learn Falun Gong. I used the standards of "Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance" to cultivate myself and be a good person. I recovered without spending a single cent, and managed to return to my work unit and work. Therefore, I will always believe in Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance." I was abducted from a classroom, though I did not commit any crime. Her words frightened the corrupt officials and safeguarded Falun Gong.

She did not cooperate with the lawless authorities and refused to do a single thing that they ordered her to do. The police said, "This lady's case is blank." She would not recite the prison rules or cooperate with their wicked arrangements.

After the Chinese Communist Party's 16th National Meeting in China, a new round of persecution started. A few dozen police officers and a group of collaborators targeted this woman for persecution. She told them, "In the past I had a lot of illnesses, such as stroke, heart disease, tuberculosis, liver illness and more." The police quickly asked her, "How did you get well?" She replied, "I was hospitalized a few times and had numerous medical consultations and consumed lots of medicine, but I was still not cured. It was only after I practiced Falun Gong that I got well." The few policemen said "Ah" together and were speechless.

After less than five months in the Masanjia Labor Camp, she managed to escape from the hands of the corrupt authorities.

## ***Practitioners Work Together to Validate Falun Gong in Huludao City, Liaoning Province***

Since the arrest of Falun Gong practitioner Mr. Li Qiu by the Senior High School attached to Nanpiao Mine Bureau and policemen from Huangjiajie Police Station, Nanpiao Falun Gong practitioners have quickly exposed the evil persecution in their local area on the Internet. They have been sending forth righteous thoughts every evening at four, five, and six o' clock with strong and focused minds, eliminating the evil factors that persecute Falun Gong practitioners.

Meanwhile, for nights on end, Falun Gong practitioners printed thousands of pamphlets containing information about Mr. Li Qiu's arrest and his home's invasion by the school authorities. In addition, they listed the names of the local policemen who were involved. These pamphlets, entitled "Persecution is Happening Right Next to You," were distributed to various places throughout the area.

Falun Gong practitioners wrote and then distributed thousands of letters about Mr. Li Qiu's arrest to local citizens and local government and party officials, as well as the local Public Security Bureau and its many police stations. The main goal was to clarify the facts and kindly advise the authorities not to do evil by persecuting Falun Gong and Falun Gong practitioners.

Falun Gong practitioners also posted the following statements on the buildings of the local government and 610 Office: "There is nothing wrong with cultivating Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance and being virtuous. Release Li Qiu immediately," "Falun Dafa is good," "Policemen Sun Fengchen, Dai Jinghui, Zhang Tongguang and Meng Xiangjun, as law enforcing agents, violated the law. Li Qiu is innocent." "Falun Gong has spread around the world."

In other areas of Nanpiao District, even more posters could be seen. A banner, seven meters high and one and a half meters wide, with the words "Falun Gong is upright" and other similar scrolls were hanging from the bridge in front of the local government building. Statements such as, "It is a crime for the police to arrest good citizens," "Good is rewarded; evil provokes karmic retribution. This is a universal principle," and "Open trial of Jiang Zemin all over the world," were posted on the walls near the building of the Security Bureau. At the same time, family members of Mr. Li Qiu went to the local police station and the local Public Security Bureau to ask for Li Qiu's release and brought a lawsuit against those responsible. Practitioners both at home and abroad have made numerous telephone calls and written many letters to clarify the truth to the people in the Nanpiao area.

The righteous thoughts and actions have effectively restrained the evil from carrying out further persecution against Mr. Li Qiu. The perpetrators have become quite

frightened. The deputy director of Nanpiao Public Security Bureau, Sun Fengchen, received a call from a practitioner telling him about the karmic retribution that occurred to local people, Su Fengkui and Hao Shushan, who were once involved in persecuting Falun Gong practitioners. Upon hearing this, Sun put down the phone and left his office hastily.

## **People Awaken to the Truth**

## ***The Stories of Awakening to the Truth***

### **The Awakening of a Security Division Supervisor**

In January 2002, the Security Division Supervisor of my college was ordered by staff of the 610 Office of Tianmen City, Hubei Province to allow them to enter my home for the purpose of illegally abducting me and transporting me to the municipal detention center. From there, I was later sent to the Shayang Forced Labor Camp, where I was held and tortured in the Second Women's Brigade for more than one year. During this period, other practitioners clarified the truth about Falun Gong to this supervisor, and he started to awaken to what was really happening. By the time I returned home, he was no longer cooperating with the 610 Office, and even brought materials slandering Falun Gong to me. This year, he took the truth-clarifying materials I sent to him and assured me that he would never again do anything to persecute Falun Gong. He recently also entrusted me with the declaration of his withdrawal from the Chinese Communist Party and its related organizations.

