

FALUN DAFA

PRAISED
THE WORLD OVER
STILL
PERSECUTED
IN CHINA

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Falun Dafa *An ancient practice based on Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance*

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(Photo: Minghui.org)

Minghui's 20-Year Journey

A fascinating sight emerged in China twenty years ago: parks were filled with people of all ages doing slow, gentle exercises accompanied by serene music. Across the country, a hundred million of them were practicing a meditation discipline called Falun Dafa.

But after a while, they found that they were being watched. The bestselling books that formed the basis of their practice were banned. Newspapers and TV stations that

once praised Falun Dafa's health benefits instead went on the attack. Practitioners who tried to clear up misunderstandings with publishers were arrested and beaten.

Amid the chaos, a group of practitioners saw a need to put together accurate information to let the world know what was happening. This was the start of Minghui ("clear wisdom"), a news and communications platform dedicated to Falun Dafa.

STORIES ON MINGHUI

Minghui is filled with first-hand accounts of those who have found renewed health, well-being, and spiritual growth in Falun Dafa. Some recall recovering from incurable diseases that had long tormented them. Some managed to let go of various addictions. Others strive to become better people and improve their relationships with others by removing jealousy, resentment, greed, and so on.

Alongside these joyful memories are also

heart-wrenching accounts of persecution in China and acts of courage. Practitioners have won over their families, friends, and even persecutors with their uncompromising moral conviction and unconditional kindness.

Every story is a window into the lives of Dafa practitioners and the values they live by. They are known to us only because of Minghui, and they will inspire readers for generations to come.



Who are *Minghui's readers?*

Minghui has three main types of readers: those who have learned Falun Dafa, those who want to learn about Dafa, and those who want to harm Dafa.

The first group reads Minghui to see what other practitioners around the world are doing and follow the persecution in China. They read others' experiences and sometimes write their own.

The second group includes government agencies, human rights organizations, and anyone who wants to learn more about Falun

Dafa. They benefit from first-hand information from practitioners. Minghui has developed a secure network to communicate with practitioners in China, and these channels cannot be taken down by political forces like the Chinese Communist Party.

The third group includes police, prison guards, and other authorities in China who are ordered by the Communist Party to force practitioners to renounce Falun Dafa. Many are afraid of their crimes being reported internationally, so they read Minghui to see if their names appear in any persecution cases.

First published on June 25, 1999, Minghui's mission is to provide a safe environment for practitioners to hear Master Li Hongzhi's words, share experiences in self-cultivation, expose the persecution in China, and record the history of Falun Dafa.

A sense of duty

Minghui is run entirely by volunteers. Many of them have devoted themselves to the project for up to 20 years because of its impact on the Falun Gong community, especially by giving a voice to those being persecuted in China.

One volunteer joined in 2002 and now works on news reports from China. She said, "Many quiet nights when I am reading those cases, I feel like I am being persecuted myself... I sometimes shed tears when I read the articles. All these years my heart has been with mainland practitioners."

She looks forward to the day when there are no more persecution reports but said, "as long as we still need them, I will compile them diligently."

“Minghui is like a sea

It was once said that when a man dips his finger into the sea, he becomes connected with the whole world. Every morning, as I open the Minghui site, that is the feeling I get - as I open the site, the whole world opens. The world of Dafa practitioners.

- A Falun Dafa practitioner in Croatia



THREE PRINCIPLES
Truthfulness
Compassion
Forbearance



Group exercise practice in Guangzhou. The banner says "Falun Dafa volunteer instruction site." (Photo: Minghui.org)

THE STORY OF FALUN DAFA

Falun Dafa, also known as Falun Gong, is an ancient Chinese spiritual discipline. It has moral teachings based on the values of Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance. These are supplemented by a set of gentle, meditative exercises.

The practice was passed down from master to disciple, generation after generation, until Master Li Hongzhi taught it to the public in 1992. Soon, almost every park in China was brimming with people practicing the exercises. They taught them to others free of charge, and people realized that it had a tremendous power to improve both their health and character.

Spreading quickly through word of mouth, Falun Gong became a household name in just a few years.

Falun Gong is based upon three principles:

真

TRUTHFULNESS

善

COMPASSION

忍

FORBEARANCE

BENEFITS OF PRACTICING FALUN GONG

Spiritual growth
and physical health

Relieves stress
and anxiety

Increases energy
and vitality



A Path to Well-Being

A STUDENT OVERCOMES HIS VIDEO GAME ADDICTION AND FINDS RENEWED ENERGY

By a Falun Dafa practitioner in Canada

I first came across a Falun Dafa book while I was in elementary school in China. Although I knew all the words, I didn't truly understand it. Nevertheless, the principles of "Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance" were deeply rooted in my heart.

Perhaps because of this, I never bullied vulnerable classmates as other kids did but instead helped them out. I also stayed away from gossip. While my grades were average, I was always a people person in class and made friends who were kind and honest.

Finding hope amid temptations

After I moved to Canada to attend high school, I drifted along with societal influences and started playing computer games and watching anime. I stayed up all night to surf the internet.

Unsurprisingly, I was always fatigued and lethargic. Despite having fun at my friends' parties, I felt empty inside. I later found a girlfriend but was hurt deeply when we broke up.

But deep down, I knew that Dafa could help me. Seeing how my mother practiced it diligently, I

wanted to start as well. After reading one of Master Li Hongzhi's lectures one night, I had an indescribable feeling in my heart—Master's teaching had awakened me.

