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## News and Events from Around the World



### Three Packed Performances in Poland

On Saturday, March 28, 2009, the New York-based Shen Yun (Divine) Performing Arts staged two performances in Warsaw, Poland. Even though it was the first time that Shen Yun visited Poland, the three performances on the 27<sup>th</sup> and the 28<sup>th</sup> attracted people from all walks of life, including Members of Parliament, Vice Governors, professors, art VIPs, company directors and Chinese people. People were moved by the pure kindness and pure beauty of the shows. Similar to the first two performances, the Saturday night show was sold out.



On the evening of March 28, 2009, Shen Yun Performing Arts staged a third show to a packed theatre in Warsaw

# CEO of the National Bank of Poland: Enjoyed the combination of peace and movements

Mr. Jerzy Pruski, the CEO of the National Bank of Poland, attended the evening performance on March 28 with his wife, Zolanta. During the intermission, they commented that the show was extraordinary, an interesting cultural feast.

Zolanta is the head of auditing at the National Bank. She said, "It is rare to see a performance as rich in content. Naturally it aroused great interest. For us, Shen Yun was an interesting cultural feast. We have always wanted to see what Chinese classical dance was about."

"The music was very interesting, sweet and smooth. We did not expect the dances could so effortlessly combine inner peace with movements. The same with the music. It gave you a sense of movement, yet at the same time calmness. We enjoyed it very much."

Mr. Pruski smiled and said, "I share my wife's feelings. I completely agree with what she said."

I admire Shen Yun from the bottom of my heart



Mr. Zabiello admires Shen Yun artists' performances

During the intermission at the evening performance on March 28, an elderly gentleman with tears in his eyes attracted attention.

Mr. Zabiello spent most of his life fighting against tyranny. When the Nazis occupied Poland during the World War II, he was a member of AK, the famous underground anti-Nazi organization. When the communists took hold of Poland, he joined the anticommunist Solidarnosc. Due to his background, he paid special attention to the piece that depicted the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) persecution of Falun Gong. He said, "I thought a long time about that piece. Chinese people are suffering great pain. Without a doubt, a normal society will arrive, like to other countries in the world. The totalitarian government is alien to Chinese culture. I sincerely hope Chinese people will enjoy freedom and democracy."

Having experienced a totalitarian communist regime, he "Hopes China will get better and better just like Poland. The situation in Poland was once very similar to that in China."

Mr. Zabiello, an architect by profession, expressed his admiration for Shen Yun, "Obviously the performance was excellent! The colors were so beautiful. I did not know China had such an advanced culture. I admired the show from the bottom of my heart and enjoyed it tremendously."

He said that even though he could not completely understand oriental culture, he was very much fascinated, not because it was popular but because it was a place inhabited by beautiful people. He added, "I have read that Chinese culture is very unique. We all came from there."

Finally he mentioned an ancient prophesy, "When the Chinese people come it will be good for us." Mr. Zabiello hoped it will come true.

#### Polish Tenor: Sore throat was miraculously cured during the performance

"I was very lucky to have seen such a perfect performance. The dances were elegant and wonderful. The singers were all marvelous!" "They were outstanding: tenor, baritone and soprano. I admire them, especially the tenor, as I am a tenor myself. The singing was loud and powerful from the beginning to the end. It was very professional."

He said, "Next year I will invite everyone that I know to see the show."

"Five thousand years of Chinese culture is well worth getting to know. The Shen Yun performance included many legends and ethnic folk dances from various regions."

He also said happily, "Perhaps it was fate that I had a sore throat from before Thursday, which disappeared miraculously in the theatre. I had never expected anything like this."

Mr. Jurkiewicz concluded, "I wish Shen Yun a successful European tour. If they would remember Poland, I hope they would visit our country again. I sincerely wish them every success. Hope this will not be their last time in Poland."

#### **Ballet dancer: The show was flawless**

A Japanese ballet dancer since the age of eight, Ikego, told the reporter excitedly, "I loved the show. It was perfect to me. As a ballet dancer I know very well that the performers had superb skills and exquisite movements. The Shen Yun's performance was flawless to me."

Having seen the matinee performance on March 28<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Ikego could not wait to share her joy. During the interview, she stressed time and again how perfect the show was.

Ms. Ikego said that she knew a few Chinese stories from before, such as the *Monkey King*, which she enjoyed very much. She said, "Their skills were superb. As a ballet dancer, I know how difficult the movements were. But they completed them so beautifully, which was the reason why I enjoyed it so much." Ms. Ikego also said that she would tell her friends.

#### Chinese audience member: This is the essence of traditional culture

Mr. Wang said, "I felt great. My favorite was the classical dances. The ethnic dances were also good. I felt a bit nostalgic afterwards. While cultures are being globalized, I thought it important for each nation to learn more about their own traditional culture,

which can not be discarded. Traditional culture is important. That's why I loved Shen Yun."

Mr. Wang emphasized, "There is a spiritual element in traditional culture, which goes beyond the material exterior. Shen Yun means you can see in it divine beauty and charm, which is the essence of traditional culture."