### **Husband Witnesses Miracles of Falun Gong**

In a family from Ranghulu District, Daqing City, Heilongjiang province, the wife is a Falun Gong practitioner and the husband is not. Since the wife started practicing Falun Gong, the husband has totally changed his attitude toward her. He has gone from misunderstanding her and discouraging her from practicing Falun Gong to supporting her wholeheartedly.

On January 15, 2005, after a heavy snowfall, the husband took a bus on a trip out of town. Because the road was so slippery, the bus driver lost control and the bus started sliding and lurching to one side. The husband recited silently, "Falun Gong is great! Truthfulness-Compassion-Tolerance are great!" As he finished, the bus stopped sliding, and a potentially deadly accident was averted. He concluded later that his faith in Falun Gong was what saved the bus from crashing.

### **Official Changes His Attitude Towards Dafa After Learning the Truth**

An official from a township in Chenzhou City, Guidong County, Hunan Province, used to believe the propaganda slandering Falun Gong in the newspapers and on television. He brought Falun Gong practitioners to the brainwashing center against their will and forced them to do slave labor. In the spring of 2003, his foot was seriously injured and a tendon in his right foot was severed. Even after the tendon was re-attached, the wound would not heal. After listening to Falun Gong practitioners clarifying the truth to him, the official gradually came to understand that Falun Gong practitioners were good people and Falun Gong was great. Soon afterwards, his injury was healed. After his

recovery, he understood that he shouldn't involve himself in persecuting Falun Gong and changed his attitude towards Falun Gong



### ***Story from a Village: The Truth Is Witnessed by Over a Thousand Pairs of Eyes***

In the spring of 1999, a woman in a Wei County village in Hebei Province was diagnosed with liver cancer. The doctor diagnosed it as "late stage." Her family spent all the money they had for her treatment. They even borrowed money, and she still didn't get cured. The doctor said, "She doesn't have much time left. Don't waste your money on further treatment. Just go home and buy her whatever she wants to eat."

The woman was so skinny -- almost like a stick -- and was just waiting for the day to die. However, a Falun Gong practitioner persuaded her to practice Falun Gong. At the beginning, her husband pushed her in a single-wheeled cart while her daughter held her steady. When they got to the exercise site, because she could not sit up, the woman half lay down against her husband's chest and listened to the practitioners read the Falun Gong book. After a few days, she could drag herself to the exercise site while her husband held her, and she had to rest a few minutes after each step. It took her one hour to walk the distance to the exercise site, just over 400 meters away. After another few days she didn't need her husband to help her, and she could walk slowly all by herself to the exercise site. After a while, she could walk fast to the site, just like a healthy person. Her complexion changed from pale to rosy and her face was more filled out than before. Her body underwent a miraculous change and she had a radiant spirit. She no longer had any pain in her liver. The woman practiced the exercises together with fellow practitioners every day.

A few months after her recovery, Jiang's regime began the persecution of Falun Gong and the exercise site was forced to close. This woman became extremely frightened. Others had persuaded her to practice at home without telling anyone, yet she dared not even do that. So she gave up Falun Gong practice completely. Very soon, her liver cancer returned and she died not long after that.

Later, someone wanted to use her as an example, to purposely discredit Falun Gong. They said, "This event can be reported on TV to show that she died because of practicing Falun Gong."

People in the village heard about this plot and were very angry: "With heaven, earth and your conscience, more than one thousand pairs of eyes have witnessed her healing. Creating rumors against Falun Gong like this will bring punishment from Heaven." Someone said, "Jiang caused this! If he were not around, she could have still practiced every day and would have stayed healthy and happy."

***Middle School Student: Your Informational Pamphlet Moved Me Very Much***

Today I gave a student the Clearwisdom pamphlet "Light the Lamp of the Heart" (a truth-clarifying pamphlet made to reach students and parents). This student took this pamphlet to school. In the school, the students were vying to read this pamphlet, and they learned that Jiang deceived people with lies. This student wrote her thoughts on reading "Light the Lamp of the Heart" and gave it to me, and she also asked me for more copies. She said that one copy was not enough because the students in the school all wanted to read it.

