



# China's Persecution of Falun Gong

## Crimes Against Conscience

www.falunhr.org

The Falun Gong Human Rights Working Group Newsletter

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## Conscience and Crimes against Conscience

“Tragedy,” a Chinese writer once wrote, “is the ripping of grace into pieces.”

September 27, 1999: Ms. Zhao Jinhua, age 42, was taken from her farmland to a police station in Zhaoyuan City, China. She died after suffering ten days of beating.

May 23, 2000: Mr. Su Gang, age 32, a computer engineer in Zibo City, China, was forcibly injected with neurodegenerative chemicals for eight days; he died eleven days later.

April 18, 2001: The police from Macheng City beat Ms. Wang Huajun, age 36, until she lost consciousness. To set up a “self-immolation,” the police dragged her to the front of city hall, doused her with gasoline, and lit a fire. Ms. Wang regained consciousness momentarily and tried to stand up. However, the police stood around and watched her succumb to the flames.

January 23, 2002: Mr. Zhan Wei, age 32, died from internal bleeding caused by punitive force-feeding carried out by the police.

October 15, 2003: The police beat Mr. Lu Xingguo, age 45, to death. His body was covered with blood, his lips were ripped off, and all his teeth were knocked out.

July 9, 2004: Mr. Tang Jian, age 39, died after suffering months of torture. His body was covered with wounds. (SEE Conscience, page 2)

### PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE:

**TOP LEFT:** On November 20, 2001, in an appeal for the rights of the Chinese people, thirty-six Falun Gong practitioners from twelve countries raised a banner reading “Truth-Benevolence-Forbearance” and sat in a meditation pose on Tiananmen Square. They were arrested, beaten, and deported.

**TOP RIGHT:** Falun Gong spread by word of mouth and was practiced by millions of families in China before the persecution. The photo shows four generations of one family practicing together in Anshi Village, Dongliao Town in Jilin Province in May 1998.



## Why the Persecution?

After Falun Gong was introduced to the public in 1992, various levels of the Chinese government recognized and commended the benefits of the Falun Gong practice, and their support facilitated the spread of Falun Gong in the early 1990s. In fact, one third of the 60 million Communist Party members and a large number of high-ranking government officials practiced Falun Gong.

A few Party ideologues, however, felt affronted by Falun Gong's increasing popularity. They could not accept the fact that after more than 40 years of Marxist indoctrination so many people would look elsewhere for moral and spiritual guidance. From clandestine undermining in early 1994, (SEE Why the Perscution, page 7)



In the Longshan Forced Labor Camp, the police shocked Ms. Gao Rongrong's face with three electric batons continuously for seven hours, burning her face to a crisp. The picture was taken ten days after the heinous torture. (SEE Faith or Face, page 2)

# Conscience

January 11, 2005: Mr. Cheng Jingshan, age 64, died from brain damage resulting from police beating. The police beat him so severely that his face was disfigured.

These people were among the kindest citizens in their villages, factories, schools, and neighborhoods. They were killed for one reason: refusing to renounce their belief in Falun Gong.

Their tragedies are only the tip of the iceberg of the Chinese government's brutal persecution of Falun Gong. Over 1,500 Falun Gong practitioners are confirmed to have died from police violence since July 1999. The actual extent of the atrocities cannot be known due to the authorities' blockage of information.

These people could have stayed alive if they had agreed to renounce Falun Gong. In fact, that is the "option" the authorities "offer" to Falun Gong practitioners. In the same way that the pagan rulers two thousand years ago offered the Christians a choice to conform before martyring them, the Chinese communist dictators want Falun Gong practitioners to "transform," to sign pledges to give up Falun Gong.

The stakes are so high and the choice is so "obvious," it is no wonder some people cannot comprehend: why not pretend to give in and practice Falun Gong secretly at home?

