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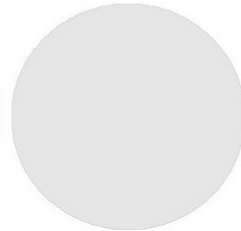
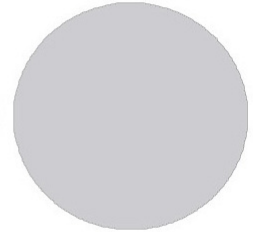
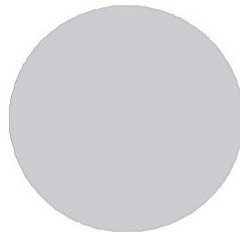
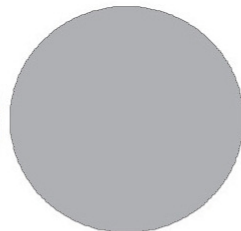
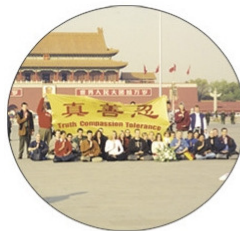
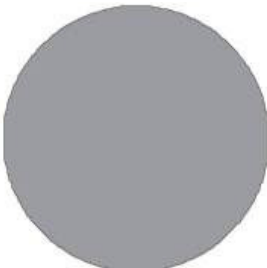


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News and Events from Around the World



Divine Performing Arts Show Wins High Praise by VIPs

The 2009 First Asian Show Creates Sensation in Korea

On January 30, the internationally acclaimed Divine Performing Arts (DPA) began its Asian tour with performances in Daegu, Korea. Despite pressure from the Chinese Communist regime, the city provided its best venue - Suseong Artpia, for the group. At the opening show, the pure compassion and beauty of the performance deeply touched the audience. Many were moved to tears.



The DPA show moved Korean audience members to tears



Suseong District Council Chairman Mr. Son said that the choreography was unmatched

Suseong District Council Chairman Mr. Son came to see the show with his wife and daughter. He was very impressed by the beauty of the performance.

Citing the dance "Udumbara's Bloom," Mr. Son said that the backdrop gave a perfect presentation of the purity and dignity of Udumbara flowers, and the dancing itself was as beautiful as the flowers. It was so amazing, he added.

Mr. Son was left in awe by the music performed on both oriental and western instruments, the perfect choreography, the gorgeous costumes and magnificent backup. He said that every piece was perfect and he wishes the Divine Performing Arts world tour a great success.

USA: Local Officials Acclaim the DPA Show

On February 6, 2009, Divine Performing Arts (DPA) performed at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, Alabama. At a reception after the show, many VIPs commended the performance, expressing appreciation for bringing such a great cultural experience to their city.

Mr. Mike Ball, Member of Alabama House of Representatives, said after watching the DPA show that the performance was fantastic and unique. You cannot see such a show in Alabama. It shows different Chinese culture as you see on TV and media. He said he did not know Chinese classical dance before and had never seen such graceful, smooth and elegant dancing.



Mr. Mike Ball, Member of Alabama House of Representatives

Mr. Ball remarked that the DPA performers cooperated very well. He also commended the culture and philosophy behind the show to teach people to be kind, tolerant and helpful. He said that there is universal truth, good is good. People in all countries seek the truth. This show comes from a higher level than us. He said he could feel that the DPA players perform with their hearts.

DC Federal Officials Extend Congratulations

Divine Performing Arts New York Company performed seven shows in five days at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington DC beginning February

11, 2009. Government officials sent their congratulations and greetings for this grand presentation, and the tickets were sold out.



Government officials in the U.S. capital and neighboring states issue proclamations and send congratulations and greetings to wish Divine Performing Arts a great success

Congressman Elijah E. Cummings, representing the 7th constitutional district of Maryland, issued a special proclamation to welcome the arrival of Divine Performing Arts.

Congressman Cummings stated that he applauded and cheered the efforts made by DPA for conveying the essence of Chinese culture to people in Maryland through their creative art performances, and providing an opportunity for the audience to witness first hand and appreciate the wonderful Divine Performing Arts shows that feature a live orchestra, choreography, costumes and dancers who portray the culture of China from ancient times to the present. He thanked DPA for enriching people's lives with their performances.

Congressman Cummings said that he was very pleased to learn that Divine Performing Arts commits to the development of Chinese people's positive values of life. He thanked DPA for persevering in presenting the U.S. audience their artistic achievements.

