

Compassion

Issue 3: Third Quarter, 2001

A Journal of Falun Dafa Around the World

www.faluninfo.net

Persecution Meets Principle



The banners read "Truthfulness Compassion Forbearance"



Speaking Out for Falun Gong



“...adherents of the Falun Gong spiritual movement have been singled out for arrest and abuse. This persecution is unworthy of all that China has been — a civilization with a history of tolerance. And this persecution is unworthy of all that China should become — an open society that respects the spiritual dignity of its people.”

George W. Bush, President of the United States

“This outlawing of Falun Dafa is of great concern to the International Community and is well documented around the world and corroborated by independent organisations such as Amnesty International. ... The arrest of Falun Dafa practitioners is in contravention of basic human rights such as the freedom of belief, assembly and expression.”



Senator Vicki Bourne, Australian Member of Parliament



“What we are witnessing today in China is the ‘criminalization of innocence.’ They have taken a spiritual meditation exercise group, outlawed it and declared it illegal, then subjected all its members to intimidation, prosecution, persecution, and imprisonment, for no other reason than that they espoused the basic, fundamental values of Truth, Compassion and Forbearance.

...it must be our responsibility, to speak on behalf of those who cannot be heard, to bear witness on behalf of those who cannot testify, to protect those who put not only their livelihood but indeed their lives on the line, and to affirm and reaffirm and recommit ourselves to the values of Truth, Compassion and Forbearance—not only as expressions and examples of the best in ancient Chinese values, but as universal norms that inspire us all.”

Irwin Cotler, Canadian Member of Parliament and Renowned Human Rights Lawyer

“The whole world is condemning China on this issue. Sweden has done so, the European Union, all the institutions, the United States of America, all European countries, Australia, New Zealand, etc... But still, the Chinese regime continues its suppression and systematic crackdown on Falun Gong practitioners all over the world.

This has to stop! And I will call upon the Chinese regime to stop the suppression immediately and start to respect the freedom of expressions and start negotiating and seeking a dialog with Falun Gong practitioners.”



Cecilia Malmström, Swedish EU Member of Parliament

Compassion

A Journal of Falun Dafa Around the World



Why has Chinese President Jiang Zemin mobilized virtually every resource of the Chinese government to persecute Falun Gong practitioners?...**Page 6**



On the two year anniversary of the ban in China, practitioners and supporters of Falun Gong gather in cities around the world to send out an urgent call to rescue Falun Gong practitioners persecuted in China...**Page 12**

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Compassion is a quarterly journal providing news and information about Falun Dafa around the world. It is produced entirely through the efforts of volunteers. The Editorial Committee consists of Peter Jauhal (UK), Levi Browde (US), John Nania (US), Alicia Zhao (US), Sophie Xiao (Hong Kong), Jillian Ye (Canada) and Caroline Lam (Australia).

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From the Editors

Resilience and Resourcefulness: A Matter of Principle

For more than two years, the full weight of China's ruling regime's public security and propaganda apparatuses has pushed down on Falun Gong practitioners with the intention of crushing their practice and breaking their wills. Beginning in the middle of the night on July 20, 1999 by rousting out of bed and arresting what the regime deemed to be key leaders, they hoped to make quick work of this crushing action. Knowing how peaceful and non-violent the practitioners were, they assumed any resistance would quickly evaporate once such high pressure was applied.

As detailed in this issue's article "Why Persecute Falun Gong?," Jiang Zemin and his allies plotted to use this action against Falun Gong as a means to seize and consolidate power within the government. But they misunderstood the very nature of Falun Gong practice, which lead them to believe it would be easy to eradicate. From their understanding of history and communist theory, they believed Falun Gong to constitute a social movement, a very popular and rapidly growing social movement. This was the first error in judgement, because Falun Gong is not a social movement, but an individual practice.

From their experience in dealing with social movements, they thought they had a formula for dispatching Falun Gong: imprison the leaders, declare all activities illegal, economically and socially penalize violators and their families, saturate the public's minds with vicious propaganda, and physically and mentally torture the uncooperative ones.

Unlike followers of social movements, Falun Gong practitioners do not give their hearts to charismatic leaders or pursue external rewards or goals. Instead, Falun Gong practitioners hold a deep, abiding, and unshakable personal commitment to the principles of Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance. Each practitioner, one by one, comes to an understanding of these principles, and their actions spring from their individual understanding. This is the source of the limitless endurance of the practice in China.

Two years after beginning what they thought would be a short campaign, Jiang Zemin and his allies grow increasingly frustrated and desperate. They have publicly acknowl-

edged the cruel, systematic, multi-pronged methods for torturing and brainwashing practitioners in custody. They loudly proclaim imminent "victory" even as the hearts and minds of people inside and outside China become more clear about what Falun Gong represents and how vicious the Chinese government's campaign is.

Practitioners continue to confound the persecutors, as they actively resist without retaliating. They withstand brutal treatment in custody and still have kind words for the torturers. While fewer openly go to Tiananmen Square (see "Courage on Tiananmen Square") to appeal peacefully, more hang banners, post signs, and install loudspeakers in public that broadcast the truth and goodness of Falun Gong. They hand out leaflets and talk to strangers in cities and in the countryside.

Even those who, under duress, sign statements of renunciation in custody immediately regret it as soon as they're released; they go back to being practitioners, more dedicated than ever. The silent majority of practitioners in China persist in their beliefs, and the louder and more desperately the government blares its propaganda at home and abroad, the

more clear-headed people can see who it is that truly exemplifies the best of Chinese culture. The regime in China attempts to poison minds; Falun Gong practitioners provide the antidote of truth.

Falun Gong practitioners outside China provide moral support and play a large part in clarifying what Falun Gong is, and what vicious actions the regime takes. In large public events, such as solemn parades and candlelight vigils, and in quiet heart-to-heart talks, practitioners in Hong Kong, Canada, Australia, Sweden, and dozens of other nations shine a clear and bright light on the situation in China.

In this issue you will read the amazing story of Yongjian Tan, whose resourcefulness and resilience took him thousands of miles from the labor camp where he had been burned by guards with a heated metal rod. We also bring you the stories of Kunlun Zhang and Amy Lee. These stories are but a few of the millions of stories in China that personify the resilience of Falun Gong practitioners committed to their beliefs.



United Nations in Geneva

Falun Gong Appeals to the United Nations Human Rights Commission



The Vigil on the Eve of the “No-Action” Vote

On the Evening of April 17, some 500 Falun Gong practitioners from around the world sat in silence opposite one of the main entrances to the UN in Geneva, on a steep grassy hillside. They held candles before them, and 193 wreaths in memory of the 193 people who had died at the hands of the Chinese government for practicing Falun Gong (as of July, 2001, the number of deaths is well over 250). Soft classical Chinese music lilted through the air as the somber participants mourned...and hoped for change.

The evening of the 17th was significant because China’s “no-action” motion was to be voted on the following day, a motion which eventually blocked any consideration of a censure of China by the UN Human Rights Commission.

The vigil took place not only in Geneva, but also in cities around the world including Paris, Copenhagen, Brussels, Gothenburg, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Sydney, Toronto, Vancouver, Honolulu, Los Angeles, New York, Washington, D.C., and many others. Many kind people came out to support the vigils, and the media reported on them widely.



Other UN Human Rights Commission Events

Non-governmental organizations with UN consultative status invited Falun Gong representatives to be a part of their delegations to the Commission. Falun Gong practitioners were also asked to present at other NGO’s UN events.

Falun Gong held a number of press conferences in Geneva during the six weeks of the Commission. Though the Chinese government tried to prevent and interfere with some of these conferences, each one was a success. One took place upon the invitation of the President of the UN Correspondents’ Association, Mr. Thomasz Surdel. Another, on psychiatric abuse as a means of torture in China, centered around a presentation by Dr. Declan Lyons, of England’s Royal College of Psychiatrists. The renowned Geneva Initiative on Psychiatry also issued a statement for the conference.

Also during this time, Amnesty International circulated a petition to support the Commission’s censure of China. Thousands of signatures were collected.

Why Persecute Falun Gong?

Jiang Zemin's Decision to "Eradicate Falun Gong"

By Shiyu Zhou, Ph.D.

On April 25, 1999, more than ten thousand Falun Gong practitioners held a peaceful gathering on Fuyou Street in Beijing. They had come to appeal to the Chinese State Council Appeal Office for the release of 45 practitioners arbitrarily detained by the police in Tianjin during the previous two days. This incident immediately received international attention, because Fuyou Street is next to the Communist Party leadership compound Zhongnanhai, and therefore, the event was portrayed by many as the "besieging" of the Chinese leadership compound. The incident was later utilized by the Chinese Government as a major charge against Falun Gong to justify the persecution. It was also mistakenly considered by many to be the direct cause of the persecution.

Why the April 25th incident? And why the persecution?

This article explores some possible answers to these important questions. It includes some crucial comments made by Chinese President Jiang Zemin in two classified documents that Jiang issued as he decided to persecute Falun Gong (based on information recently revealed by high level officials in the Chinese Communist Party). This article provides a reference for those who are interested in getting to the bottom of the most frequently asked question about Falun Gong: "Why is the Chinese government doing this?"

Misconceptions About the April 25th Incident

The Falun Gong incident of April 25, 1999 was not a sudden, accidental event that caught the Chinese government by surprise as is commonly believed. Nor was it the kind of political demonstration involving the besieging of the Chinese leadership compound as claimed by the Chinese Government. From the first written attacks that began to appear in state-run newspapers in June 1996 to the mobilization of police and use of violence in Tianjin in April 1999, the development and escalation of the Falun Gong persecution actually happened over a period of three or four years.

The Introduction of Falun Gong to the Public

Falun Gong is a traditional Chinese cultivation practice system. It was first introduced to the public by its founder, Mr. Li Hongzhi, on May 13, 1992. For the first four years, the Chinese Government enthusiastically endorsed the practice due to the health benefits it brought to practitioners, which helped reduce the troubled government's health care burden. Many governmental organizations, including the Qigong Scientific Research Association of China and the Public Security Ministry of China, had given awards and recognition to Falun Gong and Mr. Li.



Group practice in Chengdu City, central China

Although Falun Gong has no formal organization, through word of mouth the number of people practicing quickly reached millions in a few short years. By early 1999, based on a Chinese government survey, there were at least 70 million people from all walks of life practicing Falun Gong all over China. Falun Gong had become "the largest voluntary organization in China, larger even than the Communist party," according to a February 1999 issue of *U.S. News and World Report*.

The Escalation of the Persecution

Since the ending of the "Great Cultural Revolution" in the late 1970's, China's focus has shifted from political campaigning to economic and technological development. This change in the political climate has reduced the opportunities for political advancement for those who specialize in political propaganda and ideological battles. To remain necessary components of the government, these people typically rely on political unrest to provide them with a "cause" they can use to gain political power. The rapid development of Falun Gong was noticed by some departments in the central government. Falun Gong, they decided, was just what they needed.

In June 1996, these individuals began by spreading nega-

April 25th, 1999: Over 10,000 practitioners of Falun Gong gather outside the State Council Appeal Office to appeal for the release of 45 practitioners who had been beaten and detained in the nearby city of Tianjin.



tive publicity through government-run media to defame Falun Gong and its founder. On July 24, 1996, the Chinese News Publication Office issued a nationwide circular banning the distribution of all Falun Gong publications. In early 1997, the Public Security Ministry of China began a nationwide investigation to gather evidence in the hopes of casting Falun Gong as an “evil cult.” The investigations, however, quickly ended as “no evidence was found.” In July 1998, another investigation was ordered by the Public Security Ministry, which resulted in the illegal harassment of Falun Gong practitioners by the local Public Security Bureau in a number of areas around the country. On April 23, 1999, police were ordered to beat and arrest people who expressed their concerns to a magazine in Tianjin, which had published a slanderous article against Falun Gong.

On April 24, 1999, when Falun Gong practitioners in Tianjin requested the release of the arbitrarily detained practitioners, they were told by the Tianjin government officials

that the Public Security Ministry of China had been involved in this matter, so the arrested Falun Gong practitioners would not be released without authorization from Beijing. In short, Falun Gong practitioners were told they must take their appeal to the State Council Appeal Office in Beijing.