One Falun Gong practitioner wrote about her experiences in a jail: "The guards ordered the convicts to force me to recite the 'rules for convicts.' I refused to do so, no matter how they beat me, because I am not a convict. They said I was a convict, the same as they were, or I would not be in jail. I told them, 'No, I was jailed because I insisted on my conscience; I can get out easily by renouncing Falun Gong, but none of you can.'"

This simple account depicts the persecution at its core: reversing right and wrong, coercing the innocent to bow to guilt. Why are Falun Gong practitioners so unyielding to the coercion? Why are they so uncompromising in insisting on their conscience? If right and wrong can be compromised, why have right and wrong? If good can cave in to evil, what will values and principles be based on? Conscience, the innate knowing of goodness, is the very essence of humanity. Everything else, even our "inalienable rights," can be forcibly taken away. The alteration of our conscience, no matter how small, must be consented to from within. Conscience, thus, defines human nature, and the right to conscience is a human being's most fundamental right. (SEE **Conscience**, page 4)

# Faith or Face



On May 7, 2004, two policemen, Tang Yubao and Jiang Zhaohua, of the Longshan Labor Camp of Liaoning Province, handcuffed Ms. Gao Rongrong, a Falun Gong practitioner, to a heating pipe and proceeded to shock her face with three electric batons for seven hours.

Seven hours! What kind of contempt for humanity could lead to that kind of viciousness? The two policemen had not even met Ms. Gao before she was sent to the Longshan Labor Camp. Yet the hate-inciting lies and promises of impunity from the Chinese government have driven policemen like these two to degenerate from men to carry out heinous acts that no man is capable of doing.

Seven hours! It hurts even to think how Ms. Gao endured every excruciating second. If the most barbaric torture could not change her belief, the truth that she believes in must be so very powerful that it is unshakable and unbreakable.

All the perpetrators responsible for the disfigurement are at large right now. However, when Ms. Gao escaped police surveillance on October 15, 2004, the Chinese authorities issued orders to bring her in. Who is the victim? Who are the criminals? Where is justice?

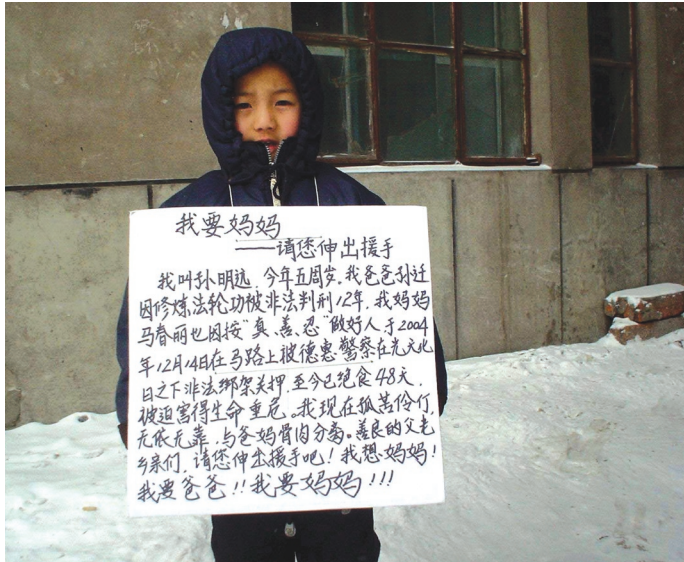
What does it say, then, about our humanity when such crimes are allowed to go on for five years in China while the myth of the Chinese dictatorship moving towards rule of law is continuously propagated and accepted?

Taking great risks, Ms. Gao has written and sent out a letter of appeal. As a result, she was recaptured by the police on March 5, 2005, and has since disappeared.

## Photo Stories:

# The Sufferance of Falun Gong Children

Bullying, hitting and killing innocent and defenseless children—what can be more depraved? Apparently, it is not too low for the Chinese dictators. Jiang Zemin, the PRC's former president, once ordered: "No measure is too excessive against Falun Gong." The Chinese police not only have killed thousands of Falun Gong practitioners and broken up countless families, but have even turned their violence on the children of Falun Gong practitioners. Due to space limitations, only a fraction of the atrocities are reported here.



