



Falun Gong in the USA

Vol. 1. No.5 June, 2003

Welcome to our newsletter,
Falun Gong in the USA

Falun Gong (also called Falun Dafa) is a teaching and practice of mind and body improvement that has attracted and benefited over 100 million people in over 60 countries. Such a global phenomenon might have drawn much attention and in-depth study. However, mainly because of some media's rather cursory interpretation and characterization, most Americans have only a sketchy understanding of Falun Gong.

We would like to do our part to inform the public about the essence of Falun Gong. As more and more Americans learn and practice Falun Gong, we hope this newsletter will be a forum for sharing their experiences and benefits of Falun Gong cultivation. We will also address common questions and provide information and resources for those who are interested in learning Falun Gong.

By now, a lot of Americans have heard about the Chinese government's persecution of Falun Gong. The extent of the ongoing atrocity, however, is far from being adequately covered by the media. Falun Gong practitioners in China have risked everything to collect and send out information to publicize the evilness of the persecution, and many have suffered tremendously at the hands of the authorities for doing so. We have the responsibility to ensure that their sacrifices are not in vain.

In the same noble and peaceful manner as Gandhi, King, and Mandela, Falun Gong practitioners are defending conscience and human dignity. Their suffering and sacrifice are not just for themselves, but for the most universal and fundamental values of humanity. We will update you with information received from China, and hope you can become a voice for Falun Gong practitioners in China.



With earnest goodwill, we hope this newsletter will be a bridge to bring the benevolence of Falun Gong to you, and in turn, your help to stop the persecution of Falun Gong in China.

Members of U.S. Congress Urge U.S. Court to Proceed with Lawsuit against Former Chinese Communist Leader

Members of the U.S. Congress filed an Amicus brief, authored by Congressman Tom Lantos (D-CA), with a U.S. District Court in Illinois urging the court to proceed with a lawsuit charging former Chinese Communist leader, Jiang Zemin, with genocide, crimes against humanity and other charges. The brief was accepted by the court on June 12, 2003. "As members of the U.S. Congress... we have a significant and abiding interest in this lawsuit," the brief says, "This lawsuit was filed not to embarrass China, but to persuade the defendants to end their persecution of Falun Gong." **See Page 4**



Trial of Crime against Conscience

In 1839, the ship 'Amistad' carried itself fatefully to the United States and touched off a historical legal battle that went up to the Supreme Court. Despite the intervention of the Administration, Americans chose to risk their contemporary national interest, i.e., the alliance with mighty Spain, and defend a few strangers. **See Page 4**

Amnesty International Calls for Help to End Maltreatment of Dr. Charles Lee

Amnesty International is very concerned about the wellbeing of Dr. Charles Lee. Dr. Lee, an American citizen from Menlo Park, California, was arrested January 22nd in Guangzhou, China. He has been sentenced to three years in prison in Nanjing under the charge of 'endangering public safety by intending to sabotage radio and/or TV equipment'. It is understood that Dr. Lee, during a previous visit to Yangzhou City, China in October of 2002, intended to expose severe human rights abuses, including torture, committed by Chinese authorities. **See Page 5**

Forty-Nine Death Cases of Falun Gong Practitioners Received in May

Since July 20, 1999, Falun Gong practitioners abroad have received verified firsthand information about 730 Falun Gong practitioners who died at the hands of the Chinese police. In the past month, forty-nine death cases have been received. Due to the risk and difficulty in obtaining and sending information from China, some cases come in months after the police killings.

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Falun Dafa Day Celebration in the U.S.

Colorado

On May 13, 2003, Colorado Falun Gong practitioners gathered in Central Park in front of the State Capitol and celebrated World Falun Dafa Day. At 10 am practitioners held a press conference, they expressed appreciation to 24 state assembly members for their sponsorship of Resolution 1013, passed in the assembly on May 7, which condemned Jiang regime's brutal persecution of Falun Gong and expressed concern about the arrest of US



Practicing in front of the State Capitol, Colorado

citizen Charles Li in China. House members and sponsors of the Resolution also made speeches and offered their congratulations on Falun Dafa Day.