Mrs. Huang (alias) who recently came to Poland to visit relatives said, "I was lucky to see a Chinese performance like this. It was great. Shen Yun presented five thousand years of Chinese history at a high caliber. We can not see programs like this in mainland. The Chinese New Year Gala (done by the CCP) is filled with advertisement for the Party."

"I loved the *Monkey King* and the piece that told the story of Jigong. They were very rich in content. The Shen Yun show had very high cultural and spiritual values," said Mrs. Huang.

### Officials in Vancouver Send Their Best Wishes to Shen Yun Performing Arts

As part of its 80-city world tour, Shen Yun Performing Arts is set to play seven shows at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre from April 3 to 8 in Vancouver, Canada.

Steven L. Point, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, was among the dozens of dignitaries from around the province to send greetings to *Shen Yun*.

Shen Yun brings to the ethnically diverse coastal city a splendid combination of classical Chinese dance, exquisite costumes, rousing drumming acts and a live orchestra--not to mention the spirit and essence of China's 5,000-year culture.



Steven L. Point, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia

"I am so pleased events like the Divine Performing Arts World Tour can bring people together to share their unique cultural heritage with others. The performing arts form an integral part of our Canadian society and bring a special dimension to our world. Music and dance can uplift us from our daily lives and bring us together in a way that allows us to share in the grandeur of the human experience. There is no communication barrier in these mediums, nor is there any way to misinterpret the message. That is the magic of the arts," wrote Point in a letter.

"This is an innovative and inspiring showcase of the best in classical Chinese dance and music. It is an extravagantly beautiful production, encompassing the rich customs and tradition and history of over 5,000 years of Chinese culture," said B.C. Senator Mobina Jaffer.

"As the show has travelled across our nation it has been embraced and adored by all Canadians. It has connected and educated its audience about China's inspired culture, reflecting the deep appreciation we feel for the multicultural tapestry that is Canada."

#### Four local MPs extended their best wishes

Alice Wong of Richmond, Bill Siksay of Burnaby Douglas, Peter Julian of Burnaby-New Westminster and Joyce Murray of Vancouver Quadra extended their best wishes to Shen Yun.

"I am delighted that this event will inspire the renewal of the long lost Chinese tradition and culture. The fusion of Chinese and Western classical music will be an excellent experience and I believe it will be a highlight of the evening well appreciated by the audience," said Wong.

"The elite company of dancers, singers, and musicians take their inspiration from ancient heroic legends and modern courageous tales, and their performance is a message of unification and appreciation of the rich blend of multicultural communities and values," said Julian.

Mary Polak, BC Minister of Healthy Living and Sport, and Kevin Falcon, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, sent greeting letters as well.



Mary Polak, BC Minister of Healthy Living and Sport

"This is a unique opportunity for the people of British Columbia to experience incorporation of the classic and legendary tales of Chinese culture which make this a performance not to be missed," said Polak.

## Falun Gong Human Rights Working Group Submits Report to UN: "Beijing 2008 Olympics Persecution 10,194 Case Records"

On March 5, 2009, the Falun Gong Human Rights Working Group (www.falunhr.org) submitted "The Beijing 2008 Olympics Persecution 10,194 Case Records" to the United Nations and each country's government. This list recorded those who became victims during the Beijing Olympics season, strong evidence exposing how the Chinese Communist regime escalated its human rights violations under the cover of "Olympic security."

People know that one of the promises the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) made to the West was to improve its human rights in return for hosting the Olympics. Nonetheless the CCP turned around and used the Olympics as an excuse to intensify its bloody suppression. The victim included Falun Gong practitioners, people appealing on behalf of personal causes, and human rights activists. Among these, Falun Gong practitioners have suffered the brunt of the onslaught. Their homes have been ransacked, and they have been arrested, detained, tortured, and even killed. The persecution perpetrated on the pretext of the Olympics has been a huge human rights disaster.

While limiting access to information, the CCP bribed foreigners with financial benefits and mislead mainstream media unclear about this disaster to influence democratic countries. Fortunately, some people who seek justice have been closely monitoring the persecution, and many human rights organizations have requested thorough investigations. But, they lack strong and supportive evidence. This list of 10,194 is truly damning evidence. The United Nations and other countries' human rights organizations will now be able to show how the CCP carried out its persecution under the guise of the Olympics.

The conclusion of the Records (Open Letter) states: "Only the number of Falun Gong practitioners being persecuted has exceeded ten thousand, many beaten to death within several hours of their arrest. Because of the information blockade, the true situation is much worse."

This open letter also pointed out that in April 2007, the Public Safety Ministry issued a secret document listing Falun Gong as one of the eleven groups to be strictly monitored and forbidden to participate at the Olympics. From June 2007 through when the Olympics ended in 2008, and beyond, the CCP continued arresting Falun Gong practitioners from their workplaces and from their homes, from their school dorms and classrooms. "It would have been impossible for them to threaten the Olympics from where they were. 'Ensure the safety of the Olympics' was only an excuse to further persecute Falun Gong."