This photo was taken during the Chinese New Year of 2005, a time when families are together. The board reads, "My name is Sun Mingyuan and I am five years old. My father Sun Qian was arbitrarily sentenced to 12 years in prison because he practices Falun Gong. The police abducted my mother, Ma Chunli, on the street in broad daylight on December 14, 2004, just because she wants to be a good person and follow the principle of Truth-Benevolence-Forbearance. Now she has been on a hunger strike for 48 days and is in critical condition. I am lonely, helpless, and separated from my parents. Kind people, please help me. I miss my mommy. I want my mommy back and I want my daddy back."

Many people wanted to give money to the child and her grandma. They thanked them but refused their money, telling them, "We do not want your money. We need your moral support to help us get our family back."

Huang Xinyu was born on January 8, 1998. On September 29, 1999, she lost her mother, Ms. Zhong Yunxiu, who was arrested by the police for appealing to the government to stop persecuting Falun Gong. In late June 2003, the police arrested her father, Mr. Huang Ke, and killed him ten days later. Little Xinyu lives with her grandparents now. It pains her to see that her classmates have parents to take care of them. She has become a very quiet girl, and seldom talks to people.



Wang Lixuan, mother, 27. Meng Hao, son, 8 months. They were arrested on the morning of November 7, 2000, at Tiananmen Square and were killed in a detention center by the police in the afternoon.



Liu Shuangshuang was born in June 2002. Her father, Liu Zhiyuan, was sentenced to 14 years in prison, and her mother, Shen Chunhua, to 11 years in prison, just because they refused to renounce Falun Gong.



Jin Panpan was born in September 2002. When he was 18 months old, his father, Jin Youfeng, was sentenced to 11 years in prison, and his mother, Jiang Chunmei, to 14 years in prison, just because they refused to renounce Falun Gong.

# The Miraculous Recovery and Tragic Death of a 12-Year-Old

Liu Qian was a 12-year-old girl, a third-grade student at Gegezhuang Primary School in Hebei Province. On November 15, 2003, she was diagnosed with acute leukemia. After 13 days of treatment, the hospital told her parents that there was no cure and that she could die at any moment.

In desperation, her parents remembered a story of a 15-year-old girl recovering from leukemia by practicing Falun Gong and said to their only daughter, "Let's go home and practice Falun Gong." Qian nodded firmly. Her mother found a copy of *Zhuan Falun* and studied the book with Qian. Three days later, Qian wanted to eat and wanted to get up to do the Falun Gong exercises. After seven days, she had completely recovered.

All of Liu Qian's relatives witnessed the miraculous healing power of Falun Gong. Qian was as vivacious as other children. She even learned to ride a bike. When her father took her back to the hospital for an examination, she was found to be normal. For a full two months after Liu Qian's recovery, there was no recurrence of the illness.

When school started on February 6, 2004, Qian went back with great excitement. Little did she and her parents anticipate what the future held.

When a teacher asked, "Who practices Falun Gong?" Qian naively replied, "I do." The teacher asked, "Don't you know it is banned?" Qian then said, "I would have died if I hadn't practiced Falun Gong." The

teacher took her to the principal's office, where the principal scolded her. Qian tried her best to explain to the teachers that Falun Gong had cured her illness, but the teachers did not believe her and tried to force her to admit that there had been a misdiagnosis.

Qian's mother was summoned to the school that afternoon and ordered to write a pledge to never practice Falun Gong again. She refused, "why is it wrong to save one's own life by practicing Falun Gong?"

Qian was expelled from school. This shattered her. She would not talk, eat, or drink, and cried often. Whenever someone mentioned the word "teacher" Qian would be frightened. The next day, when the principal of the school came to see her family, she pointed at the principal and said, "He, he, he..." but could not say anything else.

