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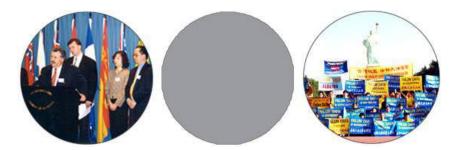


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News and Events from Around the World



2005 Canada Falun Dafa Cultivation Experience Sharing Conference Solemnly Held in Toronto

On May 22, 2005 the Canada Falun Dafa Cultivation Experience Sharing Conference was held in Assembly Hall at the University of Toronto. About 1500 Falun Dafa practitioners from around the world attended the conference. At around 10:30 a.m., Master Li Hongzhi arrived in person and gave a lecture for about 30 minutes.

In this experience sharing conference, more than 10 practitioners from Canada and the U.S. shared their understandings and experiences.

Practitioners who gave speeches shared their experiences of using different forms to validate Falun Dafa. Practitioners who participate in media work shared from different perspectives about clarifying the truth through cooperation as one body. They also described how practitioners improved themselves in their cultivation during the process.

Some practitioners who work for the Toronto branch of the media as reporters, sales representatives and persons in charge shared their cultivation experiences in the process of creating and operating the media. A Toronto practitioner representing the writing team discussed how they broke through their notions and encouraged each other and published more than 190 articles in a short 3 months to expose the party's deceptions and to clear away the evil spirit of the Communist Party.

Another practitioner shared her cultivation experiences about widely spreading the news of the "Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party" to precious Chinese people through phone calls.

A Western practitioner shared his experiences on holding a "Truthfulness-Compassion-Tolerance" Art Exhibition.

Another Western practitioner shared her experience about introducing Falun Dafa in Sri Lanka. She also talked about the extensive spread of Falun Dafa in Sri Lanka. A practitioner from Toronto representing the rescue team shared their understandings and experiences in the process of rescuing Falun Gong practitioners' orphans. She also related touching stories about how to break through the interference from an economic perspective to conduct a concert calling on society's attention.

U.S. Federal Court in Illinois Accepts Motion of Lawsuit Against Wang Xudong, Former CCP Secretary of Hebei Province

On the morning of May 26, 2005, the U.S. Federal Court in Illinois accepted a motion of a lawsuit filed against former Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Secretary of Hebei Province, Mr. Wang Xudong, currently and the Minister of the Information Industry Department. This is an important victory for the plaintiffs, Falun Dafa practitioners, and shows that the U.S. Court is concerned over the persecution of Falun Dafa practitioners in China.

Due to the well-known lawsuit against Jiang Zemin, which was initiated in Chicago in 2002, local residents and legal professionals are familiar with Falun Gong and the persecution of Falun Gong by the Chinese government in China and abroad.

Defendant Wang Xudong is very concerned about this lawsuit. His attorney, Mr. Nathaniel Hsieh from Chicago, came to the two hearings on April 4 and 5, 2005, and sent his assistant to find additional court information. Hsieh even called the plaintiff's attorney, Terry Marsh.

The defendant, Wang, avoided receipt of legal documents sent by the plaintiff's attorney. Four times he refused acceptance of FedEx letters. The plaintiff tried other methods to transmit legal documents to him, including by fax. Finally, the Federal Court determined that the efforts of the plaintiff have met the federal regulations, so the motion was approved.

The Minister of the Information Industry Department, Wang Xudong, was sued when he came to Chicago in June 2004 to attend the Third China-U.S. Telecommunications Summit, because of his crimes in persecuting Falun Gong during his tenure as CCP Secretary in Hebei Province between June 2000 and November 2002.

Massachusetts, U.S.A.: Anti-torture Exhibition at Harvard Square

Between April and May every year, the "Harvard China Review" at Harvard University holds an annual large-scale conference taking some aspect of China as its theme. Each conference attracts many prominent Chinese people from the Northeastern U.S. and westerners who hope to expand business markets in China. Due to the Chinese Consulate's direct support and the poisoning by the Chinese Communist regime through slander and propaganda, the "Harvard China Review" presents a biased and one-sided viewpoint of the situation in China. They emphasize the expanding Chinese economy and the attractions of the Chinese market, creating an illusion that Communist China's economy has boundless prospects. The result is that many Chinese and western people attending the seminar are filled with an idealized picture of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP's) prospects, and are repulsed by and misunderstand people who raise questions concerning the CCP's human rights situation and freedom of belief. They believe that such people only view China negatively.

In order to help people attending the "Harvard China Review" as well as professors and students at Harvard University understand the CCP's true nature and its brutal persecution of Falun Gong, Falun Gong practitioners in Boston began a series of activities to clarifying the truth at Harvard University.

The Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party Is a Good Antidote to the CCP's Poison

In view of the fact that many Chinese and Western people are eager for quick financial success and expect to make a big fortune from the Chinese market, and will thus ignore the truth about the current regime in China, practitioners took disseminating the *Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party* as a way to break through to them. The *Nine Commentaries* helps people clearly see the evil nature of the CCP so they will no longer be deceived and deluded by the lie that "China's economy is great." On April 30, 2005, Falun Gong practitioners unfolded several banners at the entrance to the parking lot where the "Harvard China Review" was held. The banners, in both Chinese and English, had such messages as "See why over 1 million have resigned from the Communist Party; Read the *Nine Commentaries* by the Epoch Times,", and "Withdrawal from the COP," and "The Chinese Communist Party isn't China."



Many people who traveled by car to attend the conference saw the banners. According to Mr. Wang, who was holding a banner at the time, many people in cars looked amazed at seeing the banners. Practitioners also handed out the *Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party* to people in their cars waiting for traffic lights at intersections. Most people who attended the conference saw the banners and accepted the *Nine Commentaries*.

Also worth mentioning is the fact that when practitioners applied for a permit to display the banners, the police, who knew the truth of Falun Dafa and the CCP, expressed their support. They also waived the practitioners' application fee.

The Anti-torture Exhibition at Harvard Square Becomes a Major Focal Point



Harvard Square is located near the campus of Harvard University and Harvard Subway Station, and is a crowded and lively place. The Falun Gong practitioners' anti-torture exhibit has been here on several previous weekends. Though it was raining, people at Harvard Square were still attracted to and moved by the exhibit. They stopped their hurried steps in the rain. The organizer of the anti-torture exhibit, Ms. Mary Baromu said, "Right when we set up the anti-torture exhibit, it seemed that time stopped on Harvard Square. People who were in a hurry and absorbed in their own private world seemed to be awakened in an instant. They crowded around us, wanting to get a good look at the exhibit. Our anti-torture exhibit became a real focal point."

Another organizer, Ms. Zhou Xiaoyu, said, "Justice stands on the side of Falun Gong practitioners. Several anti-torture exhibitions have been held here, even though the weather forecast called for rainstorms. What we are doing is exposing the true nature of the Chinese Communist regime's persecution of Falun Gong, and no rainstorm can stop

us from helping to awaken more people. Each time we have come to Harvard Square, we found that it was not raining that hard - it was only drizzling. What is interesting is that practitioners from other places all said, 'The rain poured down near my home and on the way here, but once I arrived at Harvard Square, the rain was much lighter.'"

During several anti-torture exhibits, practitioners constantly heard students and Harvard University professors saying, "I've seen the Falun Gong anti-torture exhibit already once or twice; it's very moving."

Many beautiful exchanges between practitioners and the public took place during the anti-torture exhibits. The following are several examples:

"You Are Beautiful"

A scholarly-looking older man sat at a cafe opposite the anti-torture exhibit. He smiled and told the practitioners, "I hope the weather improves [*it was raining*]. In such weather, only Falun Gong could persist. I know you have been doing so over the past few years. Falun Gong is magnificent! You are beautiful!"