He said he believed that the DPA performances on February 11 to 15, 2009 will be a success. Those audience members who are fortunate enough to see the outstanding artistic production will be very grateful.

Congressman Gerry E. Connolly, representing the 11th district of the State of Virginia, congratulated the arrival of Divine Performing Arts to Washington DC. He said to his constituents that he hoped to meet with them at the Kennedy Center, and also looked forward to watching the grand performance with his family.

Washington DC Council Chair Vincent C. Gary commended Divine Performing Arts in his proclamation as a genuine art and culture treasure in Washington DC, that gathers first-class Chinese dancers who have received advanced training in classical dance, dance artists, musicians, vocalists from around the world, and has a unique live orchestra that combines Chinese and Western musical instruments. He said that he was pleased that DPA had selected the Kennedy Center as one of the performing venues for its grand cultural events.

Maryland Governor Martin J. O'Malley, Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown and State Secretary of State John P. McDonough jointly issued a proclamation to Divine Performing Arts.

They stated that in recognition of the activities that commemorate and celebrate the essence of the long-lost authentic Chinese culture through touring the world to perform a series of traditional Chinese performances, Maryland residents jointly expressed their respect and wished the DPA a successful and memorable "New Year's Performance in 2009."

Democratic National Committee Chairman, Virginia Governor Timothy M. Kaine commended the Divine Performing Arts performers in his congratulatory letter for their efforts and dedication in preserving Chinese culture. He assured that there is no doubt that Divine Performing Arts performers will be very proud on the evenings of the shows.

Touches Celebrities in Japan and Wins High Praise

On The afternoon of February 11, 2009, Divine Performing Arts (DPA) International Company staged its first show in the Hitomi Memorial Auditorium at Tokyo Showa Women's University, Tokyo. The auditorium was full. This is the third year DPA is performing in Japan.

Member of Parliament Jin Matsubara watched the first show in Tokyo and was astonished by the performance. He said, "I can see that the backdrop uses high tech methods. The show is a very astonishing art event. Watching DPA show can bring you out of your busy daily life to an art world."

MP Matsubara was impressed with the programs and the costumes of the performers. He gave examples of *The Monkey King Triumphs* and *Poet Li Bai* and said he enjoyed reading the novel *Journey to the West* when he was young. He said, "I like the poet Li Bai's poems and read them. I did not know about the poem after he was drunk. I learned a lot."

Tokyo City Council Member Mr. Tsuchiya and another member of the City Council watched the DPA show together. Mr. Tsuchiya said, "Japanese culture and Chinese culture have similarities. Actually, we admit that Chinese traditional culture is the elder brother of Japanese culture. It is regretful that such culture does not exist in current China. In places without freedom of thought and expression, culture is just a superficial form with no inner connotation."

He said, "The DPA show redefines the inner meaning of Chinese culture. It is precious and valuable."

Another city council member watched the show for the third year in a row. He and his wife saw the show on February 11. He said, "Today I am moved again to see the show."

He said, "The current financial crisis is actually a spiritual crisis. After seeing the show, people should ponder what is the real crisis? Today's show leads people to think about why they are here. What is one's mission and what role should one play? It is a show to consider! The economic crisis is severe. But the show leads us to see that the bigger crisis is a spiritual crisis."

San Francisco, California: Rally Held to Mark 50 Million Withdrawals from CCP

On February 14, San Francisco residents from all circles rallied at Portsmouth Square in San Francisco's Chinatown to celebrate 50 million Chinese people quitting the Chinese Communist Party and its affiliated organizations. Rally participants called on more Chinese people to quit the evil party and stand for a better future.



Rally site



Rally participants march in Chinatown after rally

Since the Epoch Times published the [*Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party*](#) in November 2004, Quitting the CCP Service Centers have been established one after another around the world. Many Falun Gong practitioners volunteer to support this noble effort and help distribute the Commentaries every day despite the CCP's sabotage and interference. To date, nearly 50 million Chinese people have denounced the CCP and its affiliated organizations, starting a new life journey.

Representative from Quitting CCP Center: Communist Party Fears the Quitting CCP Movement

In an opening speech, Dr. Youzhi Ma, a representative from the Northern California Quitting the CCP Service Center, first congratulated the 50 million Chinese people who had chosen to

withdraw from the CCP and its affiliated organizations. "This is a great day to be remembered! The Communist Party fears the Quitting the CCP movement. For example, a party member's house was recently dismantled by a government-supported agency. He went to the local government to request compensation for damages and didn't receive a response. He then posted an announcement at the Epoch Times to quit the CCP. Upon learning this news, party officials were in a panic and gave him and his friends 6 million [yuan](#) as compensation for their houses."