This list only included the time period from late July 2007 to August 24, 2008, when the Olympics ended, when in fact, the persecution lasted until the end of the Special Olympics, September 22, 2008, and beyond. The detained practitioners received heavy sentences.

We want to emphasize that in no way can this list accurately reflect the degree of the persecution. Due to the restrictions on freedom of information and the blanketing of the persecution, many arrests that were revealed after October 2008 were not included in the list because all names were compiled before the beginning of September 2008. Some reports only contain estimated numbers. For instance, "on December 29, 2007, many practitioners' homes were ransacked in Aksu City, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region," "During the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress period in 2007, more than a dozen practitioners were arrested in Jiaozhou City, Shandong Province, but only seven names were revealed (http://minghui.ca/mh/articles/2007/12/31/169363.html). Because of the vagueness of the numbers, the number of practitioners can't be accurately calculated or listed.

Other examples include reports that could not be posted on the Clearwisdom website, such as "Secret Arrests I Recorded on Beijing Street." Someone discovered that "she," surname Li, was a Falun Gong practitioner from the Northeast region and was arrested on April 24, 2008. Before the witness had the chance to upload this information on the Clearwisdom website, he himself was arrested. Another Falun Gong practitioner witnessed police arresting several out-of-town practitioners from the Fuyuanmen Area in the Haidian District of Beijing, but failed to post this information on the Clearwisdom website. None of these victims were included on this list.

The list of victims' names collected by the Falun Gong Human Rights Working Group has been carefully compiled for accuracy. Practitioners in Mainland China risked their lives in order to send the information overseas. We deleted possible duplicate reports, but some practitioners were repeatedly arrested and detained during this time period, which is a phenomenon of the CCP persecution. In order to reflect the accuracy of the situation, we recorded these repeated arrests by times (per person).

The open letter specifically pointed out, "The information collected in this report is very hard to get, and many risked their lives and made great sacrifices to pass on this information. If this data can awaken those who have refused to listen to human rights calls or those officials who went to the Beijing Olympics, and make them rethink which side they want to stand on in history, then these sacrifices will be worthwhile."

The Falun Gong Human Rights Working Group has submitted this report to the United Nations Human Rights Organization, each countries' foreign ministry, and the world's large human rights organizations. We hope all who read this report treasure it, archive

it, and use it largely to expose the CCP's crimes, stop the persecution, and protect conscience, human rights, and justice for our human race.

Below are links to download the report:

Chinese version: http://www.falunhr.org/reports/PDFs/BeijingOlympicsPersecution\_ch1.pdf

English version: http://www.falunhr.org/reports/PDFs/BeijingOlympicsPersecution.pdf

## New York City: Mr. Chen Teng Rescued to the U.S.

On March 26, Chinese Falun Gong practitioner Chen Teng was rescued to the United States. He landed at JFK Airport at 11:50 a.m. and was greeted by members of Friends of Falun Gong and fellow practitioners. A United Nations refugee, Chen was accepted by the U.S. government and plans to live in New York. At the airport, Chen thanked the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the U.S. government, Friends of Falun Gong and all the kind-hearted people who helped him.

Chen, 20, is from Weifang City, Shandong Province. He started to practice Falun Gong when he was 7 years old together with his mother. Since the Chinese Communist regime started to persecute the practice, his mother Sun Xiaomei has been arrested six times, and his grandmother Zhou Chunmei and aunt Sun Xiaobo died in 1999 as a result of the persecution. Chen was detained twice when he was 11 and expelled from school when he was 12. The year after, he had to leave his home to avoid persecution. In the past six years, he has led a largely homeless life, sleeping outside and sustaining himself with whatever food he could find.

Chen said, "My mother was arrested six times. I was expelled from school when I was just twelve, and I have never been able to go back. I have not seen my mother in five years."



Chen Teng and Alan Adler, President of Friends of Falun Gong

Mr. Alan Adler, President of the nonprofit organization Friends of Falun Gong, greeted Chen at the airport. He thanked the U.S. government for accepting Chen so that he could be free of the Chinese Communist Party's persecution and enjoy freedom. "Because of the persecution, Chen was separated from his mother in his childhood and suffered from the pain of losing relatives. He was lucky to be able to flee China, and was granted UN refugee status in Thailand. In China, however, there are hundreds of thousands practitioners who are still being persecuted. I hope that the international community will help end the persecution," said Mr. Adler.

According to Chen, at least 97 practitioners have died during the persecution in his hometown of Weifang. Artist Zhou Ning, who once looked after Chen, was sentenced to prison for five years. Mr. Li Tianmin was incarcerated for four years and then sentenced to another nine years. At about the same time, Li's wife was sent to a labor camp for three years. In 2008, 162 practitioners in Weifang were arrested and sentenced to prison.

Chen said, "All of my suffering is a just a drop in the ocean. Hundreds of thousands of children of Falun Gong practitioners were deprived of their childhoods and families. We couldn't attend school and we lost family members... I hope that the persecution will soon end and we can reunite with our parents."