"I'll Tell My Younger Brother"

An older man stood in front of an orange-colored Dafa banner for quite some time while a practitioner told him about Falun Dafa and the persecution, and explained to him the words on the banner. The man said, "Don't listen to what your [*non-practitioner*] Chinese compatriots say, they have also been deceived by lies... My younger brother went to work at a company in China, and he just came back recently. He had no idea about the persecution happening in China. I'll show him this [*truth clarification*] newspaper and I'll tell him about the words on the banner."

"You're the Most Beautiful Lives in this Universe"

A slim, tall middle-aged American woman walked close to the anti-torture exhibit. Her first sentence was, "I feel very sad and uncomfortable seeing the anti-torture exhibit." She then explained, "I've learned about the persecution, and every time I saw you displaying the truth, it was very sad and painful to me. So many good people are suffering such brutal persecution in China. It has been over five years. Every night whenever I thought of this, it was too painful..." Then, she held a practitioner's frozen hands, rubbing them and gently kissing them, with tears in her eyes, she asked, "Tell me how I can help you stop the persecution, how?" The practitioner said she could contact the media, senators, and government departments through phone calls or by writing letters, and also tell her friends and relatives about the truth. The woman said, "I've done so. Of course, I'll do more, but it is still not enough, not enough. I'll think of a way, I'll pray for you more every day... I must stop the persecution... You're the most beautiful lives in this universe..." After saying all this, the woman came to the practitioner who reenacted one of the torture methods, pressed her hands in front of her chest and bowed deeply, tears streaming down her face. After that, she went to join practitioners who were doing the exercises, following along with the practitioners for a while and then left quietly.

Canada: World-Renowned Artists Perform to Rescue Orphans of Falun Gong Practitioners

In order to rescue the orphans who have been suffering severely due to the persecution of their parents, the World Committee to Rescue Persecuted Falun Gong Practitioners (WCRPFGP) successfully held two charity concerts on the theme, "Rescue Orphans," on May 14, 2005 at the MacMillan Theatre at the University of Toronto. Artists from China, Canada, the U.S., Germany, the UK, Russia and other locales presented a wonderful performance, bringing much enjoyment and a beautiful artistic experience to the audience. At the same time, by playing videos and through the performance itself, the concert helped the audience learn about the persecution that children in Mainland China have been suffering due to the Chinese Communist regime's persecution of Falun Gong. Many in the audience were shocked at the brutality of the persecution, and showed sympathy for those orphans who are living in such great difficulty. They donated money to express their concern and to help the orphans.

According to WCRPFGP, the organizer of these concerts, the income from the performance will be entirely used to rescue orphans, whose parent(s) have been persecuted to death by the Jiang regime and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). At the same time, a representative of WCRPFGP said that the main purpose of these concerts and other rescue activities is to let the Canadian public and government know the truth about Falun Dafa and the persecution. All efforts will be more meaningful if the public and government consequently develop a heart-felt wish to help end this brutal persecution and rescue these traumatized orphans and other innocent children.

The following photos are highlights from the concert:



Susan and Jiang Fan, representatives of WCRPFGP, give opening remarks



Dance "Celestial Flower Maidens" from the Lotus Art Troupe



The Lotus Art Troupe performs the dance, "Elegant Sleeves in Gentle Breeze"



solo "Chant in Prison" and "Late Spring"



Alto Yang Jiansheng's vocal Soprano Bai Xue's vocal solo, "Thinking of My Homeland" and "To My Fellow Countrymen"



World renowned tenor, Guan Guimin and his wife



Septet, "Ode to Lotus," performed by Chen Rutang, Li Lisha, Lin Jiaqi and others



Orchestral trio



Indian dance by Tishawna Persaud

Stories before the Concerts

The concerts were organized by the World Committee to Rescue Persecuted Falun Gong Practitioners (WCRPFGP) and are part of the activities to rescue orphans of Falun Gong practitioners persecuted to death in China. Before the concerts, representatives of WCRPFGP testified to an immigration committee of the Canadian Parliament regarding rescuing orphans and persecuted relatives of Canadian residents.

To help raise awareness of this rescue effort and clarify the truth, Toronto practitioners went to many busy areas including Yorkdale Mall to hold large-scale truth-clarifying events, using cultural performances, anti-torture exhibits, paper lotus flower and crane folding to raise awareness of the persecution and the rescue orphan project. Some practitioners also met with professors, VIPs, CEOs and renowned lawyers to tell them about the persecution and invite them to the concert.

The practitioners set up a stage and successfully introduced the truth of the persecution to more people, especially many from Canadian mainstream society. In the past two months, Toronto practitioners distributed more than 70,000 copies of "Rescue the Orphans" flyers and the effect has been very positive.

The Concerts

The "Rescue the Orphans" Concerts on May 14 were very successful. The audience was enthralled by the spectacular performances by Oriental and Western artists. After attending the matinee performance, some concert-goers purchased tickets for that evening's performance as well.

In his opening remarks, the president of WCRPFGP told the audience that more than 10 million children have been harmed by the ongoing brutal persecution and many have become orphans. While some have been or are being detained with their parents, more are discriminated against, intimidated, unable to go to school, illegally detained, and beaten. They often end up homeless, losing their parents, and some have even been tortured to death. The concerts helped the public to understand the tragic situation of these children and raised funds needed to rescue them.

Each concert started with a stunning performance by The Lotus Art Troupe: more than 10 celestial flower maidens danced to a melody depicting the beautiful and pure state of the human world brought by the fairies. Their elegant dance mesmerized the audience and garnered warm applause.

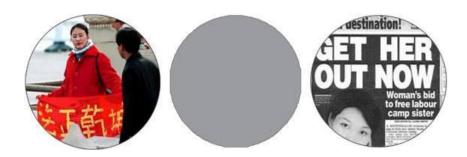
Alto Yang Jiansheng, Soprano Bai Xue and world-renowned tenor Guan Guimin, as well as renowned flutist Chen Ningfang and her family, who have all been very active in North America in recent years also made stage appearances.

It was reported that more than half of the audience were non-Chinese, including lawyers, professors and community activists. After watching the performance, a Caucasian couple said that the performance was spectacular. Another said that he developed great interest in traditional Chinese dance during the show.

During the concerts, a short video clip was played to help the audience understand the suffering of Chinese children during the brutal persecution against Falun Gong in the past 6 years. Shocked by the brutality revealed by the video, and out of a deep sympathy for the orphans, many people made generous donations directly or bought lotus flowers and "Rescue the Orphans" clothing. It was reported that the concert will be held in Montreal as well.

The WCRPFGP said that the success of these concerts is just the begining. More public activities will be held to carry on with the rescue efforts until the persecution is brought to an end.

Facts of the Persecution



Ms. Yang Yuhua Dies from Force-feeding in Daqing Detention Center on May 9, 2005

Ms. Yang Yuhua, a 50-year-old practitioner from Daqing, was a teacher at Daqing Sixth Middle School and lived in the Caikulou District. Because she persisted in practicing Falun Gong, she was cruelly force-fed and died as a result on the afternoon of May 12, 2005.



Yang Yuhua's family



Yang Yuhua

Ms. Yang Yuhua started to practice Falun Gong in 1995. Her severe diabetes mellitus was healed without the need of medical treatment. Her thin and feeble body became strong. In following the principles of Falun Gong, Ms. Yang practiced Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance and always thought of the welfare of others. To speak up for Falun Gong after the persecution began, Yang Yuhua went to Beijing to appeal for justice for Falun Gong in December of 2000. There she clarified the truth about the persecution of Falun Gong. Mr. Yang was arrested and imprisoned in Jinzhou Jail, and was released after 20 days.