This triggered the April 25th incident during which Falun Gong practitioners appealed to the Chinese State Council Appeal Office for the release of the detained practitioners in Tianjin. Premier Zhu Rongji (the official head of the State Council and second in command of the country under President Jiang) personally came out to meet with practitioners. The situation was handled in a friendly manner and a resolu-

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CNN: China's Misguided Suppression

An Analysis of the Reasons Behind the Persecution (CNN Excerpt)

JIANG ZEMIN may succeed in suppressing the Falun Gong [group] for now, but the president's prestige could suffer considerable damage. So could China's program of reforms. Jiang has mobilized a Mao-era mass movement against the quasi-Buddhist group, which is characterized as part of an “anti-China international movement.”

Not since the anti-American crusade in the wake of the NATO bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade in 1999 have so many Chinese hit the streets in a government-orchestrated campaign. ... The official media has in the past week reported anti-Falun Gong gatherings of hundreds of thousands of people in provinces and cities including Henan, Sichuan, Shandong, Jiangsu, Ningxia,

Willy Wo-Lap Lam
Senior China Analyst



Shenyang, Shanghai and Beijing. Meetings denouncing the [group] have been held even in the remote western provinces—and by apparently irrelevant government units such as the weather bureau and the Ministry of Land and Natural Resources. In a throw-back to the Cultural Revolution, there were hints the People's Liberation Army (PLA) might enter the fray.

...

Yet the most severe criticism leveled at Jiang's handling of the Falun Gong is that he seems to be using the mass movement to promote allegiance to himself.

As with campaigns dating from the 1960s, the standard ritual of ideological sessions held in party units, factories, and colleges the past few years is that participants

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Courage on Tiananmen Square

A Perspective on the Motivation Behind Falun Gong's Long-Standing Appeal

By Levi Browde

Starting in the fall of 1999, just two months after President Jiang Zemin issued a ban of Falun Gong in China, news reports first began to appear about Falun Gong practitioners making peaceful appeals on Tiananmen Square. Almost every day since that time, Falun Gong practitioners have appeared on Tiananmen Square, quietly assuming a Falun Gong meditation position or lifting banners above their heads, which read “Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance.” In a matter of seconds, uniformed and plain clothes police pounce on these practitioners, beat them to the ground and drag them away to nearby police vans.

From Tiananmen Square, they are taken to detention centers, their “crime” of practicing Falun Gong is recorded and the fate that meets them next is often brutal, sometimes fatal. Many are sent back to their local regions where they are detained for long periods of time, some are sent to labor camps without trial, others are tortured or even killed while in custody.

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Contrary to common belief, Falun Gong is neither a social nor political movement. It is a quiet spiritual practice; peaceful in nature, personal in experience. Yet, in China today, practitioners of Falun Gong knowingly put themselves in harms way to publicly appeal on politically sensitive Tiananmen Square.

Why?

Practitioners throughout the country have engaged in other activities, such as distributing flyers that reveal the truth of the persecution, posting signs and banners that call for an end to the ban or even mounting speakers in high or hard-to-reach places to broadcast information about Falun Gong or news reports from outside China on the per-



Two men display banners that read , “Truthfulness, Compassion, Tolerance.” A uniformed policeman approaches to seize the banners and make the arrest.

secution (virtually all international news regarding the persecution is blocked by state-run media in China) — all of which can land them in a labor camp for three years or worse.

Why?

In the face of tremendous persecution resulting in the detainment and torture of tens of thousands of people, not a single case of violent retaliation or organized revolt has been reported.

Why?

Without the impetus of a social or political agenda, or the momentum of such a movement behind them, what could be the motivational force behind Falun Gong practitioners that gives them the courage to risk life and limb to defend their spiritual beliefs under such strict non-violent terms? The answer is perhaps more simple, and more powerful, than most analysts have yet to identify — principle.

A Matter of Principle

In September, 1963, at the height of the Civil Rights movement in the United States, a church in Birmingham, Alabama was bombed during Sunday morning service killing four young African-American girls. The community was thrown into turmoil as they tried to cope with the sorrow and rage that followed this tragic event. Many spoke of “retaliation” and “revenge.” The words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., however, offered people an alternative: “We need not use hate. We need not



Seconds after unfurling a banner, plain clothes police seize the banner, knock the woman down and arrest her.

use violence. There is another way...a way as old as the insights of Jesus of Nazareth and as modern as the techniques of Mahatma K. Gandhi, ...it might bring suffering sometimes,



A woman displays a banner in support of Falun Gong on Tiananmen Square as a plainclothes policeman approaches to arrest her.

it might get your house bombed sometimes, it might get you scarred up sometimes... it is better to go through life with a scarred up body than a scarred up soul. There is another way.”

Principle.

As we have seen in countless examples throughout history — from Socrates to Thoreau, from Gandhi to Martin Luther King Jr. — when a noble principle touches people’s lives, showing them a more virtuous and more benevolent way to live, it can ennoble the human spirit in miraculous ways. It can strengthen a weak conviction, it can embolden a timid disposition and it can broaden a self-centered heart. In short, it can move ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

When practitioners of Falun Gong step onto Tiananmen Square to unfurl a banner, it is interesting to note what is written on the banner. It is not a political slogan nor anything condemning the government, but rather: “Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance” — the principle of the Falun Gong practice. It is this principle that has touched the lives of millions of people in China and around the world in a very profound and personal way. It is this principle that President Jiang Zemin’s persecution campaign has sought to strip from Chinese citizens. It is this principle that constitutes the spiritual beliefs of practitioners of Falun Gong, which they not only seek to safeguard from persecution but also seek to adhere to in the midst of persecution. Thus, it is this principle that not only engenders the ability of Falun Gong practitioners to stand up for their spiritual beliefs, but also provides them with the strength and wisdom to strictly adhere to non-violence regardless of circumstances.

Principle is a difficult thing to “eradicate,” as Jiang has

When a noble principle touches people’s lives, showing them a more virtuous and more benevolent way to live...it can move ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

Birmingham in check during the aftermath of their tragic loss, and allowed them to hold the course of non-violence, with conviction and perseverance. It is this same adherence to principle — Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance — that motivates practitioners in China to stand up and defend their belief. Armed with this principle, practitioners in China continue to make peaceful appeals on Tiananmen Square as well as work to let people around the world know about the grave injustice being dealt out by Jiang Zemin’s regime. This is one of the primary reasons for the continued, persistent presence of Falun Gong practitioners’ appeals on Tiananmen Square over the last two years.

But Why Tiananmen Square?

There is a branch of the Chinese communist government referred to as the “Appeal Office.” Through this branch, citizens may legally file complaints or make an appeal regarding injustices done to them at the hands of the government. Access to these offices is a right granted to all Chinese citizens by the Chinese constitution. Shortly after the ban on Falun Gong, however, Falun Gong practitioners were no longer permitted to appeal at these offices. Those who attempted to do so were immediately taken away by the police. It has been reported that the appeal office in Beijing near Tiananmen Square even removed its

sign from the front door.

Furthermore, other legal channels for making an ap-

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Beyond China's Borders

Chinese President Extends Persecution of Falun Gong Overseas

HONG KONG (Associated Press) - While forging ahead with its attempt to eradicate the Falun Gong movement at home, China is taking its campaign against the spiritual group abroad.

Chinese diplomats are seeking to discredit the sect and undermine its image in the United States, Australia and other countries by pressing public officials not to have dealings with the group or allow its participation in local activities.

Critics of the Beijing regime say Hong Kong authorities are caving in to the anti-Falun Gong campaign. They contend officials weakened the enclave's autonomy by barring about 100 Falun Gong practitioners from entering in early May during a visit by Chinese President Jiang Zemin.

...China's government is drawing criticism for its efforts to weaken Falun Gong overseas.

In the United States, some mayors have complained that Chinese diplomats attempted to stop them from giving public recognition to Falun Gong.

Falun Gong members in Australia accuse the Chinese

Embassy of spreading distorted information about the group and attempting to persuade Australian officials to ban its participation in local events such as village festivals.

...Beijing's attempts to use diplomatic pressure to silence Falun Gong have enraged members and government officials in the United States.



Stan Bogosian, the former mayor of Saratoga, Calif., said that a few days after he signed a proclamation late last year declaring a week in honor of Falun Gong, two officials from the Chinese consulate urged him to rescind it.

When he refused, Bogosian said, the Chinese asked him to remain neutral on the issue and asked about his stance on Taiwan, which Beijing considers a renegade province. Angered, Bogosian called a news conference to denounce the Chinese government for "highly irregular" actions.

"The Chinese government should not be interfering in the political process," Bogosian told The Associated Press. "...these are basic human rights." To Bogosian and many others, Falun Gong is a harmless qigong group...

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Cases of Interference



Canada

Calgary West MP Rob Anders comments on the Chinese government tapping telephones and spying on Falun Gong practitioners. "This is serious stuff. This is not the first case nor is it an isolated case. One practitioner related his story: "While on a trip to Vancouver to pursue a career opportunity in the import/export business, an associate was threatened by a stranger who said he was on the Chinese Spy Agency's "blacklist" or "code red" and not to employ him, "or else."



United States

Mayors and local government officials throughout the U.S. have been pressured by Chinese consular officials to rescind proclamations they had issued in support of Falun Dafa events. Numerous hotels hosting Falun Dafa events have received similar pressure and even threatening phone calls. Chinese consular officials have also contacted many universities, including Cal-Tech, in an effort to have Falun Dafa student groups barred from campus. In San Francisco, men claiming to have been paid for their actions assaulted practitioners in a public park. In New York, practitioners have received numerous death threats.

Washington D.C.

Many people have had recordings of phone conversations and private conversations that were held in public areas left on their voicemail in an apparent attempt to make it known that they are being monitored 24-7. One woman who normally starts her day at 3am received a call shortly after getting up. On the other end of the phone she heard a recording of a private conversation she had with someone in Los Angeles earlier in the year. Not only did the caller record her conversation, but also he knew what time she gets up each morning.



France

Restaurant owners have received threats from Chinese consular officials to not participate in Falun Gong activities



At least a dozen other mayors from cities in California, Illinois, Washington, Maryland and Michigan have reported pressure from Chinese officials who often pointedly mention the importance of U.S.-Chinese trade. "The whole thing sounded like a propaganda pitch to me," said Tod Satterthwaite, mayor of Urbana, Ill., who ignored the Chinese demands.

Others have yielded. In 1999, mayors in Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Baltimore - all important shipping centers - revoked proclamations honoring Falun Gong.

Falun Gong adherents in Australia say Chinese officials have sent letters to civic leaders describing the group as "an out-and-out heretical sect, which is anti-science, anti-humanity and anti-society in nature." "The letters were sent to local government offices in order to try and persuade them to disallow perfectly legal activities being conducted in the area," said Michael Molnar, a spokesman for Australia's Falun Gong. The Australian government said the Chinese Embassy had denied sending the letters.

Rebecca Tromp, spokeswoman of the Blacktown City Council, said officials from the Chinese consulate in Sydney

raised the issue of Falun Gong participation in a festival sponsored by the city government. "We advised them that any participation Falun Gong has is within our festival and that is what they do and we would continue to allow them to participate," Tromp said.

The Persecution Enters Cyber-Space

BEIJING, Apr 13, 2000 - (Agence France Presse) The Chinese authorities have hacked into Falun Gong websites causing them to crash as part of a new persecution of the banned movement, U.S.-based group members told AFP on

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"or else." In Paris, one restaurant has been vandalized twice shortly after such threats, one of which came directly from the head of the Chinese consulate. No money was stolen, but Falun Gong materials were missing and/or scattered on the floor. Many Chinese citizens have had their passport renewals denied because they practice Falun Gong.

Falun Gong the use of community facilities for meetings or for demonstrations. Australian Federal Police have approached a number of people to educate them about the campaign.



Australia

Australian Federal Police have been monitoring the activities of Chinese diplomats and others linked with the Chinese Embassy in their campaign aimed at countering the activities of Falun Gong in Australia. Chinese diplomats have contacted councils in Sydney and urged them to deny



Venezuela

During Chinese President Jiang Zemin's visit to South America earlier in the year, many practitioners were detained and many people of Chinese descent were stopped at the airport and deported if they possessed Falun Gong books in their belongings.