New England

On May 10, 2003, Falun Gong practitioners from all over New England gathered at Boston Common to celebrate World Falun Dafa Day. The celebration began with the traditional Chinese joyous and festive "Lion Dance." The practitioners then sang together. Their touching songs attracted many tourists. A practitioner recounted his changes both physically and mentally since



Free calligraphy, New England

practicing Falun Gong. A practitioner displayed several of his paintings, and an elderly practitioner wrote Chinese calligraphy.

North Carolina

The annual Asian festival is an important event in Charlotte, North Carolina. People of Asian descent, important officials, non-governmental organizations and even officials from the closest Chinese Consulate often join the celebration.

New York

On May 13, 2003 New York Falun Gong practitioners celebrated the fourth World Falun Dafa Day near Times Square.

Practitioners in bright golden exercise suits demonstrated the gentle exercises. The major celebration took place in Bryant Park on 42nd Street, where Falun Gong practitioners gave a wonderful art performance, that included traditional Chinese dance and drama. Western practitioners sang, recited poetry, and performed professional instrumental music. More than a dozen practitioners of different nationalities and age groups shared their personal experiences of cultivating Falun Gong and the benefits it has brought them both physically and mentally.



Fan dancing, New York

Ohio

On May 13, 2003, Columbus Falun Gong practitioners gathered in the square in front of the State Capitol Building downtown to celebrate the 11th anniversary of Falun Gong's introduction to the public. Ohio State governor Bob Taft sent a congratulatory message; State councilor Dale Miller



Group photo, Columbus, Ohio

attended the celebration in person and gave a speech; and State councilor Jim McGregor sent his assistant to support Falun Gong practitioners. The "Journey of Falun Dafa" photo exhibit attracted many government officials and passer-by. After demonstrating the five sets of Falun Gong exercises, practitioners gave performances, including flute and recitals, Lotus Flower Dance perform-

ance, solo singing, and poetry recital.

California

On May 11, 2003, San Diego Falun Gong practitioners gathered at Seashore Park, a famous tourist site, to celebrate the arrival of Falun Dafa Day. The practitioners held group practice, demonstrated the exercises and displayed photos to introduce



Exercise teaching, San Diego, California

Falun Gong.

Midwest

On May 9 2003, Falun Gong practitioners from 12 Midwestern states held a large-scale rally at the Federal Plaza in Chicago to celebrate "World Falun Dafa Day" The rally featured a press conference, music and dance performances, and large-scale exercise demonstrations. Many passersby spent the afternoon enjoying the performances.

Practitioners from Missouri, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin and other areas presented proclamations from their states and cities. Many Governors and Congress members sent congratulatory letters to Falun Gong practitioners. At the press conference, a practitioner from Missouri described how the police tortured her for 18 months in a detention center in China, before she came to America. A practitioner from Minnesota shared how his mother was illegally sentenced to three years of forced labor for practicing Falun Gong. He pleaded for support and expressed great concern for her safety, as she is still detained in the labor camp.



Chorus Performance, Federal Plaza in Chicago

From China

Chinese Police Rape Graduate Student in Presence of Criminal Inmates

Ms. Wei Xingyan, a 28-year-old graduate student of Chongqing University, was raped by police in the presence of other prison inmates, and was later severely injured in her trachea and esophagus by barbaric police force-feeding.

According to sources from Chongqing University in Sichuan, China, Ms. Wei was arrested on May 11th along with others on suspicion of hanging banners and balloons commemorating World Falun Dafa Day on May 13th.

On the evening of May 13th, several policemen took Ms. Wei to a cell, ordered two female inmates to strip her, and a policeman raped her in the presences of all inmates.

Ms. Wei went on a hunger strike to protest her treatment. The police retaliated by violently force-feeding her, seriously injuring her trachea and esophagus, and leaving her in critical condition. Ms. Wei was transferred on May 22 to a hospital under police surveillance. Those who attempted to visit her were interrogated and threatened with arrest.