Over the past several years, Ms. Yang resisted official pressure and continued to clarify the truth about the persecution of Falun Dafa. She did this in many ways, allowing numerous people who were deceived by the evil rumors and fabricated stories to understand the truth. On the night of April 16, 2005, police from Tieren Station arrested Ms. Yang at home in secrecy and took her to the city detention center. Her house was searched and her property confiscated. Ms. Yang protested the persecution by going on a hunger strike. On the sixth day of her hunger strike, she was cruelly force-fed. During this time she was also beaten in Room 405 of the detention center by criminal inmates Zhang Qingzhi, Zhang Weixia, and Li Caiyun. She was later forced to sit on an iron chair for six days. Near death at 10:00 a.m. on May 9, Yang Yuhua was again cruelly force-fed by several inmates and guards. After moaning in pain for several minutes, Ms. Yang Yuhua died with her eyes and mouth wide open. In order to cover up the truth, the detention center brought Ms. Yang's body to the hospital for "emergency treatment." A witness said, "She was already dead, and they took her directly to the morgue." To cover up the facts, officials from the Public Security Bureau, the Procuratorate and all the city courts held an emergency meeting that very day. They issued orders that nobody should defend Ms. Yang. One person, however, argued for justice on her behalf, so Public Security exerted pressure on this person's boss, threatening "not to be involved with Falun Gong issues." Director Peng from the city detention center conspired with criminal inmates Zhang Qingzhi and Zhang Weixia from Room 405 to provide false testimony. Meanwhile, the police had blocked the hospital.

After all of the fabrications had been arranged, they finally notified Ms. Yang Yuhua's family on May 10. Seeing Ms. Yang's body covered with black and blue marks, her hair matted and sticky, and her eyes wide open, her family was heart-stricken. Her sister couldn't make Ms. Yang's eyes stay closed. She said sorrowfully, "Sister, I know you were not served justice. I will get justice for you even if it costs me everything I own." At that moment, Yang's Yuhua's eyes slowly closed. Everyone was moved to see this.

One more good person who believed in "Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance" has been killed! One more happy family had been broken apart.

Presently, Dafa practitioners Zhang Guiyun, He Lihua, Yang Yuhuan, Han Naixiu, Zhang Wenhua, and 70-year-old Yang Huagui are still being persecuted in the city detention center.

Arrested and Mercilessly Beaten by Police for Upholding My Belief in Falun Dafa

My name is Niu Ruiping, and I am 49 years old. I live in Tangshan City, Hebei Province. I have dedicated myself to living in accordance with "Truthfulness, Compassion and Tolerance," and to being a good person in any situation.

On March 6, 2005, I went door to door to clarify the truth and arrived at the gates of Zhu Guihua's house. At around 2 p.m., the Guye district's new village resident committee director along with the Guye district police station chief Xiao Zhongguo and another policeman barged into Zhu Guihua's house. Without showing any papers, they started to search the home. They confiscated many lecture books, CDs, and Clearwisdom weekly magazines. Xiao Zhongguo asked me my name. I thought to myself that I should have the freedom of going door to door, so I did not cooperate and did not give them my name.

Later in the afternoon, Xiao Zhongguo and two policemen took me to the Guye police station for interrogation. They asked me my name. I did not answer. Seven or eight policemen, under orders from Zhang Shuhua and Xiao Zhongguo, promptly took turns beating me. Two of them twisted my arms; one pulled my hair. The station Chief Zhang Shuhua slapped me countless times. Xiao Zhongguo did not hesitate to kick me many times as well. Policeman Li Mengjun used his shoes to hit my cheeks. They told me during the interrogation, "We are the machines of the CCP. If the CCP says we should beat you then we will beat you." They also said that if the CCP orders them to kill people, they would do it, because the CCP will give them money. They had no trouble getting my mouth to bleed during the beatings. As I used my hand to wipe the blood away, they forced my hand away from my mouth. They beat me to the point where I became dizzy and lost my sight. My eyes and mouth were all swollen. They pulled out a large amount of my hair as well. When I used my hands to brush my hair back, I picked up some hair in my hand. One officer snatched the hair I had picked up right out of my hand, in a vain attempt to hide the evidence. There were two policemen who used sharp sticks to pinch my fingertips. Another policeman wore heavy boots and forcefully stepped on my feet. The 58-year-old Zhu Guihua and Chen Xiuxia, who had been taken at the same time as I was, were beaten as well. Their hair was also pulled out, and their faces and heads were all swollen from the beatings.

After a while, the policemen brought me to another room. I continued to refuse to cooperate with them. This made them angry and they started twisting my arms, and beating me mercilessly with brooms. My hands were very swollen from all the hitting and my whole body was bruised with green and purple wounds. When they were done with me, they locked me in a cell, and because I couldn't see properly, I had trouble even walking to the toilet. No one paid attention to my suffering.

On the morning of March 7, after finding out who I was, the 1st section chief, Liu Zheng, ordered the Guye police station policemen, secretary Liu Zengguang of the neighboring workplace, Wang Minzhong from the public safety sector, and two resident committee chairmen to search and ransack my home. They confiscated a set of lecture CDs, and five truth clarifying posters.

On the evening of March 7, the Guye police took me to a detention center. On the afternoon of March 8, I suddenly had a dizzy spell and found that my heart was beating way too fast. The detention center director Zhao called the Public Security Bureau chief, and then contacted the Guye police station. Then they brought me to the Guye district hospital for an examination. They found that my blood pressure was around 200 which was the result of being beaten on March 6, after which I almost never slept, and I vomited every time I ate or drank something.

On March 10, after seeing me vomit again after eating very little, director Zhao brought me to the Guye district hospital again that afternoon. My blood pressure was still around 200. The area around the pupil of my left eye was externally damaged and enlarged. The insides of both of my eyes were damaged causing blurred vision, light didn't seem to go through straight, and my right cornea was swollen. On the evening of March 10, the detention center director released me to go home. After I arrived at my house, the Guye district police station dispatched four people and put me under surveillance 24 hours a day.

A Witness to How the CCP's Courts Treat Falun Gong Practitioners

As a resident of Hong Kong, I had often seen Falun Gong informational materials that told how the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) authorities are persecuting the group. Because the Party claimed the human rights situation was the best during this time, I wondered whether the persecution was really so horrible. Did that mean that the Mainland Chinese news reports were all lies? Was it true that Falun Gong practitioners were allowed no human rights at all? My misgivings were finally cleared up after witnessing a court hearing against some Falun Gong practitioners in Zhuhai City, in nearby Guangdong Province.

On February 29, 2005, the authorities tried several Falun Gong practitioners in Zhuhai City's Xiangzhou District Court. At about 9:00 a.m., when police led the three practitioners into the courtroom, I heard one of them in the distance call out, "Falun Dafa is great!" and "Falun Dafa is the righteous Fa!" It shook me to the core and I was filled with such sorrow for them at that moment because I was sure they were innocent. Among the three persons, all of whom looked like such nice people, two were men in their forties, and the other was a woman over sixty. I had no idea why a kindly old lady like her should be on trial.

