

Clearwisdom Review

An Update on Falun Dafa Worldwide

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*Falun Gong practitioner
Li Zhigang*



*Hulan Prison where Li
Zhigang is incarcerated*

Canadian Foreign Minister Expresses Concern about the Persecution of Falun Gong

(Clearwisdom.net) Falun Gong practitioner Mr. Li Zhigang was given a five-year prison sentence by the Chinese authorities in 2009 for refusing to renounce his belief in Falun Gong. He is now in Hulan Prison in Heilongjiang Province, where he has been subjected to severe torture and abuse. He is in critical condition. Mr. Li's friends and Falun Gong practitioners in Canada sought the Canadian government's help on behalf of Li. In a letter dated June 25, 2010, Canadian Foreign Minister Lawrence Cannon replied to a practitioner's letter of appeal, stating that the Canadian government is very concerned about Li Zhigang. Mr. Cannon affirmed that the Canadian government will make further efforts to urge the Chinese authorities to improve human rights in China.

Li Zhigang, from Harbin, was arrested at his home in February 2009 by the Harbin Police Department. Chinese Communist agents sentenced him to five years in prison.

We have learned that the prison guards subjected Li Zhigang to torture, including violent beatings, shocking with electric batons, and other abuses in an attempt to force Mr. Li to renounce his belief. Mr. Li is physically weak, and displays symptoms of serious illness. He was once sent to a hospital for emergency treatment. The prison officials have forbidden family visitation.

Canadian Foreign Minister Cannon stated in his letter, "The promotion and protection of human rights is an integral part of Canada's foreign policy."

"The Government of Canada has serious concerns about the human rights situation in China, including continuing restrictions on religious freedom and persecution of religious groups such as Falun Gong practitioners. Canada consistently raises human rights concerns with the Chinese government, calling on China to respect, protect and promote the freedom of expression, association, and spiritual belief of all Chinese citizens."

Regarding the case of Mr. Li, Cannon said, "The case of your friend Li Zhigang merits serious concern. The Government of Canada calls upon Chinese authorities to guarantee freedom of religion to all Chinese citizens in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Furthermore, we call upon China to release Chinese citizens detained or imprisoned in retaliation for pursuing their right to freedom of religion, including Falun Gong practitioners." Mr. Cannon emphasized, "I can assure you that the Government of Canada will continue to express its concerns regarding human rights and fundamental freedoms to Chinese authorities."

Introduction to Falun Dafa

Falun Dafa, also known as Falun Gong, is a practice for benefiting physical health and elevating the mind. Introduced by Mr. Li Hongzhi in China, the practice consists of five gentle exercises including meditation, and diligent effort on the part of practitioners to follow the universal principles of Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance in daily life. Falun Gong is not only beneficial to one's own health and well-being, it also benefits others. Although the practice originated in China, today it is practiced throughout the world by people of all races and walks of life. In the face of the most brutal and vicious persecution perpetrated on them by the Chinese Communist Party, Falun Gong practitioners have found the spiritual strength to resist peacefully and tirelessly by upholding the principles of Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance.



About Clearwisdom

Clearwisdom.net is the most authoritative source of information about the practice of Falun Gong and about the persecution of Falun Gong in China, reporting timely news and events happening inside China as well as from the more than 100 countries around the world where Falun Gong is practiced. Clearwisdom responsibly publishes the experiences and understandings of practitioners themselves, who submit the majority of the articles.

"You Shall Have the Right of Freedom to Practice Your Belief"

(Clearwisdom.net) On July 31, 2010, the Eighth Annual Greater Portland Festival of Nations was held at Deering Oaks Park, in Portland, Maine. Besides introducing Falun Dafa and exposing the persecution of Falun Gong in China, Falun Gong practitioners also taught festival visitors how to make folded paper lotus flowers, an activity that many people enjoyed.

Two local residents, Gail Root and Christine Racine, saw the peaceful Falun Gong exercise demonstration and expressed an interest in learning the practice.

A man from Vietnam read the display boards and said that he could understand what was happening in China since he was from a Communist country, where the Vietnamese people were also suppressed by the Vietnamese Communist Party. He expressed sympathy and praised Falun Gong practitioners' peaceful endeavors to end the persecution.



A visitor signs her name on the petition to support the effort to end the persecution of Falun Gong

Susan McKeen came to the event from Windham. After she learned a little about Falun Dafa and the persecution in China, she was shocked upon hearing of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) tortures and atrocities. She signed the petition calling for an end to the persecution, and said that the atrocities were unimaginable.

Nancy Hendvie told Falun Dafa practitioners that she had personally experienced the CCP's suppression of the Chinese people. She told how she had visited China on a medical mission in 1995 and was arrested while simply walking around at a university. She said, "You shall have the right of freedom to practice your belief."

Mr. Keith Bellas of Portland compared the persecution of Falun Gong to some of the atrocities that took place in World War II. He also said that since the U.S. and China have strong trade ties, America should be more courageous and tell the Chinese authorities that it is not allowed to do such inhuman things.

The Extraordinary Healing Power of Falun Gong

(Clearwisdom.net) I was born in 1957, in China's Dongbei region. My health was very poor. I almost died when I was seven years old. After I got married, my family life was hard. My husband was lazy and did not like to work. My health continued to get worse: headaches, severe pain in the eyes, back pain, stomach pain, leg pain, pain in the heels, severe arthritis, etc. My life was so difficult. In 1996 a big lump grew on my neck. I could not eat or drink. My sister paid for an operation to remove the lump, but one month later my body would not stop shaking. I was unable to hold down food. Another big lump grew on the right side of my neck. I wondered if I would survive this time.

That year my sister started to practice Falun Dafa. She said to me, "You cannot just lie there and wait for death. Why don't you practice Falun Gong?" I didn't believe her then. However, my two daughters learned Falun Dafa from my sister. After school they finished the laundry and their homework first, then my elder daughter led my younger daughter to practice Falun Gong. One autumn day, while my daughters were practicing in front of me, I surprised myself by saying: "Please bring me Master Li's exercise instruction book." My eight-year-old daughter rode her grandpa's bike, carrying me to my sister's home. I weighed very little at that time. My sister taught me right away after seeing that I wanted to practice. I only learned the first exercise. It was all I could do before having to rest. My sister gave me Master Li's exercise instruction book. After I got home, my daughters continued to teach me. I read the exercise instruction book every day, and gradually I learned how to do the exercises. Dafa gave me a new life. After two months of practice and living by the principles of Falun Dafa, all my illnesses were removed. My eyes are so much better and the lump on my neck disappeared. All the illnesses that plagued me for thirty years disappeared.

Falun Dafa changed my life and the life of my family. Our lives are constantly getting better. My face is glowing, and my body is light. I feel that my feet barely touch the ground when I walk, nor do I feel tired after work. I can finally experience a life without illness! The words "Falun Dafa is great" have been spread across every village in our area.

For more current information of Falun Dafa worldwide, please visit www.clearwisdom.net
To learn more about Falun Dafa as a practice, please visit www.falundafa.org