## **Facts of the Persecution**



### Ms. Ma Xiulan, 69, Dies Due to Abuse in Detention on March 16, 2009

Falun Gong practitioner Ms. Ma Xiulan, 69 years old, lived in Nanhai District, Foshan City, Guangdong Province. On June 19, 2008, she was <u>illegally arrested</u> and detained in Nanhai District Detention Center. On January 6, 2009, the Center suddenly notified her family to pick her up from the Military Police Hospital in Guangzhou City. The doctor said she had an incurable condition. Ms. Ma died on March 16, 2009.



Above are photos of Ms. Ma Xiulan before and after her detention. In only six months, a once healthy woman was abused until she was emaciated and paralyzed.

Ms. Ma Xiulan was from Shandong Province. She came to live with her two daughters approximately a dozen years ago. At the time she was very sick, but she fully recovered after cultivating Falun Gong. She became rosy cheeked and calm in mind. When the CCP began persecuting Falun Gong on July 20, 1999, Ms. Ma went to Beijing to appeal.

The police arrested her, took her to her hometown in Shandong Province, and detained her. After she returned to Nanhai District, the city 610 Office locked her up in the brainwashing center in Shunde District for two months. Since then she has been followed, closely monitored, and her home was ransacked many times.

On June 19, 2008, Ms. Ma was passing out <u>truth-clarifying</u> materials in Diejiao Community when she was arrested by officers from Diejiao Police Station, and detained in Nanhai District Detention Center. She was inhumanly tortured, forced to sleep on the cement floor, shocked with an electric baton, and beaten, resulting in bruises all over her body. She became thinner and thinner, weaker and weaker, until she could not eat or drink, could not have a bowel movement, and became emaciated. The detention center administration never told her family of her health condition. They withheld the money and other items her family sent to Ms. Ma, and they did not notify her family about when she would be put on trial. Her family traveled everywhere in vain to find information about her.

On December 30, 2008, her family went to the court to find out Ms. Ma's trial time and were told that it was that very afternoon. However, the Procurator told them it had been scheduled on December 22, 2008, a few days earlier. At 3:00 p.m. that day, Ms. Ma was carried into the court. She could not walk, and could not recognize her daughter who called out to her. The judge said he would sentence her to three years in prison. Ms. Ma's family asked to post bail for medical parole, but the judge refused.

On January 6, 2009, Ms. Ma's daughter received a call from the detention center asking her to pick up her mother from the Military Police Hospital in Guangzhou City. Her family requested her medical record from the doctor, but were refused. The guards would not allow them to contact the doctors. At the time she was released, Ms. Ma Xiulan was paralyzed and dying. Her family immediately took her to the hospital, but the doctors said there was nothing they could do to save her.

## Ms. Wang Meiying Tortured to Death

Ms. Wang Meiyin, a Falun Gong practitioner from Chiping County, Shandong Province, was tortured to death on March 23, 2009.

The police from Zhenxing Community Police Station arrested Ms. Wang. She was held at Chiping County Detention Center for two days, and then secretly taken to Jinan Women's Forced Labor Camp (also called the 1st Women's Forced Labor Camp of Shandong Province), without notifying her family.

Ms. Wang lived in Hongbuzhao Village, Dulangkou Town, Chiping County, Shandong Province. Her husband Ci Chengshui is the assistant commissioner of the County Finance Bureau. They have two children, with the son having graduated from a university and a younger daughter in high school.

Ms. Wang went on a hunger strike to protest being persecuted. Guards at the labor camp tortured her inhumanly with brutal torture methods, such as sitting on a small stool for long times and standing facing a wall. Besides, she was cruelly force-fed three times. The tube through which she was fed was forced into her and severely damaged her right lung. The injury to the lung caused it to stop functioning.

On March 22, 2009, she came down with a fever of over 39 degrees. She was emaciated and suffered inhuman torment. The guards then took her to Jinan City Police Hospital for emergency treatment. At 1 p.m. of March 23, policeman Ma Ruijin of Chiping Domestic Security Division was told to notify her family.

Ma Ruijin told the family sarcastically, "She is going to die anyway, so it is up to you if you want to see her." Ms. Wang's husband responded angrily, "She was healthy when she was taken to your camp. If there is anything wrong, we will carry her to your home for care."

That day, the entire family rushed to Jinan. Ms. Wang was still of clear mind and told her husband about the torture. The doctor gave him the x-ray and said that when he examined her he found that her right lung had already stopped functioning.

At that time two nurses, employees at the labor camp explained that Ms. Wang was in no condition to be taken back to the labor camp. They suggested to take her home. The officials refused to release her despite her condition. They wanted to shirk responsibility for their evil deeds, so they said she could not be released.

The family returned home, where they received a call from the hospital staff, explaining that her life was hanging on a thread. They again rushed to hospital, but Ms. Wang died by the time they arrived and had already been taken to the morgue.

### "Testimony" of a Five-year-old Girl Used to Sentence Her Parents

Longquanyi District Police Branch in Chengdu City, Sichuan Province had been looking for an excuse to arrest and persecute Mr. Li Changli, an employee of Liaoyuan Wireless Factory affiliated with the 7th Aerospace Research Institute.