Three judges appeared, one presided over the hearing. The court had assigned lawyers for Mr. Zhang Xuewen and the woman, while Mr. Lin Wuyong's family had asked two relatives to plead for him. They were two ladies, both about thirty-years old. However, when one of them mentioned "Falun Dafa" in the hearing, the judge yelled, "You are forbidden to say 'Falun Dafa,' but may only say 'Falun Gong'!" The other lady had remained silent, and was just looking at the judge. Without her saying anything, he shouted at her, "Are you practicing Falun Gong? Is Li Hongzhi your Master?" Before she even had time to answer, the judge ordered the police to drag her from the courtroom.

Savagery has truly reached an extreme. Even in everyday social interactions, not to mention a solemn courtroom, an educated man should always treat ladies in a kind and civil manner befitting polite society. Here, however, a court judge who was supposed to serve as an example of righteousness and dignity had flown into a rage and ejected a lady, a reasonable lady and legal defender, simply for looking him in the eye. Where is the justice in that? How could this kind of person have ever become a judge? How could he possibly mete out a just sentence? Even as an unrelated observer, I felt sad and indignant.

It seems that the materials spread by the Falun Gong group are true after all. The Falun Gong practitioners in China truly have no human rights. They are wrongly held for court trial and deprived of their right to legal defense. Where is the legality in this? What has become of our civilized culture? It has all been a pack of lies! At that moment,

I regretted not bringing my camcorder with me to tape this incident on site, so the world could then know exactly how CCP treats Falun Gong practitioners and how "human rights" are really manifested in China.

New Round of Arrests of Falun Gong Practitioners in Shenzhen City

From the end of March until now, the "610 Office" of Shenzhen City in Guangdong Province and its local district offices have illegally arrested numerous Falun Gong practitioners. Mostly, they broke into practitioners' residences to arrest them and confiscate their property.

For example, practitioners Fu Xiuyun and Chen Jianxiong from Shenzhen were both arrested on April 14. Their whereabouts are unclear at present.

Liu Peizhen from Nanshan District was arrested on April 14, and is presently detained in Nanshan District Detention Center.

Wang Shuling, who lives in the Municipal Administration Company Housing Complex, and Zhang Fuying, who lives in Shenzhen Huatai Enterprise Company Housing Complex, were arrested from their residences by police from Jingtian Police Station and personnel from the neighborhood committee. Normally, this kind of arrest is coordinated by the local 610 Office. For about one month, practitioners went to the Futian Detention Center to look for these two practitioners. Finally they were told that Wang and Zhang were not detained there. Later we learned that they were both detained at a brainwashing facility at Xili Women's Labor Camp in Shenzhen. Wang Shuling was released after she wrote some kind of statement. Zhang Fuying remains there.

Practitioner Xiao Anjiao from Shaodong, Hunan Province, used to work at a factory in Longgang District in Shenzhen. Xiao Anjiao was arrested and tortured by police from the Longgang District police station.

Not all of the local persecution cases have been exposed yet. Authorities have threatened to sentence many of these practitioners to jail terms.

According to some sources, this round of persecution was conducted by Shenzhen City's local district police stations, national security offices, 610 Offices and some other related agencies. Reliable sources have said that the Ministry of Public Security sent someone to Shenzhen just to supervise this persecution of Falun Gong practitioners.

Crimes in the Liaoning Province Women's Prison

On March 8, 2004, a term reduction meeting was held in the Liaoning Province Women's Prison. During the meeting, the order to "transform" Falun Gong practitioners was announced, with an incentive of a 700 yuan bonus for each "transformation." With the inducement of money, brutal beatings of Falun Gong practitioners occurred in each team. The entire prison was bathed in terror. Every night Falun Gong practitioners could be seen being brutally beaten in front of the wards. The same disaster also befell the Seventh Team of the Seventh Branch.

At that time, every practitioner was very nervous. I was the first one chosen by these vicious people. They selected five people and prepared to start the violence on the night of March 22. It happened that on March 19, officials from Liaoning Province came for an inspection. When they came to the Seventh Team, I took advantage of this precious opportunity. I stood up and spoke loudly about the violence in the Eighth Team. Li Lihong, a prisoner, slapped my face. My nose started bleeding. Zhang Yantong, a section chief of the prison who mainly works on brainwashing, and Li Yan, the team lead of the Seventh Team, immediately held a meeting with the entire team, and the team leads of the other six teams, to criticize me. Before they left work, the two leaders said that no one should beat me or curse me.

But after the team leads left, Zhang Hongxia took me to a small warehouse. Song Shiwen, the head of the prisoners who has since been released, Song Xia, the Team Leader of the Second Team of the Seventh Branch, and Chen Jingbo, a prisoner of the First Team of the Seventh Branch who has also been released, had been waiting for a long time. Chen Jingbo and Song Wenxia slapped my face. Song Shiwen hit my head with a broom handle. Seeing that I would not be "transform" after about three hours, Song Shiwen ordered Chen to insert the tip of a safety pin under my fingernails. I turned away, and was pierced about twelve times. Seeing that I still would not give in, they called in Li Lihong and Feng Dazhi, both prisoners of the Seventh Team and the Seventh Branch. Li helped Chen to hold me down on the floor. I could not bear it.



Inserting the tip of a safety pin into the fingernail

On the night of April 17, Li Shuping and Fu Ying from the Seventh Team and the Seventh Branch were brutally beaten. We reported these incidents to section chief Zhang, asking him to look into this and resolve it. But Ma Xiaomei and Gao Shufen, the prisoners who carried out the violence, and Liu Fengyuan and Xiao Wei, who were on guard for them, would not take any responsibility.

Starting in October 2004, Falun Gong practitioners were forced to work overtime for six weeks. Under the unbearable pressure we tried to negotiate with the team leaders, but it was to no avail. We then went on strike to protest the illegal torture in the prison. During that time the amount of work in the prison was tremendous.

We heard that two young girls (said to be prisoners) in the Third Branch "committed suicide." Later we found out that they were actually Falun Gong practitioners who were beaten to death, and the prisoners gave false testimony. During the past year, this happened a lot. There are unspeakable details behind each "suicide" case.

In January 2005, Falun Gong practitioners Zhang Lihua and Chen Yuzhi went on hunger strikes after they were locked up in small cells for raising the issue of forced labor with the team leaders. Falun Gong practitioners had many discussions with their team leaders, asking for their release. Yet by March the two practitioners had still not been released. Chen Yuzhi was forced to stand for a long time for refusing to do forced labor. On April 16 they were forced to work overtime again, starting 6:00 a.m. and not finishing until 11:00 p.m. Three days later they worked through the entire night. Chen talked to team leader Li Ying about it, and refused to work. Song Yan hit Chen. Chen reported the beating to the team leader, but was ignored. The next day, Song Yan hit Chen again. Later Chen Yuzhi was sent to a small cell for punishment. Falun Gong practitioners asked the team leader and the section chief for her release, but she was not released. Liu Xia of the Eighth Branch was likewise sent to a small cell around August or September last year and has been locked up there ever since.

Li Sen is the new prison warden. Some Falun Gong practitioners wrote to him, but were brutally beaten by the prisoners as a result. Newly imprisoned practitioners are always cursed, beaten, tied up, and dragged along the floor. Many practitioners gave in, as they could not bear the torture. The prison deducts 7000 yuan from new prisoners in the name of daily necessities. For example, 360 yuan of the 420 I had with me was taken, and some of the daily items are not necessary.

Everyone says that the prison is like hell, with a huge amount of labor. The work schedule in the prison is 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., with overtime to 11:00 p.m. On some special occasions, prisoners work all through the night. What has been told to the outside is that the prisoners work a schedule of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. During the Spring Festival in 2004, the Eighth Branch and the Ninth Branch did not give the prisoners any time off. Moreover, the prisoners worked all through the night.