Qian's young mind was totally unprepared for the cruel reality of the persecution. She broke down, both in spirit and in body. On February 12, 2004, the sixth day after being expelled from school, she fell into a coma and died soon afterwards.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

## Conscience

No crime, therefore, is worse than the crime against conscience. The Chinese government's persecution of Falun Gong not only violates Falun Gong practitioners' right to conscience, but is also an assault aimed at the destruction of human nature.

People who understand the true meaning of humanity will not give up being good people. Falun Gong practitioners are ordinary people from all walks of life; they are also extraordinary because they have made a conscious commitment to follow the principle of Truth-Benevolence-Forbearance to cultivate their inner selves and improve their mental and moral quality. This inevitably leads to individual integrity and courage.

People thus enlightened will not submit to evil. The perseverance of Falun Gong practitioners is not only an insistence on their own right to conscience, but also the most gallant defense of humanity. The sacrifices they have made in peace are not passive sufferance, but the truest embodiment of their conscious choice of benevolence in resisting evil. Their conscience, courage, and sacrifice will forever remain humanity's most precious heritage.

# Torture

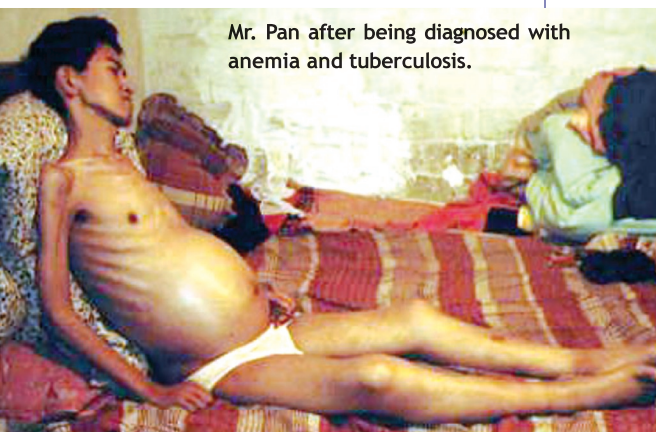
## "Return to Society" - Forced to Look at Pornography

During this torture, guards hold down a Falun Gong practitioner. One guard pulls the head back by the hair while another guard forces the practitioner to keep his eyes open. They force him to look at pornography. One stands ready to beat the practitioner with a wooden stick if he resists. They also try to force practitioners to sing lewd songs. A prominent official has publicly stated, "Forcing Falun Gong practitioners to sing vulgar songs and look at decadent pictures helps them return to society."



## Pan Xingfu Died of Torture

Mr. Pan Xingfu, male, 31, was an official from the Shuangyashan Bureau of Postal and Telecommunications, Shuangyashan City, Heilongjiang Province. On March 14, 2002, Mr. Pan was unlawfully sentenced to five years in prison for his belief in Falun Gong. Because he would not give up Falun Gong, he was tortured in many different ways, including: beating, sleep deprivation, heavy labor, prolonged electric shocking, being locked in a small cell, being forced to sit on a Tiger Bench, etc.. Mr. Pan eventually fainted at the labor camp, and was diagnosed with anemia and tuberculosis. He died on January 31, 2005, at 11:00 p.m.



Mr. Pan after being diagnosed with anemia and tuberculosis.



## Nail Stool

In the Xishanping Forced Labor Camp, the guards melted the top of a broken plastic stool, pushed six nails nearly one inch long by 1/16<sup>th</sup> of an inch in diameter through the softened plastic, and used plastic cement to hold them in place, creating a torture instrument known as "The Nail Stool." Four guards ruthlessly pressed a practitioner, Mr. Zhang, who was stripped down to his underwear, onto the nail stool, pressing down on his shoulders and arms. Two others stood behind him holding wooden sticks, ready to beat him should he resist the torture. The sharp nails plunged into his flesh. His blood flowed, dripping from his soaked underwear to the floor. The police tortured him with this method every day. Then they dragged him around until he lost consciousness. He was not allowed to wash or change his dirty and torn underwear. Thus his bloody pants stuck to the broken flesh of his buttocks, causing excruciating pain.

