

# **Part I I**

# **A Photo Tour**

# Falun Dafa – A Time Line of Events

## The beginning

Mr. Li Hongzhi, the founder and teacher of Falun Dafa gave his first public lecture in Changchun, Jilin province, China in May 1992.



May 13, 1992

## The book: *Zhuan Falun*

- First published in China on January 4, 1995.
- Available in more than 10 languages.
- A national best seller in China, 1996.



☞ The character in the center is the "wan" character, a symbol that has been used in many cultures for thousands of years to denote good fortune.

Jan 4, 1995

## 10,000 practitioners appealed in Zhongnanhai, Beijing, China

On April 25, 1999, more than ten thousand Falun Gong practitioners held a peaceful gathering in Beijing, China, outside the Chinese leadership compound, Zhongnanhai. The assembly "was apparently set off by an incident in Tianjin, where practitioners staged a protest last week after a local magazine ran an article maligning Buddhist Law [Falun Gong] and the police used force to drive away followers," according to *New York Times*.



The entire event was peaceful and characterized by orderliness. "Unlike student protesters who noisily thronged the streets of Beijing with colorful banners and pungent slogans 10 years ago, Sunday's demonstrators drew no attention to themselves and attracted no notice until there were suddenly many thousand of them sitting quietly in one of the most politically sensitive locations in the nation," *New York Times* reported.



April 25, 1999

1992 - 1998

July 20-22, 1999

The China Qigong Association and its local offices, which are affiliated with China's Society of Science and Technology, organized all 53 Falun Gong workshops for Mr. Li Hongzhi between 1992 and 1994. About 20,000 people attended Mr. Li's lectures in person.

During this period of time Mr. Li received continual praise and recognition from various government organizations. Between 1996 and 1998, Mr. Li lectured in countries outside China, such as the United States, Switzerland, Australia, Germany, Canada, and France. His first lecture in the United States was given in Houston, Texas in Sept. 1995.

## Falun Dafa develops in China and abroad



Over 10,000 people doing Falun Dafa movements during the Asian Sports Festival in northern China in 1998.



More than 3,000 people attended Mr. Li's lecture in Singapore in 1998.

## Crackdown begins

On July 20, 1999, forceful suppression began, with more than a hundred arrests of so-called "key members" of Falun Gong being made across China in the middle of the night. A nationwide ban of Falun Gong was officially announced on July 22, making every sort of Falun Gong activity illegal. According to *New York Times*, "the authorities have detained tens of thousands of people and are spewing a deafening barrage of anti-Falun Gong publicity each day." Just one week later the Chinese Government issued an arrest warrant through Interpol for Mr. Li Hongzhi, then already a permanent resident of the United States. Interpol rejected Beijing's request, because the approach had political motives. Human rights groups accused Chinese authorities of blatantly violating the legal rights of Falun Gong practitioners. "This crackdown flies in the face of the Chinese government's commitments to increase social freedom and marks the beginning of yet another cycle of stifled dissent and repression," Amnesty International said in a statement.



## Nationwide persecution

The Chinese Government launched a far-reaching campaign of misinformation about Falun Gong. State-run media flooded the printing presses and airwaves with fabrications about Mr. Li Hongzhi and Falun Gong in attempts to sway and mislead their readers and audiences. Conversely, millions of legally published Falun Gong books, audio tapes, and video tapes were confiscated, burned, and destroyed across the country. Tens of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners were detained, thousands were tortured, and hundreds were sent to labor camps and imprisoned. "It's as though we are reliving a bad dream," said a Chinese businessman who expressed amazement at the old-fashioned nature of the anti-Falun Gong campaign to a *New York Times* reporter. Falun Gong Web sites based outside China's territory have been blocked and constantly attacked, or even destroyed.



July, 1999 - Present

## Government Action in the United States

On November 18, 1999, the United States House of Representatives unanimously passed a resolution criticizing the Chinese government's suppression of Falun Gong. On November 19, the United States Senate also passed a related resolution. The House resolution initiated by Republican Chris Smith of New Jersey said: "The Government of the People's Republic of China should stop persecuting Falun Gong practitioners and other religious believers." President Clinton, in a human rights speech on December 6, 1999, criticized China's crackdown on Falun Gong: "[China's] ... progress is still being held back by the government's response to those who test the limits of freedom. A troubling example, of course, is the detention by Chinese authorities, of adherents of the Falun Gong movement. Its targets are not political dissidents... But the principle still, surely, must be the same: freedom of conscience, and freedom of association."



