What is Falun Gong?

Falun Gong, also known as Falun Dafa, is a practice of meditation, gentle exercises, and the cultivation of truthfulness, compassion and tolerance in oneself. These three values form the backbone of Falun Gong’s teachings. Practitioners of the discipline aspire to live by them in their daily lives, striving to achieve, over time, a state of selflessness and inner balance.

Falun Gong was first made public in 1992 by Mr. Li Hongzhi and spread quickly throughout China as news reports and word of mouth acclaimed its health benefits. By 1998, there were 100 million people practicing Falun Gong, and it had gained widespread respect in Chinese society.

There is no organization or membership in Falun Gong. The exercises are always taught by volunteers free of charge, and Falun Gong books and materials are free to download from the Internet (http://falundafa.org).

Today, Falun Gong is practiced in over 60 countries, and around the world many are working to appeal for a peaceful end to the persecution. They have no political agenda, nor are they against the government in China...they simply want the torture and killing to stop.

“If you believe something is really precious, you won’t want to give it up even if you are forced to suffer hardships. This is why the persecution in China hasn’t worked.”

-An American who practices Falun Gong

Voices in Support of Falun Gong

United States Congress
(H. Con. Res. 188 Unanimously Passed 420-0)

“The campaign of persecution [against Falun Gong] has been... carried out by government officials and police at all levels, and has permeated every segment of society and every level of government in the PRC (People’s Republic of China).”

Amnesty International

“Reports continue of deaths of detained [Falun Gong] practitioners following torture and extreme ill treatment... the [Chinese] government has denied any wrongdoing, even in the face of multiple eyewitness testimonies.” -Torture, A Growing Scourge in China (AI index ASA 17/004/2001)

Ambassador Mark Palmer

“Falun Gong is...the greatest single spiritual movement in Asia today. There is nothing that begins to compare with it in courage and importance.” -Mark Palmer, former U.S. Ambassador to Hungary and 26-year veteran of the U.S. State Department

You can help:

Speak to your friends, family, colleagues, and elected officials. Speak to media and ask them to cover this story. Please share this flyer.

Find out more:

faluninfo.net for news on the persecution
foig.org to take action or give support
upholdjustice.org for investigative reports
falun-ny.net for NYC info (877) 325-8699
falundafa.org for info on the practice
Why the Persecution?

In 1999, China’s top leader cast 100 million citizens as criminals. Fearing that Falun Gong’s widespread popularity was overshadowing his own legacy, Jiang Zemin ordered the traditional Chinese practice “eradicated.” According to a 1999 Washington Post article, “Communist Party sources said that the standing committee of the Politburo did not unanimously endorse the crackdown and that Jiang alone decided that Falun Gong must be eliminated” in order to solidify his power base. As China scholar Andrew Nathan notes, “[Ultimately, Communism is] a system built on monopoly of power and [Falun Gong] is something essential, which can’t be compromised.”

The Global Propaganda Assault

A key tactic to justify the persecution

In 2000, Amnesty International documented Jiang Zemin’s use of a “massive propaganda campaign” to demonize Falun Gong, utilizing tactics bearing an eerie resemblance to the horrific attacks against Jewish people in Nazi propaganda. Jiang also mobilized a global propaganda campaign while blocking websites, TV, radio and all media related to the facts of the persecution. Utilizing business ties and political pressure, Jiang has largely kept the real situation out of the western mainstream media, while at the same time saturating the media with anti-Falun Gong propaganda.

A Systematic Campaign of Persecution happening in China now...

...comes to the USA

Scores of cases of harassment and physical attacks against practitioners and supporters of Falun Gong have been documented in the U.S. and other countries. The attacks are carried out by individuals who are either known to have close ties with Chinese consulates or believed to be hired thugs for consulate officials. U.S. businesses and government officials supportive of Falun Gong have also been pressured and intimidated.

U.S. Congress Responds

House Concurrent Resolution 304 was introduced in response to the many cases of harassment and violence by Chinese agents on U.S. soil. In 2002, Congress unanimously passed H. Con. Res. 188, condemning the persecution in China and recommending investigations of illegal activities by Chinese agents in the U.S.

“[Chinese officials] had been told, ‘No measures are too excessive’ to wipe out Falun Gong. The beatings continued...”

-excerpt from a Wall Street Journal Pulitzer prize-winning article, “A Deadly Exercise.”

China’s former top leader Jiang Zemin developed a systematic campaign of eradication targeting Falun Gong, permeating all aspects of society and utilizing all government departments and agencies. Jiang established a Gestapo-like agency called the “6-10 Office”, with power to implement the eradication policy nationwide.

In the past five years, between 300,000 and 1,000,000+ have been illegally detained, with many tortured in slave-labor camps, psychiatric hospitals and prisons. More than 1,000 are confirmed dead with the actual number estimated to be 10,000+. Practitioners are fined, fired from jobs, denied graduation, forced to divorce, and flee their homes—destitute.

NYC, June 23, 2003

“...Ten men were directed to attack me. They surrounded me and started punching me in my face and abdomen...One of the men was screaming, ‘I am going to beat you to death!’”

Falun Gong practitioner Li Jun

Chicago: Car used to transport flyers exposing persecution is firebombed

New York City: Assailant threatens Falun Gong practitioners