

# Clearwisdom Review

An Update on Falun Dafa Worldwide

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## Falun Dafa Practitioners Commemorate Tenth Anniversary of the April 25 Appeal

(Clearwisdom.net) On the evening of April 25, 2009, Falun Gong practitioners in the San Francisco Bay Area held a candlelight vigil to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the April 25 appeal, when ten thousand Falun Gong practitioners peacefully appealed in Beijing for an open and legal environment to practice Falun Gong. They also commemorated the thousands of fellow practitioners who have lost their lives due to the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) persecution of Falun Gong. The practitioners called for justice and for an end to the persecution.



*Falun Gong practitioners call for an end to the CCP's persecution in front of the Chinese Consulate in San Francisco*

Ms. Chen Jiaqi started practicing Falun Gong in 1996 and participated in the April 25 appeal in 1999. She said, "I hope that the staff in the Consulate see that Falun Dafa practitioners overseas behave peacefully, just as those in China. We demand an immediate end to the persecution. It cannot continue."

Ms. Zhang Hong, a practitioner in the Bay Area, said, "April 25 is a day worthy of commemoration. It is the first time that Chinese people expressed their righteous request in such a peaceful and rational way. Falun Gong practitioners want others to know that they are good people who live by following Truth-Compassion-Forbearance."

Mr. Zhang, a computer engineer in a government office, came to the USA in 1994. On April 25, 1999, he saw footage of the peaceful appeal on the TV news. Mr. Zhang experienced the June 4, 1989 massacre on Tiananmen Square. He said, "Many people think the CCP would have not persecuted Falun Gong in 1999 if the practitioners did not appeal. Actually the CCP had persecuted Falun Gong since 1996; Falun Gong books were banned; the secret police harassed practitioners; and the media broadcast propaganda articles slandering Falun Gong sometimes. The CCP just used the April 25 appeal as an excuse to initiate the full-scale persecution."

"Many practitioners have benefited from the practice in terms of health improvement and improving their character. Some people recovered from terminal illnesses after practicing. This is why Falun Gong practitioners do not compromise, but safeguard human morality while facing the totalitarian CCP regime and the brutal persecution."

### 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.

## Stroke Victim Recovers through Falun Gong

(Clearwisdom.net) "Chubby" is an obese 43-year-old man who is employed as a driver. Chubby's sister practices Falun Gong. She used to be very sick and in such distress that she had thought of suicide. After she started practicing Falun Gong, her diseases were all healed. After witnessing his sister's transformation, Chubby truly believed in the positive effects of Falun Gong.

In March 2008, Chubby was on a motorcycle to go to pick up his child. Suddenly, his body and head starting aching and he had to stop. His legs, feet, and hands lacked strength and his gait was unsteady and unbalanced. In the hospital he was diagnosed as having had a stroke. After two weeks of medication, his situation still hadn't turned around. He couldn't walk by himself, and when he spoke, his mouth shifted to one side. Doctors told him that this was the best he would get and he was lucky to have survived. His sister went to the hospital to see him and told him to recite, "Falun Dafa is wonderful," and, "Truth-Compassion-Forbearance is wonderful."

After Chubby returned home from the hospital, his wife read "*Zhuan Falun*" (the principal text of Falun Gong) to him. He has gradually been able to walk independently, and his limbs regained strength. His mouth no longer turns down on one side when he speaks. Chubby likes to tell people, "I am protected by Falun Dafa."

## Ms. Wei Yalan Died As a Result of Abuse in Yang'ai Prison

(Clearwisdom.net) Ms. Wei Yalan from Anshun City, Guizhou Province, was illegally sentenced to a five-year prison term for her belief in Falun Dafa. After five years in Yang'ai Prison, her physical condition deteriorated dramatically and she was in very poor health when released. On September 14, 2007, Ms. Wei passed away, shortly after her release. She was only 50 years old.

When Ms. Wei was detained, her daughter was an elementary school student. The girl waited five years to see her mother again and had to watch her die as a result of the torture she had suffered in prison.

On June 5th, 2001, Ms. Wei was distributing flyers about Falun Gong and the persecution in Ziyun County. She was reported to the police and was arrested. Ms. Wei was taken to the Anshun City Second Detention Center. In March 2002, she was sentenced to a five-year prison term and was taken to Yang'ai Prison.



*In order to make a profit, prisons and labor camps force practitioners to do hard labor, producing a wide array of items for domestic and overseas markets.*

Ms. Wei's family was not allowed to visit her in prison because she refused to renounce Falun Dafa. She suffered abuse and torture in Wards 5, 7, and 8. The prison exploited the detainees, forcing them to do slave labor. Ms. Wei was forced to work on gemstones and to make cotton products. She was forced to work more than 12 hours daily. The workshops had no windows and were full of production dust. These factors contributed to Ms. Wei's health problems. Because she was forbidden to do the Falun Dafa exercises, some of her former illnesses, which had been cured after she started practicing Falun Dafa, recurred. These included gastric ulcer and a cyst.

Ms. Wei was released after five years in prison. Soon after, she died at the age of 50. Ms. Wei's elderly mother was also persecuted during this time. In 2004, when Ms. Wei was still in prison, the police took her mother to a brainwashing center.