The following are this student's thoughts on reading Light the Lamp of the Heart:

"Light the Lamp of the Heart" moved me very much. I think your compassion and forbearance are respectable, just like that described in this book. The practitioners described in the book have done so well by following "Truthfulness, Compassion and Forbearance." In my life, all that I have seen and heard claimed that Falun Gong was not good. At that time, I doubted these claims. After reading this book, I have become clear just how evil the Jiang regime is, and I also see Falun Gong practitioners' compassionate hearts. Jiang persecuted Falun Gong and killed so many people. He will definitely receive retribution. People who follow "Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance" are persecuted and their families have been torn apart, but they still firmly uphold their belief. They are always tolerant, and they do not fight back even though they are beaten for no valid reason, but only because they learned Falun Gong. From those examples we can conclude that Falun Dafa is good, and those who learned Falun Gong know how to conduct themselves. The slanderous lies fabricated by Jiang let me know how vicious the authorities are. The "Tiananmen Self-immolation" was just their ridiculous play. They were so cruel that they even made children suffer persecution. They will definitely receive retribution.

# **Voice of Justice**

***Statement by International Educational Development (IED) to the UN  
Commission on Human Rights Regarding Human Rights in China***

**The Question of Violations of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in Any  
Part of the World**

**Human Rights in China**

Written statement submitted by International Educational Development (IED)

1. Since 2001, International Educational Development/Humanitarian Law Project (IED) has raised strong concerns over the situation of Falun Gong practitioners in China. Falun Gong is a type of cultivation practice involving both physical and mental exercises that had been part of Chinese culture for thousands of years, but which were violently suppressed in the early years of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). However, by the 1970's the Chinese authorities allowed cultivation practice, now renamed "qigong," to reenter Chinese culture, in part due to the noticeable decline in the health of the Chinese people. The Falun Gong style of cultivation practice became public in 1992, and enjoyed an immediate and wide popularity. While the authorities always showed concern over this popular practice, in July, 1999, the authorities suddenly began a brutal crackdown on Falun Gong and its practitioners that continues today.

2. IED considers that the crackdown on Falun Gong came about because of political rivalries within the CPP, and that its growing popularity among CPP members was viewed a threat to CPP control of the government. To draw attention away from these motives, the Chinese authorities began to characterize Falun Gong as an evil or secret cult and as harmful to Chinese society. General Secretary Jiang Zemin personally directed the anti-Falun Gong campaign, raising the issue with foreign government officials and the international media.

3. We are pleased that many of the Commission's special rapporteurs as well as its Working Group on Arbitrary Detention have addressed the rampant killings, imprisonment, torture, and oppression of Falun Gong practitioners by the Chinese authorities. For example, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention has ruled in the many cases before it that the detention of Falun Gong practitioners is arbitrary, finding no reason to support the Chinese view that Falun Gong is a "violent" belief but rather a practice fully protected by Articles 18 and 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.(1) The 2004 report of the Special Rapporteur on Torture lists nearly 100 cases of torture and death of Falun Gong practitioners.(2) The Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions has reported for several years on

numerous cases of custodial deaths of Falun Gong practitioners.(3) In similar fashion, the former and current special rapporteurs on violence against women have reported on many cases involving Falun Gong practitioners.(4) Finally, the special rapporteurs on the right to freedom of expression and freedom of religion or belief have addressed the severe repression of Falun Gong practitioners and have joined with other special rapporteurs regarding certain cases.(5)

4. Unfortunately, the government of China continues unabated in its severe crackdown on Falun Gong and Falun Gong practitioners. Because of this and other serious human rights problems in China, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights began a program in China as part of its promotion of the rule of law. The program has presented a number of recent workshops and training courses for police and others, including a round-table in Geneva with 16 prison administrators and other officials in September - October 2003. China appears to ignore the advice and suggestions provided by the OHCHR's technical assistance program as well the mandates of the Commission's working groups and rapporteurs.

5. We have previously commented on the large number of cases involving Falun Gong practitioners -- at least 1400 custodial deaths, mass arrests (including over 5000 in Changchun in 2003), perhaps as many as 60,000 detained, most of them tortured in some fashion. United Nations procedures and mechanisms cannot possibly address all the cases, all the more so when China refuses to change its practices. We believe that China is emboldened by its defiance of the United Nations because there have not been any negative consequences for China as a result of its bilateral or multilateral relations with other States.