The guards in the prison also abuse their authority by fining prisoners. Because the prisoners of the Seventh Team did not meet production quotas due to the short timeline, section chief Hu Xin ordered that everyone be fined 50 yuan. There are over 50 people in the team. The amount totaled 2,500 yuan. Every time customer orders were filled, an additional amount was produced and sold internally to prisoners, and the guards pocketed the extra profits. In addition, guards in other branches physically torture those who cannot finish their assignments. Some prisoners choose to commit suicide or to be locked up to avoid physical torture. They'd rather give up their points toward reducing their terms. The brutality of the physical torture is evident.

Falun Gong Practitioners' Noble Actions in China



71-year-old Practitioner Went to Beijing Ten Times to Appeal for Falun Gong

By a practitioner from China

I am 71 years old. I started practicing Falun Gong on April 3, 1998. Since the persecution of Falun Gong started on July 20, 1999, I have continually gone to Beijing to appeal for Falun Gong.

Once, I was sent to a detention center. The detention guard asked me to report to the interrogation room and give them information. I did not cooperate. While in the room, I insisted on doing the Falun Gong exercises. They handcuffed me and put me in a detention cell where two other Falun Gong practitioners were already handcuffed.

On October 4, 2001, I went to Tiananmen Square to unfold a Falun Gong banner. I was arrested by the Beijing local police. On the afternoon of that same day, my son and grandson picked me up from the police station. The Falun Gong banner was returned to me.

In 2002, after I read Teacher's new article, "Look at Things with Righteous Thoughts," I took some truth clarifying VCDs and an urgent appeal letter and went to visit the head of my work to clarify the truth about Falun Gong. They sent me to the county detention center. When they asked for my name, I simply declared that I was a Falun Gong practitioner. At the time my mind was very righteous. They did not continue with their questions, but asked me to be calm and told me that they knew what I wanted to say.

I was later sentenced to one and a half years of forced labor, but was not actually sent to the labor camp.

On May 3, when noon came, they locked me to a large board for torture. I gathered all my strength and shouted, "Our Teacher is good. Falun Dafa is good." Then they threatened that they would sentence me to 3 years of forced labor instead of one and a half years. I replied, "I will not even serve 3 days of my term. My Teacher is taking care of his disciples all the way to the end."

Eventually, I was released and sent back home. The authorities hired people and paid them 3,000 yuan to monitor all my activities. I continued posting "Falun Dafa is good" flyers.

I made 12 Falun emblems out of colored cloth. A fellow practitioner helped me make a lotus flower which I am waiting to present to my Teacher.

From Fearful to Fearless

By a Falun Gong practitioner from Hebei Province, China

Since July 20, 1999, Jiang Zemin's regime has used its absolute power over the media, government, police and military, attempting to eliminate Falun Dafa through coercion and lies.

One night in July of 1999, I went to an exercise site to practice Falun Gong. Many practitioners at the site shared their understandings about going to Beijing to appeal for the right to practice Falun Gong. Someone volunteered to help organize the trip for practitioners who wished to go by providing a signup sheet. I signed a fake name due to a strong attachment to fear. At the time I realized that it was not right, however, my fear was so strong that I could not overcome it.

The persecution intensified over time. One day the manager at my work unit said, "Hand in all your Falun Dafa books to the police department." I knew that I could not give up my beloved books, but in my heart I was terrified. That night I felt so miserable that I could not sleep at all.

The next day, the manager said to me, "If you do not want to hand in your books, then you have to go to the police department." I cried while telling him how much I had benefited--spiritually and physically--from practicing Falun Dafa. He sighed and said that the request had come from higher authorities and that he had no choice. He suggested maybe I could select a few "not-so-important" books to hand in. I told him that every book is important. I cherish Master's books more than my own life. However, in the end, I handed in one book.

Through continual Fa-study and by participating in Fa-validating activities, I noticed my righteous thoughts becoming stronger, and my attachment to fear becoming weaker.

One day I went to a city to pick up Falun Dafa truth clarifying materials. On my way back home, I had just stepped off the train, when all of a sudden several policemen surrounded me. I did not know that I had dropped my train ticket. At that moment, I thought that they had probably discovered my truth materials, yet I was very calm. I thought, "I am Master's disciple and I am doing the most righteous thing in the world. None of you can scare me." Then one of the policeman said, "Pick up your paper from the ground." I looked down where he was pointing and saw my ticket.

Today, no matter whether I am driving or walking, I always look for chances to tell people the truth or explain more about the *Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party* published by *The Epoch Times* newspaper. I also utilize the addresses in my work unit's

telephone directory to mail out truth-clarifying materials. Once, I left a piece of mail on the desk in the mailroom. The office manager recognized my handwriting and sought me out. Then he asked me to write a guarantee statement. He also threatened to stop paying my salary and fire my son. He said he would also ask my daughter's work place to fire her.

Around 9 a.m. the same day, my son came home and told me he received a notice from his work unit telling him not to report for work any more. I was quite calm at that moment and said to my son, "Do not worry, I will find a way for you to drive a taxi." I understood that this was not just humans persecuting my family; it was interference from the old forces in other dimensions. I started sending forth righteous thoughts. Around 3 p.m., the office manager and three others came to my house and said, "If you want to practice, you can do so at home. Do not contact outside people. We will write a guarantee statement for you." I said, "What you write has nothing to do with me." I started to clarify the facts about the fake stories and slanderous broadcasts on state television. I also told them about how Falun Dafa has spread to more than 60 countries and about Jiang Zemin, Luo Gan, and other high-level Chinese officials being sued in countries around the world. Before they left they said, "OK, your son can come to work tomorrow and you will get your salary as well."

My general environment is very friendly now. Managers at my work unit often ask me for Falun Dafa materials and many of my former co-workers are now Falun Dafa practitioners. The chief of the local civil administration bureau, the head of the examination section at the procurator's office, and the chief of the detention center have become new practitioners. In order to save my parents, relatives and friends in my hometown, I went back this February during Chinese New Year. I clarified the truth whenever I saw a gathering of people. I also brought flyers and DVDs, which many people were happy to take. Some actually fought for the DVDs, so I told them to pass them on to their friends and relatives after they finished watching them, and not to destroy them. Sometimes at midnight, I went out in the cold wind and post truthclarifying signs on the electricity poles along both sides of the road.

Clarifying the Truth to the Plainclothes Police Who Followed Me

By a practitioner in Jinan Province

I am 75 years old. When I was arrested in August 2004, I was able to escape later due to my righteous thoughts. A few days ago, a practitioner cautioned us on the Minghui Website (the Chinese version of Clearwisdom) that someone was following us. I was also told that my phone was being monitored. Of course, the practitioner's intent was good--to ensure our safety and that we were walking on the right Fa rectification path.

In all these years of clarifying the truth I have been under surveillance many times. I secretly treat the people who monitor me as people who should be saved. I am using the compassion that a practitioner should possess to clarify the truth to them. Most of them have been moved and have given up their evil deeds and become righteous.

Last year a young woman was following me, but she couldn't keep up with me, so a man replaced her. In fact, I realized he was there every time, but I pretended that I didn't know. Once he followed me to a village. I got out of the car and was joking in front of dozens of people, "I am a general now, there are always people following me." He couldn't stand it and came to say, "You dropped something, and I have brought it for you." I said, "Thanks!" Another time he was following me and I said, "I need go buy some meat. You can come with me!" He was dumbfounded and went back to his office. I heard him say to a soldier, "She is amazing. I couldn't even keep up with her".