Malaysia

The Chinese Embassy exerted pressure on the foreign affairs office of Malaysia.

Consequently, Falun Gong has not been allowed to participate in book fairs and other activities.



Japan

The Chinese Embassy has frequently put pressure on Japanese Government officials to cancel Falun Dafa related activities held on government premises. Additionally, practitioners in Japan have received phone calls from unknown men, slandering Falun Dafa and threatening to kill them or harm their relatives in China if they don't give up practicing Falun Dafa.

SOS!

Rally in Washington D.C.
to Send Out an Urgent
Call to Rescue Falun Gong
Practitioners Persecuted
in China...

Falun Gong practitioners and supporters gather around the Washington Monument to hold a candle-light vigil, marking two years since Falun Gong was banned in China. Over 1,000 people sat in formation of the Chinese characters for “Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance” as well as the English words “Falun Dafa.”





Rally in Washington D.C.

Practitioners and supporters of Falun Gong Embark on a Journey to Washington D.C. to Rally for Falun Gong Practitioners Persecuted in China



A farmer in his late 60s takes his life savings of 4 US dollars to

walk more than 1,000 miles in 26 days to tell the government in Beijing that “Falun Gong is good.” The “people’s police” consider the exhausted old man a threat to national security and place him under arrest.

He is voiceless. He is a Falun Gong practitioner in China.

Inspired by his determination, Falun Gong practitioners and supporters from across the country journeyed to Washington DC to make known to the world countless stories of persecution stifled by a state-run media.

For as long as a month, from eight starting points, teams walked, bicycled, and rode to Washington, stopping for media and speaking events in cities and towns en route.

Local town newspapers and TV stations covered the story of the practice and its persecution in China as the teams passed through. They received support from local governments as they contacted media and offered free workshops and information sessions. Gradually, national papers carried the story of the journey to DC. The momentum grew until July 19, when approximately 1,500 practitioners and supporters joined them as they converged in a march

from the Washington Monument to the Capitol Lawn. Over fifteen senators, members of congress and human rights leaders spoke in front of the Capitol Building, bestowing generous accolades to Falun Gong practitioners’ persistent, peaceful appeal and lending a voice to the retired farmer as well as thousands of others in China whose voices cannot be heard.

Falun Gong Supporters Rally in Washington, Call for Rescue of Practitioners Persecuted in China

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 19, 2001 – Thousands gathered in Washington, D.C. to mark the two-year anniversary of China’s brutal persecution of Falun Gong practitioners and to send out an urgent call to rescue practitioners being persecuted in China. Events included a large-scale demonstration and press conference on the Capitol Lawn.

An estimated 1,500 practitioners demonstrated Falun Gong’s peaceful, slow movements to the backdrop of the Washington Monument before embarking on a march to Capitol Hill. For some, the march concluded a three-week journey to DC on foot and by bicycle from as far away as Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Orlando, plus others who had caravanned from San Francisco and Los Angeles for the event.

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The New York and Boston walk teams arrive at the Delaware border.



Team of four bicycled from Orlando, Florida to Washington D.C.



Approximately 1,500 practitioners and supporters of Falun Gong march to the Capitol.



Senator Paul Wellstone

“Falun Gong is based on practicing Truthfulness and Compassion and Tolerance. Throughout my career as a college professor and a community activist and a United States Senator for Minnesota, I have believed in the values that you represent more than any values. I believe that pacifist and peaceful people

should be allowed to organize and live freely in their country and in their society...we will over and over again call on the government in Beijing to respect the full rights of all of the citizens. That is why we are here and that is why I support you as a United States Senator. Falun Gong, thank you so much for inviting me.”

-- U.S. Senator Paul Wellstone of Minnesota



Ambassador Mark Palmer

“Let the world’s religious leaders unite in demanding tolerance for all believers in China. Let men and women of goodwill everywhere find their own ways to bear witness, to say ‘I too am Falun Gong’...”

This, the largest non-violent movement since Gandhi in India, must say in words once spoken in this city ‘We shall

overcome.’ And like Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. King, and Solidarity in Poland and the ANC in South Africa, this just cause will triumph.”

-- Ambassador Mark Palmer, Vice-Chairman of the Board for Freedom House, Member of the Board for Friends of Falun Gong



Senator Sam Brownback

“In some parts of the world your religious identity can be your death warrant. This should not be so. It shouldn’t have happened in the past, it should not happen today. We should not allow it to continue to occur. I know that many of your friends and family suffer in China simply because of their religious identity, because they practice Falun

Gong or other peaceful faiths. I am here today to take a stand for the peaceful practitioners who experience severe persecution throughout China...We call today for an end to the persecution of Falun Gong in China.”

-- U.S. Senator Sam Brownback of Kansas



Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen

“As chair of the subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights, I had to find the means to challenge such horrific action by Chinese officials; actions which defy all moral standards. I had to ... ensure an end to the two year reign of terror launched against the Falun Gong. A group whose only crime is the desire to practice their beliefs free of coercion, free of intimidation... I call on the Chinese leadership to stop its persecution of Falun Gong practitioners.”

I call on the Chinese leadership to stop its persecution of Falun Gong practitioners.”

-- U.S. Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen of Florida Chairwoman of the International Operations and Human Rights Subcommittee



Local and national media covered the journey to Washington D.C.



The press capture one of the speakers at the rally outside the capitol building.



The view of the rally from west side of the capitol building.

Solidarity Around the World

Practitioners and Supporters of Falun Gong Around the World Send Out an SOS -- Urgent Call to Rescue Falun Gong Practitioners Persecuted in China



Falun Gong Practitioners in Paris March on July 20th, 2001

July 20th, 2001, marks two years since Chinese President Jiang Zemin initiated the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners in China. In the weeks leading up to July 20th, 2001, Falun Gong practitioners throughout Europe, Canada and Australia launched a series of "SOS! Urgent Rescue" walks, covering hundreds of kilometers in an effort raise awareness about the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners in China.

In the UK, Falun Gong practitioners walked 1,000 kilometers to the Chinese Embassy in London. In Canada, they covered 150 kilometers to the Chinese Embassy in Toronto. In Sweden and Australia, Falun Gong practitioners covered hundreds of kilometers, all with one purpose in mind — to

persecution of Falun Gong in China.

After receiving these Ms. Hjelm-Vallén shared a few words: "I just want to say, on behalf of the Swedish government, that it is with great respect that I receive this petition. Respect for your manifestation and of course (for) the march that you've done. This will further strengthen us in the Swedish government to take the necessary steps to make China respect human rights...we need to do more and you inspire us to do so."

In many other cities, such as Tokyo, Hong Kong and Paris, Falun Gong practitioners held peaceful demonstrations on July 20th.

send out an urgent call to rescue Falun Gong practitioners persecuted in China.

In Australia, many locals expressed their support saying: "You are right to step out and tell the truth. If we all do the same, it will help make a difference."

In Sweden, government officials extended their support for the walk efforts, among them the Vice Prime Minister of Sweden, Lena Hjelm-Vallén, who received an open letter to Prime minister Göran Persson and also a petition with more than 9,000 signatures, condemning the per-



Germany: Falun Gong practitioners hold "SOS" walk and rally



UK: Walking to the Chinese Embassy in London 1,000 kilometers away



Sweden: Falun Gong practitioners hold a silent vigil for those persecuted in China

Walk, Ride and Rally to Appeal for Those Without a Voice...

July 5, 2001, CANADA: A Canadian practitioner from Ottawa, began a 14-day, 24 hour appeal in front of the Chinese Embassy.

July 9, 2001, GERMANY: Practitioners demonstrated the Falun Gong exercises and provided information on Falun Gong in front of the Chinese Embassy 24 hours a day for 11 days, until July 20, 2001.

July 10, 2001, GERMANY: Falun Gong practitioners began their 350-km SOS bike ride from the Chinese Consulate in Hamburg to Berlin.

July 11, 2001 UNITED KINGDOM: Falun Gong practitioners started a 1,000-km walk from Edinburgh to London to call for the urgent rescue of the practitioners persecuted in China.

July 11, 2001. AUSTRALIA: 20 Sydney Falun Gong practitioners aged 11 to 73, began a 10-day walk, 300-km from Sydney to Canberra. A 24-hour vigil in front of the Chinese Embassy began on July 20th.

July 11, 2001, NEW ZEALAND: Approximately 50 practitioners from Auckland and Hamilton paraded in downtown Auckland, the biggest city in New Zealand, and called for "SOS! Urgent Call to Rescue the Falun Gong Practitioners Persecuted in China."

July 12, 2001, SWEDEN: 16 Swedish practitioners from the ages of 19 to 63 embarked on a 250-km, 7-day walk from Falun, to Stockholm as a continuation of the SOS-campaign started earlier on June 15.

July 14, 2001, AUSTRALIA: A Melbourne Falun Gong practitioner began his 8-day bike ride from Melbourne to Canberra.

July 15, 2001, UNITED KINGDOM: Friends of Falun Gong embarked on an SOS bike ride from London's Trafalgar Square to Brighton, located on the south coast of England. Like many SOS events, this appeal was triggered by the news that 15 female Falun Gong practitioners in China were tortured to death on 20th June, 2001.

July 16, 2001, JAPAN: Four Falun Gong practitioners started the SOS long distance bike ride to Sendai, overcoming numerous difficulties.

July 19, 2001, JAPAN: Three Tokyo practitioners began a 72-hour sit-in at the Chinese Embassy. Due to the fact that the roads are narrow and there are many residents, practitioners decided to stand rather than sit.

July 20 2001, FRANCE: Falun Gong practitioners in Paris rallied in front of the Chinese Embassy to clarify the truth of Falun Gong and held a candlelight vigil for the Falun Gong practitioners who have died in police custody.



Japan: Falun Gong practitioners march through downtown Tokyo



Australia: Practitioners and supporters hold "SOS" walk in Melbourne



Hong Kong: Silent "SOS" appeal in front of the Central Government Offices

Falun Gong Wins International Religious Freedom Award



LEFT: Practitioners and supporters of Falun Gong gather on Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. for award ceremony.

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The U.S. Freedom House human rights organisation has recognised Falun Gong and four other groups as “defenders of religious rights” in China at a ceremony attended by members of U.S. Congress.

Winners of the International Religious Freedom Award, given by the group’s Center for Religious Freedom programme on Wednesday night, also included The Cardinal Kung Foundation, Friends of the Christian Unregistered Churches, the International Campaign for Tibet and The Uighur-American Association.

“There can scarcely be a more timely subject than religious freedom in China. There is no religious freedom there, only religious persecution,” Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Jesse Helms told the ceremony.

China’s 19-month battle with the Falun Gong spiritual group it banned in 1999 has sparked international concern about abuse of religious freedom and civil liberties, and was a highlight of a U.S. State Department rights report issued last month.

President George W. Bush has put China on notice that Washington will again sponsor a motion at the U.N. Human Rights Commission in Geneva this year condemning Beijing’s record. The resolution sparks tension every year.

Helms, a North Carolina Republican and long-time critic of China’s Communist government, said the award was also timely considering that the International Olympic Committee is due to decide in July whether to award the 2008 Games to Beijing.

Erping Zhang, accepting the award to the Falun Dafa (Gong) Association on behalf of founder Li Hongzhi, read out a statement from Li mocking the Chinese Communist Party and its crackdown on the group.

“Numerous people have been able to attain good health (from the practice of Falun Gong) and along the way, it has helped people improve their moral standard. All of this has seriously threatened the wicked nature of the party,” Li said.

“This is the real reason why Falun Gong is persecuted in China. The goodness has challenged the evil’s nature,” he said.



Senator Jesse Helms



Congressman Chris Smith



Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi

Canadian MP Speaks Out for Falun Gong During Festival



RIGHT: MP Irwin Cotler delivers a speech at the Falun Dafa Festival held in Ottawa, Canada.