Falun Dafa Spokesperson: Quitting the CCP Is a Peaceful Way to Disintegrate the CCP

At the rally, San Francisco Falun Dafa spokesperson Dr. Sherry Zhang said that renowned human rights lawyer Gao Zhisheng has been arrested and subjected to torture for exposing torture. "While torture methods used against Mr. Gao are already appalling, prison guards claimed that they had not used all the torture methods which had been used against Falun Gong practitioners. Many people are unwilling to face the persecution as the documented torture methods are so brutal that people find the existence of such torture hard to believe. However, the case of Mr. Gao once again confirmed that such brutality does exist.

"Anyone with a conscience should not side with the evil party. Quitting the CCP is the best way to say NO to evil and peacefully disintegrate the party."

Falun Dafa Practitioner: Quit the CCP ASAP

In his speech, practitioner Abraham said, "While the *Nine Commentaries* are banned in Mainland China, people nowadays can break through the Internet blockade and obtain an electronic copy. Every day, tens of thousands of Chinese people quit the party. Meanwhile, grassroots activities to safeguard basic rights emerge one after another. Consequently, more people have realized that the CCP will soon collapse. When more people quit the party, that day will come."

Mr. Zhang is an engineer and he urged his fellow countrymen to quit the CCP as soon as possible. "You were forced to swear under the blood-red flag (CCP flag) to devote your life to communism. Now is the time for you to redeem yourself by quitting the CCP as it will be soon destroyed by Heaven."

Practitioner Steve is from Romania still clearly remembers what happened in 1989: When a Romanian general appeared on TV to tell the public that the Romanian army was with the people, the Romanian Communist Party collapsed within several hours. Today, Chinese people are quitting the CCP through all kinds of channels, and Steve hopes that the Chinese army will stand on the side of the people.

Stop the Persecution and Let More People Know the Truth

Allen Hoffman of Virginia was on a business trip and he observed the rally as it progressed. He said that he supported Chinese people withdrawing from the CCP. "I hope Chinese people will have more support and eventually the human rights atrocities of the Communist Party will be ended." After reading posters which revealed facts of the persecution and the organ harvesting

atrocities, Hoffman said that the persecution should be stopped and more people should know about these stories.

After the rally, participants marched through San Francisco's Chinatown and many bystanders also joined the parade. Arie Tuvia of Los Angeles joined the parade with his friends. He was in town sightseeing and he has been following issues in China. Speaking in fluent Chinese, he said, "The Chinese Communist Party is harvesting organs from living Falun Gong practitioners in order to make a profit, and the party has brought massive damage to the Chinese people. I hope that Chinese people will stand up to resist such tyranny."

UN Reviews Human Rights in China - FGHRWG Submits Report

On February 9, 2009, the United Nations Human Rights Committee will review human rights in China as part of its Universal Periodic Review (UPR). UPR is a unique process, which involves a review of the human rights records of all UN Member States once every four years.

The persecution of Falun Gong in China has gone on for almost ten years. The Falun Gong Human Rights Working Group (FGHRWG) has submitted a powerful report to the UN regarding the Chinese government's persecution of Falun Gong.

The Falun Gong Human Rights Working Group report points out that the persecution of Falun Gong violates every item of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The report discusses the following in detail:

1. Deprivation of Dignity and Personal Freedom, and All Basic Rights
2. Deprivation of the Right to Life, Liberty and Personal Security
3. Slavery
4. Torture and Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
5. Deprivation of Protection of Law, Access to Legal Help, and a Fair Trial
6. Arbitrary Detention
7. Destruction of Families
8. Deprivation of Freedom of Movement, Right to Nationality, and Right to Asylum
9. Deprivation of Fundamental Civil and Political Rights
10. Deprivation of Basic Social and Cultural Rights, and Right to Personal Development

According to the information gathered from Falun Gong practitioners and their sympathizers in Mainland China, more than a million practitioners were detained. Tens of thousands were put into forced labor camps. Thousands were put into mental hospitals and injected with unknown drugs. Almost all detained practitioners were physically abused. Most of the detained female practitioners were tortured, including sexual insults. Thousands were killed as results of torture. A large number of the practitioners were subject to live organ removals. Since the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) blocks all information, the actual number of these cases may be much higher. During the past few years, UN special human rights agents questioned CCP officials regarding the persecution several thousand times, confirming the existence of a large-scale persecution. With the long period of time and a large number of victims, the CCP's persecution of Falun Gong practitioners becomes the most severe human rights disaster in the world.

