

# Clearwisdom Review

## An Update on Falun Dafa Worldwide

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 6 FEBRUARY 28, 2008

### Australian Foreign Minister Meets Chinese Counterpart; Dafa Practitioners Protest Persecution

(Clearwisdom.net) On February 5, 2008, Australian Foreign Minister Stephen Smith met his Chinese counterpart, Yang Jiechi. Falun Dafa practitioners held a press conference in front of the Department of Foreign Affairs in Canberra to urge the Australian government to maintain Australia's values of freedom, democracy, and respect for human rights. They called for the Australian judicial department to maintain its independence and not succumb to Chinese Communist Party (CCP) pressure to interfere with Falun Gong practitioners who are suing CCP officials for their participation in the persecution.



*Zhang Cuiying, plaintiff in the lawsuit against Jiang Zemin, spoke at the press conference.*

Dr. Fan Jiazhong, a representative for the Australian Falun Dafa Association, read an open letter to the Australian Foreign Minister, Stephen Smith. The letter requests Minister Smith to address the following issues:

1. Clearly inform Mr. Yang Jiechi of the overwhelming desire of many Australians to stop the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners in China immediately.
2. Refute the pressure of the Chinese Embassy as it seeks to use the Foreign States Immunities Act 1985 (FSI Act) to protect all Chinese Communist Party officials from scrutiny under Australian law for serious crimes, including mass torture and murder.
3. Ask Mr. Yang Jiechi to stop officials from the Chinese embassy and consulate from interfering with the Divine Performing Arts *Chinese Spectacular* shows.

Ms. Zhang Cuiying, plaintiff in the lawsuit against Jiang Zemin, said in her address: "I sued Jiang Zemin, the prime culprit in the persecution of Falun Gong and the former Chinese President, in the New South Wales Supreme Court for crimes of torture and crimes against humanity on September 15, 2004. Jiang Zemin is very afraid and used economic trade to put pressure on the Australian government in an attempt to stop this lawsuit. I urge the Australian government to refute the CCP's attempted interference in Australia's judicial fairness. Jiang and his followers have committed the most serious crimes against humanity by persecuting Falun Gong and cannot be granted foreign immunity."

Ms. Zhang has submitted an application to the court, requesting a default judgment towards defendants Jiang Zemin and Luo Gan.

### 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 70 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.

## Retired Professor from China: "This Show Took Me Home"

**(Clearwisdom.net)** Ms. Han, a retired professor from China, came to New York to visit her daughter's family. She brought her twin granddaughters to the Divine Performing Arts show on February 2, 2008, at Radio City Music Hall.

This was the second time Ms. Han had seen the Divine Performing Arts show. She said, "There is hardly any chance to see such an excellent show about Chinese culture in America. We treasure this show and decided to take our granddaughters so they could learn about Chinese culture." When asked about her impressions of the show, Ms. Han said, "I feel it is very good!" Suddenly tears appeared in her eyes, and she said, "I feel this show took me home. Every program is so nice, very close to my heart..."

### Young Chinese Man: This Dance Made Me See Hope

Mr. Chen Zhengrong, a Chinese from Fujian, works at a restaurant in Louisiana. Although he doesn't make much money, he flew to New York to watch the Chinese New Year Splendor. Mr. Chen was stunned by the show. "I cannot exactly describe my feelings. I respect very much the Falun Gong practitioners in the dance 'The Risen Lotus Flower,' who have the solid belief even in front of the policemen [who are persecuting them]. I think more and more people will support their spirit."

Mr. Chen said, "The dance 'The Power of Awareness' reminded me of the old saying--'evil can never subdue righteousness.' This dance made me see hope." "Although the flight was expensive, it was worth it. I will definitely recommend this show to my friends, and I will come to the show next year for sure."



*Mr. Chen Zhengrong*

### Australia: Falun Gong Practitioners Participate in Chinese New Year Parade

**(Clearwisdom.net)** On February 10, the Sydney city government held a series of activities in downtown Sydney to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Local Falun Gong practitioners participated in the New Year parade.



*Practitioners' float*

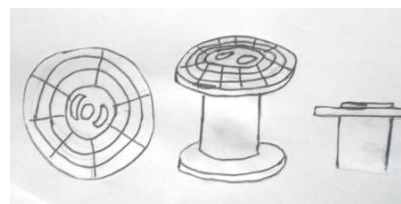
The parade started at 11:00 a.m., stepping off from the Town Hall, and ended at Tumbalong Park in Darling Harbor at 1:30 p.m. More than 2,500 people participated in the parade and 60,000 people lined the streets to watch it. It was the biggest Chinese New Year celebration in Sydney.

The Divine Land Marching Band, consisting of Falun Gong practitioners, performed in the parade. They played several songs, including "Falun Dafa Is Good." A grand lotus flower float followed the band. Practitioners dressed as celestial maidens or wearing traditional Qigong outfits sat in the lotus flowers and demonstrated the exercises.

### Practitioners Tortured at Tilanqiao Prison in Shanghai

**(Clearwisdom.net)** Recently, the international media has focused on Falun Gong practitioner Mr. Xiong Wenqi, who was so seriously beaten in the First Ward at Tilanqiao Prison that he became disabled.

When Mr. Xiong was in the First Ward, he was beaten by 8 to 10 inmates every day, and daily was forced to sit on a "tiger stool" (depicted below) for 15 hours. During his imprisonment, he went on a hunger strike to protest the abuse and was force-fed a liquid containing chili powder and menthol.



*Narrow stool made with copper wires. Practitioners are forced to sit on it for over 15 hours at a time.*

This stool actually is produced by the prison for export. It is a mini-transformer wrapped with copper wires with a diameter of 20 cm and an uneven surface. After sitting on this surface for several minutes, one's buttocks start to hurt, but guards force practitioners to sit every day for over 15 hours. Practitioners' hands are tied behind their backs and they are not allowed to move. As soon as the person moves, the plastic shell breaks, and the person has to pay to replace it or be beaten.