That night, I cried a lot and mumbled repeatedly while lying in bed: What had I been doing all these years?

I made up my mind to make up for lost time.

Taking control of my habits

I deleted all my computer games and anime. I even sold my gaming consoles and deleted the modern music on my phone.

Though I knew it was the right thing to do, it still took a lot of determination to follow through. Negative elements in my mind tried to stop me, but I knew that if I did not thoroughly clean out these bad things, I would not meet the standard of a Dafa practitioner.

While uninstalling the games, I kept reciting, "Falun Dafa is good" and "Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance is good." It reverberated in every cell of my body. When I made up my mind to get rid of these bad things, I threw up

games came up, I firmly rejected them because I knew they were not my own thoughts. I have not played computer games since that time.

Improved strength and energy

Around Christmas, I visited my friends and was shocked at the sight: instead of being full of vigor and vitality at their age, they lay weakly on the couch with their eyes either staring at their phones or watching television, and they yawned in broad daylight. They had stayed up until four or five in the morning, and they were still talking about games, anime, and dirty things.

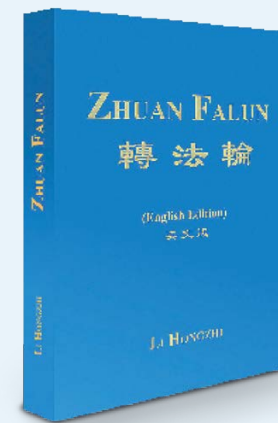
Thinking it over, I realized that I was just like them before taking up Dafa. I was muddleheaded and spent my spare time doing the same things. Although we knew it wasn't right and wanted to change things, we didn't have the will.

My physical strength improved with each passing day, and I was full of energy. At my part-time job at a supermarket, when my co-workers and I unloaded five containers of goods, they felt exhausted and frustrated. But I was not tired and did not have a word

of complaint. One of them asked me, "You're always smiling. Is coming to work a happy thing for you?"

In just four months of practicing Dafa, I have undergone a big change. I will continue to cultivate myself diligently and let go of other attachments, including selfishness.

"I first came across a Falun Dafa book while I was in elementary school in China. Although I knew all the words, I didn't truly understand it. Nevertheless, the principles of "Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance" were deeply rooted in my heart."



The book *Zhuan Falun* by Mr. Li Hongzhi is the most comprehensive and essential set of teachings in the practice. *Zhuan Falun* and Mr. Li's other teachings have been translated into 40 languages. They can be read free online at FalunDafa.org, and hard copies can be purchased at TiantiBooks.org





(Photo: Minghui.org)

Health Benefits

STRANGE DISEASE DISAPPEARS AFTER A SKEPTIC TRIES FALUN Dafa

I was born into a peasant family in a mountainous village in 1957. Like many other children there, I contracted meningococcal meningitis when I was around eight or nine. Many died, but I survived. However, I became crippled, and my mother had to carry me around on her back. I eventually learned how to walk again but always had pain that others couldn't see.

Misery drives me to attempt suicide

Later on, whenever I tried to eat something or even drink half a glass of milk, my stomach would bloat to the point that I could hardly lie down. As soon as I did, I would have trouble breathing. I had to sit up even at night.

Doctors at the provincial hospital couldn't find anything wrong. Some even suggested shamanic treatments. I then tried Chinese herbal

medicine, but nothing worked. I became emaciated and was so weak that I had to sit on the ground from time to time to regain the strength to keep going again.

Wanting to end my misery, I walked down to the sea near my home. Sensing that something was wrong, my husband rushed home from work. He saw I wasn't there, so he ran straight to the seaside and grabbed me in time.

An unlikely cure

One of his colleagues heard about my suicide attempt and told me, "You might want to practice Falun Dafa. It has miraculous health benefits, and many terminal patients have regained their health from it."

Having been brought up as an atheist, my husband did not believe it. Not wanting to hurt his colleague's feelings, however, we reluctantly went to his place to give it a try.

We heard serene music as we neared his house. It was truly beautiful, like nothing I had ever heard before. As soon as I stepped inside, I felt as if someone had pulled a sheet of black leather off my body, and I felt a window open to my heart. The stubborn pain in my stomach was completely gone!

The colleague and his friends were doing the second Dafa exercise, so I followed along for twenty minutes. I was sweating all over but didn't feel tired at all. In fact, I felt very relaxed.

After my husband pushed me home on his bicycle, I felt hungry for the first time in ages. He made me some millet porridge right away. I timidly ate half a bowl but felt absolutely fine.

The next day, I was able to ride the bicycle to his colleague's house to do the exercises with the group. Not long after, all my health problems disappeared, and I felt light and healthy.

5 Exercises

Easy to learn for people of all ages. Taught free of charge by volunteers around the world.



1 Buddha Stretching a Thousand Arms
Using gentle stretching movements, the first exercise opens all of the body's energy channels, creating a powerful energy field



2 Falun Standing Stance
Composed of four still positions that can be held for several minutes each, the second exercise boosts energy levels and awakens wisdom



3 Penetrating the Cosmic Extremes
With its gentle hand-gliding movements, the third exercise purifies the body using energy from the cosmos



4 Falun Cosmic Orbit
By gently tracing the hands over the body, front and back, the fourth exercise rectifies abnormal conditions in the body and circulates energy

5 Strengthening Supernatural Powers
A meditation that incorporates special mudra and hand positions to refine body and mind, the fifth exercise strengthens higher abilities and energy



Many people experience life-changing improvements in their physical and mental health through Falun Gong, explaining why it has grown so rapidly in popularity.