I am delighted to be with you here today and to share in the common cause which brings us together: the inspiration of and the commitment to the fundamental values of Falun Gong-- Truth, Compassion, Forbearance, which are really the expressions of fundamental, ancient Chinese values that inspire us all. And I'm proud to be here in the presence of professor Kunlun Zhang, who was recently liberated from imprisonment. He is a distinguished artist and sculptor, as I witnessed yesterday when I had the privilege to see his work displayed at the Wellington street gallery. He is not only an exponent for, but also the best example of, those values of Truth, Compassion, and Forbearance. He is a person of moral courage whose freedom we celebrate here today. And Jinyu Li, also a distinguished artist, is the wife of imprisoned Falun Gong practitioner, Shenli Lin, who also exemplifies those values of Truth, Compassion, and Forbearance, which are the best values not only for the Falun Gong, but also the best universal values for all of us.

But I want to say that while we commemorate the 9th anniversary of the founding of Falun Dafa, or Falun Gong, while we are here in celebration today in this historic festival, we should not forget that Professor Kunlun Zhang should never have been arrested, detained, tortured or imprisoned to

begin with, and that thousands upon thousands of Falun Gong practitioners are languishing in prisons, in labour camps, and in mental institutions, for no other reason than that they took the fundamental beliefs that are protected under Chinese law seriously: freedom of conscience and belief, freedom of assembly and association, freedom of expression, and freedom of information. What we are witnessing today in China is the "criminalization of innocence." They have taken a spiritual meditation exercise group, outlawed it and declared it illegal, then subjected all its members to intimidation, prosecution, persecution, and imprisonment, for no other reason than that they espoused the basic, fundamental values of Truth, Compassion and Forbearance.

And so I say that it must be our responsibility, Canadians from wherever we are, to speak on behalf of those who cannot be heard, to bear witness on behalf of those who cannot testify, to protect those who put not only their livelihood but indeed their lives on the line, and to affirm and reaffirm and re-commit ourselves to the values of Truth, Compassion and Forbearance-- not only as expressions and examples of the best in ancient Chinese values, but as universal norms that inspire us all, wherever we may be. Thank you.

“Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance are the best values not only for the Falun Gong, but also the best universal values for all of us.”

Falun Gong - A Timeline of Persecution

1992 1992-1996

1999

2000

May

Apr - Jun

Jul - Sep

Oct - Dec

Jan - Mar

Apr - Jun

Jul - Sep

Oct - Dec

● **May 13, 1992:** Falun Gong was introduced in China, attracting tens of millions of people in a few short years

● **1992-1996:** The Chinese government licensed, supported, endorsed and awarded Falun Gong.

● **1996-1999:** Some Chinese leaders grow concerned over the size and popularity of Falun Gong

● **April 25, 1999:** 10,000 practitioners appeal in Beijing for the release of practitioners beaten and detained in a near

● **20 July 1999:** Jiang Zemin bans Falun Gong

● **28 Oct. 1999:** Practitioners hold secret press conference in Beijing to seek interna

● **Later Oct. 1999:** Jiang Zemin enacts legislation to legalize persecution of certain

● **Winter 1999:** The persecution escalates at an alarming rate

● **18-19 Nov. 1999:** US House & Senate pass Resolution 218 condemning t

● **26 Dec. 1999:** Show trials begin - Practitioners sentenced up to 18 ye

● **Jan 1 2000:** Over one thousand practitioners gather in Tianmen

● **March, 2000:** Practitioners appeal to Human Rights Co

● **May 13, 2000:** Celebration of First Annual

● **Sept. 2000:** Pract

● **Oct. 1, 2000:**

● **Oct. 2000:**

● **Nov. 20**

● **2000**

● **D**



The rising popularity of Falun Gong concerns some party leaders who order strict measures to repress Falun Gong.

Officials interrupt practice sites with loud music and fire hose practitioners with cold water.



Practitioners hold a secret press conference in Beijing to reveal the persecution to the international community. They are later arrested by Chinese police and imprisoned.

Chinese government sentences four Falun Gong practitioners, deemed to be key contact persons, to terms of up to 18 years in prison as widespread torture continues.



A massive State run smear campaign broadcasts defamation propaganda about Falun Gong across China 24 hours a day and into western media. Falun Gong web sites are shut down, telephones are tapped, e-mail is monitored, and foreign reporters are threatened or detained for contacting Falun Gong practitioners. In the months following:

- Over 50,000 practitioners are arbitrarily arrested and beaten.
- Over 25,000 are sent to forced-labor camps without trial.
- Tens of thousands are dismissed from work and school and forced from their homes.
- Hundreds are forced into psychiatric hospitals, and given inappropriate and harmful injections of anti-psychotic drugs and abused with electric shocks.
- Hundreds are jailed and given harsh sentences for up to lifetime imprisonment in token trials.
- All lawyers are threatened not to represent any Falun Gong practitioners.
- Millions of Falun Gong books and tapes are confiscated and burned in public.

Death Count:

1

26

43

62

87



Thousands of Falun Gong practitioners from nearby cities spontaneously gather in Beijing to make legal appeals to the government for the release of the arrested practitioners and a safe environment in which to practice.

President of China, Jiang Zemin, furious over the spontaneous gathering in Beijing states, "Falun Gong is the most serious incident since the political turbulence in 1989."

June 10 1999. Jiang Zemin's regime establishes "610 offices" across the country to carry out intended persecution of Falun Gong.

July 14 1999. President Jiang's regime officially denies any intention persecute any qigong groups, including Falun Gong.

July 19, 1999. Jiang Zemin officially announces confirmation of a total ban on Falun Gong.

July 20, 1999. The persecution begins. Authorities across China begin to beat and arrest hundreds of Falun Gong contact people and ransack their homes. Busloads of practitioners are corralled into sports arenas and detained for days without food or water.

Chen Zixiu's death is the first Falun Gong death to receive international attention when her story is reported by Ian Johnson of the Wall Street Journal. Johnson later received the Pulitzer Prize for his coverage of the persecution of Falun Gong.



Ms. Wang Lixu and her 8-month-old child were tortured by police custody. Her neck and knuckles were broken and she was sunken in. Her ankles had deformed from being held down by hand-cuffs. She had bruises and blood in her

and Peaceful Resistance

2001

Jan - Mar Apr - Jun Jul - Sep

by city

ational support groups, specifically Falun Gong

he persecution

quare to appeal, and are beaten and arrested

mission in Geneva

World Falun Dafa Day in over 40 cities around the world

itioners gather at UN summit in New York City

One thousand practitioners arrested on Chinese National Day

President Jiang states, "No means are too excessive to exterminate Falun Gong"

00: Mother and baby reported dead in police custody

0: Approximately 500 government officials in North America honor Falun Gong and Mr. Li Hongzhi

ec. 26, 2000: Wall Street Journal journalist wins Pulitzer Prize for Falun Gong investigative reporting

Jan. 17, 2001: Jiang Zemin forces one million citizens, including children, to sign petition against Falun Gong

Jan. 23, 2001: Li Hongzhi nominated for 2001 Nobel Peace Prize

Jan. 23, 2001: Self-immolation in Tiananmen Square

March 15, 2001: Falun Gong wins Freedom House's International Religious Freedom Award

March 2001: Practitioners gather at Human Rights Commission in Geneva

May 13, 2001: Second annual World Falun Dafa day celebrated in over 40 countries around the world

May 13, 2001: US. President George Bush condemns China on Human Rights abuses including Falun Gong

May 31, 2001: All five Canadian political parties join to free Canadian student detained in China

Summer, 2001: Murdered for their beliefs; Death toll increases by 400% in less than one year

June 10, 2001: China passes new law against Falun Gong allowing execution of practitioners

June 20, 2001: 15 female Falun Gong practitioners dead in mass killing at Wanjia Labor Camp

July, 2001: Global "SOS! Urgent Call to Rescue Falun Gong Practitioners Persecuted in China"

Fall, 2001: Peaceful appeals continue around the world



137

200

274



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Dec 26th 2000, Ian Johnson of The Wall Street Journal reveals the systematic top-down, government-endorsed persecution of Falun Gong practitioners, resulting in numerous deaths. His series on Falun Gong wins the 2001 Pulitzer prize for investigative journalism.

January 23, 2001, the Chinese government alleges five Falun Gong practitioners set themselves on fire in Tiananmen square. TV stations broadcast detailed pictures across China to further their defamation campaign and justify their intensified persecution. Soon, foreign news agencies start to find holes in the Chinese government's story. (Washington Post, Feb 4, 2001 'Human Fire Ignites Chinese Mystery')



Amidst the persecution, Falun Gong practitioners in China and around the world continue to peacefully appeal for freedom of belief for all people.

The Most Violent Places...

A Profile of labor camps and detention centers most known for their brutality and violence against citizens who practice Falun Gong

Weifang City

Unremarkable in almost every aspect as a dusty, gritty industrial city, Weifang is little known in international media, until it recently was the setting for a series of articles that won a Pulitzer Prize—all related to its atrocities against Falun Gong practitioners. The series, authored by Ian Johnson of the *Wall Street Journal*, features a story about a 58-year-old Falun Gong practitioner Chen Zixiu, who met an untimely death following police torture.

The article, entitled “A Deadly Exercise” (April 20, 2000, *Wall Street Journal*), described the demise of Ms. Chen: “The day before Chen Zixiu died, her captors again demanded that she renounce her faith in Falun Dafa. **Barely conscious after repeated jolts from a cattle prod, the 58-year-old stubbornly shook her head. Enraged, the local officials ordered Ms. Chen to run barefoot in the snow.** Two days of torture had left her legs bruised and her short black hair matted with pus and blood, said cellmates and other prisoners who witnessed the incident. She crawled outside, vomited and collapsed. She never regained consciousness, and died on Feb. 21.”

The approach adopted by Weifang towards Falun Gong practitioners is systemic, as Ms. Chen was only one of 22 identified Falun Gong practitioners in Weifang who were tortured to death in custody. The *Wall Street Journal* noted the unusual concentration of deaths in a subsequent article in the series: “Weifang, which has less than 1% of the national population, accounts for 15% of those deaths (of Falun Gong practitioners).” (“Death Trap: How One Chinese City Resorted to Atrocities To Control Falun Dafa,” by I. Johnson, December 27, 2000.)

Despite Weifang’s painstaking efforts to earn some international standing, which has received little boost from a hyped “International Kite Festival,” the portrayal of the city

in the Pulitzer-winning series—as one “where local police regularly torture residents to death”—is obviously not what the city is seeking. The city retaliated and groundlessly sentenced Ms. Zhang Xueling, daughter of Ms. Chen featured in the series for her persistent efforts to gain justice for her widowed mother, to three years in prison for the unwelcome “distinctions” their stories have brought to the city—see “Second-Generation Adherent Of Falun Gong Is Imprisoned,” by Charles Hutzler (*Wall Street Journal*, May 10, 2001).

Masanjia Labor Camp- “The Living Hell” for Practitioners

Located in the heart of China’s “rust belt,” Masanjia Labor Camp loomed large as a symbol of horror during the persecution against Falun Gong. Since October 1999, there have been over 1,500 Falun Gong practitioners detained in this labor camp in Liaoning Province. Falun Gong practitioners are subjected to all varieties of physical, mental and sexual abuse if they refuse to renounce Falun Gong.

Inside Masanjia, long hours of labor, bad food, and dirty drinking water—by one account “stagnant water from an abandoned well that had been sitting at the bottom of the well for several years, filled with foul-smelling bubbles”—constitute the basic living conditions. Physical torture is extensively applied at the discretion of camp officials in forcing practitioners to change their minds. It includes such horrible methods as (i) “*small cell*,” where the detained practitioner is kept in isolation handcuffed to the door rail, in a small room with only

one washbowl (also used as toilet); (ii) “*arching*” (also called “*90-degree Airplane*”), where the practitioners are forced to lower their heads and extend their arms upward behind their backs, and keep in this position for 17 to 18 hours; (iii) “*riding the motorcycle*,” where the practitioners are forced to stand with



Artist’s rendition of women being thrown into male jail cells. Such cases have been reported in many labor camps in China



LEFT: Artist's rendition of a person being force fed, a common torture technique in which a plastic tube is forced through the nose down into the stomach and high-density salt water is pumped into the stomach, causing excessive vomiting and internal bleeding. Some practitioners have died from this procedure.

knees bent and arms held parallel to the ground for an extended period of time; (iv) “corner squatting” until collapse; (v) electric shock, and others.