6. We are also disturbed that China continues to harass and attack Falun Gong practitioners outside of China. Assaults have occurred in, inter alia, Iceland, Germany, Australia, Russia, Romania, Thailand, Cambodia, South Africa, Canada and the United States. Chinese diplomats even assaulted Rob Anders, a Canadian Member of Parliament in the Parliament building itself. MP Anders also reported that when a member of the press tried to photograph that incident, the Chinese diplomats tried to grab his camera and get him to leave the premises. MP Anders further stated: "[if they] think they can get away with doing that to me as a Member of Parliament, on Canadian soil, in my place of work, in the House of Commons -- can you imagine what they are doing to people back home in their own country! [and] they were issuing orders to members of the free press here in Canada." As we reported to the Sub-Commission, in June 2004 a group of Australian Falun Gong practitioners who were visiting South Africa was shot at by alleged Chinese agents, injuring one of them. Attacks in the United States have included intimidation of television stations that planned to air Chinese cultural shows produced by a Chinese language production company called NTDTV owned by a Falun Gong practitioner. One incident, reported in the Wall Street Journal on 24 November 2004, involved the Chinese consulate in Los Angeles, which

sent a letter to a law professor warning him not to appear in a NTDTV story. The story goes on to report a series of other anti-Falun Gong activities of Chinese diplomats targeting United States media outlets. The diplomats also hand out anti-Falun Gong literature in their consulates. There has been so much violence and intimidation by Chinese officials or their agents in the United States that on October 4, 2004, the United States House of Representatives unanimously passed a resolution calling on China to cease all actions against Falun Gong practitioners in the United States as well as in China.(6)

7. As important as it is for actions undertaken to date by the Commission and the Office of the High Commissioner as well as resolutions such as that passed by the United States House of Representatives, such action should, however, be coupled with serious consequences for China. The international community has learned through time that China ignores calls for improvements in human rights and continues its active persecution of Falun Gong practitioners. There are also other pressing human rights situations in China that need to be addressed and about which China has also ignored international and United Nations human rights mechanisms. Our organization has also repeatedly raised these situations as well: the oppression in Tibet and West Turkmenistan, the action against the "democracy" movement, serious curtailment of freedom of the press, freedom of expression and freedom of religion to name a few. Therefore, the international community, beginning with the Commission, must develop a series of steps to be mutually undertaken if China continues to defy international human rights standards. These steps should focus on the Chinese authorities and can include political/diplomatic sanctions, withholding of foreign military or other assistance, boycotts of Chinese products (especially those made in labour camps or other detention facilities), and other similar actions. Care should be taken to ensure that any actions undertaken against the Chinese government do not unduly burden the civilian population and should be undertaken with an aim to empowering the civilian population to educate themselves about international human rights standards and organize local ways to force compliance on Chinese authorities. Care should be taken to avoid rewarding China, such as allowing China to host Olympic Games, until and unless major improvements are made regarding to human rights. Without a major improvement, International Educational Development expects the international community to boycott the Beijing Games.

8. Finally, IED urges all States to take far more decisive action to protect Falun Gong practitioners in their own countries from direct or indirect persecution and to stop the intimidation by Chinese authorities or their agents of Falun Gong practitioners, media outlets, commercial enterprises, schools and universities or any another facility. Diplomats who participate should be required to leave their posts. States should make all aspects of their bi-lateral relationships with China contingent on stopping the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners and on an over-all significant improvement in human rights.

<sup>1</sup> See, for example, E/CN.4/2004/3/Add.1, para. 29.

<sup>2</sup> E/CN.4/2004/56/Add.1, paras. 246 - 316, 318 - 330, and 338 - 362.

<sup>3</sup>The last report (E/CN.4/2004/7/Add.1) of Special Rapporteur Asma Jahangir contained reports of incidents, one involving the police throwing a practitioner out of a fifth floor window, and many cases of deaths from brutal torture while in detention facilities. Ibid, paras. 44 - 67. The Special Rapporteur and the Special Rapporteur on torture sent a joint communiqué<sup>1</sup> to Chinese authorities in connection with a number of cases.

<sup>4</sup>See, for example, E/CN.4/2004/66/Add.1, paras. 23 - 51.

<sup>5</sup> See, for example, E/CN.4/2004/62/Add.1, para. 163.

<sup>6</sup> House Concurrent Resolution 304.

***Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin Writes to Canada Falun Dafa Association: Human Rights Was One of the Dominant Issues During Visit to China***

Thank you for your letter of January 5, 2005, asking me to express Canadians' concern over the treatment of Falun Gong adherents.