The Chinese government's severe and extensive violations against Falun Gong are considered by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) to be "barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind." Such acts go against the letter and spirit of the UN Charter, and violate every article of the UDHR and all international human rights treaties and laws that are based on the UDHR. When China applied to be a member of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), they promised to protect human rights. But their actual record on human rights is an insult to the wisdom and conscience of international society.

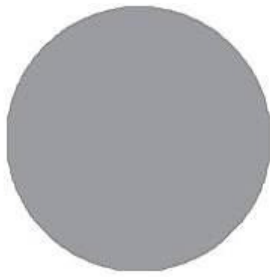
The report points out a similar systematic violation of human rights against Tibetans, Uyghurs, Mongolians, Christians, dissidents, and other victim groups, making the Chinese government the worst human rights offender in the world.

Links to Chinese and English versions of the report to UPR on the Chinese government's persecution of Falun Gong:

<http://www.falunhr.org/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=1738&Itemid=0>

<http://www.falunhr.org/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=1737&Itemid=0>

Facts of the Persecution



FDI: Brutal Torture and Disappearance of Renowned Attorney Demands a Clear International Response

World Leaders Must Call for Release of Gao Zhisheng, End to Falun Gong Persecution

NEW YORK - Chinese security forces' severe torture and disappearance of leading human rights lawyer and Nobel Peace Prize nominee Gao Zhisheng highlights the life-threatening danger facing Falun Gong adherents and those who come to their defense in China and must prompt a strong international response, the Falun Dafa Information Center said Thursday.

"Gao Zhisheng has repeatedly risked his life to stand up against injustice. He has been abducted and tortured largely for defending Falun Gong adherents publicly, exposing the atrocities they have suffered and calling upon the regime's leadership to end its campaign against this large group of ordinary Chinese seeking to practice their faith in peace," says Falun Dafa Information Center spokesman Erping Zhang.

"His horrific treatment for doing so should be a wake-up call to the international community of the Chinese regime's disregard for human rights and the rule of law. Gao's case shows clearly that absent international pressure with teeth, China's leaders cannot be depended upon to uphold the basic dignity and rights of their own people."

Gao Zhisheng, a Chinese rights lawyer featured on the front page of the New York Times in 2005 and listed among the top three candidates for the 2008 Nobel Peace Prize, relayed the brutal torture he suffered in police custody in 2007 in a statement released on his behalf on Monday and published by the China Aid Association and Human Rights in China. ([statement](#))

Several days before the letter was made public, on Feb. 4, Gao was again abducted by Chinese authorities. His current whereabouts remain unknown and he is at severe risk of torture.

Torture Account

In the statement released Monday, Gao describes the treatment at the hands of Chinese security agents after he was abducted on September 21, 2007 for writing a letter to the U.S. Congress detailing abuses surrounding preparation for the Olympic games.

Gao describes in great detail being stripped naked, thrown to a concrete floor where several officials beat him and shocked him with electric batons all over his body, including his genitals and in his mouth. On other occasions, Gao was pinned down while torturers pierced his genitals with sharp objects. During the abuse, his torturers

repeatedly linked his treatment to that of Falun Gong, whose persecution he is known for publicly condemning:

"The 12 courses [of torture techniques] we're going to give to you were practiced on the Falun Gong," Gao recounts one torturer named Wang saying. "We can torture you to death without your body being found."

The torture lasted 50 days. Gao says he was threatened that if he were to reveal the torture he had suffered, he would be abducted again and tortured in front of his wife and small children.

Gao was eventually moved to a regular prison cell where several officials suggested that he write articles attacking Falun Gong and praising the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and that he could "charge whatever you want," implying the government would pay him large sums of money to do so. Gao refused.

International Appeal

Gao's letter closes with a few thoughts directed at foreign governments and his fellow citizens, "Finally, I want to say a few words which won't be liked by some folks. I want to remind those so-called global 'good friends', 'good partners' called by the CCP that the increasing degree of brutality and coldness against the Chinese people by the CCP is the direct result of appeasement by both you and us (our own Chinese people)."