The labor camp authorities use sleep-deprivation as a method to indoctrinate newcomers with “deviant” understanding of the “transformed” people, who take turns talking to them for 24 hours a day. Practitioners who do not bend their wills through this method are then physically tortured. In addition, terms of imprisonment are prolonged at will. One “untransformed” practitioner serving her last three months was told, “If you don’t transform, we’ll prolong your sentence indefinitely and torment you to death. Then we’ll say you died from natural causes.” Various brainwashing methods typical of communist regimes are also extensively and systematically employed.

Under the façade of rule of law and civilization, Masanjia is a place where shocking crimes against humanity are regularly committed by the labor camp officials. Female practitioners are sexually harassed and raped by guards; and most shockingly, 18 female practitioners were thrown into male cells naked and forced to live with male criminals. It is equally outrageous that the directors of the camp, Su Jing and Shao Li, have each been promoted and financially awarded in Beijing for their “accomplishments” in persecuting Falun Gong practitioners.

Tuanhe Labor Camp -- Shame of Beijing

When officials of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) are brought to tour prospering Beijing, they should be given a chance to visit-without prior notice- Tuanhe Labor Camp in the suburbs of the Chinese capital. In the past two years, Tuanhe has detained a large number of Falun Gong practitioners, many put in custody following their trips to petition China’s central government. It also stands out as one

of the places where extreme measures, including collusion with convicts, are used to force Falun Gong practitioners to relinquish their beliefs.

Based on accounts of detained Falun Gong practitioners, a very common-and brutal-device in Tuanhe is its “creative” use of the electric baton.

Practitioners are sometimes tortured and shocked by 12 electric batons simultaneously. Police and guards have set aside the illegal 16,000-volt batons in favor of 60,000-volt ones in their persecution of steadfast practitioners. Many are injured, disabled, and even die from the torture.

On May 19, 2000, three days after Xie Yufeng started a hunger strike to protest the inhuman treatment he had received for practicing Falun Gong, he was tied tightly into a hairdresser’s chair and continually shocked, all over his body, with at least 11 electric batons for the whole afternoon. The electrode of the batons broke his facial skin, and his whole body was swollen, blistered and festering. His skin was also burnt. His ears were burnt completely black and cracked open. As a result, he had difficulty walking and could not get up by himself after lying down.

Tuanhe was responsible for a heinous crime against a young mother and her eight-month-old baby son. The mother was 27-year old Wang Lixuan and the son Hao Meng, who was inhumanly and illegally detained because of his mother’s dedication to Falun Gong. Not long after their detentions, they were found dead with deep marks of handcuff on the baby’s ankles. His nose was filled with blood, and there were two big purple marks on his head — evidence of being hung in an upside down position for a long time. Also, his body was covered with wounds. The mother’s body tells an even more gruesome story. Apart from the wounds, Wang Lixuan had big “dents” on her head; her neck bone was broken; her hipbone was smashed; and a needle was still left in her waist.

U.S. Doctor Detained in China

The Story of Dr. Chunyan Teng and the Efforts in America to Rescue Her

Dr. Chunyan Teng, an American permanent resident and Falun Dafa practitioner, is currently being detained in Room 504, 7th Division of the Beijing Police Bureau. Ms. Teng was arrested on May 12, 2000 while attending an experience sharing conference in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province.

When the United States government notified the Chinese Embassy in the U.S. to inquire as to the whereabouts of Ms. Teng, the Embassy denied that the police authorities in China had ever arrested her.

On December 13, 2000, China snubbed worldwide Human Rights Day celebrations by sentencing Dr. Teng to three years in prison under the charge of “releasing national security information to foreigners.” Ms. Teng was charged for contacting international journalists in relation to China’s practice of detaining and torturing Falun Gong practitioners in mental hospitals. Recent reports indicate that Dr. Teng has experienced repeated torture at the hands of her captors.

Dr. Teng had extensive experience as an instructor and practitioner of Traditional Chinese Medicine both in China and in the United States. Since 1995, she has been the clinic supervisor of Oriental Medicine at the New York College for Wholistic Health Education and Research, Syosset, NY. She also taught various subjects of Traditional Chinese Medicine at the Pacific College of Oriental Medicine in New York City, and had a successful practice on Fifth Avenue.



Dr. Chunyan Teng

Throughout her career, Dr. Teng’s warm and caring personality won her many friends and

admirers. Many of these people – students, colleagues, patients, friends and family, are now working tirelessly to win her freedom and safe return to the United States.

On August 12, many of Teng’s supporters gathered at New York’s Sheraton Hotel for a press conference launching a new campaign to call for Teng’s release. Speaking at the event were Friends of Falun Gong representatives, Teng’s 70 year old mother, a number of Teng’s past students, patients and friends, including actress Celeste Holm, who won an Oscar for her 1947 performance in “The Gentleman’s Agreement,” and described herself as a patient and friend of Teng. Holm described Teng as a “wonderful person and a wonderful

doctor,” and hoped there would be a “greater effort to bring her home.”

Starting at 7pm on August 17, a group of friends and fellow Falun Gong practitioners launched a 48-hour hunger strike and vigil in front of the Chinese Consulate in New York City, to draw the world’s attention to the plight of Dr. Teng.

“The Chinese government actions described in these reports are outrageous. I urge your government to immediately release Ms. Teng and allow her to return to the United States...”

– U.S. Congressman Chris Smith, NJ

“I sincerely plead with you to help me, this old mother, help my daughter ... help rescue her, so she can pick up her career again and benefit society and her patients. All I want is to see my daughter coming back home safely. Then I will be relieved. I am an old lady. I am weak and sick... I do not have the strength to rescue my daughter. I put my hope in you.”

– Yun Fang Qiu, mother of Dr. Chunyan Teng



Appealing in New York for Dr. Teng

Student Tortured in Labor Camp

The Story of Zhao Ming, a Postgraduate Student at Trinity College in Ireland

Zhao Ming is a 30-year-old computer science postgraduate student of Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. During a holiday visit to China in December 1999, he was detained for a couple of days and then sent back to his hometown of Changchun. Police confiscated his passport because he practiced Falun Gong. According to sources, Ming was told that if he denounced the practice of Falun Gong, his passport would be returned to him. Zhao Ming refused to renounce his faith. Unable to return to Ireland to continue studying, Ming went to Beijing to look for work, where he was arrested on May 13, 2000 at a fellow practitioner's home under the pretense of being an "important organizer" of Falun Gong.



Post-graduate student Zhao Ming

On July 7, 2000, after a period of detention in a police station, Ming was sentenced to a year in the Tuan-He forced labor camp in Daxing County, Beijing. He has since suffered severe mental and physical torture including sleep deprivation, beatings and electric shocks. According to the most recent reports, Zhao Ming was considered an important prisoner due to the attention he has received abroad. He was later transferred to the Beijing Xin'an Labor Camp. Beginning on May 1st, 2001, under the encouragement of the Camp officials, prisoners in the camp continued to torture Zhao Ming. He was supposed to be released on May 12, 2001, but because he has steadfastly refused to renounce his practice of Falun Gong, the labor camp has extended his sentence by half a year.



"Free Zhao Ming" Rally in Ireland

"The Friends of

pression during his period at the Xin'an Labour camp. We appeal to the Irish public and Irish Government to press the Chinese government to release Zhao Ming and other Falun Gong practitioners in China, and to stop the crimes against humanity by Jiang Zemin's regime."

Zhao Ming" (known as FOZM) was formed to combine the efforts of concerned friends, colleagues, and individuals working on behalf of Zhao Ming to gain his release. FOZM has actively begun to lobby both Irish and Chinese Government officials as well as meet with Dublin's Lord Mayor regarding the proposed Dublin/Beijing Twin City relationship, in order to ensure Zhao Ming's swift return. Trinity's chapter of Amnesty International and Trinity Student's Union are also heavily involved in the effort to free Zhao Ming.

Spokesman for FOZM, Jim Dowling, said of Zhao Ming, "Everyone who has met Ming remembers him as an honest and righteous person. He left people with a deep im-

"It is shocking to read of the arrest in China of Ms Yang Fang, **Mr. Zhao Ming** and Mr. Liu Feng for practising and advocating Falun Gong. I came to know all three in Ireland and nobody could be more inoffensive and respectable, quietly practising their exercises in Merrion Square.

Falun Gong is entirely non-political, aiming at self-improvement through exercise and study. The underlying philosophy is difficult for many Westerners to comprehend, but these three people, all model citizens, are certainly good advertisements for it."

- **Lord Moyne**, member of the British House of Lords

Canadian Perseveres Torture

Prof. Kunlun Zhang Gives First-hand Account of Torture in Chinese Labor Camp



Prof. Kunlun Zhang

My name is Kunlun Zhang. I am a Canadian citizen and a professor of Art. Because I practice Falun Gong, I was arrested three times while staying in China to take care of my elderly mother-in-law. On November 14, 2000, I was sentenced without trial by the Chinese authorities to three years in labor camp because I refused to denounce Falun Gong. With

the help of the Canadian government, Amnesty International, and the international community, I was released on Jan. 10, 2001.

During my detention, policemen beat me to the floor

and shocked me all over my body with high voltage electric batons. They threatened that if I uttered a sound, they would shock my mouth. The head of the police station said to me, “We have orders from Jiang Zemin. As long as you refuse to denounce Falun Gong, we can do whatever we want to you. If you were beaten to death, we could simply bury you and tell the outside world that you had committed suicide.” My arms, legs, and other areas were burnt in many places from the intense electric shocks. I could even smell my own burning flesh. The beatings and electric shocks injured my left leg badly. It took three months for the wounds to heal.

In addition to physical torture, police used intense mental torture against me. I was forced to attend “brainwashing” class. The so-called class is actually the same as jail, since we were deprived of our freedom and were totally isolated from the outside world. If you are “transformed” to denounce Falun

[continued on page 36]

Rising Above the Persecution

Amy Lee Tells of Being Tortured and Having Her Family Torn Apart



Amy Lee

My name is Amy Lee. I have been practicing Falun Gong since July 1997. Today I would like to tell the world about the persecution that my family and I have suffered as well as some other examples of suffering that has been the end result of Jiang Zemin’s official policies in the crackdown against Falun Gong.

On the morning of July 20, 1999, when president Jiang Zemin and his followers started to persecute Falun Gong, many practitioners including myself went to the city government petition office to register our appeals as was our

constitutional right. The police removed us by forcing us into buses and drove us away to the outlying suburban area. They also told us, “If you have something to appeal, you should go to the central government. The local government cannot do anything.” That same afternoon, we went to the provincial government and received the same reply. Upon hearing that information, I immediately went to Beijing.

In Beijing, about one hundred practitioners were detained from all over the country. All refused to disclose their names, and were detained in the backyard of the Tiananmen Police Station. We were denied the use of bathroom facilities for 12 hours. In reference to our belief, the police said, “Aren’t you talking about ‘forbearance’? I will find out how long you can forbear.” Detained along with us, there were three elderly practitioners approximately seventy years old and there was

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Journey Across 8,000 Miles

From China to the U.S. -- One Man's Story of Survival and Perseverance

Mr. Tan Yongjie, a 27-year-old factory worker and Falun Gong practitioner, has traveled thousands of miles from China in the cargo hold of a ship, overcoming severe burn injuries to his legs and tremendous odds to escape persecution in China. He is now safely recovering in Houston, Texas.

Tan had been held at the Boluo County labor camp in Guangdong province since April of this year, where he routinely endured beatings and other forms of torture because he refused to sign documents renouncing his practice. He recalls that one time the guards strung him up from a jail cell window with a pair of handcuffs for more than five hours with his feet barely touching the ground. When he was thrown back into his small cell, both his wrists were covered with blood.

On June 2nd, three guards once again tortured Tan and tried to force him to sign a “repentance statement” renouncing Falun Gong. When he silently refused, the guards tied him to a post, heated an iron rod in a furnace until it glowed red, and began applying it to his legs. The pain was so excruciating that Tan lost control of his bowel and bladder functions. The guards pressed the rod on his legs 13 times, spacing them out at regular intervals on his flesh, asking him all the while if he would renounce his belief in Falun Gong. He never did. Doctors in Houston, Texas later revealed that the burns were so deep they reached the muscle tissue.