## Qu Hui's Suffering

My name is Qu Hui and I am 35 years old. After appealing to the government in January 2000 to allow us to continue practicing Falun Gong, I was sentenced to one year of forced labor at the Dalian City Labor Camp.

On the afternoon of March 19, 2001, the authorities of the Dalian City Labor Camp assembled a large number of guards, torture instruments, and ambulances with oxygen bags. One by one, practitioners were brought into a room where the guards tried to force them to renounce Falun Gong. If the practitioner refused, he was tortured. The sound of screaming from practitioners and curses from guards filled the building. Practitioners who had been tortured were lying all over the hallway. Some were drooling, and some groaned from pain. It was a terrible scene. At 9:00 p.m., I was also dragged into that room. Guards tortured me until 8:00 a.m. the next morning. I cannot remember how many electric

batons they used on me. My body was covered with wounds and my cervical vertebrae were broken. My genitals festered from the electric shocks. I spat up blood, and lost consciousness several times.

Once, after I regained consciousness, camp doctor Han Qiong inspected me and said, "He's all right. You can continue beating him." While hitting me, Officer Qiao Wei grinned and said to those watching, "For many years my cravings have not been satisfied as much as they are now." Even when I was on the stretcher and about to be carried to the hospital, he still ruthlessly trampled on me twice. The authorities refused to acknowledge that I had been beaten, and claimed that I had injured myself...

I have been a paraplegic lying in bed at home for the past four years. Nonetheless, the police frequently come to harass me and my family, and threaten to send me back to the labor camp...



被折磨残废的脚  
Mr. Qu's injured foot.



Mr. Qu Hui's vertebrae are exposed to the outside. He has been lying in bed for four years.

# The Light

## that Pierced the Darkness



Mr. Liu Chengjun

On March 5, 2002, at around 8 p.m., eight TV channels in the city of Changchun simultaneously broadcasted documentary films revealing the Chinese government's brutal persecution. The

shockwave spread quickly and far beyond Changchun; by the next day people in other regions were whispering to each other: "The self-immolation is a hoax!"

Embarrassed and enraged, the authorities arrested over 5,000 Falun Gong practitioners in the city, and killed at least a dozen during interrogations. On March 24, 2002, Mr. Liu Chengjun, a main organizer of the broadcast, was arrested. According to eyewitnesses, even after police had handcuffed, shackled, and savagely beaten Mr. Liu, one officer still fired two bullets into Mr. Liu's leg, yelling: "See if you can run now!"

No one knows what Mr. Liu suffered in the next week at the hands of the police. On April 1, 2002, the government-controlled China News Net published a report on how the police had broken the case of the "March 5 broadcast." It was apparent from the photos that Mr. Liu was so weakened that he could not sit up and had to lean against the wall.

According to his family, Mr. Liu continued to suffer barbaric torture. By October 20, 2003, Mr. Liu was in critical condition.

On October 28, 2003, the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and the Special Rapporteur on the Question of Torture jointly sent an urgent appeal to the Chinese government concerning Mr. Liu.

Despite the international pressure and Mr. Liu's critical condition, the authorities rejected his family's repeated requests for medical parole. Mr. Liu died in the early morning hours on December 26, 2003, after enduring over one year of extreme torture.

Mr. Liu's courage and sacrifice exemplify countless magnanimous acts of Falun Gong practitioners and their benevolent efforts to wake up the public from the hatred incited by the lies of government propaganda.