China watchers frequently point to economic and political relationships with the Chinese regime and suggest that taking a strong stance on cases such as Gao's or Falun Gong may damage the advancement of interests in other areas such as the economy, energy and the war on terror.

Zhang, however, says such views are shortsighted. "Free countries have never really benefited from appeasing nations ruled by tyranny," says Zhang. "In the end, it always comes back to haunt us, and often in the worst of ways. The best partner for the international community would be a China in which decent, courageous individuals like Gao Zhisheng are honored, not tortured."

"The decision to detain and torture such a high-profile figure could only originate near the top on the Chinese regime's hierarchy. The Chinese leadership clearly evaluated the pluses and minuses of doing this to Gao and determined they could take these actions with relative impunity. It is time for the international community to tilt the balance of that cost-benefit analysis with a strong response."

The Falun Dafa Information Center calls for:

- The Chinese regime to immediately and unconditionally release Gao Zhisheng.

- President Barack Obama and other world leaders make a personal, public appeal to the Chinese authorities to release Gao.
- The United States and other nations take an unequivocal and public stance against the persecution of Falun Gong in China, which has further escalated recently. ([news](#))

Additional background on Gao Zhisheng:

Beginning in 2004, Gao, a devout Christian, was the first of China's high-profile human rights attorneys to speak publicly against the persecution of Falun Gong. Gao also authored several open letters to Chinese leaders ([letter 1](#) / [letter 2](#) / [letter 3](#)) as well as the U.S. Congress ([letter](#)) detailing his own investigation into atrocities against Falun Gong. In 2007, Gao published a book, *A China More Just*, detailing his life and work defending a gamut of China's vulnerable groups.

The Death Case of Mr. Jiang Xiqing in Chongqing City Forced Labor Camp

On the afternoon of January 27, 2009, the second day of the Chinese New Year, Mr. Jiang's family went to visit him at Xishanping Forced Labor Camp. He seemed to be in good health at that time. However, within less than 24 hours, at around 3:00 p.m. on January 28, labor camp officials called his family to notify them that Mr. Jiang had died.

At around 10:10 p.m. on January 28, 2009, seven hours after Xishanping Labor Camp declared Mr. Jiang Xiqing dead, his son and daughters found that his philtrum, chest, belly and legs were still warm. They were shocked, and shouted, "Dad is still alive! Quickly rescue him!"

They tried to do artificial respiration, but more than twenty guards forcibly dragged them out of the funeral home. When Mr. Jiang's family visited him 24 hours before his death, he was fine. How could he suddenly die of illness, as the labor camp official alleged? The suspicious nature of Mr. Jiang's death and the labor camp's clumsy attempts to cover up the cause of death have led the family to suspect that Mr. Jiang was murdered.

Mr. Jiang Xiqing, 66, was a retired employee of the Jiangjin District Tax Bureau in Chongqing City. He was very healthy after practicing Falun Gong, and he worked very hard. He was compassionate and helpful to others. Mr. Jiang was [illegally arrested](#) several days before the Beijing Olympics and detained in the 7th Ward of Xishanping Forced Labor Camp in Chongqing City.

On January 28, 2009, the labor camp officials told the family that Mr. Jiang died of a stroke. But on January 29, 2009, the camp gave a second explanation for the cause of his death. They claimed that Mr. Jiang Xiqing had suffered sunburn, and a Chinese medicine treatment that scrapes the skin on his chest, back, hands, elbows, and the joints on his legs to relieve the sunburn caused infection that led to his death.

This was also a dubious claim, as normally this treatment is only performed on the parts of the body that suffered sunburn, not to the whole body. Furthermore, given that it was the middle of winter, it was highly unlikely Mr. Jiang suffered sunburn to his entire body as the camp authorities claimed. The only reasonable explanation is that Mr. Jiang probably passed out due to a beating, as bruises covered his body. The labor camp administration forbade his family to examine Mr. Jiang's back, and they tried to have his body cremated quickly.

From the day Mr. Jiang was arrested, from his home being ransacked, to his being taken to the forced labor camp, no legal procedures were followed. His family was not notified of the arrest and incarceration. Jiangjin District Domestic Security Team leader Mu Chaoheng threatened his family, "I have power, and I can torture whoever I want.

Your parents were taken to a brainwashing center in 2000 without being sent to forced labor or imprisonment. This time, I want to send your father to one year of forced labor."