Nov./Dec. 1999

## First World Falun Dafa Day

May 13, 2000 was the first World Falun Dafa Day, marking the eighth anniversary of the introduction of Falun Dafa to the public. In over 64 cities around the world, practitioners held colorful celebrations and demonstrated the exercises in parks.



May 13, 2000

October, 1999

## Crackdown escalates and peaceful appeal



Hundreds of volunteer Falun Dafa contact persons have been sentenced to prison terms since October 1999.

The Chinese National Legislature rushed to pass an "anti-cult" law to retroactively criminalize Falun Gong. "China's communist leaders often insist that theirs is, in fact, a system of laws," *Washington Post* reported. "In the past week, events have proven the leaders absolutely right. When they found themselves without the laws they needed to vigorously persecute a peaceful meditation society [Falun Gong], the Party simply ordered up some new laws. Now these will be applied - retroactively, of course - in show trials that could lead to execution for the group's leaders. This is what the regime calls 'smashing them rigorously in accordance with the law.'"

Falun Gong practitioners worldwide made every effort to appeal for a peaceful dialogue with the Chinese government.

Thousands of practitioners from all over the country go to Tiananmen Square to petition the central government every day, knowing full well that they will be detained and punished - even tortured - for exercising their constitutional right of appeal.

Falun Dafa practitioners held a press conference in Beijing on October 28, 1999. They were later arrested and sentenced to prison.



## The courage continues



Detained in custody near Beijing, the practitioners still practice the movements.



At present, Falun Dafa is practiced in over 40 countries around the world. In the past six months alone, Falun Dafa Experience Sharing Conferences have been held in the United States, Canada, Switzerland, Taiwan, Japan and China. This is the public face of Falun Gong...challenged, determined and unafraid.



# Falun Dafa in China





## Falun Dafa was Made Public in China in May, 1992



The founder Mr. Li Hongzhi started his teaching in May, 1992 in China. During his teaching of Falun Dafa in China from 1992 to 1994, Mr. Li did everything possible to make his precious self-cultivation system available to everyone -regardless of any financial situation, educational background or previous qigong experience. Li lectured only upon invitation, refusing to promote or market himself or his teachings. About fifty-four classes were organized by the government-run China Qigong Science and Research Society throughout China in those years. About 20,000 people attended Mr. Li's lectures during this period.

Mr. Li received continual praise and recognition from various government organizations throughout this period. The government praised Falun Dafa for bringing better health to many Chinese thereby lowering the medical costs incurred by the government, and bringing benefits to both society and to practitioners.



Awards from China: Mr. Li Hongzhi of Falun Gong is honored with "The Award for Advancing Boundary Science and the title of "Qigong Master most acclaimed by the masses" by the Oriental Health Expo in Beijing, December, 1993.



Thousands of people attended Mr. Li's classes in Tianjing, China in 1992.

# Mr. Li's Teaching Benefits Millions of Chinese People



Morning practice in the park, Beijing



93 Years old practitioner



Meditate quietly



Kids practice, Beijing



Group practice, Guangzhou



Practice in Tibet



## Mr. Li's Teaching Benefits Millions of Chinese People



Morning Practice, Chuangchun, China in 1998.



Group practice during the International Falun Dafa Experience Sharing Conference, Beijing, 1998.



Before the crackdown, Falun Dafa was well received by the public. The above photo shows over 10,000 people demonstrating Falun Dafa movements in the government sponsored Asian Sports Festival in Shenyang City, Northern China in 1998.

## Over 10,000 Practitioners Peacefully Appeal to the Central Government in Zhongnanhai, Beijing, April 25, 1999

On April 25, 1999, over 10,000 Falun Dafa practitioners appealed in neat order at Zhongnanhai, the Chinese Government leadership compound in Beijing. In a very peaceful manner, they asked the government to provide a free and legitimate cultivation environment. Since it happened at Zhongnanhai, people refer to it as the “Zhongnanhai incident” or “Zhongnanhai event.” This incident became the focus for the whole world because it happened at the most sensitive place in China, and because of the unusually calm and peaceful manner the Falun Dafa practitioners maintained throughout this incident.

The gathering shocked President Jiang Zemin of the Chinese Communist government. Jiang is afraid of so many people practicing the same thing, especially when many high officials and military in the Communist Party also practice it. He is afraid of losing his power to control the citizens. Thus, the Chinese government has perceived Falun Dafa as a threat, just as it has other groups that are popular or that involve principles not directly related to the Communist ideology.

Starting in July, 1999, the Chinese Communist government banned the practice of Falun Dafa and started persecuting its estimated 70 to 100 million practitioners inside China. Since then, tens of thousands of Falun Dafa practitioners have been detained, and many of them have been tortured, forced from their jobs, homes, schools, over 50,000 sent to labor camps without trial, over 600 sentenced to prison terms, over 1000 sent to mental hospital, and at least 107 have been tortured to death while in police custody.