Beijing Police's Sexual Wrecking of Female Falun Gong Practitioners

Over 700 female Falun Gong practitioners are currently detained in Beijing Women's Labor Camp. The police torture practitioners in the most vicious ways to force them to renounce their practice.

In one case, six policemen assaulted Ms. Lang Dongyue with clubs and batons. They then stripped Ms. Lang, and inserted brushes inside Ms. Lang, viciously jabbing and scraping. One police kicked and stepped on Ms. Lang's sensitive parts.

Barbaric Sexual Torture in Dalian Labor Camp

Police in Dalian Labor Camp viciously torture Falun Gong practitioners. They stripped Ms. Sun Yan, 36 years of age, put a rope with knots under her and pulled back and forth until she bled profusely. The police then inserted hot pepper inside her. Ms. Zhong Shujuan, 49 years of age, was hung up by the police. While she was hanging helplessly, the police inserted a broom handle into her private parts and then forced it into her mouth. The torture went on until she lost control of her bowels.

Tortured to Death

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The following are a few of the cases received in the past month.

1. Ms. Xu Guiqin, 38, , was arrested in January 2001, and sentenced to one year of forced labor in the No. 1 Female Labor Camp in Jinan City, Shandong Province, where she suffered various forms of torture. To prevent her from talking about their illegal acts, the guards forcibly injected her with four bottles of nerve-damaging drugs two days before her release. The drugs caused dizziness, swelling of facial tissue, hardness of the tongue, numbness, anorexia, and severe memory deteriora-



Ms. Xu Guiqin

Police Abduct Mother on Sidewalk, Deserting Three-year-old Child

Police in Changchun city rounded up many Falun Gong practitioners in preparing the People's Congress this past March. Ms. Zhang Yuping was arrested while she was accompanying her child. The cruel police rejected Ms. Zhang's imploring to send her child home, and deserted the three-year-old on the street. In police custody, Ms. Zhang was savagely beaten, shocked with electric baton, burned with cigarettes, and needled in her fingers, face, and lips. She lost consciousness and was sent to a hospital. It is unclear whether she survived the tortures or not.

Large Number of Female Falun Gong Practitioners Detained and Tortured in Labor Camps

The Forced-Labor Camp (Laogai) system is the major apparatus of the Chinese government's persecution of Falun Gong practitioners. Hundreds of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners have been detained and brutally tortured. There are over 2,000 Laogai camps in China. The following is information we have received in the last month.

BaLiZhuang Labor Camp: Baoding city, Hebei province; 708 female practitioners detained and tortured;

Beijing Women's Labor Camp: Beijing; over 700 female practitioners detained and tortured;

Jilin Women's Jail, Jilin province: 117 female practitioners detained and tortured;

ZhongBa Women's Labor Camp: Guiyang city, Guizhou province; over 100 female practitioners detained and tortured;

Fujian Women's Jail: Fujian province; over 60 female practitioners detained and tortured



Iron Cage: The height of the cage is shorter than a victim's height. The width and length are calculated so that the person can neither stand straight nor lie down. The victim is often handcuffed to the rail and cannot sleep. Many Falun Gong practitioners have been locked up this way for as long as 120 days. They are mentally and physically tortured.

tion. Fully aware of their crime, the police told Ms. Xu's family, "Watch her and don't let her go out, or her life will be at risk." Ms. Xu died nine days later on December 9, 2002.

2. Ms. Yang Hailing, 34, The police of Mishan City, Heilongjiang Province, arrested Ms. Yang Hailing, 34, in March 2002. They tortured her by handcuffing her behind her back, pulling so hard that her ligament was torn. The police also violently forced a bottle filled with mustard oil into her mouth, causing the mustard oil to fill her lungs. She died on April 12, 2003.

3. Ms. Li Zhongxiang, 50, The severity of the police torture paralyzed Ms. Li Zhongxiang, 50. She died on February 22, 2003. Her husband, Mr. He Wangji, 53, was tortured to death on May 28, 2003. The couple were residents of Xining city, Qinghai Province.