Widely enjoyed benefits include more restful sleep, less stress, increased energy, reduced irritability, and more.

Many report complete recovery from chronic disease including cancer, diabetes, hepatitis and heart disease. Others lose the urge to smoke and let go of tobacco and other addictions, as if overnight.

The range of experiences is endless, but everyone who practices Falun Gong has a story to tell. Just ask!

A YOUNG MAN FINDS SPIRITUAL ENLIGHTENMENT

People seek different forms of satisfaction in life, from having good virtues, family, career, and health to understanding the meaning of life, man, and the universe. Millions have experienced improved health and renewed their life by practicing Falun Dafa. Many who had been hoping to achieve spiritual enlightenment have also found their way in Falun Dafa.

This is a personal account told by a college student in China when he encountered Falun Dafa in 1994. It's a story of courage, faith, compassion, and perseverance as everything he stands for comes under attack.

Since I was a child, I had always wanted to know why people lived in this world. While watching Journey to the West, I sighed in awe of the Buddha's arrangements and abilities. I also admired the spirit displayed by Tang Monk and Sun Wukong (the monkey king). Watching legends of deities and miracles, I developed a wish to practice cultivation, to elevate myself to a higher realm.

In April 1994, I was talking to a university instructor about the subject when he introduced me to Falun Dafa. The next morning, I went to a Dafa group practice site. When I saw the exercise movements, I knew deep down that this was an advanced discipline of the Buddha School. I could not express my joy. I finally found what I had been looking for!

Gaining health and wisdom

Despite the winters in northeastern China often dropping to -20°C, I did the Dafa exercises outside every day and never wore gloves. My hands felt cold at first, but soon my entire body

was warm, and I was wrapped in a thick layer of energy.

Dafa also gave me wisdom. I had great memory and didn't have to review some courses at all. I spent a lot of time studying Dafa and doing the exercises, yet I had good grades and continued to receive scholarships and merit awards. My classmates and professors alike admired the power of Dafa.

A test of faith

I graduated in 1996 and returned to my hometown. Having benefited greatly from Dafa, I decided to start an exercise site to help others learn it too. Because of Dafa's extraordinary effect on health, the number of participants grew quickly.

At the time, however, Communist Party leaders were preparing to mobilize a suppression campaign. At the end of December 1996, I saw an official document defaming Dafa and ordering exercise sites to be disbanded. Despite increasing surveillance by unknown agents,

we continued to do the exercises with the hope that the government would investigate the situation in good faith.

One morning in March 1997, as I walked home from the exercise site as usual, a police officer stopped me. I had heard that some practitioners in the countryside had been arrested and their homes ransacked. I told Master (Li Hongzhi, the founder of Falun Dafa) in my heart, "I will definitely pass this test well."

The officer yelled at me, "Who told you to organize this? I'm going to take care of you right now. I'll call your workplace and make it as if you'd never gone to college!"

I had Dafa in my heart and felt Master strengthening me. I somehow managed to say to him, "You must be so-and-so. Can we talk it over calmly?" He was shocked and asked how I knew his name. I could only say that I guessed. I didn't actually know him. He told me to meet him later at the police station.

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(Photo: Minghui.org)

PERSECUTION IN CHINA CONTINUES AFTER 20 YEARS

By the mid-1990s, the number of people practicing Falun Gong was growing exponentially. According to Chinese government estimates, 80 - 100 million people had taken up the practice by 1999, with the number increasing by thousands each day. Despite the many benefits Falun Gong brought to China and its people, top-level Communist Party officials feared it. Practitioners outnumbered the 65 million Party members by a sizable margin, leading Party brass to perceive Falun Gong as a growing threat to their power. So, they set out to crush it.

Persecution begins

Propaganda attacks smearing Falun Gong in the state-run media increased. In June 1999, dictator Jiang Zemin established

the 610 Office, an extralegal nationwide agency with special authority over all levels of law enforcement, government and the courts, to spearhead the persecution of Falun Gong. On July 20, 1999, the police conducted sweeping arrests of volunteer coordinators of Falun Gong exercise sites. The practice was banned, and an all-out media blitz was launched.

...and continues today

Over 4,000 are confirmed dead as a result of the persecution, with many times that number killed in organ harvesting atrocities. Hundreds of thousands have been illegally arrested, detained and tortured. Countless families have been torn apart as Party officials coerce family members to turn against their loved ones who practice Falun Gong.



(Photo: Minghui.org)



(Photo: Minghui.org)



Practitioner holding banner on Tiananmen Square. (Photo: Minghui.org)

When I got home and told my family, my mother was nervous and asked if she needed to clean up the house. I said there was no need—with Master and Dafa, I knew things would be fine.

I went to meet the officer as appointed. Instead of positioning myself as a suspect to be interrogated, I faced him with compassion.

He put on a tough attitude and threatened me with the official document. I told him it was defamatory and answered his questions using principles from Dafa and factual occurrences from the exercise site. His tone soon softened.

He finally said, “After talking to you today, I’ve decided not to detain you or fine you. But what are you going to do about the exercise site I broke up?” I smiled and said, “It doesn’t matter. We can go somewhere else and split up into small study groups. But you’re not allowed to interfere with us again.”

He happily agreed to my terms. He even wanted to learn Dafa in the future and asked me to teach him when the time came. He also revealed that he had been ordered to stake out at the exercise site for months but couldn’t find a single problem.