## The Moral Courage of Falun Dafa Practitioners



Practitioners held a press conference in Beijing to seek international support by telling the true story of Falun Dafa. Reporters from Reuters, AP, AFP, and the New York Times attended. Most of the practitioners who attended the conference were arrested afterwards. Beijing, October, 1999.



Arrested and persecuted, practitioners have appealed to United Nations Secretary - General Kofi Annan to organize a United Nations team to make an independent study of the group and help China resolve the crisis peacefully. Beijing, November, 1999.

## Practicing Their Rights in Tiananmen Square



**Their courage comes from their unshakable faith to  
Truthfulness - Compassion - Forbearance.**



## Keep Practicing Even in Custody and Drug Detoxification Center



### Practice in custody

Practitioners from different regions went to Beijing to appeal, and then arrested and detained, under the severe circumstances, they still keep practicing. (January, 2000)



### Practice in Drug Detoxification Center

Because of appealing to the central government, about 70 Falun Dafa practitioners have arrested and detained in a mental hospital, then a drug detoxification center near Beijing in March, 2000. They showed their unshakable beliefs to Falun Dafa by continuing to practice the movements and going on hunger strike to protest the injustices at the drug detoxification center. (Beijing, March, 2000)

## Arrested, Detained, Persecuted, yet Unshakable

### Her neck fractured by police torturing, Ms. Zhao still firmly believes in Falun Dafa



Ms. Zhao was a lecturer in a University in Beijing.

Ms. Zhao Xin, 32-year-old teacher at the Business and Economics College of Beijing Industry & Commerce University, was beaten and tortured by the police because she practiced in a park. The vertebra at the fourth, fifth and sixth joints of her neck were fractured.

While in a seemingly hopeless situation, Ms. Zhao still firmly believes in Falun Dafa.

She was strict with herself, and constantly keeps a practitioner's standard. She bore neither hatred nor complaints, instead, she spread Falun Dafa to her classmates when they came to see her in hospital. On December 11, 2000, Zhao Xin died after 6 months of suffering from the injuries she sustained while in Chinese police custody.



Ms. Zhao was tortured by police.



The photo taken before Ms. Liang was arrested

### Words spoken with life

When Ms. Liang Yening was sentenced in court for not giving up Falun Dafa, she told the court: "I am not guilty. Here I do not appeal for myself or complain about anything, but I insist on making my appeal for Falun Dafa." ... Many court attendants were moved to tears.

Because those statement, Ms. Liang was sentenced to prison for extra 3 years; her total sentence has become 6 years.

### Enduring the suffering with a broken arm from police torturing, Ms. Xiang still went to Beijing many times to appeal



Ms. Xiang Jinying went to Beijing to appeal during October of 1999 and was tortured. The cruel Method of handcuffing fractured her upper arm.

In March, 2000, she attempted to go to Beijing again to appeal but was detained in the Haiyan Hotel. In the beginning of May, 2000, she was sent to the Deqing labor camp of Zhejiang Province for forced-labor. The police confiscated the Falun Dafa books she brought with her. Therefore, she went on hunger a strike to request for the return of those books.

## Compassion Without Hatred or Anger Toward Others



### No fear to be arrested

On November 29, 1999, when the practitioners were sharing experiences on Falun Dafa in Guangzhou, South China, the police rushed into the room. Facing the police, who glared like a tiger eyeing its prey, the practitioners showed no fear.



### Facing the tribulations calmly

Practitioners from Yancheng City were detained for holding up a Falun Dafa banner in Tiananmen Square on New Year's day. This picture was taken before they went to Tiananmen Square for appeal. January 18, 2000.

### "One can be a good person in all circumstances"

"In the detention center, what I faced everyday were policemen and prisoners. When the policeman got angry, he would yell at me and forbid me to sleep. The prisoners called me 'new-comer'. They forced me to sleep on the wet floor where the dirty water was dropping from the ceiling for two days.



I always remembered Master Li's teaching: 'Others could treat us unfairly, but we should not do the same in return' and 'A good person always keeps the heart of compassion. With no complaint or hatred, he takes hardship as pleasure.' In detention center, I always tried my best to be a good person. I helped the prisoner on duty to clean the floor and toilets. During the leisure time, I would tell them my cultivation experience and the principle of being a good person."