From Europe

Iceland Government Reprimanded over Falun Gong Blacklist

REYKJAVIK, June 6 (AFP) - The Icelandic government was told on Friday that it acted unlawfully when it blacklisted members of the Falun Gong spiritual movement in advance of the then Chinese president Jiang Zemin's state visit to Iceland a year ago.

The Icelandic Data Protection Authority on Friday reprimanded the justice ministry following a complaint from a Canadian citizen who found he could not enter Iceland during the visit.

Human rights lawyer Ragnar Adalsteinsson, acting on behalf of Xun Li, a Canadian, told AFP he would ask the justice ministry to issue an official apology, or he would bring further legal action.

[...]

Icelandic human rights activists, who accused the Icelandic authorities of cooperation with the Chinese regime, harshly criticized the "blacklisting" of supposedly peaceful protestors. Several Falun Gong members on the list were

denied visas, air tickets or seats on aircraft, and some were turned back at Iceland's international airport.

The United States also complained to Reykjavik last June after five of its US citizens were among a group of some 70 Falun Gong followers who were detained. However, about a hundred members of the group managed to enter Iceland and protested without incidence during the Chinese president's stay.

Xun Li had earlier complained to the Icelandic embassy in Ottawa, saying that this was "the first time a government other than that of China used a 'blacklist' to block law-abiding citizens from entering their country."

[...]



Iceland's major media reported on Falun Gong extensively during Jiang Zemin's visit. The above is the front page of Morgunblaðið, Iceland's largest newspaper, on June 13, 2002.

Source: AFP

From the U.S.

Lawsuit

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States the brief. "It is highly consistent with the goals set forth in [U.S. Department of State's] annual review of human rights. The lawsuit was filed in October of 2002, by individuals who are victims of Jiang's 4-year persecution of Falun Gong.

In March, the U.S. State Department issued its annual Human Rights Report, in which the severe persecution against Falun Gong was mentioned more than 80 times.

The Congressional Amicus brief, however, deals with concerns raised by an earlier Department of Justice Amicus brief filed pursuant to a request to file from that same Department of State, which had argued that the lawsuit against Jiang should be dismissed.

Members of Congress contest the appropriateness, motives and even the legality of the arguments made in the department of Justice Amicus brief.

Trial of Crime against Conscience

By Li Zi

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This part of history has become our national heritage and been written into our elementary school textbooks. However, we may not fully appreciate the courage of our ancestors until we are faced with a similar situation. What if the 'Amistad' sailed from China today?

In October of 2002, a lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court of the Northern District of Illinois against Jiang Zemin, the former President of the People's Republic of China, for, among other complaints, genocide, crimes against humanity, and torture. Ironically, the Administration once again sided against the victims and asked the court to rule in favor of the oppressors.

A stage is thus set - what shall we leave for the future textbooks of America?

The atrocious persecution against Falun Gong has gone on for four years with millions victimized. It is not just another same old story of one race against another, one class of people against another, or even one religious faith against another. It is human evil against good in its most pure form: crimes by the wielder of totalitarian power against the seekers of their right to individual freedom of conscience.

In this sense, the lawsuit against Jiang in Illinois, therefore, has significance comparable to the Nuremberg Trials, which established the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and many modern human rights standards. A judgment against Jiang in Illinois will, for the first time, establish that assault on conscience is also a crime.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: Practitioners Hold Press Conference for their Alumnus, Dr. Charles Li

By Falun Gong practitioners in Urbana-Champaign, Illinois

At 12:30 p.m. on June 9, 2003, Falun Gong practitioners held a press conference on Memorial Square at the Student Center of



the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) to expose the Jiang regime's abuse and mistreatment of an American citizen, an alumnus of UIUC, Dr. Charles Li. Dr. Li recently went on hunger strike for eight days so as to have his 109-page affidavit passed to the American authorities.

Two local TV stations covered the activity. When one reporter asked what the people at Urbana-Champaign could do for Dr. Li, practitioners called upon the local people to make phone calls or write to President Bush and members of the US Congress to request that the Chinese government immediately release Dr. Li.