At around noon on April 29, 2008, dozens of people from the City Police Department, the Domestic Security Team, the District Police Branch and the <u>610 Office</u> ransacked Mr. Li Changli's home. They took away two computers, assorted computer hardware, personal items valued at approximately 7,000 <u>yuan</u>, and 9,000 yuan in cash.

The police also took away some of Mr. Li's brother's personal belongings and additional money, about 44,000 yuan in cash, which included 27,000 yuan in cash that is still owed to relatives and another 2,000 yuan in cash that is owed to different friends. The money had been set aside for various family members' medical care and for supporting parents and in-laws, as well as for everyday living expenses.

In December 2008, Mr. Li and his wife, Ms. Liu Lifen, were arrested in Chongqing City and were sentenced to one and a half years of forced labor in Beibei District in Chongqing City. Mr. Li was detained at the 7th Ward of Xishanping Forced Labor Camp and Ms. Liu was held at the 4th Ward of Shimaping Women's Forced Labor Camp.

On the morning of January 13, 2009, investigation officer Zeng Yi from Longquanyi District Police Branch and a fellow investigation officer from a different police department, along with Mr. Li's daughter's kindergarten teacher, Xiao Xuemei (female) went to Mr. Li's home.

When they arrived, Mr. Li's sister-in-law was at home taking care of his 5-year-old daughter, Li Weihong. After being there for a short while, the two officers along with Xiao Xuemei began asking the child a lot of personal, probing questions, such as:.

Q: "How many computers are there in your home? Which rooms are they in? Who uses them? What information is on the computers?"

A: (Li Weihong): "Mom has one computer and Dad has the other. They use the computers to play games."

Q: "How many people live in your home? Who comes to visit your home? Do you know them? How many people come to talk to your Dad and what did they talk about when they are here? What did these people do when they came to visit? Is there anyone else living in your home? What type of things do your parents keep in the garage?"

The child became so scared from being interrogated like this that she stopped answering any more questions. After the two officers completed their investigation, they persuaded the child to allow them to fingerprint her. When Mr. Li's parents found out that the police had harassed their granddaughter, they went to see the two officers in question.

The officers told the grandparents that they did not harm the child in any way but the grandparents disagreed, saying that their grandchild was indeed severely traumatized. Two days later, the officers tried to gather additional "evidence" to prove that they did not harm the child, but in the end, they weren't able to prove anything. The couple also lodged a complaint with the director of Blue Sky Kindergarten over Xiao Xuemei's meddlesome behavior.

The police later used the child's fingerprint "evidence" and her "testimonial" to sentence Mr. Li Changli and his wife to additional forced labor without going to trial.

## Mr. Xu Dawei Dies after Suffering Eight Years of Abuse in Four Prisons

On February 3, 2009, Mr. Xu Dawei's eight-year prison term was due to end. The authorities of Dongling Prison in Shenyang City arranged for the local police station to pick him up for further mistreatment. His family members arrived at the prison and argued with the authorities. Finally, they were allowed to pick up Mr. Xu. However, they found out that due to the years of abuse, he was extremely thin and suffering from a mental disorder. Compared to what they saw last year, he was a completely different person.

His family members asked, "What is wrong with him? Why is he so thin?" The guards did not respond.

At home, his family members found that he could not eat, kept coughing, and was too weak to even spit. There were many marks on his body left by electric batons. His hands and feet suffered from edema. There were injuries on his right knee and ankle. The skin on his buttocks was necrotic and dark purple.

His family members took him to a hospital. The doctors said, "He suffers from heart failure; we cannot draw blood for a blood test because his skin is too brittle. This condition has not been brought about in the past couple of days; the treatment opportunity passed long ago."

Mr. Xu suffered eight years of abuse in four prisons. Within two weeks of being released from Dongling Prison, he passed away on February 16, 2009.

### **Eight Year Of Persecution in Four Prisons**

Mr. Xu Dawei was born on October 31, 1975. His hometown was Yingemen Town, Qingyuan County, Fushun City, Liaoning Province. Before the persecution, he was a chef in a hotel in Shenyang City. He began to cultivate in Falun Gong in 1996. He behaved according to the principle of "Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance." He was dutiful, honest, and sincere, and well respected by those that knew him.

When the CCP began to persecute Falun Gong in July 1999, to save people from the CCP's poisonous rumors, Mr. Xu printed truth-clarifying materials with his own money. In January 2001, he was arrested, and the police officers from Shengli Police Station extorted a confession by torture. The responsible people include Director Liang Zhu and officer Zhao Chunwei, who moved to the Heping District <u>610 Office</u>. Later, Mr. Xu was sentenced to eight years of imprisonment by the Heping District Court. He was detained in four prisons: Dabei Prison in Sheyang City, the 1st Prison of Lingyuan City, Fushun City Second Prison, and Dongling Prison in Shenyang City. In the prisons, he was tortured and brainwashed. He was handcuffed and shackled for long periods of

time, beaten brutally, hung up, force-fed, stabbed with a needle, and shocked with an electric baton.