When the guards finally stopped the torture, they brought Tan outside and ordered him to watch the orchard. Thinking that his legs were too badly injured for him to run away, they left him unsupervised. Tan relates that even he himself did not know where he found the courage to attempt an escape, but on the second night of his watch on June 3rd, he slowly began hobbling on his badly burned legs, using a wooden stick as a crutch. He hid himself in the brush during the day, eating a few broken pieces of sugarcane left by field mice, and continued walking at night. On June 5th, he finally managed to board a tractor leaving the labor camp — or “hell hole” as he describes it — behind.

Tan then managed to escape to Hong Kong on a train carrying pig carcasses. Badly injured as he was, he knew that he could not stay in Hong Kong for long or he would be captured and sent back. So, on June 10th, he put some bread



Dr. Gail Burbridge treats Tan Yongjie's injuries at the Park Plaza Hospital in Houston, Texas.

and water in a plastic bag and secretly boarded a cargo ship. For two weeks, he battled the constant pain of his festering burn wounds as well as the nausea of seasickness from the rolling and jolting of the ship. He recalls that the cargo hold was dirty, humid and pitch black. Drifting in and out of consciousness, he says he gained strength by recalling passages from Zhuan Falun, the main text of Falun Dafa, in his mind. “Had I not practiced Falun Dafa, I absolutely could not have imagined surviving,” he said.

Despite his careful rationing, his food and water ran out during the last few days. On June 24th, the ship docked in Long Beach, California. Even getting off the ship was a struggle, and he almost fainted from the sudden sunlight. Later, an elderly man driving a van on his way to Florida offered him a ride. Tan got out in Houston, Texas, penniless and with nowhere to go, until local police found him and sent him to the Star of Hope Shelter.

On July 13, Tan's untreated wounds split open and he was admitted to the Park Plaza Hospital where he underwent extensive skin graft therapy. Doctors said it was a miracle that he was even alive. Hearing of the torture that Tan endured in the Chinese labor camp, Dr. Gail Burbridge said the pain of recovering from third-degree burns, excruciating as it is, “is nothing compared to what he's been through... It's mind boggling how some human beings can be so cruel to other human beings.”

E.U. Summit in Sweden

Falun Gong Practitioners Bring Peaceful Appeal to Gothenburg



Falun Gong Practitioners Hold Peaceful Appeal During EU Summit at Historic Site in Gothenburg

More than 600 Falun Gong practitioners gathered in Gothenburg, Sweden during the European Union (EU) Council Summit on June 15-16, 2001. They came from all over Europe and from as far as Australia, Taiwan, and North America.

This summit meeting received international attention for its vandalism and disruptions from a few protesters. In contrast, the Falun Gong practitioners spread peacefulness and dignity during their quiet march through the center of the city during the Friday afternoon of the summit. The march evoked exclamations of "Beautiful! Wonderful!" from onlookers as the marchers held flowery wreaths in memory of the practitioners who died in China. They also carried banners to proclaim the newly begun campaign: "SOS! Urgent: Rescue the Falun Gong Practitioners Persecuted in China."

The Friday march ended at Götaplatsen, the square where kings and presidents address the people of Sweden's second-largest city. Highlights of the rally included testimony from persecuted practitioners, exercise demonstrations, and speeches by government leaders. Member of the Swedish Parliament Harald Nordlund gave an eloquent speech comparing the peaceful resistance of Falun Gong to famous figures in history, and Swedish Member of the European Parliament Cecilia Malmström gave a spirited call for the end of the persecution in China.

The local police appreciated Falun Dafa's presence at

Götaplatsen. They had been on high alert due to the disturbances in the city, but were able to leave to eat and rest while Falun Gong peacefully took center stage for a few hours.

Also during the weekend, practitioners peacefully gathered outside the Chinese Consulate to request the immediate release of all practitioners detained in China. Media and local police looked on as a consulate representative refused even to accept a letter from European practitioners.

Images of practitioners meditating along one of Gothenburg's canals were used by reporters as a peaceful backdrop for televised stories. In addition, an art exhibition, reception, and news conference, all featuring Australian Zhang Cuiying were held at Artisten, Götaplatsen. Ms. Zhang had been imprisoned for eight months in China for practicing Falun Gong.

The weekend concluded with a large Falun Gong Experience-Sharing Conference. The international character of Falun Dafa was highlighted as announcements were made in five languages: Chinese, Swedish, English, German, and French. After the conference, the practitioners moved to the sunshine and the cobblestones at Gustaf Adolfs Torg, the historic spot where Gothenburg was founded.



Public Demonstration of Falun Gong Exercises

Worldwide Solidarity for Hunger Strikers in Masanjia Labor Camp

NEW YORK, August 19, 2001 (Falun Dafa Information Center) - This weekend Falun Gong practitioners around the world launched demonstrations under the heading of "SOS!" calling for urgent support in rescuing 130 fellow practitioners held captive in China's notorious Masanjia Labor Camp. The detained practitioners are now entering their third week of hunger strikes.

The practitioners began the strikes in response to China's authorities extending their terms in the camp beyond their original dates.

In Washington, D.C., London, Toronto, New York, and elsewhere, individual Falun Gong practitioners have launched hunger strikes of their own, and hundreds have rallied together, holding candlelight vigils in front Chinese Embassies and Consulates around the world. The practitioners are demanding that China's communist authorities immediately and unconditionally release the 130 in the Masanjia camp.

"These are good, innocent people who never should have been imprisoned in the first place," said Mela Wu, a Falun Gong practitioner currently on the second day of a 48-hour hunger strike outside the Chinese consulate in New York. "For China's authorities to extend these persons' terms now, when they've already suffered so much, is just unthinkable."

Falun Gong practitioners outside the Chinese Embassy in Washington, D.C. issued a statement to further explain their appeal: "The purpose of this action is to support the 130 practitioners who have been on hunger strike in China's Masanjia Labor Camp for nearly 20 days, to strongly protest the detention of practitioners beyond the limits of their sentences, and to expose the Chinese regime's complete disregard for human life and their unwillingness to punish law enforcement officials who violate the law. We are requesting the immediate release of impris-



Demonstration in New York City



Practitioners on Hunger Strike in Front of Chinese Embassy

oned Falun Gong practitioners in China."

Similar demonstrations involving hundreds are underway in Chicago, San Francisco, Sydney, Australia, Paris, and Gothenburg, Sweden.

Horrible Suffering

The Masanjia camp is notorious for the extreme, violent measures it employs to torture and brainwash Falun Gong practitioners. Last October it was reported that camp officers stripped naked 18 female Falun Gong practitioners and threw them into the cells of male convicts.

According to Falun Gong spokesperson Feng Yuan, the practitioners longer than their prearranged terms reflects the Chinese government's greatest fear: that the "unreformed," practitioners might reveal to the outside world the horrific, inhuman conditions of the Masanjia camp. Such disclosure would further rupture the image of the camps Chinese authorities have tried to create through staged show tours. "Obviously this means the camp has failed to brainwash and break these practitioners—despite their having to endure relentless torture, abuse, and coercion for months on end," said Yuan.



Masanjia Labor Camp in China

Recent Events Around the World

Canada

OTTAWA, July 8 - Gerry Smith silently sits in front of the Chinese Embassy for 330 consecutive hours to protest the murder of 15 female Falun Gong practitioners on June 20 in China's Wanjia Labor Camp.



Italy

ROME, May 18 - Falun Gong practitioners speak at a press conference hosted by the Transnational Radical Party.



USA



WASHINGTON D.C., July 21 - Mr. Li Hongzhi, the founder of Falun Gong, addresses close to 4,000 practitioners from over 30 countries around the world who attended the 2001 Washington

DC Falun Dafa Experience Sharing Conference at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC.



Spain

MADRID, July 11 — Practitioners in Spain called an urgent press conference to bring attention to the escalating deaths of Falun Gong practitioners in China.

Brazil

BRASILIA, April 28 — Peaceful demonstration in front of the Presidential Palace.



Ireland

DUBLIN, May 3 — Trinity College classmates of Zhao Ming and International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders march in Dublin to call for the release of Zhao Ming who was detained in China



Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, April 24 — An Argentinian family learns the Falun Dafa exercises in a park.

Israel

TEL AVIV, July 11 — Practitioners in Israel gather in front of the Chinese Embassy to protest the Wanjia massacre of 15 women.



Sweden

GOTHENBURG, JUNE 15 -- Parade and peaceful demonstration during the EU Summit.



Germany

BERLIN, July 20 — German Falun Gong practitioners walked for 3 days through Berlin to support the SOS: Urgent call to rescue Falun Dafa practitioners persecuted in China

Russia

MOSCOW, March 6 — Russian Falun Gong practitioners hold a press conference for Russian and Chinese media, as well as some human rights organizations' representatives. Mr. S. A. Kovaliov, a parliamentarian of Duma in Russia, and the Chair of the Human Rights Commission of Duma, was the keynote speaker.



Poland

WARSAW, June 27 — Practitioners demonstrate the Falun Gong exercises outside of a press conference on Falun Gong and the human rights violations in China.

Switzerland

GENEVA, April 18, 2001 — The power of silence. More than 800 people from over 20 countries stand silently in front of the United Nations to urge the passing of a resolution that condemns China for Human Rights abuses.



South Africa

GRAHAMSTOWN, July 5 — Students from Western Cape Province inquire about Falun Gong at the South African Art Festival.



Taiwan

TAIPEI, July 8 — Mr. Xianhong Yang, member of the Presidential Human Rights Committee speaks at a Falun Gong press conference at the University of Taiwan.

China

BEIJING, July 9 — Several Falun Dafa practitioners unfurl banners on Tiananmen square. Due to the intense security around Tiananmen and Beijing in general, most practitioners who come to appeal at Tianamen are stopped before reaching the square.



India

BANGALORE, Feb. 14 — The people of Bangalore learn the Falun Dafa exercises for the first time at a free introduction seminar.



Hong Kong

HONG KONG, May 9 — Practitioners peacefully demonstrate during the Freedom Forum.



South Korea

SEOUL, July 22 — Hundreds of South Koreans gathered in the Myungdong district to support the SOS: Urgent call to rescue the Falun Gong practitioners campaign.



Indonesia

JAKARTA, May 13 — Over 300 people attend an exercise instruction seminar during the World Falun Day celebration.

Australia

SYDNEY, April 11 — Students sign a petition calling for an end to the persecution in China during a candlelight vigil organized by Amnesty International at the University of New South Wales.



International News

SENIOR-RANKING CHINESE OFFICIAL CHARGED WITH CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY IN NEW YORK CITY

NEW YORK (AP) July 19, — A senior Chinese law enforcement official has been sued in U.S. federal court for allegedly directing the torture and deaths of practitioners of Falun



Gong.. Zhao Zhifei, head of the public security bureau for the Hubei province in China, was served the civil complaint on Tuesday at a New York hotel, said Carey R. D'Avino, a lawyer for the plaintiffs. The lawsuit, which seeks \$50 million in damages, accuses Mr. Zhao of crimes against humanity, including murder, torture and falsely imprisoning members of the spiritual movement. It was filed in the U.S. District Court in Manhattan on behalf of Peng Liang, whose brother and mother were allegedly killed by Mr. Zhao's officers. **“Today in New York, we remind Chinese officials that United States can and will hold them responsible for violating international law,”** Mr. D'Avino told about 80 members of Falun Gong protesting outside the hotel where Mr. Zhao is reportedly staying.. Under U.S. law, foreigners accused of crimes against humanity or violations of international law can be sued in federal court, Mr. D'Avino said. The accused individual, however, must be served a civil complaint in the U.S.. Mr. Zhao is second-in-command of a special task force set up by the Chinese government to crack down on Falun Gong in Hubei. Officers under his command are accused of burning, torturing and killing practitioners.

MP's IRWIN COTLER & SCOTT REID JOIN VIGIL OUTSIDE THE CHINESE EMBASSY



OTTAWA - August 1, 2001, under the burning sun, Professor, MP and human rights lawyer Irwin Cotler and MP Scott Reid and their assistants joined Ms. Jinyu Li and her

vigil outside the Chinese Embassy from 12:30pm to 1:30pm to demand the unconditional release of Jinyu's husband Shenli Lin, a prisoner of conscience. Sixty people from Montreal and Ottawa joined the vigil as well.