Pennsylvania: Signature Collection at Pittsburgh Art Festival

By Falun Gong practitioners in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



On June 7 and 8, we went to the annual 17-day art festival held in Point State Park in downtown Pittsburgh to inform the public about the situation of American citizen Dr. Charles Li, and to collect signatures for a petition to call upon the American government to bring him home.

Three veterans walked up to us. One of them saw the photo of Charles and asked, "Is this Dr. Charles Li? I'll sign." He told us that he had already learned about Charles' illegal detention. He was glad to have the opportunity to sign his name to help the rescue effort. A mother and her daughter came over and said, "This is just what we were looking for. We finally found it." They signed their names and asked for informa-

tion about practice sites and Falun Gong websites. Many people showed great concern for the persecution of a US citizen and signed their names. Sometimes people lined up patiently to wait to sign their names. Some asked the practitioners, "Will our government take action?"

San Diego: Signatures Sent via FedEx to Congress to Call for Urgent Action

By Falun Gong practitioners in San Diego, California

When we learned the news that Dr. Charles Li had begun a hunger strike to protest beatings and abuses by the Chinese police, we sought to inform the American people immediately. We applied for permits to collect signatures in shopping malls. Normally it takes two weeks for the shopping malls' management to process the applications. When they learned the urgency of the situation, the kindhearted people gave us permits in three days.



In a short time, we collected over 2,500 signatures. To help our congressional representatives hear from their constituents, we collected signatures from different districts on different signature pages. We sent the signatures to Congress via FedEx Congress because the urgency of the grave situation.

San Francisco: "He is a hero. We should all support him!"

On June 7, San Francisco Falun Gong practitioners had a large parade for Dr. Charles Li. Many people watched us from the sidewalks and asked for our flyers. A young man said hello to me in Chinese: "Ni Hao!" I gave him a flyer, and was about to ask him to sign our petition for Charles. All of a sudden, he turned around and exclaimed to his co-workers in his camera shop: "That's him! He is a hero! We should all support him!" When they came over to him, he explained: "He told the truth, now he is jailed in China."



Amnesty International

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[...]

After his arrest in January, Dr. Lee was held for nearly three months, then rushed through a trial resulting in a three-year prison sentence for "preparing to sabotage TV". His first and only appeal of this sentence has since been denied.



[...] However, a recent 109-page document written by Dr. Lee reveals that this is far from the truth.

[...] Thirteen pages of the document describe physical and mental persecution authorities in China have imposed upon him during the course of his detention. For example, the written documents indicate that when Dr. Lee was first detained in January, he went on a three-day hunger strike to protest. He was regularly beaten and interrogated during those three days and nights, and was not allowed a moment of sleep. After that, he was forced to watch videos that defame Falun Dafa. Sixty-nine pages of the manuscript were written while his hands were tightly cuffed for three days and nights. [...]



Dr. Charles Lee's document

We from Amnesty International are now ever more concerned about Dr. Lee's case and his wellbeing. The legal process Dr. Lee went through does not meet international standards, and has not been granted the opportunity for Lee to appeal. The torture and mistreatment that Chinese authorities have subjected Dr. Lee to violate his basic human rights. They must stop and be further investigated to bring the perpetrators of these abuses to justice. Amnesty International will continue to monitor Dr. Lee's case closely and demand that while in custody Dr. Lee has regular access to US Consular officials. We must receive assurance that he shall no longer be tortured, but be treated humanely in accordance international laws and treaties. We call upon all those who can help in this matter to help safeguard the wellbeing of Dr. Lee.

China Coordinator
Group 19, Palo Alto, USA

Deal with Devil Proves Deadly

By Steve Friess (Originally published April 18, 2003)

BEIJING -- Just when it looked as if China was about to emerge as the superpower of choice for a world appalled and outraged by the U.S. invasion of Iraq, along comes a killer virus to remind everyone why a superpower ruled by dictatorship can be hazardous to everyone's health. Indeed, it's hard not to pity the astoundingly poor luck and timing for the Communist leaders in Beijing of the outbreak of the severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS, and the subsequent, predictably bungled cover-up. Instead of stepping out of the shadow of what appears to be a hated United States, this regime has magically reminded the planet in just a few weeks that it is untrustworthy and selfish -- and why that matters.