Mr. Dong Fengshan Dies after Six Days in Siping City Prison, Jilin Province

On October 13, 2008, Domestic Security agents from Songyuan City Police Department arrested Falun Gong practitioner Mr. Dong Fengshan at his rental home. More than ten days later, his wife and two relatives went to the house and found, to their great surprise, that three police officers were waiting there. The police confiscated their bags and took them to the police station, where they were subjected to interrogation. When the police confirmed that the three of them were not Falun Gong practitioners, they forced Mr. Dong's wife to sign a document without allowing her to see its contents, then released them.

Mr. Dong Fengshan was detained in the Shanyou Detention Center in Songyuan City and secretly sentenced to nine years in prison. The whole process was done without notifying his family. On October 23, 2008, he was taken to the Jilin Province Prison in Siping City. Only six days later, on October 29, 2008, Mr. Dong's wife received a call from Siping Prison telling her that Mr. Dong was dying of an illness. However, when they rushed to the prison, the administration told them that he had already died.

The Prison Administration failed to give his family any reasonable explanation. They told his family that on the day Mr. Dong entered the prison, he had a conflict with the cell leader (a prisoner) because he had done the Falun Gong exercises. He went to work in the prison cement factory the next morning without eating breakfast. Mr. Dong was taken to the prison clinic by lunchtime due to a sudden stomachache. He was rushed to the prison hospital later when the situation became more severe, and he died some time later.

Mr. Dong's family were not convinced because they had seen him on October 22, 2008 in Songyuan City Detention Center, one day before he was taken to Siping Prison, and he was fine and not ill; he ate and slept well, and he was in good spirits and health. How did he die of sickness only six days after entering the prison, and what was he ill with? If he became sick on the second day he arrived at the prison, why did they not notify the family?

According to updated information, Mr .Dong Fengshan was beaten to death by prisoners Lu Zhanfeng, Wang Guoxiang, Chen Chuang, Wang Yanshuang, Han Shuang, Di Shaoquan, who were encouraged by "Education Ward" guard Hao Yulin.

On October 23, 2008, Mr. Dong was taken to the construction site of the Education Ward of the Siping City Prison. The guards beat him and shocked him with an electric baton for not answering their questions. As a result, the side of his face was swollen, and his neck and shoulders developed blisters. Guard Hao Yulin shocked Mr. Dong with an

electric baton. During the night he was transferred to the Fourth Ward, and the guards there bound his feet in chains.

On October 28, 2008, when the inmates finished their work at 4 p.m. that day, Gao Minglong, the head of Cell 3, brought back four triangular-headed belts that were around 40 cm long and placed them under the bed of Han Shuang. When Lu Yanfeng came back, he took the belts to the restroom.

At 6 p.m. that night, Lu Yanfeng went to the restroom to check, but the restroom was occupied by other inmates who were beating other practitioners. During the discussion period after the "study time," the guards asked the inmates and practitioners to bring up any questions they had and the heads of the prison would discuss the questions at a meeting on November 3, 2008. Mr. Dong Fengshan wondered why some of the inmates beat other people. Lu Yanfeng said, "If the prisoners do not properly answer the questions we ask, they are beaten. We will beat you if you ask that question again."

At 7:20 p.m. that same day, Lu Yanfeng went to the guard office. Guard Yin Shoudong was on duty that day. Lu Yanfeng stayed in the office for about 20 minutes. All of the inmates and practitioners were allowed to go to the restroom before they went to bed that evening, but Lu Yanfeng did not allow Mr. Dong to go. Mr. Dong waited for a long time to use the bathroom and finally went to bed.

At 8:05 p.m. when others were finished using the restroom, Mr. Dong was called to the restroom. After a while, Mr. Dong was heard shouting, "Falun Dafa is good." Wang Guoxiang, Yu Fengwu, Di Shaoquan, and Han Shuang, led by Lu Yanfeng, pushed Mr. Dong to the ground and beat him with the belts. At about 8:20 p.m., Chen Chuang also joined in the beating.

At 8:45 p.m., Yu Fengwu returned to the cell and took a gray shirt from Mr. Dong's bag. He returned a while later and took Mr. Dong's cup.

At 8:50 p.m., because he could not walk under his own power, Mr. Dong was dragged back to the cell by Yu Fengwu and Di Shaoquan and put on his bed.

At 2 a.m. the next morning, Mr. Dong vomited blood. At about 5 a.m., he threw up again and the vomit still had blood in it. When he was unable to get up on his own, Lu Yanfeng just pulled him up.