*Ms. Gu Linna, TV anchor, the Economic TV Station, Shijiazhuang, China, was sentenced to prison for 4 years. (February, 2000)*

### "Enduring Tribulations with No Hatred or Anger"

*By Ms. Liu Jing, after detained and persecuted in Tiananmen Square Police Station in January, 2000*

"I knew they (police) were going to do the same to me. After they handcuffed me in the same way, they also plugged a bottle into my handcuffs to make them tight... On the afternoon of December 23, the police officers ordered a patient with mental illness and two other criminals to beat me. I endured with no hatred or anger ..."



## Continued Peaceful Appeal in National Day in Tiananmen Square, October 1, 2000



On the morning of October , 2000, after the traditional flag-raising ceremony in Tiananmen Square, more than one thousand practitioners gathered in the Square to hold a peaceful appeal on behalf of Falun Dafa. Uniformed and plainclothes policemen were everywhere. Large-scale beating and arrest began to take place immediately. According to an eyewitness report, by 9:30 am, so many practitioners were taken into custody that they filled more than 25 medium and large-sized buses. They were then driven away to an unknown location.





## Continued Peaceful Appeal in Taipei, Taiwan, December 2000



2000 Asia Pacific Falun Dafa Experience Sharing Conference was held in Taipei on December 25, 2000. Over 3000 practitioners from more than 20 countries attended the conference.



Press Conference to condemn China torturing the Falun Gong practitioners. Taipei, December 26, 2000.



Peaceful March in memory of 103 practitioners who persecuted to death by the Chinese Government since July 1999.

A “Falun Gong and Human Rights” seminar in the Taiwanese Government Legislative Building had been held on December 26, 2000. The four guest speakers who spoke during the seminar were: the Director of the Lung-chu Chen New Century Foundation, the former Chairman of the Taiwan Association for Human



“Falun Gong and Human Rights” Seminar, December 26, 2000.

Rights, the President of Taiwan News, and the Taiwan Legislator and Executive Director of the Peace-time Foundation of Taiwan. Each speaker made a strong impression on the audience, both by clarifying what is taking place inside of China, as well as by expressing their whole-hearted support for Falun Dafa practitioners.



“I wish you success in your character cultivation and martial art practice,” Taiwan Vice President Annette Lu told the practitioners who held fluorescent glow sticks to mourn mainland brethren either dead in Chinese custody or still languishing in prison. Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, Taipei, December 26, 2000.

## Continued Peaceful Appeal in Hong Kong, January, 2001



About 1,200 Falun Gong practitioners from 23 countries gathered in a Hong Kong's government- owned concert hall to share experiences and to protest China's crack-down on Falun Gong on January 14, 2001.



Peaceful March



Delivering petition letters in front of Beijing's Liaison Office



Memorizing 120 fellow practitioners died in the persecution, January 13, 2001.



## Practice Truthfulness

### The Power of Truthfulness Amidst the Lies

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The peaceful appeals by Falun Dafa practitioners in China continue today, without let up. The courage of these appealing practitioners remains unwavering, despite ever-more-harsh opposition from Beijing.

It is Truthfulness that has led Falun Dafa practitioners to risk everything - personal safety, their jobs, their homes, and even their lives - to make known the truth about their practice. Truthfulness inspired tens of thousands to go to Beijing last July to appeal the ban on Falun Dafa, with over 50,000 practitioners arrested in the first three months alone. Truthfulness moves hundreds of practitioners to petition their government every week, knowing full well that they will be detained and punished - even tortured - for exercising their constitutional right of appeal. Some have even walked hundreds of miles to do this. And Truthfulness compels, despite the very real and immediate personal risks, scores of practitioners to meditate and unfurl banners in Tiananmen Square that proclaim simply, "Falun Dafa is Good!"

#### Telling out the truth of Falun Dafa

Chu Congrui, a 19-year-old-girl, from Xujia Village of Shunantiande City of Jilin Province went to Beijing to tell the truth of Falun Dafa to the Central Government on December 1st, 2000, and was arrested in Tiananmen Square. She died in Haidian jail in Beijing around December 13th. According to the police, she died because of fasting. But the doctor disagreed, because her nose was broken, her face was deformed and her body was bloody all over and didn't look normal. She was cremated on December 18th at Changping County.



#### PLA officer drugged in mental hospital for Falun Gong beliefs

BEIJING, June 28, 2000 (Agence France-Press) - A People's Liberation Army (PLA) Lieutenant General, who refused to renounce his beliefs in the outlawed Falun Gong spiritual movement is being forced to take drugs every day at a mental hospital, a human rights group said Wednesday.

Zhao, who worked in a military supplies and equipment unit of the PLA, was arrested last month after joining a New Year's Eve protest on Tiananmen Square. He was placed in a PLA mental hospital in Beijing and injected daily with a drug which harmed his nervous system, leaving him physically weak and muddled, the center said.