That's an impressive feat, considering how successful the Chinese had been in the past decade at earning global love -- and even a Summer Olympics -- by opening its burgeoning economy to world trade while studiously avoiding criticizing most foreign governments.



The WHO officials accused China's military of refusing to offer some basic data... A representative of the WHO in Beijing, Henk Bekedam, said that the military and local authorities should share the information about these cases. If we want to control the SARS epidemic, we need to know this kind of data.

The deal was that China would keep its opinions to itself and allow the world to stake claims in the Chinese gold rush. In turn, other nations would let slide Beijing's horrifying crackdowns on freedoms of religion, assembly and speech.

Other governments have rationalized that

the firm Communist control is necessary to maintain social stability, which, in turn, is necessary to keep profit margins growing. All that capitalism, the best-intended thinking goes, will naturally lead to political freedom. But now, with a perplexing coronavirus that has spread to more than 3,200 people in 23 countries, the deal with the devil is paying its miserable dividends.

China sat by idly for four months as SARS cases accumulated in its southern province, hoping nobody would notice so as to avoid embarrassment. The lack of a free press to alert the public to the developing pattern not only cost untold Chinese lives but put at risk tourists, business managers and other expatriates. Among them are citizens of nations that didn't believe that Beijing's oppression affected them.

As SARS spilled over to the rest of the world, Beijing tried damage control rather than infectious disease control, and failed at both. Health officials here have announced such laughably low infection numbers that one irate Chinese doctor was compelled to take the brave step of telling Time that he personally knew of more cases in one Beijing hospital than the total claimed for the entire capital.

At the same time, a ridiculous effort continues to insist that SARS didn't originate in China. World Health Organization officials were muttering privately early this month that the Chinese had been slow to provide samples of the virus from mainland victims. Those samples, once obtained, showed the Chinese SARS has almost identical DNA as that found elsewhere. But a mainland doctor told Hong Kong's South China Morning Post on Sunday, "I do not share the view that Hong Kong infections came from Guangdong," the mainland province where the first cases were reported.

The health panic brought on by SARS is a result of Beijing's lack of credibility. Even now, the state-run English-language China Daily keeps up its don't-worry-be-happy tenor by showing pictures of carefree Western tourists enjoying the sights and quoting alleged



Migrant workers rushing out of Beijing to escape from SARS threat.

China's GDP figures: Are they bogus?

By John Berthelsen

In what has become an annual ritual, the chief of China's National Bureau of Statistics on December 30 released figures showing the country's economy had grown by 8 percent in 2002, "helped by strong investments, robust demand for exports and healthy growth in industrial output".

However, in yet another annual ritual, the event was greeted with skepticism from economists, who have learned to respond to the release of gross domestic product (GDP) figures from China with doubt, uncertainty and sometimes outright disbelief. It

is impossible to calculate true GDP expansion without complete access to growth statistics across the entire country in a wide variety of segments of the economy. Even in industrialized countries such as the Group of Seven (G7) nations, it can take months to arrive at true GDP growth.

[...]

Thomas G Rawski, professor of economics at the University of Pittsburgh in the United States, estimates that China's GDP growth in 1997-98 could well have fallen by as much as 2 percent at a time when officials were bragging about 7.8 percent growth. Official and unofficial data indicate that 1998-99 GDP growth could actually have been even worse, Rawski writes. He believes growth could have been somewhere between minus 2.5 percent and plus

2 percent. The National Bureau of Statistics, which he calls "the victim rather than the author of this episode", is continuing efforts to revive honest reporting, which Rawski believes was the case prior to the mid-1980s, when Deng Xiaoping opened China to the outside world. Ironically, prior to that time, Rawski writes, Chinese growth statistics were a closely held secret passed on only to the country's leaders in Zhongnanhai. It was only after China had opened up that government officials saw it necessary to indicate to the world that the country was undergoing dramatic growth and the figures started to depart from reality.

[...]