Your concerns about defending the right of religious freedom are shared by the Government of Canada, and officials at Foreign Affairs Canada are engaged with their Chinese counterparts in a human rights dialogue which includes frank discussion of many of the issues you raised in your letter.

I have just returned from my official visit to China, and am pleased to report that my meetings with Leaders in Beijing included a full and frank discussion of human rights issues, including specific Canadian concerns.

During my bilateral meeting with Premier Wen Jiabao, we discussed at length a wide variety of human rights concerns. In fact, it is fair to say that human rights was one of the dominant issues during our meeting. During this meeting, I referred to a list of human rights cases that was handed over to the Chinese by our Ambassador to China. This list includes specific cases of concern to Canadians and the Canadian government.

I also raised human rights during my other meetings, with President Hu Jintao and National People's Congress Chairman Wu Bangguo.

I also spoke about human rights initiatives during my speech to the Canada-China Business Council in Beijing. I referred specifically to rights-related obligations China must face as its economy continues to grow. My view is that we should seek to enhance our engagement with China - to foster a real partnership that comprises not just economic pursuits, but also the global political agenda: public health, environmental issues, human rights, and culture. I also spoke of the need to work together to develop a transparent legal system, as well as reform China's judiciary, develop its justice system, and protect women's rights.

Canada will continue to work with China towards these goals, both in the context of the existing dialogue and through other initiatives aimed at increasing respect for human rights.

Thank you for taking the time to share you concerns with me.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Martin (signature)



## **Media Reports and Opinions**

***ABC Radio Australia: In China, Media are Still Controlled by Government  
[excerpt]***

[...But most meaningful journalism has to be about the use and abuse of power

There are brave journalists that venture into this dangerous ground. But newspapers have been closed, and some people have lost their jobs, and more than two dozen were in jail at the end of last year...]

In his letter from China, an ABC correspondent notes that as China passed it's controversial anti-secession law this week, aimed at stopping any independence move by Taiwan, Chinese journalists showed themselves to be anything but impartial.

Presenter/Interviewer: John Taylor

TAYLOR: China is a country where ordinary people can be abused and locked up just because they hold political or religious opinions counter to the government.

Yet to the casual observer or tourist, the country looks free. People are busy doing their own thing, and appear content to be enjoying an improving standard of living.

But the chains of control are strong. It's just that they're mostly hidden.

One obvious area where they aren't, is the media. In 1989 during the Tiananmen protests in Beijing a column of journalists from the Communist Party's official newspaper marched into the crowds at Tiananmen Square. They held a banner 25 feet wide bearing the words - "Don't force us to lie".

It remains a telling insight despite the passage of 16 years. Communist control in China is inseparable from media control.

In my office, broadcasts of the BBC and CNN regularly go black when stories appear that the censors don't like.

Despite a proliferation of newspapers and magazines as China's economy opens up, news outlets are owned and closely monitored by the state. Supporting the ruling Communist Party is considered the media's key purpose.

Editors and bosses get instructions from China's propaganda officials of what stories

are too sensitive to report and how others should be reported.

That's not to say that the media hasn't changed from the days of Mao - there are plenty of social interest and lifestyle type stories that are getting a run.

But most meaningful journalism has to be about the use and abuse of power.

There are brave journalists that venture into this dangerous ground. But newspapers have been closed, and some people have lost their jobs, and more than two dozen were in jail at the end of last year.

[...]

## ***Danish Newspaper Exposes the Persecution against Falun Gong Practitioners in China***

LOGOS magazine, nr.1st March 2005

### **Large Danish investments amidst state terror in China**

China's president Hu Jintao replaced Jiang Zemin in September 2004, as chairman of the powerful military commission, and is hereby the most powerful man in China. There were also expectations that he would settle China's bad image with regard to human rights. But nothing has happened. Realizing that Hu Jintao either will not or cannot do anything positive for human rights in China, the Chinese newspaper *Epoch Times*, based in New York, published the Nine Commentaries of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). The newspaper is independent of political or economic interests. And it's especially independent of the Chinese Government. When China is accused of a lack of human rights it is often stressed that it's more important to secure material welfare for the population [*than uphold human rights*].

### **Continuing despite torture**

When Jiang began the persecution in 1999, he expected Falun Gong to be eliminated in three months. However, Falun Gong practitioners would rather be tortured to death than let go of their faith. While some were frightened into [remaining at home to practice and study Falun Dafa], some were brave enough to begin the tough fight uphill against the propaganda machine. Slowly, Falun Gong regained its reputation. In certain places far from the capital, the exercises were practiced openly, but in the capital Beijing and in the Northeast of China the oppression is still ruthless.