## Practice Benevolence

### The Power of Benevolence Amidst the Wickedness

It is Benevolence that has enabled Falun Dafa practitioners to cultivate kindness in the most oppressive and trying of circumstances.

Benevolence allows practitioners to look into the eyes of their oppressors with deep compassion, seeing what is human beneath the cruelty. Benevolence moved practitioners last July to save a Beijing policeman being accidentally trampled by fellow security officers. Benevolence moved the female practitioner who removed her handkerchief from her pocket to gently wipe the sweating forehead of her torturer.

The Benevolence of jailed practitioners has touched the hearts of countless prisoners and guards, leading one inmate to declare, "It is in jail that I learned to become a good person!"



Falun Dafa volunteer contact persons, Li Chang, Wang Zhiwen, Ji Liewu, Yao Jie, Song Yuesheng, and Liang Yulin were sentenced to prison terms of 18, 16, 12, 7, 12, and 2 years. From July 1999 to August 2000, over 500 practitioners were sentenced to prison terms.

## Practice Forbearance

### The Power of Forbearance Amidst the Intolerance

It is their commitment to Forbearance that enables practitioners to suffer the most inhumane of abuses—including torture with electric cattle prods, forced abortion, sanctioned rape, and even toxic injections—without succumbing to anger, despair, or violence. Forbearance gives practitioners the strength to nobly endure the penalties for doing what is right, upstanding, and constitutionally sanctioned. Forbearance allowed Ms. Chen Zixiu to remain committed to her principles even unto death by torture. And it is because of Forbearance that Falun Dafa and, in turn, the dream of freedom, remain alive in China today. Fifty practitioners have already given their lives for this cause.

In every instance, it is practitioners' unshakable faith in Truthfulness, Benevolence, and Forbearance that has inspired them to forgo personal interest for the sake of humanity. These practitioners have demonstrated to the world that one can remain true to higher principles under the harshest of conditions, in the face of the gravest injustices, and at the greatest of costs. They have proved, with their quiet, peaceful resistance that Truthfulness, Benevolence, and Forbearance are mightier than any force of hatred.

These practitioners continue their peaceful appeal to the Chinese government and to the world, enduring hardship, humiliation, and torture—sometimes even unto death. They understand that what is at stake is not so much individual interests or their practice, but rather the well-being of a higher principle, and the understanding of that principle by others. Contained in this conviction is the belief that peacefully defending this principle is the greatest gift to others.



#### Beaten to death after 3-day of torture

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

“Practicing Falun Dafa is a right.”

Ms. Chen said, up to her last day. She was tortured to death after 3-day of persecution.

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#### After 10 days of torture, Ms. Wang died in police custody

On May 13, 2000, Ms. Wang was arrested when practicing Falun Dafa movements on Tiananmen Square. She was detained in the Jiaomen Detention Center of Chongwen District. After 3 days of hunger strike, four men pushed her to the ground and brutally force-fed her through the nose. She was force-fed with high-density

salt water five times within nine days. On May 22, 2000, she lost consciousness and died at 7 pm.

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#### Mr. Zhou suffered all kinds of tribulations during the eight-month detention in prison before dying

Mr. Zhou Zhichang, "Excellent Worker", "Model Worker", the head officer of the Dept. of Armed Forces at Handian in Shuangcheng was arrested because of

appealing to the government on September 9, 1999.

The wounds on his body from the shackles had still not healed at the time of his death. He suffered all kinds of tribulations during the eight-month detention in prison.



## Peaceful Journey Continues ...

**Quietly, he untied the bag and showed the inquirer several pairs of worn-out, homemade shoes commonly seen in China's countryside, "See, I've come a long way to be here. All I want to tell you is Falun Dafa is good and the government is wrong."**

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The suppression of Falun Dafa continues to see thousands of practitioners unlawfully thrown into prison. Against this back-drop, a lone and exhausted traveler stands out. Stopped by the police in Beijing, he was very old, and had nothing but a small bag on his shoulder. Quietly, he untied the bag and showed the inquirer several pairs of worn-out, homemade shoes commonly seen in China's countryside, "See, I've come a long way to be here. All I want to tell you is Falun Dafa is good and the government is wrong." The old man's journey symbolizes what tens of thousands of his fellow practitioners have done in an effort to fulfill their commitment to the principle of "Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance."

Undeterred, they continue their journey, enduring hardships, humiliation and torture. They understand that what is at stake is not so much individual interests, but rather the well-being of a higher principle, and the understanding of that principle by others.