The officer really kept his word and never interfered with practitioners again. I later heard that he was demoted as a result. I believe that every person who gives for Dafa will receive

blessings in the future.

Speaking out for what’s right

On July 20, 1999, former Communist Party leader Jiang Zemin used radio stations, TV stations, newspapers, and other media to spread false accusations against Falun Dafa. Lies blanketed the entire country. Seeing Master and Dafa being treated this way, I had to make the government understand what Dafa is really about. I decided to go to petition the provincial government first.

That night, the train station had already stopped selling tickets to Beijing and Shenyang. I told the staff that they did not have the right to do this. With my persistence, they eventually agreed to sell me the ticket.

I arrived after midnight to find the streets under martial law. Police forcibly put us in vehicles and took us to a stadium, which was full of Dafa practitioners who had been arrested.

We sat there quietly, waiting to speak to a provincial government official to tell him about Dafa and how it had improved our health and morality.

At dawn, the practitioners began to talk to each other to share experiences and study the Dafa books. A boy, eleven or twelve, began to read *Zhuan Falun* aloud. Some police officers jeered at us for being led by a child. When I

took the book and started reading, they became nervous and soon disappeared.

Other practitioners had me lead a recitation of Master’s poems and other teachings. The sound of our reading Dafa books filled the stadium, drowning out the evil.

Facing violence with tranquility

Around eight or nine in the morning, another wave of officers arrived and started arresting people.

The first to be taken away were professors and students. One professor—an elegant, refined woman who appeared to be in her forties—was roughly pulled by her limbs into a police vehicle. The men were treated even worse: teams of four officers simply picked them up and threw them in. At that moment, I knew that the provincial government would not listen to our petitions.

The police appeared before me in a flash. I tried to reason with them calmly, to no avail. The whole time, I was sitting on the ground with my legs crossed. I closed my eyes and conjoined my hands, immediately entering tranquility. Several officers tried to pick me up again and again but couldn’t. They looked at each other, and their commander didn’t know what to do.

The arrests stopped.

I knew Master had helped us.

When I returned to work the next day, the director demanded my resignation, adding that it was decided at a bureau meeting. But he told me, “First, you are the best person. Second, your work is the most outstanding, and you were recognized as a model employee after just a year of working here. Third, you’re the only person who has been nominated for an award multiple times. But asking for your resignation is a political task.”

Taking a stand at Tiananmen

Many practitioners started going to Beijing to petition the central government. But the arrests continued, and Minghui continued to report news of practitioners being persecuted to death.

When I arrived in Beijing, I saw that the National Appeals Office was arresting everyone without giving them a chance to speak. I decided to go to Tiananmen Square to hold up banners and tell the world, “Falun Dafa is good!”

Seeing many practitioners holding up banners and then being arrested, I decided to go to the top floor of Tiananmen.

Entering the building required layers of security checks, but I believed that no one could

stand in the way of things Dafa disciples needed to do. I asked Master to strengthen me.

I walked toward the security checkpoint with a banner in my pocket. Four guards searched me twice. Even when one of them reached into the pocket holding the banner, my mind stayed firm. He grasped the banner but then let it go, appearing to be devoid of thought. Another guard also felt the banner. I smiled and

“*At that moment, I knew that the provincial government would not listen to our petitions.*”

asked, “Are you done? I’m going through now.” He nodded blankly. When I left, I saw they still had no idea what had happened.

Climbing to the top floor, I saw rows of plain-

clothes officers posted steps apart. If I took out the banner then, I wouldn’t have had a chance to unfurl it. I again asked Master to strengthen me.

One officer suddenly picked up his watch and said to himself, “What’s going on? What’s going on?” The others crowded around him to get in on the action. The tourists also left an empty space around me.

I knew I had to act. I took out my banner that said “Falun Dafa” and held it up for people to see.

At that moment, I felt my body was incomparably tall and as if time had stopped. Tourists saw me and went wild. The police were oblivious, standing still. It wasn’t until another guard ran up yelling that the officers regained their senses and advanced on me.

Several tried to pull my arms down, hitting them and trying to grab the banner. I had a scrawny build while they were burly, but the power of Dafa manifested itself. After they struggled for a while, I felt it had been long enough and let my arms down.

A voice blared from their radios, “Was there any international impact?” While the police

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PROPAGANDA

In July 1999, to repress Falun Gong, the Chinese Communist Party leadership initiated the largest campaign of propaganda and censorship since the Cultural Revolution, embracing the saying, “If you repeat a lie often enough, people will believe it.” The Wall Street Journal noted, “Beijing has ratcheted up the campaign to a fever pitch, bombarding citizens with an old, communist-style propaganda war.”

Here are three of the lies most commonly told about Falun Gong. They are the pillars upon which the rest of the Party’s house-of-cards of propaganda was built, and continues to stand, even to this day.

Peaceful appeal labeled a “siege”

On April 25, 1999, some 10,000 practitioners quietly gathered in Beijing, asking that the law reaffirm their right to practice Falun Gong and that 45 practitioners detained by

police in nearby Tianjin be released. They stood in orderly rows on the sidewalk. Some meditated, and others read or chatted quietly. It was the most peaceful protest of its size in modern Chinese history. The 10,000 left peacefully later that day after Premier Zhu Rongji gave assurances that the government did not oppose Falun Gong. But Party chief Jiang Zemin had other plans. He ordered the nation’s propaganda apparatus to recast the demonstration as “a siege of the central government compound” and used it as a pretext to launch a campaign of brutal repression.