### **CCP is jealous of Falun Gong's success**

The unique way in which Falun Gong spread was from mouth to mouth. Falun Gong has a loose managerial structure, and anyone can come and go as he pleases. Because of Falun Gong's effects in improving people's physical and mental health, the number of Falun Gong practitioners grew rapidly. Many studied Li Hongzhi's books and promoted Falun Gong at their own cost. In seven years, the number of Falun Gong students grew to over one hundred million. When they practiced in the mornings, Falun Gong practice music could be heard in almost every park in China.

### **Struggle of Culture**

When the number of people practicing Falun Gong exceeded the membership of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), one could imagine the CCP's fear and jealousy. Actually, what Falun Gong gives the people is culture. It is inherited culture that the

Chinese people lost long ago. Immediately after the CCP formed the government, it started to destroy temples and burn Holy Scriptures. They forced monks and nuns back to a secular life. In the 1960's, there was hardly any religious worship left in China. The Great Cultural Revolution was a religious and cultural catastrophe under the campaign "Casting Away the Four Olds" - i.e., old ideas, old culture, old customs and old habits.

### **Economic pressure on the West**

According to the Chinese Ministry of Commerce, by April 2004 China had received 990 billion dollars in foreign investments. This enormous blood transfusion to the CCP's economy from foreign capital is eye-catching, but the investment rate hasn't brought democracy, freedom or human rights to the Chinese people. During his visit to China from 24th to 28th February 2004, Anders Fogh had a talk about human rights with Chinese officials, but behind closed doors. The Prime Minister has withheld information on the contents of these talks in the Danish Parliament. The Danish representative for Falun Gong, Lingnan Wu has, like hundreds of other representatives around the world, received several Chinese messages slandering Falun Gong on her telephone answering machine. The tape has been handed over to the police.

Falun Gong is an advanced cultivation and practice system founded by Li Hongzhi. Since its introduction in 1992, Falun Gong has attracted more than 100 million people worldwide. It is related to other Qigong techniques, but differs by aiming at higher awareness. Falun Gong consists of five sets of exercises. Three of them involve physical activity and movement, while in the other two one is required to hold postures for longer periods. In Falun Gong, "Truthfulness, Compassion and Forbearance" - the universe's "highest characteristic" - is emphasized. Those interested can join free of charge and instruction material can be downloaded for free on the Internet.

## ***AAP (Australia): Reverse Falun Gong ban: Greens***

March 16, 2005

**The Federal government should reverse a decision to prevent members of a religious group protesting outside the Chinese Embassy, the Australian Greens said today.**

Falun Gong, a [spiritual] group with a focus on meditation, is due to hold a press conference at Parliament House in Canberra today to protest the Federal Government's 2002 decision to stop it erecting protest banners outside the Chinese Embassy.

The organization is outlawed in China and thousands of its members are reported to be locked up in Chinese jails.

Greens senator Bob Brown said the group was conducting a "very reasonable protest against the thousands of their members who are jailed in China".

"(An) estimated 400 (According to minghui.ca, up to present, 1520 practitioners are verified to have died from the persecution) have died in jail in China," Senator Brown told reporters in Canberra.

In the interests of religious freedom of expression, Falun Gong members should be allowed to protest outside the embassy, he said.

"It is their right to protest in this country and it is not right for (Foreign Minister) Alexander Downer to be restricting their protests at the behest of the Chinese communist regime in Beijing," he said.

"I'm not a practitioner, but I do believe in religious and political freedom of expression.

It's a very important matter at the moment and it's one that shouldn't be swept under the carpet because we're frightened of trade relations with the CCP (Chinese Communist Party)."

Comment was being sought from Mr Downer.

## ***The Australian: Kowtowing to China***

March 12, 2005

ONCE a month, Alexander Downer signs a certificate banning adherents of Falun Gong from displaying banners and making excessive noise outside the Chinese embassy in Canberra.

[...]

The real reason is that the Chinese [...] complained about signs that read "Truthfulness, Compassion, Tolerance" and "Stop the Killing", as well as the playing of exercise music with a Chinese voice-over.

According to the group, Australia is the only democratic country to impose such restrictions on its members, or practitioners, as they prefer to call themselves - an assertion the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade did not challenge when it was put to it this week.