At the beginning of the persecution, because practitioners are so self-disciplined and so peaceful, it was difficult for their neighbors, colleagues, families, and friends to turn against Falun Gong. The staged self-immolation, however, had the nation deceived. As reported by a *Washington Post* article in August 5, 2001, "The self-immolation of five purported [practitioners] in Tiananmen Square on Jan. 23 was a turning point... the government convinced many Chinese that Falun Gong was an 'evil cult.'"

Many misinformed people began to assist the government's persecution, or even participate in the abuses and beatings. Policemen were even more affected. Consumed by the hate propaganda, some carried on tortur-

ing and killing Falun Gong practitioners, claiming, "We are reincarnated little devils from hell, and we'll beat you into hell as well."

There is no question that these are criminal acts, and it is easy to hate back. However, to Falun Gong practitioners, their violators are also victims of the Chinese government's persecution. With benevolence, they take great risks to inform the public of the facts. They mass-mail letters to police stations, they pass out flyers in supermarkets, they distribute VCDs to mailboxes, they post articles to the Internet... In the Chinese language, this is called "clarifying the truth."

Their truth clarification is powerful. There are numerous stories of policemen changing their attitudes towards practitioners, inmates learning Falun Gong, and strangers protecting practitioners.

The truth is disastrous to the perpetrators of the persecution. They use the most heinous methods to deter Falun Gong practitioners. Jiang Zemin himself ordered that any practitioner spotted distributing Falun Gong materials must be "shot on sight."

However, truth is invincible. Every hour, in every corner of China, numerous Falun Gong practitioners are preparing and distributing truth clarification materials. They may not have literary grace, but they are the living Origen, Ignatius, and Justin the Martyr.

A photo posted by government-controlled *China News Net* on April 1, 2002, after Mr. Liu Chengjun had been tortured. It is apparent that Mr. Liu was so weakened that he could not sit up straight.





On April 25, 1999, over 10,000 practitioners appealed outside the State Council Bureau of Appeal in Beijing. Practitioners were orderly, standing on the sidewalk and carefully leaving room for pedestrians and traffic.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

to the orchestrated smear campaign and banning of Falun Gong books in 1996, to police harassment in 1997, they gradually escalated their hostility toward Falun Gong. On April 23, 1999, in broad daylight, armed police forces in the City of Tianjin assaulted hundreds of Falun Gong practitioners and arrested 45 of them. Two days later, on April 25, over 10,000 Falun Gong practitioners gathered quietly outside the State Council Appeal Office in Beijing to request the release of the detained practitioners. Premier Zhu Rongji met with a few of them, ordered the release of the detained practitioners, and the gathering peacefully concluded. Because of this event, Falun Gong began to receive international attention.

China's Chairman, Jiang Zemin, resented the peaceful solution. Flexing his dictatorial power, on July 20, 1999, he ordered an all-out persecution of Falun Gong. The persecution, which is not dissimilar to the persecution of early Christians two thousand years ago, has since brought atrocities to countless families. From information that has leaked through the tight control of the PRC, we know that millions of people have suffered arbitrary incarceration, almost all under inhumane conditions; hundreds of thou-

# Why the Persecution?

sands have been put into forced labor camps; thousands have been detained and severely tortured with nerve-damaging drugs in mental hospitals. Thousands have died in custody, while countless others are still unaccounted for. The scope and severity of the atrocities are difficult to fathom.

At the same time, the PRC propaganda machinery launched a far-reaching campaign of disinformation to deceive the public and escape world condemnation. In early 2001, the authorities attempted an outrageous stunt: a staged self-immolation of five people in Tiananmen Square. No less devious than Nero's shift of blame for the Great Fire of Rome to Christians, the Chinese Government alleged that the immolators were Falun Gong practitioners in order to incite hatred towards Falun Gong.