In late January 2003, in Dabei Prison in Shenyang City, Mr. Xu declared that it was not a crime to act according to the principle of "Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance." He refused to study the prison rules. Consequently, guards such as Li Jianguo and the ward director incited the inmates to pinch his neck, scratch his mouth and put handcuffs and shackles on him. He held a hunger strike to protest. As a result, he was force-fed and locked in a small cell, which was less than four square meters and did not let in any light. He was provided with two spoons of half-cooked cornmeal mush each day, which made it difficult for him to urinate or defecate.

In the 1st Prison of Lingyuan City on October 29, 2003, Mr. Xu was taken to the "strictly controlled" team, where the guards incited inmates to hit him on the head, hang him up with four handcuffs, gag him with a towel, beat him with a rubber hose, and stab him with a needle. He fainted several times as a result. Wang, the section chief of the prison, witnessed the mistreatment, but did not stop it.

In the Eighth Ward of the 1st Prison of Lingyuan City, Mr. Xu insisted that his belief was not a crime and refused to do slave labor, submit to brainwashing exams, or submit to the subsequent photographing and signing of documents renouncing Falun Gong. Consequently, he was locked in a small cell twice, handcuffed and shackled for several months, and not given food every day. He was also shocked with an electric baton several times. His hands were handcuffed in front of his body for ten days, and then handcuffed behind his back for another ten days. Wang Limin, director of the Eighth Ward, is responsible for this mistreatment.

Due to the brutal mistreatment, Mr. Xu, who used to be young and healthy, developed pleurisy. For a time, he was critically ill.

In the Fushun City Second Prison, Mr. Xu and other practitioners were handcuffed and shackled and locked in a small cell from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. for several months without enough food.

About two years ago, he was transferred to the 3rd Ward of Dongling Prison in Shenyang City, where the mistreatment of practitioners was covert and brutal. On October 22, 2007, 67-year-old Mr. Zhang Youjin, from Qingyuan County, Fushun City, was persecuted to death in the prison. On August 19, 2008, Mr. Zheng Shoujun from Shenyang City was also persecuted to death.

### Prison Prohibited Mr. Xu's Family from Seeing Him

For two years after Mr. Xu was taken to Dongling Prison, the authorities of the prison blocked the news of his persecution. They never called his family with information about him and prohibited his family from seeing him for a long time. His family brought him money and clothes, but the authorities refused to accept them.

According to other practitioners detained in the same prison, Mr. Xu claimed that he was not a criminal and boycotted the inmate haircut and count off, so he was beaten. Fellow practitioners who came forward to stop the beating were shocked with electric batons by the guards. People involved in the persecution include warden Li Zhong, guard Huo Xizhong, and Qi Jinlong.

The prison authorities forced visiting family members to slander Falun Gong before they were allowed to see the detainees. For two years, Mr. Xu's family members went to the prison almost every month to see him, but each time, either because they refused to slander Falun Gong or they were told that Mr. Xu was subjected to "strict control," they failed to see Mr. Xu.

On January 8, 2008 (lunar calendar), Mr. Xu's family members finally saw him by chance in the prison. This was the only time that Mr. Xu saw his family members in Dongling Prison. At that time, he was quite thin, but he was in good spirits, and his speech and mental state were normal.

On February 3, 2009, his eight-year term was supposed to end. When his family members came to pick him up, they could not believe their eyes. In one year, his hair had become gray, he was extremely emaciated, his eyes were dull, and he could not recognize his family members.

After he was brought home, he squatted in the corner of the room and dared not move. His family members told him, "We are home now. Do not be afraid." They urged him for a long time before he sat on the bed. With the family members' attendance, he became clear-minded at times. Once, when he was lucid, he said, "I was injected with mind-altering drugs in the prison. They beat me with their fists and kicked me."

On his chest, abdomen and back, there were many brown marks left by being shocked with electric batons. His hands and feet suffered from edema. There were injuries on his right knee and ankle. The skin on his buttocks was undergoing necrosis and dark purple.

Within two weeks after he returned home, Mr. Xu passed away on February 16, 2009 in the hospital.

### Family Doesn't Have Anywhere to Redress the Injustice

Mr. Xu's daughter is eight years old now. When she was born, Mr. Xu was being subjected to persecution in prison. After she saw her father for a short time, she had to part with him forever.

For eight years, Mr. Xu's wife went through huge hardships to take care of the whole family by herself. She never thought that her husband would die of persecution.

Mr. Xu was the first son of the family. His 90-year-old grandmother and elderly parents waited painstakingly for eight years only to have their waiting conclude with his death.

His family members are all simple villagers. With regards to the prison cruelly killing Mr Xu, there is nowhere they can go to seek justice.