Unfortunately, the Chinese do everything to impair the dignity of Falun Gong practitioners. Amnesty International says tens of thousands are being detained in China, mostly in "re-education through labour" centers but also in prisons and mental hospitals. It reports that total alleged deaths in custody had reached about 500 by the end of 2002.

The US State Department says that several hundred reportedly have died due to torture, abuse and neglect. Falun Gong claims to have verified 1423 deaths and that the total could be as high as 10,000. Whatever the figure, it is one of the worst examples of repression of Chinese citizens since the Cultural Revolution.

[...]

Many Australians driving past the Chinese embassy and consulates in other cities have seen the Falun Gong in action, if that is the word. It is the epitome of passive protest. They are often sitting cross-legged, meditating.

[...]

You can draw your own conclusions why Australia finds it necessary, unlike other countries, to impose a statutory restriction on a group just because the Chinese say they are offended, as opposed to the police simply keeping an eye on members or responding to specific complaints about breaches of the law. This week the Government

went further to please the Chinese by excluding Falun Gong from talks it convened in Canberra with non-government organizations on human rights in China.

These discussions are held as part of the input for the annual human rights dialogue Australia has with China. Haven't heard much about those? That is because they are held behind closed doors. Even the NGOs participate in the preliminary talks only on the condition that they do not speak about them publicly.

Falun Gong was prepared to abide by these conditions but this week it was dis-invited to the talks. Why? Because it held a protest outside the foreign affairs department to coincide with the meeting. This included displays of information about Falun Gong and a demonstration of Chinese torture methods.

A foreign affairs department spokesman said Falun Gong members had been told their attendance might have to be reconsidered but they decided to go ahead with the demonstration anyway.

"We advised them formally on Tuesday, the day before the consultations, that their invitation had been withdrawn because the protest was not consistent with the cooperative spirit of the consultations," he added.

That certainly sorts out Australian priorities. Punishing people for engaging in peaceful protest is not consistent with democratic values. These are the kinds of values we hold so dear [...].

But these values apparently are not as important as kowtowing to the Chinese. The foreign affairs spokesman said the restrictions on Falun Gong activities outside the Chinese embassy should not be interpreted "as indicating any lessening of the Government's concern for the rights of Falun Gong practitioners" and that these concerns had been raised at the last dialogue in October.

The annual dialogue is a means of quarantining human rights issues to a private meeting and is a substitute for public criticisms of China's appalling human rights record, including in the UN Human Rights Commission. As Australian ambassador to China Alan Thomas put it last year: "I don't get up with a microphone in Tiananmen Square and that is appreciated [by the Chinese Government]."

Australia argues that this approach is more effective, but the results are hard to find. Australia has raised a series of individual Falun Gong cases in the annual dialogues, including, in two consecutive years, that of the brother of an Australian citizen arrested in China for being a Falun Gong practitioner. "He still died in a labour camp," says Rubacek.



Yes, it is important to have good relations with China and not only because they buy lots of our goods. And no, we should not pretend that a country of our size is ever going to have a big influence on Chinese behaviour. But that does not mean we always have to bend over backwards further than any other country to find favour. [...]

***Persecution of Falun Gong Practitioners Mentioned on a Special Program of BBC***

"Question Time" is the premier political debating program broadcast on the UK's BBC One TV station. On Thursday March 10, the program did a special broadcast live from Shanghai in China with a panel featuring former Hong Kong Governor and EU Commissioner Chris Patten and writer and broadcaster Isabel Hilton, as well as a Chinese Government representative. A studio audience made up of Shanghai residents and visitors put forward questions for discussion.

One Chinese man asked the question, "Do you endorse the description of the human rights situation in China made by the most recent U.S. annual human rights report." The host of the show quoted the U.S. report, saying it "accused China of serious human rights violations including the killing and torture of dissidents" and that "the authorities are quick to suppress religious, political and social groups."

The first speaker to address this issue was Isabel Hilton, who quickly agreed with the U.S. report, telling the Shanghai audience and millions of viewers that "there have been many 'deaths in custody' of Falun Gong practitioners." Ms. Hilton went on to list other human rights abuses happening in China and pointed out that it is not only the U. S. State Department that is critical of China's human rights.

In response to this point, the host of the show quoted Amnesty International's recent report on China's human rights, which states that "a growing number of brave individuals in China...are facing arrest torture and even death," for standing up for their basic freedoms. Ms. Hilton again agreed with the statement and pointed out that in China, several hundred people have died of abuse in custody over the last few years.