Self-immolation hoax

On January 23, 2001, five people set themselves on fire in Beijing’s Tiananmen Square. Within hours, China’s state-run media were claiming they were Falun Gong practitioners, and for weeks thereafter, the airwaves were filled with grisly images of the victims. Evidence

soon emerged that the victims were actors and that the whole event was staged by the Party. Unfortunately, countless Chinese still wrongly believe that Falun Gong was to blame.

The “1,400 deaths” story

In the 1990s, millions of people took up Falun Gong as news of its dramatic health benefits spread. Government agencies, including state media and the National Sports Commission, fueled Falun Gong’s rapid expansion by touting its positive impact on health. But when the persecution began, state-run media began claiming that Falun Gong had “led to more than 1,400 deaths.” A media onslaught featuring horrific images and emotional stories drove the message home. There was no evidence to support these claims, and attempts to investigate them were blocked. In the end, it turned out that the story was based on lies and mis-truths.

commander stammered, a quick-thinking plainclothes officer ran up and replied, "No, we found him before he took out the banner."

They took me to a large office inside the building and shoved me against a wall. The commander, who was over six feet tall, faced me and drew his arm back.

I suddenly felt as if there were a metal barrel shielding my body. When he slapped me more than twenty times in one go, I only heard the clangs of his hand hitting the barrel.

He stopped with his hand raised and told a female leader next to him, "Look, my hand is swollen from hitting him. How come nothing's happened to him?" She replied, "Don't touch him anymore. He's a real Dafa disciple. Don't you see there's not even a mark on his face?"

Protected in detention

I was locked up with several other practitioners of different ages and genders. A boy of eleven or twelve was taken to be interrogated twice. Officers demanded his name and address. When he came back, there was a deep handprint on his face.

We discussed as a group and decided to meditate in protest. The guards cursed at us and stomped on us, but we were not moved. In the end, they left us alone.

We were taken to Miyun Detention Center that night. When I told my interrogator about my cultivation journey, he treated me with respect. I felt that the officers who were forced to persecute Dafa practitioners were so helpless and pitiable.

He told me that the detention center had already persecuted several practitioners to death

and hinted at me to leave. However, the officer who escorted me to the detention center was not as charitable, and he signaled for the inmates to abuse me.

There were more than a dozen inmates in the cell. Their leader asked me, "Do you still practice?" I said calmly that no one can change Dafa disciples. He told all the inmates to hit me with the soles of their shoes.

When they came toward me, my heart wasn't moved. They suddenly froze with their hands in

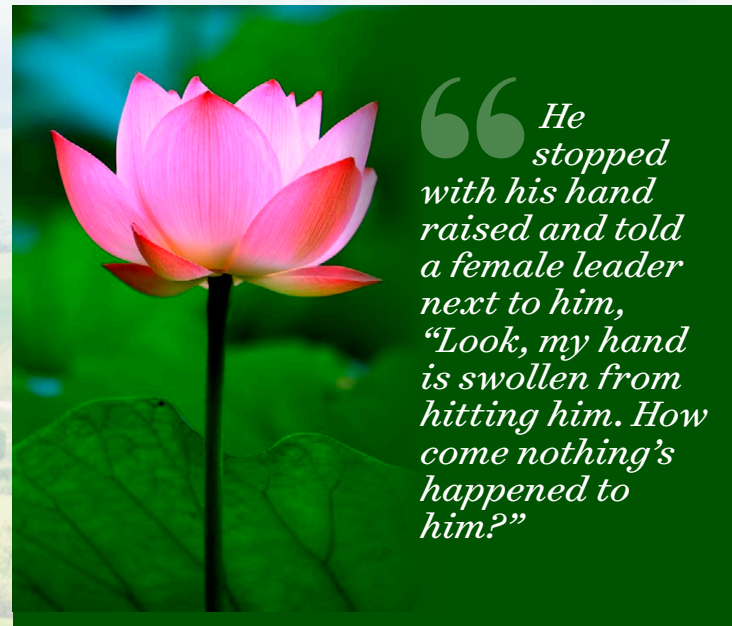
the air, looking at me blankly. The leader said after a while, "This is a real Dafa disciple. We can't touch him. Forget it."

The entire cell was silent for a long time. When the leader asked me about cultivation, I told him about the goodness of Dafa. He turned to the others and ordered, "Starting today, we're going to give our good things for him to eat. No one's allowed to touch him!"

The next day, the leader was released. He told his successor to take good care of me. The inmates really did. When they bought instant noodles and soy milk powder, they would first give me the biggest share, and I couldn't refuse.

Brutality and dignity

The night I was taken to that detention center, the officers took a female practitioner into a cell for male death-row inmates, telling them to torture her in exchange for food. The screams



“He stopped with his hand raised and told a female leader next to him, ‘Look, my hand is swollen from hitting him. How come nothing’s happened to him?’”

were hard to listen to. Inmates later told me that she was tortured to death and that several others had already died the same way.

Later that night, a practitioner around twenty years old was brought in. He was a second-year college student. The cell leader asked him whether he still practiced. He replied, "It's too hard. I won't practice anymore!" The inmates went crazy and gave him a severe beating until I stopped them. But they still poured water on the floor and had him sleep on it

without a blanket.

He later revealed that he had said it against his conscience and had realized his mistake. From that day on, the inmates shielded us from the guards when we meditated and did the Dafa exercises.

Eight days later, I was marched through the streets of Beijing—in handcuffs and barefoot—to my local detention center. Upon arrival, the inmates wanted to pour ten tubs of cold water on me in a custom called "smashing the basin."