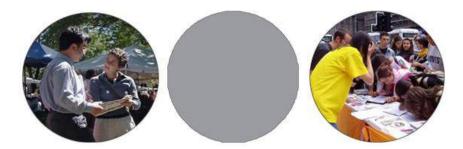
In all these years, there were always people following me, especially on sensitive days. I kept clarifying the truth to them and clarifying the truth in front of them to other people. They seemed to understand, because they just listened and didn't try to stop me. Once I was followed on my way to a technology market. I said, "You watch my car, I need go up and buy some things." He really did watch my car for an hour!

I also clarified the truth on a bus. I felt that as a Dafa disciple in the Fa rectification period, I needed to abandon fear and righteously validate Dafa. Everything then would naturally be done well.

The police took away my phone card and my senior certificate. I went to retrieve my phone card, and, at the same time, I went to clarify the truth to the police again and again. I clarified the truth to everyone I met.

In September 2004, the police ransacked my home. They took away many Dafa books and materials. I went to retrieve these materials from another police station. Meanwhile, I clarified the truth to them. I said, "You guys steal our Dafa disciples' materials and follow me. That is illegal. You are behaving like gangsters. Jiang and the Chinese Communist Party have deprived people of their basic rights. People shouldn't accept it. Right now about one million people have already quit the Communist Party. This is the best proof. You should wake up and pay attention to what is going on." I clarified the truth again and again. Later, the police had a better understanding, and they started being kind to me. They never again had the attitude they did when they broke into my home.

People Awaken to the Truth



A Party Secretary at a City Labor Bureau Resigns from the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)

By Ailing

I have a classmate who is a party secretary at a city labor bureau. I called her from overseas to wish her a happy New Year during the Chinese New Year. After exchanging greetings, I clarified the truth to her about Falun Dafa and how it had spread overseas and was now practiced in over 50 countries. I also told her about *The Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party*. She knew I was speaking the truth and she accepted what I had to say.

She said that she had read the Falun Gong books, but had not understood them. After the persecution started in July 1999, the city committee required that all CCP members turn in their Falun Gong books. She did so without knowing what it was all about. She told me about a Falun Gong practitioner who worked at her company that had been sent to a forced labor camp for two years. She spoke with this practitioner and asked him why he wouldn't give up his belief, and went to prison rather than give up his belief. The practitioner clarified the truth to her about Falun Gong and why the government persecuted it, but at that time, she still could not quite understand it. My classmate said to me, "So many people learn Falun Gong, and the government persecutes them so brutally. But they are not afraid of being jailed or giving up their lives. They continue to believe in the teachings of Falun Gong in spite of such severe persecution. There must be a reason. They must know something or have seen something. Otherwise they could not be so solid under such severe persecution."

I said, "You are right. You should find out why they are so firm in their beliefs. You should read *Zhuan Falun* to find the answer to this mystery." She said, "Yes, I should. I really regret that I turned in my Falun Gong books. I wish I had saved at least one book." I said, "I can give one to you." She said, "Really? That would be great." Later I sent her truth clarification CDs, Dafa music, CDs produced by FGM TV, Falun Gong exercise music, a Falun Gong exercise instruction CD, a Falun pin, and other Falun Gong books, plus the "*Nine commentaries on the Communist Party*" in two batches. She was extremely happy.

Recently during the long May 1st holiday in China, I called her again. I told her that the number of people who had resigned from the CCP had reached one million, and in several big cities in the world, including New York, there were large-scale parades supporting the one million people who had resigned from the party, and encouraging others to do so as well. This encouraged her to make the decision herself to resign. She said she had not believed in the CCP for a long time and that no one believed in it any longer. Even the officials just use the CCP to their own ends.

I asked her if she had read the "*Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party*." She said, "Not yet. But I have read the 'Solemn Declarations' from the Epoch Times." I told her that she should read the "*Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party*." She replied, "I want to first finish *Zhuan Falun* at least once, then I will read the commentaries, and then the rest of the Falun Gong books."

Later she told me about another incident. A few days earlier, a party secretary at her company told her that one person at her branch had not submitted the party membership fees for several months. That person told her, "If the CCP's members were the pioneers that they claim they are, then the standard of CCP would be very high. But the CCP is so corrupt now. Besides, I have not reached the CCP's standard. When I reach that standard and CCP is not corrupt any more, I will pay the party membership fee." The party secretary asked my classmate for advice. She said, "You cannot force people to pay the party's membership fee." My classmate told me secretly, "Based on what you said, he must have resigned from CCP. Otherwise why would he suddenly refuse to pay party membership fees?" I asked her in return whether she wanted to resign too. She said, "Yes, I want to resign too, and I want to do it now." I said I could help her to make the announcement, but she must make the choice fully in her heart. She said, "No problem. CCP is so rotten now, who would want to be a part of it?"

After Reading the Nine Commentaries and Understanding the Truth, a County Official Starts to Protect Practitioners

Xiao Ming's mother practices Falun Gong. Recently, he started to read the Nine *Commentaries on the Communist Party* (hereafter referred to as the *Nine Commentaries*) and came to understand more about the Communist Party's evil nature. He also started to practice Falun Dafa and clarify the truth to the public. He learned how to break through the internet blockade and download information from the Minghui website (Chinese version of Clearwisdom.net), which he later distributed publicly. Unfortunately, his computer encountered a security problem and the Public Security police located him through it. The police went to his home attempting to arrest him. His mother firmly refused to let the police arrest her son and clarified the truth to them. The leaders of his workplace who had read the Nine Commentaries and understood the truth came to his home after learning the news. Together, the leaders and the Dafa practitioner's family resisted the persecution. In addition, a county official who had also read the Nine Commentaries came to stop the police from taking away the practitioner. After learning of the police attempt to arrest this practitioner, the local practitioners informed each other and sent forth righteous thoughts to eliminate the evil elements that persecute the practitioner.

One local practitioner had several family members who work in the county party committee and People's Congress. Through the practitioner's patient truth-clarification, the family members learned the truth and also watched the *Nine Commentaries* VCD. Another local practitioner had family members who work on the police force. After watching the *Nine Commentaries* VCD, they also came to understand the truth. With the help of the practitioner, they published their statements to quit the Chinese Communist Party and its affiliated organizations

Later the police again went to Xiao Ming's home trying to arrest him. After hearing the news, his workplace leaders and the county official mentioned above again came to his rescue and successfully stopped the police from taking him away.

Newly Awakened Person Says, "I Want to Read Falun Gong Material"

I do not practice Falun Gong. Why then do I want to read Falun Gong material? The reasons are very simple.

1. The Chinese Communist Party is blocking information. Why are they blocking information? They must be scared of the truth. There must be something that they are afraid of. Otherwise, why would they block information? When they block information from me and prevent me from knowing it, it makes me think that it must have something to do with me. The tighter their information blockade is, the more important it must be for me to know, like a matter of life and death. Therefore, even if I have to break through layer after layer of this information blockade, I still want to find out the truth. This is wisdom.

2. Many people agree that Falun Gong practitioners are good people. I don't practice Falun Gong, but I am also a good person.

What makes someone a good person? In the midst of rumors, deceptively reported situations, being intimidated by power, and good people being persecuted, a person who can endure the pressure to learn the truth, care about them and sympathize with them, think of them, or even stand on their side to oppose the persecution--that is truly a good person. True gold is revealed and a good or bad person is recognized through this test. As a human, one has to be of good quality.

3. Some people have said, "All of what you say is correct, but they [the Chinese Communist Party] are too strong and tough."