## **People Awaken to the Truth**



### Former Vice Chairman of the People's Congress of Hubei Province Quit the Chinese Communist Party

### By an old friend of Wang Yu's

Wang Yu, former Vice Chairman of the People's Congress of Hubei Province and former secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Organization Department in Hubei, received a copy of the <u>Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party</u> from a friend in 2005. In 2006, when his friend mentioned to him about quitting the CCP, he said, "It is OK to quit. But I can't do it openly--the repercussions would be too great." His friend helped him quit the CCP with an alias.

Wang Yu died on April 25, 2008, at the age of 90. Not long after, his daughter, Ms. Wang Sanying, was taken from her home because she was practicing Falun Gong. On the afternoon of June 3, 2008, Ms. Wang Sanying was called home from her job by a local police officer, saying that they were conducting a population census. Police Officer Zhai Zhongqi went into Ms. Wang Sanying's bedroom to search it, but she told him to leave. Zhai Zhongqi didn't give up and monitored Ms. Wang from outside her home. He later called for officers to come from the local police station and National Security Team, who then broke into her home, and took her away without showing any legal documents. Ms. Wang was illegally tried on October 31, 2008. On January 21, 2009 she was sentenced to four years in prison.

We thought that it was acceptable [to the local authorities] for people to perform exercises to keep our bodies healthy and cultivate our hearts if we practiced at home. Now that Ms. Wang has been sentenced to four years in prison, we are all very concerned. This chilling sentence is unacceptable. We are currently not working, so we have no resources and can't help to protect Mr. Wang Yu's family members. Feeling deep sorrow, we decided to be witnesses and publicize the fact that Mr. Wang quit the CCP before he died.

When Falun Gong was first persecuted, some of Mr. Wang's relatives were taken into custody while going to Beijing to appeal, Mr. Wang said, "It is no use to start a campaign like the Cultural Revolution, and it is also not right to arrest people who do Falun Gong exercises." His relatives went to see him after being released. Mr. Wang simply asked about the situation and was never against Falun Gong. In 2002, when Falun Gong was severely persecuted, he was quite worried.

Because Mr. Wang's daughter practices Falun Gong, the police took her away from her home, using "Olympic Games security" as an excuse. The police, court, and legal system fabricated charges, ignored the laws and facts, and stated that doing the Falun Gong exercises and having Falun Gong materials are crimes, so that they could sentence Ms. Wang Sanying to four years in prison. Her family now has trouble making ends meet. If Mr. Wang Yu had known what had happened, he would feel very disappointed and sad, and would be glad he quit this evil organization that openly persecutes people.

## **Falun Gong Practitioners' Personal Experiences**



## Falun Gong Gives My Family a New Life

#### By Li Yuanrong, from Sichuan Province, China

#### Falun Gong Changed My Life Unexpectedly

Before May 1996, I was polluted in the big dye vat of everyday society. I resented the world and detested mundane affairs and the fickleness of human relationships. I strove to excel, but I harbored hatred, envy, and many bad habits. I was soaked in desire for fame, self-interest, and sentiment and was encumbered with various illnesses. I visited doctors and sought medicine to cure my illness. Fed up with suffering, I saw many different doctors after being sick for long periods, but the more treatments I underwent, the more illnesses I had. In despair and pessimism, I frequently thought about ending my life.

On May 10, 1996, a kind Falun Gong practitioner led a desperate me to a Falun Gong practice site. I learned from them for three days, and amazing things began to happen: While I was holding the wheel above the head on the third night of practice, I felt my nervous migraine that had occurred after lunch every day for many years suddenly disappear. My incurable stubborn skin problem I had had for twenty years also disappeared. My belly pain and its swollen feeling--even without dinner--also disappeared. The hard lump in my left breast drained out with a rotten smell! My angina pectoris (chest pains) and long-term coughing caused by tuberculosis also disappeared. Before, I felt tired after walking just several steps, and if I suddenly stood up, I would get dizzy and almost black out. Before, I had to stop and rest while walking uphill or up several steps. Now, I felt fresh and full of energy!

I joyfully ran home, excited about telling my parents about my recovery. My parents had always worried about me. Later, I took my mother to the practice site. After watching one cassette of Teacher's lecture, she also wanted to practice Falun Gong! After more in-depth practice, even the root of my frequent colds was removed. The feeling of being free of illness was so wonderful!

#### Mother Practices Falun Gong, Father Benefits

My mother was born with deformed hands. In her childhood, she suffered hunger and cold and lacked a permanent home. Perhaps as a result, she had all kinds of diseases; a famous senior doctor of Chinese medicine once said that she would probably not live past 60. Mother had inflammation of the trachea, pain in her muscles and joints, and inflammation in her blood vessels. She also had several recurring diseases from her teens which caused severe pain and unceasing misery; she almost died several times. Very fortunately, she stepped into Falun Gong practice at the age of 59. She is now 71. She often showers with cold water, she carries heavy loads of over 100 pounds without

a problem, and she is busy from morning to night, but does not feel tired. People all say she looks only about 40.