For 18 months Jinyu Li, a Canadian citizen from Montreal, has petitioned for her husband's release. Her husband Mr. Shenli Lin has been suffering in a Chinese labor camp for the past 18 months for being a Falun Gong practitioner. He was due to be released on July 23rd. However, his sentence was arbitrarily extended on that day with no reason given.

“There are three reasons we are here today,” said Mr. Cotler. “First, to express our solidarity with Jinyu Li and support for Shenli Lin's case and cause. Second, to appeal to Chinese authorities to release Shenli Lin and permit him to be reunited with his wife here in Canada; and third, to call upon the Chinese government to honour their international undertakings, and to cease and desist from the prosecution and persecution of those Falun Gong practitioners like Shenli Lin who seek to do nothing else but give expression to the ancient Chinese values of Truth, Compassion, and Tolerance.”

US STATE DEPT. CALLS REPORTS OF TORTURE IN LABOR CAMP “CHILLING”

WASHINGTON DC (FDI) July 9 - State Department Spokesman Richard Boucher said in a July 5 press release that the United States is “deeply disturbed” by reports that Chinese authorities have intensified their harsh repression of Falun Gong practitioners, and called the deaths of more than a dozen of these practitioners in a Chinese labor camp June 20 “particularly troublesome.” Boucher said: “We call on China to respect freedom of thought, conscience and religion, to allow all persons to practice their religious faiths freely, and to end the cycle of repression on the Falun Gong. In particular, we call on China to release from the so-called “re-education through labor camps” practitioners of Falun Gong and others held for exercising their fundamental human rights. The Chinese Government has claimed a mass suicide among Falun Gong practitioners in some of the camps. Others insist the deaths were caused by torture and mistreatment. **The point is that these people should never have been incarcerated in such camps in the first place.** We also call on China, on an urgent basis, to allow unrestricted visits to these camps by the International



Red Cross and other impartial international bodies to look into the treatment prisoners receive.”

RAPED AND BEATEN IN BEIJING BY PLAINCLOTHES POLICEMAN

BEIJING (Falun Dafa Information Center), June 14 — On the evening of May 14 in Beijing, a female Falun Gong practitioner was beaten and raped in the street when she was posting Falun Gong fliers.

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



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

I was beaten to the ground and was not able to get up, and soon lost consciousness. At this moment he pulled me under a bridge, tore my pants apart and raped me. After that, he inserted a police baton forcefully into my vagina, and rode on my body. When I regained my strength and was able to shout, I shouted with all the strength

FALUN GONG FOUNDER MAKES SURPRISE APPEARANCE

OTTAWA, Canada, May 19 (CNN) ... [The] founder of the Falun Gong movement made a surprise visit to a Canadian festival where he addressed North American practitioners of the meditation movement. Li Hongzhi arrived unannounced Saturday afternoon for the festival in the Canadian capital of Ottawa put on by Falun Dafa ... and delivered a 20-minute speech in Mandarin, organizers said. Li, who moved from China to the United States, has made only a few public appearances since Beijing banned the movement in July 1999

... Organizers said nearly 1,000 people attended the week-long festival, which included a demonstration of meditative exercises on the lawn in front of Canada’s Parliament buildings. In the speech, Li focused on his spiritual teachings, Wollensak said, but also said that Falun Gong members were facing “vicious persecution.”

DAUGHTER OF WOMAN FEATURED IN PULITZER-WINNING ARTICLE SENT TO LABOR CAMP

WALL STREET JOURNAL, May 10 BEIJING — A woman who unsuccessfully battled China’s bureaucracy to make police admit they tortured her mother to death has been sent without trial to three years in a labor camp, in another sign of the government’s intensifying efforts to suppress the Falun Gong spiritual movement... Police in the eastern city of Weifang ordered **Zhang Xueling’s** punishment on April 24, sending her to the Wang Village labor camp in the nearby city of Zibo, according to a Falun Gong spokeswoman in New York and the Hong Kong-based Information Center for Human Rights and Democracy ... her fate fits the pattern of an increasingly vigorous government campaign to wipe out the group by coercing followers to renounce their beliefs and jailing those who won’t. Ms. Zhang’s mother, **Chen Zixiu**, was an ardent Falun Gong follower who was detained twice for trying to protest the ban on the group that the government imposed in July 1999. During her second detention, in February of last year, fellow inmates and family members said police beat the 58-year-old woman to death as they tried to force her to recant..Ms. Chen’s death and her daughter’s quest for justice were chronicled by The Asian Wall Street Journal in a series of articles that won a Pulitzer Prize for international reporting in the U.S. last month.

PSYCHIATRIC ABUSE IN CHINA, SOVIET-STYLE

British Medical Journal (BMJ) 7 April, 2001: The American Psychiatric Association has urged the World Psychiatric Association to protest to the Chinese government about the incarceration of political dissidents and members of the Falun Gong movement in mental hospitals. It has asked the association to “move with alacrity as it did at American, British and Australian insistence



when psychiatry was used in the intimidation and torture of Soviet dissidents.” There is growing evidence of widespread abuse of psychiatry in the Peoples Republic of China. Two new reports describe forcible incarceration of political dissidents and Falun Gong members in mental hospitals, where they undergo the forced administration of psychotropic drugs, electroshock treatment, inadequate diet, and brutal beatings. Falun Gong members are told, “No transformation [renunciation of faith], no release.”...

“Why Persecute Falun Gong?”

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tion was reached that was acceptable to both the government and the practitioners. The entire event was peaceful and characterized by orderliness. All the practitioners who had gathered outside the State Council Appeal Office quietly dispersed, content with Premier Zhu’s handling of the issue.

Then, Why the Persecution Campaign?

When Zhu Rongji stepped outside the Appeal Office to meet with practitioners, he was heartily cheered by the crowd. That very evening, however, Chinese President Jiang Zemin took a completely different stand on the incident. In a letter written on the evening of April 25th, 1999, entitled “Comrade Jiang Zemin’s Letter to the Standing Committee of the Politburo and Other Concerned Leader Comrades”, Jiang denounced Falun Gong as “an (approved to be) cult,” asking “is there a ‘mastermind’ [inside the Party] plotting and directing behind the scenes?” Thus, President Jiang made clear his suspicion that the incident indicated foes within the Party were aligning against him

Clearly, Jiang Zemin could not tolerate “a social group [Falun Gong] involving a large number of Party members, cadres, intellectuals, as well as army men, workers and peasants,” that was not under the direct control of the Party and he indicated this in his April 25th letter. In particular, he felt threatened by the potential that such a large group could be directed by a “mastermind” among his political rivals within the Party.

Jiang further revealed his perception of Falun Gong in a June 7th letter entitled “Comrade Jiang Zemin’s Speech at a Meeting of the Politburo of the Central Committee Regarding Handling and Resolving the ‘Falun Gong’ Issue Without Delay,” where he fully developed the persecution policy. “Obviously,” Jiang wrote, “an individual like Li Hongzhi does not have that much power. The ‘Falun Gong’ issue has a very deep political background...” He then drew the conclusion

For the first four years, the Chinese Government enthusiastically endorsed the practice

that the April 25th incident was “the most serious incident since the political turbulence in 1989” and “effective countermeasures” must be

taken.

What happened in “the political turbulence in 1989?” The then Chinese Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang was replaced by Jiang soon after Zhao’s meeting with the students on hunger strike in Tiananmen Square. Under pressure from Jiang, it was said that Zhu Rongji had to do a self-criticism in

front of the politburo members shortly after his meeting with Falun Gong practitioners outside the State Council Appeal Office.

Jiang’s letters clearly demonstrate his view of Falun Gong as a tool being utilized by political

foes within the Party, and how, without any concrete evidence, he made the erroneous policy decision to persecute Falun Gong strictly on this basis.

“It is no secret that several Politburo members thought Jiang had used the wrong tactics,” said Willy Lam in his CNN report. “By unleashing a Mao-style movement, Jiang is forcing senior cadres to pledge allegiance to his line,” quoted a party veteran in Lam’s report. “This will boost Jiang’s authority-and may give him enough momentum to enable him to dictate events at the pivotal 16th Communist Party congress next year.”

Since the persecution was launched by Jiang Zemin in July, 1999, tens of thousands of innocent Chinese citizens have been detained for practicing Falun Gong. Thousands have been tortured, sent to labor “re-education” camps without trial, illegally incarcerated in mental institutions, and millions have been left homeless, jobless or expelled from school. In short, Jiang’s persecution campaign has devastated a large segment of Chinese society, which includes farmers, academics, business people, government officials, military personnel, etc. The true tragedy of this persecution, however, lies in its affects on the Chinese people and that the persecution against Falun Gong, in fact, has little to do with the content of Falun Gong or the character of those who practice it. Falun Gong has simply been used as a pawn in the hands of those seeking to secure and vie for power. In this sense, Falun Gong is a victim of circumstance within the complex landscape of Chinese political power.

Dr. Shiyu Zhou received his Ph.D. in Computer Science from Rutgers University in 1996. He did postdoctoral research work with Bell Laboratories, Lucent Technology. Dr. Zhou is currently a faculty member of the Department of Computer & Information Science at the University of Pennsylvania.

“CNN: China’s Misguided Suppression”

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make public declarations of support for the Beijing line-and for the top leader.

For example, the theme of the anti-American crusade in 1999 was not just beating back the “anti-China conspiracy of the United States-led NATO” but professing unreserved



support for the “central leadership with comrade Jiang Zemin as its core.”

According to a party veteran, Jiang might want a public show of support for himself if only because the Politburo had divergent views on what to do with the Falun Gong.

It is no secret that several Politburo members thought the president had used the wrong tactics. They ranged from

The most severe criticism leveled at Jiang’s handling of the Falun Gong is that he seems to be using the mass movement to promote allegiance to himself.

moderates such as Premier Zhu Rongji, Vice President Hu Jintao, and head of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference Li Ruihuan to conservatives such as National People’s

Congress Chairman Li Peng.

For example, both Li Ruihuan and Zhu—who met Falun Gong representatives shortly after they had staged the now-famous demonstration outside party headquarters in April 1999—were said to favor a conciliatory approach.

“By unleashing a Mao-style movement, Jiang is forcing senior cadres to pledge allegiance to his line,” said the party veteran. “This will boost Jiang’s authority—and may give him enough momentum to enable him to dictate events at the pivotal 16th Communist Party congress next year.”

“Courage on Tiananmen Square”

[continued from page 9]

peal were promptly closed to practitioners shortly after the ban. For example, in the fall of 1999, the Chinese government began requiring all legal council to notify the central government before they represent a Falun Gong practitioner. This made it impossible for practitioners to find a lawyer in pursuit of justice for the numerous human rights violations they had suffered at the hands of Chinese government authorities. Soon landowners in and around Beijing were even forced to refuse renting their apartments and houses to Falun Gong practitioners. There are often police at train stations going into Beijing who stop and question passengers, search their bags or even require them to curse at a photo of the founder of Falun Gong before boarding a train for Beijing. Pressure was being applied from all sides.

Meanwhile, as more and more practitioners were being taken from their homes in the middle of the night, rounded up in stadiums and sent to labor “re-education” camps without trial, the voice of Falun Gong practitioners was completely absent from the media. In China, virtually all major T.V., radio

and newspapers are state owned. In fact, the media has been one of the most powerful instruments used by the Chinese government to further their directives and policies, dedicating hours of airtime every day to denouncing Falun Gong and disseminating propaganda about those who practice it. Therefore, with the government forces mobilized against them, appeal and legal channels closed to them, and with T.V., radio and newspaper pieces disseminated throughout the country demonizing them, Falun Gong practitioners found themselves left with no channel to communicate with their fellow citizens, let alone the rest of the world.

Beijing’s Front Yard, the World’s Stage

Tiananmen Square is not only a favorite among tourists (both domestic and foreign), it is a symbol of China located in the heart of China’s capitol city. Falun Gong practitioners turned to Tiananmen Square as a place that offered an opportunity amidst all of the closed opportunities. On Tiananmen Square, they found a place where they could make a peaceful appeal to the world and be heard. They found a place where a brief hint of the human rights violations they have suffered could be made known. They found a place where a small sampling of the brutality with which they are treated would be visible for all to see.