I enlightened that Dafa practitioners have both compassion and dignity. I looked at them with a serious expression. No one dared to make a move. The cell leader then said, "Dafa practitioners aren't the same as other inmates. They're good people. Don't touch him."

I was later moved to a different cell full of violent criminals, including some who were on death row. The cell leader had taken several lives. When he learned that I was a Dafa practitioner, he roared, "No one in my cell refuses to transform!" I looked at him and said firmly, "No one can change Dafa disciples."

He ordered other inmates to hold me down and wanted to force-feed me feces and urine. When they were half a meter away, they were instantly frozen stiff. They took a while to recover and had looks of shock. The leader quietly told the others, "We can't touch this one." When I did the exercises each day, they drove away any officers who came to harass me.

Later on, one inmate kept using a needle to stab another detainee who was only seventeen or eighteen. When I told him to stop, he pushed me into a corner

and raised his fist. But he couldn't bring it down. He had pain in his arm through the night and said he had incurred karmic retribution for persecuting a Dafa disciple.

Under Master's protection, I left the detention center after two months. I experienced many more miraculous things that came from Dafa. No amount of words can express my gratitude to Master. I can only cultivate diligently.



Pedestrians in China read a poster titled "Bring Jiang Zemin to Justice." Jiang was the former Communist Party leader who ordered the persecution of Falun Gong. (Photo: Minghui.org)

PROSECUTING JIANG ZEMIN

Since former Communist Party leader Jiang Zemin ordered the persecution of Falun Dafa in 1999, more than 4,300 practitioners have been confirmed to have died as a result. Hundreds of thousands have been imprisoned, sent to forced labor camps, and tortured for their faith. More have been removed from their jobs, forced to leave school, monitored and harassed by police, and deprived of basic human rights.

Since 2015, more than 200,000 practitioners have filed criminal complaints against Jiang Zemin with Chi-

na's highest court. The plaintiffs not only desire to seek justice for victims of the persecution but also hope to dissuade those in China's judicial and police system from participating in the persecution.

In addition, more than one million people in Asia have signed petitions calling for Jiang's prosecution. Leaders in the U.S. and Europe have also expressed support. "We must hold them accountable," said former U.S. Congressman Dana Rohrabacher, who further condemned the retaliatory harassment and arrests of plaintiffs in China.



Falun Dafa practitioners hold a rally in Vienna, Austria on September 19, 2015. (Photo: Minghui.org)

- **1992** – Falun Gong introduced to the world in Changchun, China
- **1992-1994** – Falun Gong lecture series attended by over 60,000 throughout China
- **1995** – Falun Gong lectures held in France & Sweden
- **1996** – Communist Party bans Falun Gong books
- **1996-1998** – Sporadic harassment and repression begins. Anti-Falun Gong propaganda spreads.
- **MAY 1998** – Investigation by government sports agency reports Falun Gong improves health & fitness in 98% of cases surveyed
- **JULY 1998** – Communist Party reacts negatively to health survey with Ministry of Public Security and steps up efforts to harass and monitor practitioners
- **OCTOBER 1998** – Lead investigator for government sports agency reaffirms health benefits and Falun Gong's positive influence in communities
- **BY 1999** – Communist Party estimates that 80-100 million Chinese practice Falun Gong
- **APRIL 1999** – 10,000 peacefully appeal for justice for Falun Gong near Zhongnanhai in Beijing
- **JUNE 10, 1999** – "610" Office established by Jiang Zemin and Luo Gan to persecute Falun Gong
- **JUNE 25, 1999** – Minghui.org website established
- **JULY 1999** – China-wide persecution officially begins, dictator Jiang pledges to "wipe out" Falun Gong
- **JANUARY 2001** – Communist Party orchestrates self-immolation propaganda stunt on Tiananmen Square to turn public opinion against Falun Gong
- **2006** – Organ harvesting atrocities disclosed
- **2011** – Falun Gong books legal again in China, but policy kept quiet; still no books published with official permission. But countless books are continuously being printed by Falun Gong practitioners in China.
- **2014** – Labor camps close but imprisonments rise
- **2015** – Criminal complaints against dictator Jiang Zemin exceed 250,000
- **TODAY**
 - Falun Gong practiced in 80+ countries
 - Falun Gong books published in 40 languages
 - 300 million Chinese renounced Party affiliations
 - More than 4,300 practitioners confirmed to have died as a result of the persecution
 - Persecution in China continues, but more newcomers are practicing Falun Gong



A customer at a farmers' market in Jiamusi, Heilongjiang Province, receives a Minghui desk calendar with information about Falun Dafa. (Photo: Minghui.org)

On the Ground in China

Countering persecution with compassion

When former Chinese leader Jiang Zemin first started the persecution, he vowed to “defeat” Falun Dafa in three months. Twenty years later, practitioners in China hold firm to their faith and continue to tell people how they have benefited from Dafa.

Overcoming prejudice

To get the word out, they pass out flyers, talk to people face to face, write letters to officials, put up posters, and give out calendars and keepsakes. They produce the materials at home using their own savings.

Due to the Communist Party's propaganda campaign, many in China have come to hate or fear practitioners. They would give practitioners the cold shoulder or even report them to the police in exchange for a reward.

Over time, however, many have come to

understand the persecution. “I appreciate you. You are all good people,” they would tell practitioners. Others have started seeking out information themselves. When they see someone handing out Minghui desk calendars, they would exclaim, “Finally, I found you!”