In the morning, the inmates dragged Mr. Dong outside. The guards said to the inmates, "Do you want to earn more points (used towards sentence reduction)?" Motivated by their sentences being reduced, the inmates brutally beat Mr. Dong again. The right side of Mr. Dong's chest was poked with a sharp end of a broken spade handle and his lung was pierced. Mr. Dong died at the scene.

Mr. Dong was deceased when his body was brought to the hospital affiliated with the prison. Xu Chengang, president of the hospital, let Xu Guozhong stitch up the hole in Mr. Dong's lung. But fearing that he would be held responsible for Mr. Dong's death, Xu Guozhong refused.

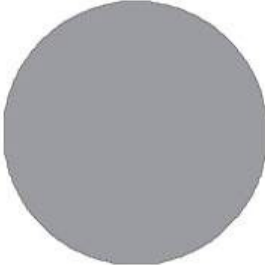
Later, staff members from the local Procuratorate interrogated the inmates. On November 7, 2008, the inmates gave false testimonies about what happened that day. Lu Yanfeng also changed the duty record. The altered record now reads that Mr. Dong sat in the meditation position and refused to wear prison clothes that day.

***Ms. Sun Aimei Dies in Forced Labor Camp; Family Sees Only Her
Cremation Urn***

Ms. Sun Aimei, around 60 years old, lived in Xinhua Village, Zhucheng City, Shandong Province. On March 25, 2008, the police arrested her while she was [clarifying the truth](#) about Falun Gong and took her to the Wangcun Women's Forced Labor Camp on March 28, 2008.

At the end of 2008, the camp administration called and told her family to bring 5,000 [yuan](#) and visit her. Upon arriving, her family heard that she had suffered a severe case of cerebral thrombosis and had undergone open-skull surgery. Her family handed over the 5,000 yuan, but they were not allowed to see her. On February 1, 2009, her family was notified to return to the labor camp again, but this time they were given the urn with her ashes.

People Awaken to the Truth



Falun Gong Practitioner Met with Long-Lasting Applause While Accepting "Outstanding Professor" Award

By Yue Dongmei from a university in China

Before "Teacher's Day" in 2008, our department received only one allocation for the Outstanding Professor Award. The results of a silent vote were a Falun Gong practitioner, Professor Zheng, and a non-Party member, Professor Chen; both received the same number of votes. Our department head had a hard time deciding between them.

Professor Zheng said, "Please let Professor Chen have this title. I am still young and will have more chances later." Professor Chen said, "No, I am close to retirement. Please let Professor Zheng have it. He is the leading teacher in our department." This discussion touched everyone in the department, and we asked the department head to get another allocation from the university.

Our department head reported the case to the Teacher Resource Division Director Ma. Ma said, "Then take Professor Zheng's name off."

"Why?" asked the chairman, "That is not fair."

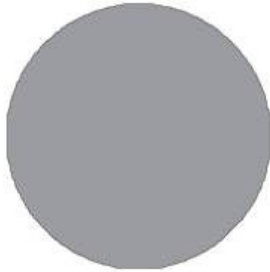
The director responded, "This is not about fairness. Everyone at the university knows he practices Falun Gong. Please do not give me a hard time. It's about the principles of this organization."

Our chairman said, "I did not give you hard time. What are the principles of this organization? Which rule says a Falun Gong practitioner cannot be an outstanding teacher? Professor Zheng is a talented professor. Haven't we learned enough from past political movements? I will talk with the president of the university."

Our university president is a well known and well respected academic figure. After listening to the report, he said, "Isn't the award about respecting the facts? How about respect for knowledge and respect for intellectuals? How about respect for a person's belief? How about respect for a democratic election? Allocate another award, and let both Professor Zheng and Professor Chen have the title."

At the awards ceremony, long-lasting applause filled the auditorium as Professor Zheng went on stage to accept the award.

Media Reports and Opinions



The Parliament.com (UK): MEPs call for Chinese TV station to be put back on air

A cross-party group of MEPs have called for the uncensored Chinese language broadcaster NTDTV to be put back on air.

The demand follows a move by Chinese authorities last June to shut down NTDTV's broadcast via the Paris-based satellite carrier Eutelsat.

Critics of the Chinese regime say Beijing did so by applying "political pressure and business interest lures" to Eutelsat.

The MEPs' demand comes a day before Chinese premier Wen Jiabao is due to visit Brussels for meetings with, among others, commission president José Manuel Barroso and EU Foreign Affairs Supreme Javier Solana.

