China imprisons U.S. citizen

Dr. Charles Lee, a Falun Gong practitioner from Menlo Park, CA, was arrested in China upon arriving in January 2003. He was sentenced in a show trial to three years for “intending” to tap into Chinese TV to expose the human rights violations against Falun Gong practitioners. He has been tortured and subjected to brain-washing.

www.rescuecharles.org

U.S. families affected

Charles Lee is not the only American affected by the persecution of Falun Gong in China. Many U.S. citizens and residents have family members who are currently imprisoned in forced-labor camps, prisons, detention centers, and psychiatric hospitals. In many cases, the families have no idea where their loved ones are being held or of their condition. Their attempts to call China for information are often blocked or monitored.

www.globalrescue.net

The U.S. Congress speaks out

Two resolutions have been introduced to the House of Representatives, calling for an end to China’s persecution of Falun Gong and the illicit activities carried out by Chinese agents and consular officials in the U.S. in their attempt to extend the persecution.

H. Con. Res. 188, passed by unanimous vote in July 2002, calls on China to release detained practitioners, cease the use of torture, and abide by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It also states that the U.S. Government should investigate illegal activities perpetrated by Chinese officials and agents against Falun Gong in the U.S.

H. Con. Res. 304, subsequently introduced in 2003, specifically addresses the increasing incidence of violence targeting Falun Gong practitioners, and the harassment of local elected officials by Chinese embassy and consulate officials.

Washington, D.C., rally: “Together to end the persecution of Falun Gong Now”

How You Can Help

- Share this flyer and tell your friends and family.
- Ask your local, state, and federal government officials to support human rights legislation.
- Inform professional and religious organizations.
- Sign a petition (see www.fofg.org for details).

“...that a communist nation would go to this extent to suppress someone’s freedom of action in this country”

– Randy Voepel, Mayor of Santee, CA in response to pressure tactics from the Chinese consulate in Los Angeles

Produced by volunteers
Falun Gong, also known as Falun Dafa, is an ancient self-cultivation practice based on truthfulness, compassion, and tolerance, and includes gentle exercise and meditation. It was made public in China in 1992 by Mr. Li Hongzhi and quickly became very popular. It is now practiced in over 60 countries.

www.falundafa.org

The persecution of Falun Gong began in July 1999 when Jiang Zemin, feeling threatened by its popularity, banned the practice and launched a nationwide campaign to eliminate it in three months. From 70 to 100 million practitioners were criminalized, and their families, friends, coworkers, and employers implicated by association. The Gestapo-like “610 Office” formed by Jiang to carry out the persecution is under orders to “Defame their reputations, bankrupt them financially, and destroy them physically.” The regime covers up the atrocities, calling these murders and deaths from torture “suicide.” It is also escalating the persecution internationally. The June 2004 drive-by shooting of an Australian practitioner in South Africa indicates that the violence overseas has been pushed to a higher level of intensity.

www.faluninfo.net

Human rights violations exported to U.S.

Chinese consular officials and their agents pressure government officials into withdrawing support for Falun Gong. They have also refused to renew practitioners’ passports; monitored and videotaped practitioners; reportedly instigated physical assaults, break-ins, and cyber attacks; interfered with public events; and published libelous articles.

www.upholdjustice.org

“Made in China” means more than low prices

Falun Gong practitioner
Li Jinghua, 34, collapsed from exhaustion, starvation, and torture in the Masanjia Forced Labor Camp. Li was arrested and sent to the camp for refusing to renounce her belief. She was forced to make clothing from 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., with overtime lasting as late as 3 a.m. to meet quotas. For one job destined for export, she was forced to work 36 hours straight, with only a scanty meal. She was also beaten, put into isolation, and shocked with electric batons, yet she refused to renounce her faith. She finally suffered a mental breakdown.

“China has emerged as a chief violator of workers’ rights, and its workforce is so large and its labor repression so comprehensive, that is dragging down standards for the entire world economy.”

– Richard Trumka, AFL-CIO secretary-treasurer

In China’s network of labor camps, products are made by the slave labor of countless prisoners of conscience from all walks of life. After 1999, when Jiang’s policy led to the incarceration of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners, the supply of free labor increased dramatically. According to a petition filed on March 16, 2004, by the AFL-CIO, China’s labor practices violate World Trade Organization rules and have displaced over 700,000 U.S. workers.

www.fofg.org

Americans blacklisted

The Center for Religious Freedom reported in February 2002 that classified documents smuggled out of China and authenticated by a China expert revealed orders that called for “building up data banks” for Falun Gong and religious organizations abroad.

The Chinese government uses this information to create blacklists of Falun Gong practitioners in order to prevent them from entering countries when Chinese officials visit. For example, in June 2002, many Americans were barred from traveling to Iceland during Jiang’s visit. Their names were on a blacklist provided to Iceland officials by China. The Icelandic people were outraged by their government’s action and issued a public apology to Falun Gong practitioners.

American corporations affected

The Chinese government pressures companies doing business in China, including American-based corporations, into discriminating against employees who practice Falun Gong.

Companies have been forced to dismiss employees or make them sign statements promising not to practice or support Falun Gong in order to keep their jobs. In this way, the companies are used to further the persecution of Falun Gong and participate in the suppression of human rights, thus becoming victims themselves.

www.fofg.org