## ***The Shorthorn (University of Texas at Arlington) Reports Falun Gong Activity on Campus***

Nine Falun Dafa practitioners sat with their legs crossed Tuesday afternoon on the Central Library mall and performed their forbidden exercise.

The Student Peace Action Network and engineering professor Bei Gou demonstrated how the Chinese communist government denies Dafa practitioners their civil rights.

Falun Dafa is an ancient practice for the mind, body and spirit which is guided by the universal principles of truthfulness, compassion and tolerance. It started in 1992, but since [1999], China's practitioners have been jailed and tortured for their activities.

"There's a lack of human rights in China," said Gou, who is also a practitioner. "What we have are practitioners being persecuted because there's more practitioners than members of the communist party."

Former communist leader Jiang Zemin ordered their persecution because he feared losing control over the people's minds, according to the Falun Dafa Web site. More than 100 million people practice Falun Dafa worldwide.

The practitioners on campus performed Falun Dafa exercises by stretching out their arms and moving them in controlled circular motions. They ended with a meditation session.

Practitioner Yucy Luv of Richardson sat side-by-side with her three children to the event throughout the demonstration.

"I have been a practitioner since 1997," Luv said. "Before, when I didn't practice, I felt tired, but now I have more energy. My body is comfortable. It has changed my personality a lot. I'm a better person."

The network's president Zach Salo said Gou came to him wanting to focus on the Chinese civil rights issue.

"It was important to inform students of what Falun Dafa is, and how they are being denied their human rights based on what they exercise," the biology junior said. "Everybody knows of the persecution of Christians and Muslims, but not Falun Dafa."

# **Falun Gong Practitioners' Personal Experiences**

## ***Falun Gong Has Given Me the Miracle of Life***

By Dong Mei, from Hebei Province, China

I have been poor since childhood, so I have always attempted to be successful. However, after years of struggling for fame and personal gain, I had not received anything except diseases all over my body: severe rheumatic arthritis, sciatica, bursitis in my shoulder, and neurasthenia, and the medication I was given was useless. In 1994, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. After an operation, I was diagnosed with leukopenia, and my white blood cell count dropped to 1900. I did not feel comfortable in any part of my body, and I was in great pain constantly, even when turning over while sleeping. Then, I lost my job and could not pay my medical expenses. At that point, I was over 40 years old, with parents and children all relying on me.

A doctor advised me to try Qigong, so I decided to give it a try. At that time, there were all kinds of Qigong in the parks. I tried many different kinds, but my health did not improve.

In the summer of 1995 when I was doing some morning exercises, someone gave me a book called Falun Gong. I finished reading it in one sitting when I got home. I thought this book was so wonderful. The more I read it, the more I was amazed by it. I was moved deeply by the profound principles in the book, and I stepped onto the path of cultivating in Falun Gong. I understood why a person should cultivate: to return to the true self and to become a truly good person. Soon all of my pain disappeared. My entire body felt light, I did not feel tired even after a lot of hard work, and I no longer needed to take any medicine. I was perfectly healthy for several years. This was the second life that Teacher gave me, and my worldview changed completely. I now cultivate myself according to "Truthfulness, Compassion and Forbearance".

After the persecution began, with much consideration, I decided that cultivation was still the right choice. During the past five years, I, along with other practitioners, have experienced various forms of persecution. In order to validate Falun Gong, I have written to each level of the government. When I did not get any response, I went to Beijing to appeal. However, what I got in return was a jail cell, torture and fines. I have been sent to jail five times and sent to brainwashing class once. During a time of seemingly endless detention, I was tortured and the symptoms of my old diseases returned. Because my weight dropped from 65 kg (143 lbs.) to 45 kg (99 lbs.), the policemen feared that I might die there, and released me on bail for medical treatment. After the physical examination, I was diagnosed with cancer. My blood pressure reached as high as 180, my white blood cell count dropped to 2600, breathing was difficult, and my life was in danger. But while the doctors were trying their best to rescue me, the policemen wanted to send me back to the detention center. Finally,

under pressure from the doctors, I was kept in the hospital. Even in this state, the police were still afraid that I would go to Beijing and dispatched someone to watch me night and day.

Finally, because the cancer had proliferated and I was close to death, I was sent back home. After going home, I persisted in practicing the Falun Gong exercises. In just 20 days, I recovered my health. Everyone who saw me was amazed. When I was tortured to the verge of death, Falun Gong saved my life once again.