Several deputies held a news conference in parliament on Wednesday to call for the 'ban' on NTDTV to be lifted.

UK Tory Edward McMillan-Scott, a vice president of the assembly, said he wants the French government to press the Eutelsat to restore the station's broadcasts to China.

He pointed out that recently some 476 MEPs signed a written declaration urging Eutelsat to resume the service.

"The other EU institutions, including the commission and council, should take note of the fact that so many MEPs signed what amounts to a resolution," he said.

"It is unfortunate that Paris succumbed to pressure from the Chinese so the French government and its president Nicolas Sarkozy should also take note of the strength of feeling on this issue.

"The EU has a specific role to play here in putting pressure on the French to restore this vitally important service to the Chinese people."

Italian ALDE deputy Marco Cappato, who also spoke at the news conference, said, "As the west celebrates the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin wall, in 2009 China will observe the 50th anniversary of the Chinese communist government's rule in Tibet, the 20th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre and the 10th anniversary of the persecution of the Falun Gong spiritual practice.

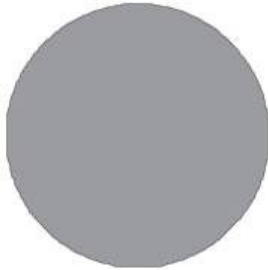
"This strong contrast highlights the need for information freedom in China."

"Without NTDTV's pioneering work to bring uncensored information to China, the vast majority of the Chinese population will have no access to information commemorating these solemn occasions.

"Since it seized power, the Chinese regime has continuously suppressed media voices that do not toe its political line and last June the regime succeeded in shutting down NTDTV's broadcast by applying political pressure and business interest lures to Eutelsat.

"With the passage of the written declaration on media freedom by a large majority of MEPs, parliament is signaling its will to defend media freedom in China."

Falun Gong Practitioners' Personal Experiences



Falun Gong Saved Me from Cancer

I am Xiao Hui (a pseudonym) from Lalin Town, Wuchang City in Heilongjiang Province and have been a migrant worker for years. I left my hometown in 2001 and found a job in another city. One day at work I felt a sharp pain in my abdomen. I did not think much about it and continued to work. A few days later I felt pain in my back. This time I went to see a doctor. The doctor told me that I had appendicitis and an ovarian cyst on the left side. I underwent surgery. A doctor gave me a prescription for antibiotics, and I thought my ordeal was over.

In May 2005 I went to another city to work. Shortly before August I once again felt a pain in my abdomen. I had to return to my hometown to see doctors in a hospital. The doctors found four ovarian cysts on the right side that were surgically removed. But only three days after the surgery I suffered from a urinary tract infection. I checked into the hospital for the third time.

In 2006 I went to Dalian City to work. Before long I felt pain in my abdomen again, this time worse than the last two times. Despite heavy doses of pills and injections, my condition did not improve. I had to return to my hometown and visited several hospitals. The diagnosis indicated many problems: an acute pelvic infection, inflammation of the endometrium and cervix, cervical erosion, abnormal white blood cells, a urinary tract infection, cervical cysts, and ovarian cancer. After 18 days of inpatient treatment and having to pay 20,000 [yuan](#) in medical costs, the doctors told me that surgery was not an option. All they could do was prescribe anti-cancer drugs, and hope the cancer would not grow too quickly. Once at home again I could barely manage to get out of bed. I was unable to eat a normal meal, let alone do any work.

I was crushed and felt desperate. Fortunately, in January 2007, one of my relatives, a Falun Gong practitioner, told me about Falun Gong's amazing power and invited me to look into the practice. I decided to give it a try. I first watched a [truth-clarifying](#) CD and liked it. Then I read the book [Zhuan Falun](#).

I had finished reading the three first chapters of *Zhuan Falun* and felt nothing unusual, but after I finished Chapter Four, a chill went through my entire body. It felt like flu: I was dizzy and my head hurt, I was nauseous, and had pain in my stomach and lower back. After I read all nine chapters, I found myself completely changed. All my symptoms had vanished. I felt great. It was so amazing!

After only ten days of reading and doing the exercises I felt like a new person. All my illnesses vanished without a trace. I could eat normal meals and perform manual labor like before and felt energized even when I walked. I could not have imagined the amazing effect Falun Gong would have on me. All my stubborn health problems were cured without spending a penny. This was truly a miracle.

My family and I are very grateful to Falun Gong and to practitioners. We thank Master Li for giving me a second life.

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", "truth-clarification", "clarifying 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 10th 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.