Kindness moves perpetrators

Despite being tortured in prisons and labor camps, many practitioners have forgiven their persecutors. “They are also victims in the persecution,” one practitioner reflected. He patiently explained to a police officer why he should not continue to harm practitioners despite orders from above. The officer thanked him and said, “I respect your faith.”

Another practitioner who had previously been in a forced labor camp shocked one of her guards when she went to give her a gift. “We do not hate you, even though you

treated us horribly. Our Master asks us to be selfless and considerate in everything we do. We do not strike back when beaten or swear back when sworn at,” she told the guard. With practitioners' efforts to rescue others detained there, the labor camp was soon decommissioned, and many practitioners were released.

Deterrence from overseas

A police officer in a forced labor camp was preparing to torture a practitioner when he received a phone call. It was from overseas—another practitioner started telling the officer why he shouldn't participate in the persecution. Though the officer was belligerent at first, he listened for about five minutes before turning to the practitioner in his office and dismissing him. The officer later requested a transfer out of the brigade responsible for torturing Falun Dafa practitioners.

STANDING UP FOR FALUN GONG

Families, friends, colleagues, and members of the public have all helped to rescue practitioners who are detained for their faith.

Defending rule of law

In Chinese courts, sentences for Falun Dafa practitioners are predetermined by Communist Party officials and the trials a mere formality.

A judge once told a practitioner's father after sentencing her to four years in prison, “Why are you talking about laws with me? We speak politics.”

Courts regularly hold trials without notifying practitioners' lawyers or family members. Defense attorneys are often denied access to their clients and case documents. Judges regularly remove lawyers who enter not-guilty pleas and replace them with

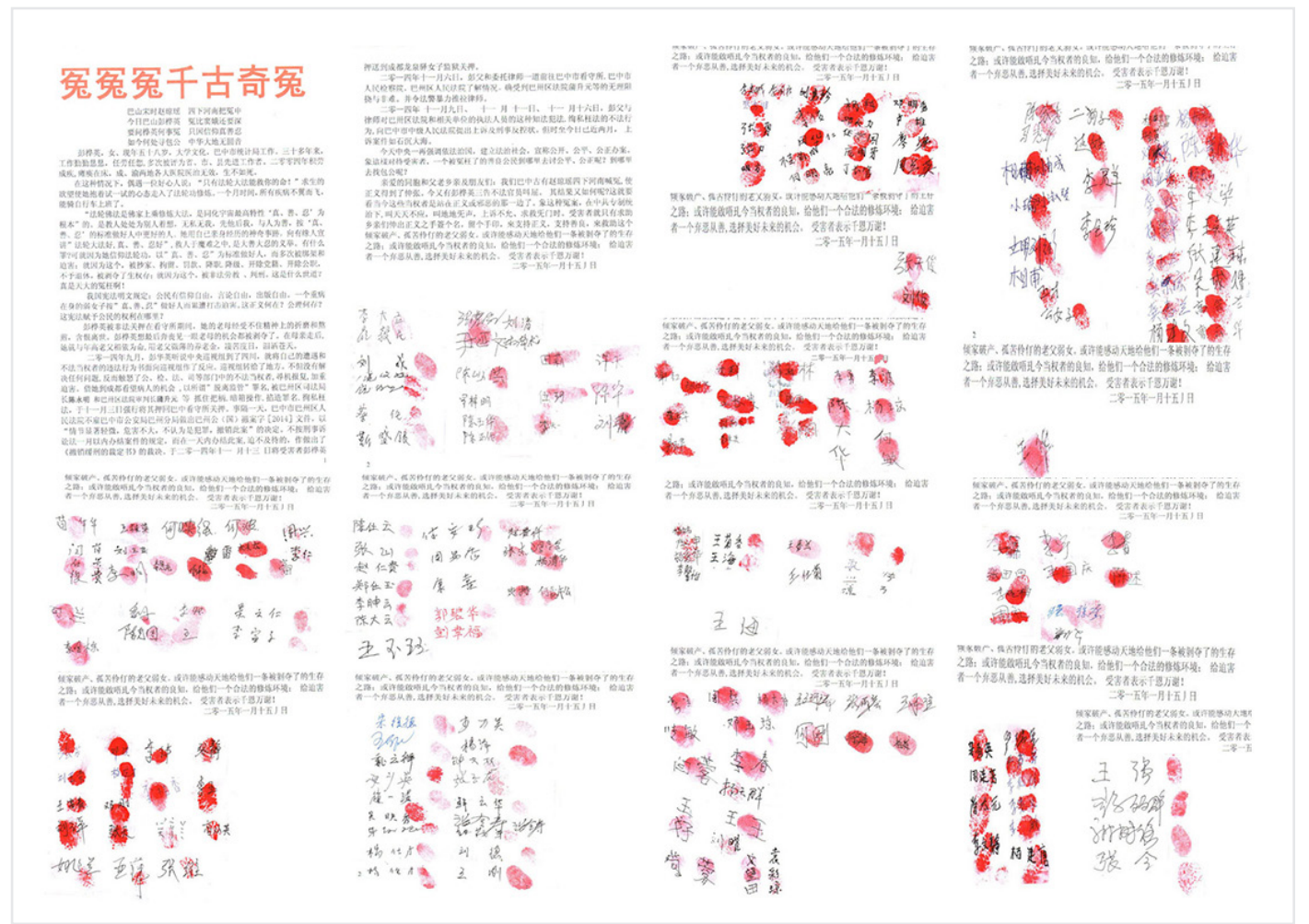
court-appointed lawyers who plead guilty instead. Lawyers have even been arrested and tortured for defending practitioners' innocence.