Third-party reporters and careful observers, however, discovered numerous loopholes in the hoax. The *Washington Post* revealed that Ms. Liu Chunling, one of the "immolators," had never practiced Falun Gong. Other analysts pointed out that the police were mysteriously patrolling Tiananmen Square with dozens of pieces of firefighting equipment that day; Liu Siying, a 12-year-old girl "immolator," was purported to have had a tracheotomy after the incident, but

spoke and sang clearly to the interviewing camera, a medical impossibility; Mr. Wang Jindong was supposed to have been engulfed in flames, but his hair and the plastic 7-UP bottle that he had "used to douse gasoline" remained miraculously intact.

These holes prompted International Education Development, a UN NGO, to state, during the 2001 session of the UN Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights: "The regime points to a supposed self-immolation incident in Tiananmen Square on January 23, 2001, as proof that Falun Gong is an 'evil cult.' However, we have obtained a video of that incident that in our view proves that this event was staged by the government." For an analysis of CCTV's footage of the staged self-immolation, please visit:

<http://www.faluninfo.net/tiananmen/immolation.asp>

The violence and lies failed to faze the Falun Gong practitioners, however. They have answered the Chinese government's violence with complete peace. They have also exemplified great benevolence by taking great risks to tell the facts and truth to the public to help people wake up from a persecution that is completely based on lies. As more and more people in China and in the world know the facts of Falun Gong and see through the Chinese government's lies, the day will come when the persecution can no longer be sustained.

A picture clip of Chinese Central Television Station's footage. A policeman dangling a fire-extinguishing blanket with one hand stands calmly next to an "immolator"; the plastic bottle remains, unaffected by the heat, on the "immolator's" legs. Note also that the snow clumps on which the "immolator" sits have inexplicably survived from the heat.



# What Is Falun Gong?

Falun Gong (also known as Falun Dafa) is an ancient form of Chinese cultivation practice.

From its earliest establishment, Chinese culture has embraced the concept of the “Oneness of Heaven and Man.” The way for man to achieve this oneness is cultivation practice. Chinese literature is filled with legends of people achieving the status of deities, becoming enlightened, or obtaining the Tao through cultivation, and thousands of different schools of cultivation have existed over the course of Chinese history. Cultivation, therefore, is a traditional practice of mind and body transcendence.

Falun Gong was introduced to the public in 1992 by Mr. Li Hongzhi. The practice teaches practitioners to assimilate to the essential characteristics of the universe, Truth-Benevolence-Forbearance. When practitioners are more in tune with the energy of the universe, they become healthier in body, mind, and spirit.

At the simplest level, Falun Gong is a way of life, a choice to be a good person with higher moral standards. Practitioners give up selfish and harmful thoughts. They let go of attachments to false concepts of fame, wealth, and lust. They stop worrying about being taken advantage of. In case of conflicts, they consider others first. They search inside to find their own shortcomings, and attain inner peace. This, combined with five sets of gentle exercises of proven efficacy in health improvement, has enabled practitioners to achieve improved health, morality, and purposeful living. It is a way of life that, once experienced, few are willing to give up.

As a testament to the exceptional benefits it brings to practitioners, by 1999, just seven years after its introduction to the public, Falun Gong had become a global phenomenon of over 100 million practitioners across more than 60 countries.



## How Is Falun Gong Practiced ?

Falun Gong has five gentle meditation exercises, including a seated meditation, which you can learn quickly and easily at any of the group practice locations around the world. They can also be learned from videos, free to download from the Internet ([www.falundafa.org](http://www.falundafa.org)). All Falun Gong activities are free of charge.

The principles of the practice are explained in their entirety in the book *Zhuan Falun*, and in the beginner's text, *Falun Gong*, both written by Falun Dafa's founder, Mr. Li Hongzhi. The teachings of Falun Gong emphasize the cultivation of one's moral character with the goal of bringing one towards wisdom and enlightenment through following the characteristics of the universe: **Truth - Benevolence - Forbearance**

To learn more about Falun Gong:  
[www.falundafa.org](http://www.falundafa.org)

To learn more about the persecution in China:  
[www.falunhr.org](http://www.falunhr.org) or [www.faluninfo.net](http://www.faluninfo.net)

