

Clearwisdom Review

An Update on Falun Dafa Worldwide

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The Spectacular Show Is “Uplifting” and “Exciting,” Says Former State Senator



Former Senator Kennedy and his wife.

(Clearwisdom.net) ST. LOUIS -- Former member of the Missouri Senate and Missouri House of Representatives, Harry Kennedy, praised Divine Performing Arts after seeing the New Year Spectacular in St. Louis, Missouri on February 7.

"It is very uplifting. It is very exciting," he said.

The former Senator has received many honors in his career, including being selected for the 2005 Henry Toll Fellowship Program and receiving the 2005 Appreciation Award from the Missouri Home Builders Association.

"Oh, it is great. It is beautiful," the former Senator said. "The costumes are beautiful and the dancers are great, in terms of the talent that those people possess, in terms of jubilation."

Sen. Kennedy was also impressed by the physicality of the show. "How good they are, the shape they are in, [their] leaps, somersaults. Great maneuvers."

Classical Chinese dance has its own complete set of training methods in foundational skills, a strict regimen for perfecting bearing and form, and means of training for skill sets such as jumps, turns, and flips. There are also extremely demanding aerial techniques which all culminate in a comprehensive dance system. The aerial movements of classical Chinese dance contain a wealth of high-flying dives, dexterous leaps and spins.

The Senator's wife, Mrs. Kennedy particularly enjoyed the dance, *The Udumbara's Bloom*. "Their moves were spectacular, and so well choreographed," she said.

The legendary Udumbara flower of Buddhist lore blossoms but once every three thousand years. The flower's unfolding is said to herald the coming of a great sage or enlightened being. The bejeweled dancers in this piece take inspiration from that legend in a sumptuous display of reverent beauty.

Heaven Awaits Us Despite Persecution especially moved Mrs. Kennedy. "It is sad, ... the one with the little girl," she said.

Heaven Awaits Us Despite Persecution, tells the modern-day tale of a father who is persecuted for practicing Falun Gong. The fantastic scenes that ultimately unfold in this piece present a message of hope and bespeak of a longstanding Chinese belief that good people are ultimately rewarded, even if not in this lifetime.

Overall, Mr. Kennedy appreciated learning more about Chinese culture, especially tracing it through the centuries, as the show does. "This is a good way to get a piece of it, fun too," he said.

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.

A Tumor Disappears Overnight

(Clearwisdom.net) In February 2008, Lili was found to have a breast tumor, and cancer was suspected. After examinations in a large hospital in Beijing, doctors decided to remove the tumor surgically. One of Lili's colleagues, who is a Falun Dafa practitioner, told her, "Sincerely recite 'Falun Dafa is good' and 'Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance is good,' and everything will turn out well." Lili remembered to follow this advice.

Lili was placed on the operating table and an eminent surgeon checked her before the operation. He found that she had no tumor. He said, "There is no tumor. Why do surgery?!" He asked the other doctors to check, and, indeed, they found nothing, so they let her go home. When the practitioner saw Lili at work the next day, she asked her how she could recover so quickly. Lili smiled, "I recited 'Falun Dafa is good' and 'Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance is good' for one night before the surgery."



Information Surrounding the Death of Ms. Chen Pingzhen in Heilongjiang Province

(Clearwisdom.net) Ms. Chen Pingzhen, 58, went missing on February 12, 2006. On February 14, her family saw a photo of an "Unidentified Body" death announcement issued by the Hegang City Police Department. That is how they learned of Ms. Chen's death. The autopsy revealed three cups of blood trapped in her skull, one damaged kidney, and blood on both sides of her mouth. There was a bloody mark on her neck, one side of her face was very swollen and bruised, and her hands and feet were bruised. Below is information about the abuse Ms. Chen suffered at the hands of the Chinese Communist Party in their brutal persecution of Falun Gong.

Ms. Chen Pingzhen lived in Hongqi Township, Dongshan District, Hegang City. She had benefited from cultivating Falun Gong since 1997. After the persecution started (in 1999), in April 2002, officers from Hongqi Township Police Station arrested her and ransacked her home. They sent her to Hegang City Second Detention Center.

Guards in the detention center tortured her by placing a three-foot-long metal pole between her ankle shackles, then handcuffing her wrists around the pole, forcing her to stay in a bent over position. She could not stand up and was forced to sit on the cement floor for nine whole days. She was not allowed to sleep during those nine days. As soon as she closed her eyes, the guards would use a water hose on her or slap her in the face with their shoes. She even had to use the toilet with the handcuffs and shackles on. Two practitioners had to help her. Her buttocks developed an egg-sized blood blister due to this torture, which also caused her nervous system to break down.

Guard Wu told other prisoners that Ms. Chen was sick with a strange mental disease, so they were too scared to go near her. Deputy Director You whipped her numerous times with a white plastic tube, causing her back to be covered with purple bruises. Finally Ms. Chen passed out, and the guards took off her shackles. Other detained Falun Gong practitioners took good care of her for five days, and she regained consciousness.

After ten days, Ms. Chen was taken to Jiamusi Forced Labor Camp to serve a two-year term. In the camp, she was forced to sit on a small stool for a long time, and the guards deprived her of sleep and handcuffed her in the painful "carrying a sword" position. She was forced to sit on the floor, one hand over the top of her shoulder, the other hand through the end of the metal bed frame, with both hands cuffed to the bed frame. She was in extreme pain after just five minutes, sweat covered her body, her hands turned purple, and the cuffs cut into her flesh. As result of this torture, Ms. Chen could not move one of her hands, and both of her legs were disabled.

Ms. Chen was emaciated when she left the labor camp. She could not walk, so her son carried her out of the labor camp. She was found dead in February 2006, after being missing for two days.



Illustration of the torture "carrying a sword."