Despite these threats, many lawyers in China continue to defend practitioners' right to freedom of belief.

“Every contact with Falun Gong practitioners is an inspiration to me,” one lawyer said. “They remain positive when facing persecution and do not even resent the judges who intentionally follow the persecution policy and sentence them to prison.”

Citizens speak out

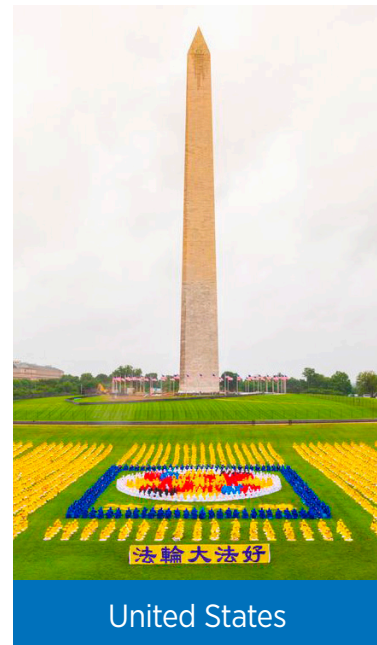
In some towns and cities, hundreds or even thousands of citizens signed petitions to demand the release of practitioners. One such petition is pictured below.



A portion of the 5,145 petition signatures and fingerprints calling for the release of a Falun Gong practitioner in Tianjin who had been arrested and tortured in Binhai prison for practicing Falun Gong. (Photo: Minghui.org)

Falun Dafa Around the World

Practiced in more than 80 countries



United States



France



Israel



Argentina



Indonesia

TIBETAN SCHOOLS IN INDIA WELCOME FALUN DAFU

I am a Westerner who has lived in India for almost three decades. I recently went to two northern, mountainous states in India for six weeks to introduce Falun Dafa to Tibetan schools.

Many thousands of Tibetan refugees have fled to India over the past few decades due to increasing repression and severe human rights abuses in Tibet. To care for the children who were orphaned or separated from their families during the arduous escape from their homeland, separate schools for Tibetans were established in India to provide them with an excellent education while preserving the Tibetan language and culture.

All these schools, big or small, have dedicated teachers and staff who stay true to their motto, "Others before self." One principal of a school I visited wrote in a letter that the staff and students "cherish that extraordinary event and adopt the Falun Dafa principles of 'Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance' as our guiding ethical standards."

Renewing connections

The journey was made challenging by my having to move eleven times, the many bags containing brochures and displays, the unexpected heat, and early rains at times. Nevertheless, the trip was very successful, and I reached many more schools than originally planned.

Nearly everywhere I went, I ran into people—teachers, children, and others—whom I had met previously during my many visits to Ladakh and other parts of India. Some had practiced Falun Dafa in their schools, received flyers at displays, or seen posters.

Several times when I met new people, I felt a

deep connection, as if I were seeing long-lost friends again. The feeling often seemed mutual.

It is always heartening when children say "Falun Dafa" or "Falun Dafa is good" with delight when they see me on the street or at their new school, even if it had been years since they had



A girl learns Falun Dafa meditation. (Photo: Minghui.org)



Tibetan children in India learn about how children and their families are persecuted in China for practicing Falun Dafa. (Photo: Minghui.org)

a Dafa session in school.

Learning the exercises

Students and teachers alike were eager to learn the five gentle exercises of Falun Dafa.

When it was crowded and hot, the students were sometimes restless while doing the standing exercises. But they calmed down fully during the sitting meditation.

The principal of one school wrote in a letter, "I really admire your spirit and dedication... Through these exercises, the students' ability to concentrate, which is lacking these days, will improve."

Displays of persecution in China

In addition to sharing the exercises and principles of Falun Dafa, I also show posters about the persecution of practitioners in China by the communist regime.

Many children were mesmerized by the depictions of the persecution, including that faced by young children. Some of their eyes were wet, with tears falling silently or wiped away. One young girl looked at each picture for a long time.

Some of them could have been remembering the severe human rights violations the Tibetans have faced. Family

members and friends who were left behind were often tortured or even killed. Their experiences are similar to what practitioners of Falun Dafa and other faiths suffer in China.

Many Tibetans pointed out that concerning these atrocities, Tibetans and Falun Dafa practitioners "are all sitting in the same boat."

A headmistress wrote, "This is definitely a pure and unconditional service to humanity. I appreciate your kind service for the cause of humanity."

FALUN DAFA
is also
known as
FALUN GONG



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For history, current news and a window into the lives of those who practice Falun Dafa

HOW TO LEARN

Falun Dafa is taught free of charge, and it's easy to begin.

You are invited to visit any of the hundreds of group exercise sites that can be found in the major cities of some 80 countries.

Falun Dafa does not maintain any memberships. There is nothing to join. No one will ever ask you for donations or to pay for any public events.

LEARN THE EXERCISES Volunteers teach the exercises at public exercise sites the world over. Video instructions are available online.

READ THE BOOKS The book *Zhuan Falun* is the primary text of the practice. Read free online or purchase a hard copy from Tianti Books, which specializes in Falun Dafa books.

ATTEND A LECTURE SERIES Learn the exercises and watch video lectures on nine consecutive days. Offered periodically in major cities and Tianti bookstores free of charge.

Discover what Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance can bring to you!

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