Most of all, they found a place where they could lift a banner above their heads and, in the hopes of breaking through the massive propaganda machine that has taken aim upon them, make known to passers-by and the world at large that the continued, non-violent struggle to practice Falun Gong freely in China is, indeed, a matter of principle.

It is a matter of one’s ability to believe in and peacefully practice “Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance.” And at its essence, it is a matter that extends well

The continued, non-violent struggle to practice Falun Gong freely in China is a matter of principle. And at its essence, it is a matter that extends well beyond China’s borders.

beyond China’s borders, for if today citizens of China are denied this right and the world stands idly by, who is to say which citizens of which country will be next?

Levi Browde works as a Technical Lead for a software development company on Wall Street in New York City. Levi has done extensive research and writing on the topic of Falun Gong and the persecution in China.

“Beyond China’s Borders”

[continued from page 11]

Thursday.

Starting on Tuesday at least five Falun Gong web sites, three in the United States and two in Canada, were attacked simultaneously with an overload of carefully-prepared information, said group spokeswoman Gail Rachlin.

“The [Chinese] police software security bureau had offered to pay the computer company money to hack into our sites”

Falun Gong practitioner Yuan Li, a computer expert, said the group’s main website www.falundafa.org received an anonymous tip on April 12 warning of an imminent attack.

“We received an anonymous e-mail from a Chinese computer employee on

April 12 warning us that the police software security bureau had offered to pay the computer company money to hack into our sites,” said Yuan.

He said the messages were sent to the Falun Gong’s websites from China using U.S.-based e-mail site Yahoo.com.

“They used a method called ICMT Packet flooding which is a way of overloading websites with too much information,” said Yuan.

“This type of computer hacking requires a lot of effort and preparation. They must have been studying our sites for a long time.”

He said the Chinese authorities previously attacked the sites on August 5, and that it took 24 hours to get them back up and running.

“Rally in Washington D.C.”

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The press conference, held on the steps of the Capitol Building and hosted by Nina Shea, Director of the Center for Religious Freedom of Freedom House, commenced in the afternoon as the marchers arrived on Capitol Hill. In the opening statement made by Ambassador Mark Palmer, board member of the newly-formed “Friends of Falun Gong” (www.fofg.org), Palmer called on international leaders to hold Chinese president Jiang Zemin responsible for the ongoing atrocities carried out under the communist regime, just “as Milosovic is now being held accountable for his crimes against humanity.”

Speakers included members of the House and Senate from both Democratic and Republican parties, calling for sup-

port for joint resolutions condemning Chinese president Jiang Zemin for the escalating cases of rape, torture, and death in police custody of Falun Gong believers in China. Spokespeople from Amnesty International, National Organization for Women (NOW), the Family Research Council as well as other advocacy groups for human rights made statements in support of Falun Gong.

Three survivors of torture in Chinese labor re-education camps, now in the US, recounted their ordeals and the abuses carried out daily in efforts to force Falun Gong practitioners to renounce their beliefs. Mr. Alan Adler, spokesperson for Friends of Falun Gong, said that “tens of thousands are illegally detained, hundreds abused in psychiatric wards, and over 250 innocent people are known to have died due to maltreatment while in police custody. The killing under China’s totalitarian regime continues to escalate, and we’re calling for urgent action to rescue the practitioners held in labor camps and deprived of their basic human rights.”

“Canadian Perseveres Torture”

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Gong, you will be released; otherwise, you will be sent to labor camp for three years. They even forced us to pay “tuition” of 10,000 Chinese Yuan, which is equivalent to one year’s salary, for such torture.

Every day, along with the other practitioners, I was forced to sit straight on a small bench to watch brainwashing propaganda films all day and all night. They forced convicts to monitor us and keep us from closing our eyes or lowering our heads. Their goal was to keep us from having even one minute to be able to think independently.

In December of 2000, I was transferred to Wang Cun Labor Camp,

which is notorious for its cruelty toward Falun Gong practitioners; it is often referred to as “Hell on Earth.” The security staff there tried much harder with their

brainwashing tactics, using psychological attacks and mind control to torment me and force me to renounce my belief in Falun Gong. I was monitored twenty-four hours a day by a group of policemen. After days and nights of endless brainwashing, deception, coercion, and psychological attacks, I almost collapsed. Such mental torture was even worse than physi-

I wanted to use the example of myself to tell the world: “Thousands of Chinese practitioners are still being physically and mentally tortured...”

cal torture.

These memories are extremely painful and are beyond words' description. Every time I recall those darkest days in my life, I feel as if I am still being mentally tortured. The pain



remains vivid, the memories haunting. However, I have to stand up to tell the truth and to stop the torture, as tens of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners are still suffering in jails and they can't get their voices heard. Many of those practitioners have suffered much more than I did. Already more than 250 practitioners have been

tortured to death. Now that I have gained my freedom, I feel that it is my responsibility to speak for them and to let the world know about the truth of the persecution, so that more kind-hearted people will stand up to help end this brutal persecution in China.

After I was released, I traveled to Canada and the United States to generate awareness of the vicious persecution in China. In March, I learned that the United Nations Commission on Human Rights would meet in Geneva. I thought this was a perfect opportunity to bring this urgent issue to the attention of the world's human rights leaders. As an overseas Chinese, I want to see China to become a prosperous country. However, prosperity has to be built on stability. Only when a country has people with good morals, only when a country's leaders respect its citizens' human rights, can that country become stable and prosper. It broke my heart to see that innocent citizens are being murdered by their own president in China simply because they believe in the high moral principles of "Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance." Yet Jiang Zemin's regime shamelessly lied in Geneva that "now is the best period of time of human rights records in China."

I wanted to use the example of myself to tell the world: "Thousands of Chinese practitioners are still being physically and mentally tortured every minute. They need your help!" Despite the fact that Jiang Zemin's regime sent 500 spies to Geneva to interfere with our activities, and despite the fact that they fabricated stories there to discredit me, I was determined that nothing could stop me from revealing the truth of the persecution I witnessed and experienced in China.

I traveled to 10 countries in Europe, including Sweden, The Netherlands, Germany, and the United Kingdom. I spoke at press conferences; met with members of Parliament and ambassadors responsible for human rights; and visited human rights organizations like Amnesty International. They've all expressed their support after learning the truth.

I believe that righteousness will surely overcome the evil.

"Rising Above the Persecution"

[continued from page 26]

also a 6-year-old child. That night, we were sent to the Beijing Police Department. We were first punished physically for one hour, and then 4 to 5 policemen conducted a body search upon us. They dragged me by my hair and slammed my head against the ground. They used their boots to violently kick my head and chest. I lost consciousness for a moment. When I came to, I had a headache and realized my clothing had been stripped from my body. My body was covered with purple and black bruises. A lot of my hair was pulled out. Then another female police officer came in and walked back and forth over my body, while accusing me of pretending to be dead.

One day, another practitioner and I were suddenly called out. Several strong men tied us on the bed with a rope. In an attempt to force me to answer their interrogation, they plunged a tube through my nose and as they moved the tube, they yelled, "Tell us your name. Quickly!" To protest this painful and torturous interrogation, I began a hunger strike. Five days later, I was sent to a mental hospital to receive force-feeding. This time, they forced a thick and hard plastic tube into my stomach through my nose. This was excruciatingly painful, especially to my nose and throat. Eventually I was bailed out. In the ensuing months, I continued to write letters of appeal to various levels of government but still received no response. During that time many practitioners around me were arrested and tortured by the authorities. Some even died from the torture they received.

My husband had been summoned to the police station and was interrogated for 6 hours. The authorities asked me to choose between Falun Gong and my marriage and then they told my husband that if he would not get a divorce, our child would have no chance to go to school. Under pressure, my husband submitted a divorce request to the political department of his workplace. The court granted our divorce and gave custody of my child to him without my knowledge. Now my family is torn apart.

They used their boots to violently kick my head and chest. I lost consciousness. When I came to, I had a headache and realized my clothing had been stripped from my body.

This is just a short summary of the torture I suffered while held in detention in China. Over the past 19 months, numerous families of Falun Gong practitioners have been torn apart. Thousands of practitioners like me have been deprived of the basic human right to the freedom of belief, the right to work, the right to raise children and the right to live a normal life. We appeal to all kind-hearted people in the world to help us stop this persecution. Thank you.

What is Falun Gong?

What is Falun Gong?

Falun Gong (also called Falun Dafa) is a way to improve the body, mind, and spirit through exercise, meditation, and teachings that are rooted in ancient Chinese culture.

The practice is best known for its slow-moving, relaxing exercises called qigong. Falun Gong's exercises, though simple and gentle, are nonetheless powerful in improving health.

The foundation of Falun Gong is its teachings of how to become a better person. These teachings, known in traditional Chinese culture as the Tao, or Law, are set forth in the book, *Zhuan Falun*. At the core of the teachings are the three principles of Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance. Students of Falun Gong consider these virtues to be the nature of the universe, and it is these that they strive to perfect in themselves.

Falun Gong has no membership, is taught by volunteers free of charge and is open to everyone. It was first introduced to the public in China in 1992, and since has been taken up by over 100 million people in over 45 different countries.

The Principles of Falun Gong

Truth, Compassion, Forbearance -- these three principles are what Falun Gong practitioners take to be the universe's most fundamental, most basic nature. They understand this nature to reside in every life, every object, every element throughout the earth and cosmos.

To practice Falun Gong is to cultivate these principles in yourself, to strive to live according to them at all times, in every situation, and in every circumstance.

In doing this, one gradually learns to put others first and discard selfish tendencies or "attachments." Through the practice negative

thoughts and desires fade away and lose their power. Many have come to enjoy incredible health and great energy in daily life.

This is the power of living in tune with the nature of the cosmos -- the power of returning to your original, true self.



Sterling Cambell, 36, Drummer for David Bowie, B-52s



I was introduced to Falun Dafa while I was taking an early morning walk in the park. I was surprised when a practitioner mentioned it would not cost me any money. The next day I went to the practice site to learn the exercises. I found them to be very easy to learn.

After the practice I began to ask more questions. The practitioner offered me the book *Zhuan Falun* by Li Hongzhi. She said the book could explain more in detail about Falun Dafa.

The more I read, the more I was drawn into the book. I felt I was in the presence of something very unique and immense. I began going to the park every morning to practice and read *Zhuan Falun*. Within a month, my eight-year drug, alcohol, and cigarette addiction had completely disappeared. I couldn't believe this was happening.

Warren Tai, 64, Bank Vice-president



That the brutal persecution in China still goes on is incomprehensible to me. I developed a bleeding ulcer early in my adult life and was dependent on medication and regular trips to the hospital. Tired of this, I sought an alternative. Mr. Li's teachings of Truth-Compassion-Forbearance and "looking inward for a solution" struck me like lightning.

Working on my "heart-nature," reading *Zhuan Falun*, and doing the five exercises everyday, within just six months I was well again. I don't think its surprising that so many people practice

How Can You Help?

The persecution of Falun Dafa practitioners in China is unprecedented in its severity and scope, but the situation is far from hopeless. Many kind-hearted people have stepped forward in support of Falun Dafa and freedom of belief in China. If you would like to get involved, here are a few ideas to get you started. Together we are making a difference...



Stay Informed

There are many publications and materials maintained by volunteers to keep people informed about Falun Dafa and the situation in China. These materials are all free of charge.



FALUN DAF
INFORMATION CENTER

Crisis News Bulletin and Falun Gong Human Rights Update:

Once a week, we send out a news bulletin highlighting some of the major stories in the news as well as a newsletter documenting the cases of abuse against practitioners in China. To receive the bulletin and/or newsletter each week free of charge, send an e-mail to editor@faluninfo.net.

Compassion, The Quarterly Journal of Falun Dafa:

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

www.faluninfo.net:

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

Get Involved

Concerned citizens around the world are helping to put an end to the persecution in China.



Let Your Voice Be Heard:

Write your local government officials and express your concern about the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners. Tell your friends, family and co-workers about what is happening to Falun Gong practitioners. You can make a difference...let your voice be heard.



Become a Friend of Falun Gong:

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

Contact Friends of Falun Gong

Call toll-free: 1-866-FG-FRIEND

Website: www.fofg.org

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



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