My father's life has always been rough. Since his childhood, he received no love from his father. He was left destitute after being persecuted by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). He was deceived in the "Great Cultural Revolution" and imprisoned. He lived in poverty and was mentally harmed. Afterwards, he resented the world and detested mundane affairs. He drank and smoked excessively. He became ill due to overwork and contracted many unusual diseases at a very young age. Those diseases included double emphysema, serious bronchitis, heart disease from lung disorders, and long spells of coughing which made breathing difficult. His old friend who had had the same emphysema died early. However, my father's diseases began to disappear as my mother practiced Falun Gong.

## Glossary

**Falun Gong** (also called **Falun Dafa**) is an ancient form of *qigong*; the practice of refining the body and mind through special exercises and meditation. Like *tai chi, qigong* is a vital part of many people's lives in Asia; almost every Chinese park is brimming by the break of dawn with people practicing these arts.

Only a few years after its public introduction in 1992, Falun Dafa quickly grew to become the most popular form of *qigong* ever in Chinese history. The major reason for this is that Falun Dafa distinguishes itself from other *qigong* practices by emphasizing not only physical cultivation, but also cultivation of one's moral character in daily life according to higher principles taught by Mr. Li Hongzhi, Falun Dafa's founder. The practice involves slow, gentle movements and meditation. It is easy to learn, enjoyable to practice, and free of charge. Its principles are based on Truth, Compassion, and Tolerance. Falun Gong is practiced by over 100 million people in 60 countries. The main works of Falun Gong are available in over 30 languages.

Zhuan Falun: This book comprises the principal teachings of Falun Dafa.

"April 25": This refers to the "sensitive" anniversary of April 25, 1999, on which date ten thousand Falun Gong practitioners peacefully gathered outside the Zhongnanhai compound (China's central government building) and successfully appealed for the release of forty-five practitioners who had been illegally arrested in Tianjin City.

**Clarifying the Truth**: Because of the persecution in China and the unrelenting hate campaign carried out by China's state-controlled media, Falun Gong practitioners have been actively "clarifying the truth" -- explaining to the public the facts about Falun Gong and exposing the persecution. Truth clarification activities include face-to-face conversations with people, posting notices and posters, handing out flyers, and hanging banners. Outside of China, where Falun Gong is freely practiced, practitioners further expose the persecution through anti-torture reenactments, art exhibits, Internet websites, books, magazines, newspapers, movies and letter writing. The goal of clarifying the truth is to help people understand Falun Gong, to dispel the lies of the communist regime in China and to raise public support to end the persecution. (Variations: "clarifying the truth", "truth clarifying", "truth-clarifying", "truth clarification", "clarified the facts", "clarified the truth", and "clarified the facts")

*Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party* is a series of essays published in late 2004 that reveal the true nature of the Communist Party. The *Nine Commentaries* have led millions of people to renounce their membership in the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). It is "A book that has shocked all Chinese around the world. A book that is disintegrating the Communist Party." (http://ninecommentaries.com)

**The 610 Office** is an agency specifically created to persecute Falun Gong, with absolute power over each level of administration in the Party and all other political and judiciary systems. It was established on June 10<sup>th</sup> hence it's name.

**Illegally arrested**: Contrary to what former Chinese leader Jiang Zemin, who initiated the persecution, and the Chinese Communist Party would like the world to believe, practicing Falun Gong is NOT illegal in China. Although the Public Security Department issued an unconstitutional set of restraints on the practice at the onset of the persecution in 1999, no laws have been passed by the only legislative body in China, the People's Congress, banning Falun Gong or granting the police the authority to arrest Falun Gong practitioners for practicing the exercises or distributing flyers.

**Death Bed torture**: A practitioner is tied to a bed with his hands handcuffed above his head to the bed rails, and his legs tied with thin nylon ropes. The rope is then tightly wrapped around the practitioner's body and the bed, from his legs to his chest. The rope is wrapped so tightly that the practitioner has difficulty breathing and eventually loses consciousness.

**Tiger Bench**: Prisoners are forced to sit on a small iron bench that is approximately 20 cm (6 inches) tall with their knees tied together. With their hands tied behind their backs or sometimes placed on their knees, they are forced to sit straight up and look straight ahead without movement for long periods of time.

**"Reform or Transform":** Implementation of brainwashing and torture in order to force a practitioner to renounce Falun Gong. (Variations: **"reform", "transform", "reformed", "reforming", "transformed", "transforming",** and **"transformation**")

**Three Statements**: Practitioners are coerced under brainwashing and torture to write a "Repentance Statement," "Guarantee Statement" or 'Dissociation Statement" as proof that they have given up their belief. In the statement, the practitioner is forced to admit remorse for practicing Falun Gong, promise to give up Falun Gong, and never again associate with other practitioners or go to Beijing to appeal for Falun Gong.

**Collaborators**: Former practitioners who have turned against Falun Gong under brainwashing and torture. They are then made to assist in brainwashing and torturing practitioners.

**Sensitive Dates**: National holidays or political meetings, or dates that hold significance to Falun Dafa; the authorities are afraid that practitioners will publicly appeal on these dates.

**Yuan** is the Chinese currency; 500 yuan is equal to the average monthly income of an urban worker in China.