That's not how I look at it at all. There used to be a Roman Empire that was very strong and powerful, and nobody thought that it was heading for destruction. Nevertheless, it became so arrogant that it persecuted Christians. In the end, this gigantic empire simply collapsed. It is indeed a lesson. Everything goes through a process of formation, development and destruction. When it is strong, it is heading toward decline. If it tries hard to look strong while declining, then it is trying to destroy itself ahead of time. The Soviet Union was a superpower nation, yet the Soviet Communist Party disintegrated in 7 days. Ceausescu of Romania raised his right hand and shouted, "The Romanian Communist Party will rule for one hundred years!" Yet, a few days later he was executed. When the outer appearance looks strong, it is just like the last radiance of the setting sun. If it becomes even more vile and violent, it is doomed. So, hurry up and get far away from it. This is from experience.

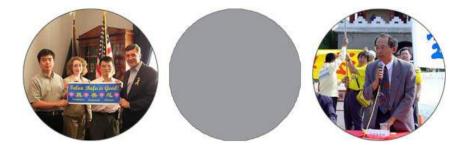
This is a sharing of wisdom and experience.

Actually, I have also seen this: the farce-like performance of the so-called "selfimmolation," which was concocted by Jiang and the CCP, was not meant to target Falun Gong practitioners. Instead, it was meant to target those of us who do not practice Falun Gong. Look! Falun Gong practitioners are not allowed to kill or commit suicide, and they say that it is a sin to commit suicide. Therefore, as soon as that farce was on display, people knew that it was a frame-up. You simply cannot con people at all! I think the CCP evil cult is definitely targeting us and taking advantage of those of us who are not Falun Gong practitioners. We do not know what Falun Gong is about. That's why what they are truly after is to deceive and murder people who do not practice Falun Gong.

That's why I want to read Falun Gong material. Is it by chance that such a big incident has occurred at the end of the warped Red Dynasty? Nobody can stop me from finding out the truth.

Life is mine and it is most precious. I want to be a man who understands the truth and is responsible to myself.

Voice of Justice



Governor of the State of Kentucky Proclaims Falun Dafa Week

Proclamation

by

Ernie Fletcher

Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky

Whereas, Falun Dafa, also known as Falun Gong, is a peaceful and healthy selfimprovement practice rooted in ancient Chinese culture that consists of five gentle exercises, including meditation, and centers around the universal principal of Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance; and

Whereas, The teachings of Falun Dafa, through meditation and spiritual cultivation, are perceived as an effective means of improving overall mental and physical health, as well as reducing stress; and

Whereas, Master Li Hongzhi, the founder of Falun Dafa, has helped hundreds of millions across the world improve their health and moral standards as well as deepen their understanding of life, humanity, and the universe, through the practice of Falun Dafa; and

Whereas, Transcending culture and racial boundaries, Falun Dafa has reached the lives of more than 100 million people in over 60 countries, including many people in the United States, of different ages, professions, and racial backgrounds; and

Whereas, All Falun Dafa activities, including classes and practices, are offered by volunteers and are open to the public and are free of charge; and

Whereas, The persecution of practitioners of Falun Dafa in China is an attack on basic human rights and should not be tolerated anywhere in the world;

Now, Therefore, I Ernie Fletcher, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim May 15-21, 2005 as

Falun Dafa Week

in Kentucky.

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Frankfort this 11th day of May, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Five and in the 213th year of the Commonwealth.

Erine Fletcher (signature)

Governor



US Congressman Recognizes World Falun Dafa Day as well as Practitioners and Founder Mr. Li Hongzhi for Their Courage and Perseverance

A Proclamation Recognizing

The World Falun Dafa Day Celebration

As being a Momentous Occasion for New York's Tenth Congressional District

Whereas, the universal principles of Falun Dafa, Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance are supported by kind-hearted people around the world and have helped hundreds of New Yorkers improve the quality of their lives; and,

Whereas, Falun Dafa promotes the cultivation of body, mind, and spirit through these principles, gentle exercises and meditation, bring its practitioners better health and higher moral standards since it was brought to he public in 1992 by Mr. Li Hongzhi; and

Whereas, Falun Dafa practitioners worldwide are joyously celebrating the 13th Anniversary of Falun Dafa's introduction to the public, and the 6th Anniversary of World Falun Dafa Day in New York on May 13th, 2005 and will hold celebrations and festivities around the New York area and call for all to help stop the persecution of Falun Dafa practitioners in China; and

Whereas, transcending the racial and cultural boundaries, Falun Dafa embraces people of all ages, from all walks of life and religious affiliation, and is practiced by over 100 million people in over 60 countries around the world; and

Be it Resolved, That on behalf of the people of New York's Tenth Congressional district I am honored to recognize the World Falun Dafa Day Celebration and its founder Mr. Li Hongzhi for their courage and perseverance.

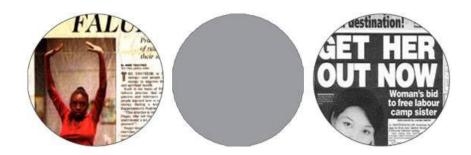
Signed on this day, the Thirteenth of May, Two Thousand and Five,

Edolphus "Ed" Towns (signature)

Member of Congress



Media Reports and Opinions



Report of the U.N. Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief Condemns CCP's Control of Religion and Censorship of Internet

The report of Special Rapporteur Asma Jahangir on freedom of religion or belief for the 61st session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights exposed and condemned the fact that the Chinese communist regime abuses party-appointed committees to control traditional religious activities or belief. As a result, all religious organizations have to be led by the party in order to be legitimized.

Meanwhile, the United Nations condemned the Chinese Government's Golden Shield Internet firewall which denies access to religious websites. It pointed out that the Chinese government abuses the firewall to censor internet information and deprive people of their freedom of expression. The internet censorship not only prevents people in Mainland China from accessing international discussions on some issues on China, but it also suppresses those individuals and groups in China who have different opinions from that of the government. The "Golden Shield Internet Firewall" marks the reversion of China's human rights status and the international community should pay close attention to this.

In China, although there are various religious beliefs, all of these organizations are administrated and controlled by the Chinese Communist Party's dictatorship. It appears that there are Taoist temples, Buddhist temples and churches, but believers there are all under the party branches' surveillance. This has brought attention from the United Nations and international human rights organizations.

Homepage for Human Rights Documents can be found at:

http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?m=86

The 2005 report by Asma Jahangir, Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, can be found at:

http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G05/129/13/PDF/G0512913.pdf?OpenElement

Excerpt of the report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief

The report stated, "Reports indicated that the Party-appointed committees, also called the mosque's 'democratic management committee', must conduct regular sessions for religious professionals and lay persons disseminating legal regulations and Party policies. Such committees allegedly oversee activities in places of worship and are also known to exist in Tibetan Buddhist temples." The report continued, "Finally, it was alleged that national religious committees, which form part of the administration of every city, also maintain control over the lives of believers. Communities may only function once they have registered with the national religious committee, and their leaders have to be drawn from people whose candidacy has been approved by the authorities. The leaders of all religious communities reportedly have to attend meetings of the national religious committees during which officials explain to them what policy they should pursue with believers.

According to the report, the Special Rapporteur also brought to the Government's attention information she had received following what was believed to be the largest survey to date on the extent to which the Chinese Government's Golden Shield Internet firewall denies access to religious websites, certain religious websites appear to be consistently blocked, although Chinese Internet users do have access to a range of websites based outside the country that cover religious themes in Chinese and/or other languages. The tests that led to this conclusion were reportedly carried out from mid-May to mid-July 2004 and monitored Internet access in a variety of locations in China. The websites to which access is reportedly automatically barred included those relating to the persecution of Christians and other religious faiths, the Dalai Lama, the Falun Gong [spiritual] movement, the Muslim Uigurs of Xinjiang and a number of Catholic sites, including the website of the Hong Kong diocese and the Divine Word Missionaries in Taiwan. However, the web sites in European languages covering religious freedom issues, including those covering repression within China, were not blocked.

It was further reported that, in an alleged attempt to help remove "unacceptable" content from the web, the authorities launched a website in June 2004 encouraging users to report "illegal" sites, including those on religious cult activity. Reports indicated that while "reporters" were assured of the confidentiality of the information they provided, they were warned that they would bear personal responsibility for reporting erroneous information.

German Newspaper: Jiang Renzheng Sentenced to Forced Labor Camp

Jiang Renzhen, Deported to China from Wurzburg, was Sentenced to Forced Labor Camp by Chinese authority for Practicing Falun Gong

On April 12, the German newspaper *The Main Post* reported that what many people were most concerned about indeed happened: phone calls from China said that Jiang Renzheng, who was deported to China from Wurzburg, was sentenced to three years in a forced labor camp. The only reason for his detention is that he participated in Falun Gong activities in Germany.



Jiang Renzheng, Guo Rui and their two children.

The report said Jiang Renzheng and his wife Guo Rui were deported by Wurzburg authorities along with their two children on the 7th of March after their application for refugee status was rejected. Their lawyer could not reverse the deportation decision, although he filed an appeal to the Wurzburg Administrative Court.

Ms. Tang of the Falun Gong Association in Wurzburg was shocked by what happened to this family. Before the deportation decision, she reminded the court about the severity of the persecution against Falun Gong in China. Jiang Renzheng began practicing Falun Gong in Germany and expressed his intention to not give up the practice. After the deportation, Ms. Tang kept contact with the Jiang family and told *The Main Post* about the misfortune of this family. When they arrived at an airport in China their passports were confiscated by the Chinese authorities and their personal details were noted.

Two weeks later, Jiang Renzheng was summoned by the Bureau of National Security. He was pressured many times during the interrogation to withdraw from Falun Gong. According to Ms. Tang's account, Jiang's father was summoned during the interrogation to help force his son to recant. However, Jiang expressed his determination to the people at the Bureau of National Security that he would not sign [any paper renouncing Falun Gong] even if they killed him.

On the 8th of April, a big change happened in the Jiang family. Jiang Renzheng was taken away by five policemen and put into a forced labor camp in Benxi. According to the Bureau of National Security, Jiang was sentenced to three years in the labor camp because he participated in Falun Gong activities.

Kyodo News: Rights violations rampant in China despite reforms: Amnesty International

(Kyodo) -- Repressions of freedoms are still rampant in China despite the insertion of human rights as a new clause to its Constitution, London-based Amnesty International said Wednesday.

"Human rights defenders and grassroots activists continued to be arbitrarily detained or put under house arrest during politically sensitive periods in China," the annual report issued by the watchdog says in its section on China.

Religious groups, such as Falun Gong, unauthorized Christian groups, and the so-called "separatists" in Xinjiang, continue to be the subject of repression, it says.

The report highlights the arbitrary system of reeducation through labor under which no trial or due process is made available for detainees. Torture and ill-treatment are reportedly commonplace in these camps.

China also accounted for 3,400 out of the 3,797 cases of prisoner execution reported worldwide in 2004, according to the report, adding that the unofficial estimate of executions in China alone last year is as high as 10,000.

In March 2004, Beijing inserted a new clause which stipulates "the state respects and protects human rights" into its Constitution. But Amnesty International said the government has failed to introduce necessary institutional reforms, severely compromising the enforcement of these measures in practice.

The group also expressed concerns about the erosion of freedoms for Hong Kong's people.

It said the interpretation by Beijing's National People's Congress on Hong Kong's miniconstitution, the Basic Law, in April 2004 has restricted the territory's freedom to push for political reforms.

The ruling eliminated any chances for a universal suffrage for Hong Kong's political chief in 2007 and its lawmaking body, the Legislative Council in 2008.

Irish Times Reports on Councilors Joining Rights Protest as Cork is Twinned with Shanghai

By Barry Roche Southern Correspondent

According to a report from Irish Times on May 20 by southern correspondent Barry Roche, a ceremony twinning Cork and Shanghai was held on May 19. But the twinning ceremony was not without controversy, however, as four members of Cork City Council joined a protest outside Cork City Hall to highlight human rights abuses in China.

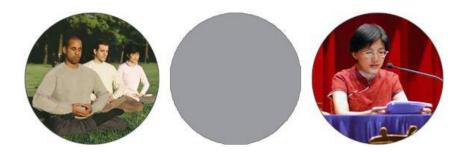
The report states, among those protesting outside the ceremony was Falun Gong practitioner Zhao Ming (30), a native of Beijing who was imprisoned for almost two years and tortured with electric shocks by the Chinese authorities when he returned to Beijing in 2000 for a holiday after studying in Dublin.

"Of course for two countries to show friendship for each other is good but they are coming here as if nothing is happening. That is not the case - more than 2,000 death cases have been recorded among Falun Gong practitioners in the labor camps and prisons in recent years."

According to the report, the Green Party's Councilor Chris O'Leary strongly condemned Cork City Council for arranging the twinning.

"The regime in China is very intolerant of those who practice different religion, those who have HIV, anybody who is outspoken, the right of people to associate - and here we are signing a twinning arrangement with a Chinese city. I think it sends out the entirely wrong signal," he said.

Falun Gong Practitioners' Personal Experiences



After I Began Practicing Falun Dafa, I No Longer Had Miscarriages

My daughter is 6 years old now. I had four miscarriages before conceiving her. At that time I had numerous health problems like arthritis, bad colds, toothaches and stomachaches with symptoms like chills even though I was sweating in a heated bed in the summer.

After the fourth miscarriage, my husband and I decided to focus on restoring my health rather than have children. However, I got pregnant again by accident, which brought both joy and worries to my husband. I warned him that my body might not be able to carry the child. Into the sixth week of the pregnancy, I staid in bed because my abdomen felt heavy while standing for a long time.

I began reading <u>*Zhuan Falun*</u> when my mother-in-law, a practitioner, suggested that Falun Gong would be good for me. My husband preferred Chinese medicine as a remedy for avoiding a miscarriage, but my mother-in-law said that Falun Gong could ensure my health and that of my unborn baby. This being my fifth pregnancy, and the possibility of my health worsening in the event of another D and C after another miscarriage worried me, as Chinese medicine had had little effect on me. By now, I had little faith in any medical treatment or medicine.

After reading *Zhuan Falun* once, I went to the group study at the practice site for the first time on the evening of January 2 (Chinese lunar calendar), 1999. As I listened carefully practitioners' experience sharing, after about one hour I felt something rotating in my lower abdomen for about 50 minutes. My first thought was that it might be the baby, but I was less than 2 months pregnant (too early to feel the baby kicking) and I had never previously had this kind of feeling. After some time I understood the rotation to be clockwise for a while and then counter-clockwise for some time and the experience in my lower abdomen was wondrous beyond words. While going to the practice site, I had to hold my abdomen with my hands, but on the way back I was able to walk home easily and effortlessly after two hours of staying at the site.

When I see others suffering from any disease or in trouble, I always feel like telling them: "If you practice Falun Gong, you will be all right. Why not give it a try?"