Source: Asia Times, Feb 6, 2003
Full Text:
<http://www.atimes.com/atimes/china/EB06Ad01.html>

Embodying Falun Gong's Compassion

Brad Carson, California

I've always been devoted to helping others. In high school I was the vice President of a community service group to help disabled students to be active in their community. I also taught theatre classes to disabled students. In college I taught swimming and Tai Chi to disabled children. As far back as I can remember I've focused on communicating to others the compassion I feel for them. I've always been active in my church and community, but I was still searching for a way to truly embody in every action the goodness that the world had shown me. I wanted to give back to the world that had given me such a beautiful life.

In my second semester in college, my Tai Chi teacher recommend a Falun Gong workshop to me, telling me that it was the most powerful form of Qi Gong she had ever experienced. The exercises were indeed very powerful, yet deeply calming and relaxing.

My ecstasy came after the exercises, when I learned that the focus of the practice is to embody the principles of Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance in your daily life, to be a good person. I was drawn to this immediately, and read "Zhuan Falun", the book that expounds on these principles. I realized that I finally found what I have been searching for! As I practiced more, I saw myself manifesting these principles more in my life. My body started to change also. Within three months my allergies and asthma, which had repeatedly

hospitalized me, totally disappeared. I was able to work two jobs, and go to school.

My newfound energy and compassion helped me to help others. I started a new job working at a group home for boys who were victims of severe abuse and neglect. These were children who had become mentally disabled and emotionally disturbed as results of sexual, physical, emotional abuse, and neglect. Falun Gong gave me great compassion to help them. I felt my life became so meaningful. I felt someone had given me a new life.

Meanwhile I found that this benevolent practice was persecuted in China. Hundreds of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners were jailed, tortured, raped, and killed for having the same beliefs that had helped me so much. This disturbed me deeply. Just as those children's families should protect them, but not abuse them, a government should protect its people. Here in America I was mending cycles of abuse through practicing Truthfulness-Compassion-Tolerance, while in China people like me were victimized by severe inhumane abuse. The government of China even spread hatred and lies, telling its citizens that Falun Gong was banned worldwide. I felt I must do something to let people know the truth.

On November 20, 2001, I went with 35 other non-Chinese to Tiananmen Square in Beijing, China. We unfurled a large yellow banner emblazoned with the words "Truth, Benevolence, Forbearance," and sat down to do the Falun Gong exercises. All we wanted to do was to demonstrate to the Chinese people that Falun Gong is practiced and welcomed worldwide. What we found by ourselves, within seconds, was the brutality of the Chinese police. They forcibly arrested, mistreated, and beat us. This experience further firmed up my resolution that I must use every opportunity to let people know about this persecution.

At a time when the world cries out for peace, shouldn't we all work together to eradicate hatred? Can we remain silent to violence? How can we not act? Today we can work together to end this fear and hatred. Today!



Brad being interviewed by a Los Angeles news reporter.

SARS

experts predicting little financial fallout for the overall Chinese economy.

Suddenly, the world's investors recall why China is still a risky place to open a franchise or build a factory. If Beijing will lie about something as serious as its own public health crisis, how trustworthy are the delirious economic statistics it publishes? And if there's no democratic way to remove corrupt leaders, isn't corruption also a real threat to that cherished "stability," too?

Just as suddenly, the United States doesn't look so bad. President Bush may have flouted world opinion, but he did it openly and used American might to depose a brutal megalomaniac.

The United States may be arrogant, but China is untrustworthy. SARS has only just begun to teach the world which is worse.

Source: The Baltimore Sun

International Press Institute Blames China's Media Control for Rampant Spread of SARS

On April 24, the International Press Institute (IPI) condemned the Chinese government's control of the media as the cause of the rampant spread of SARS.

IPI has reporters and important media personnel in 115 countries worldwide. The Institute's public letter addressed to Chinese leader Hu Jintao calls for China to allow reporters to freely report SARS. The letter said that the Chinese government did not allow reporters to cover SARS when it first appeared, failed to establish a prevention and control system for people and doctors, and thus did not effectively control the spread of SARS. IPI pointed out that to solve a crisis demands unfettered communication of information, but the Chinese government treats freedom of information as a bigger threat, and the importance of its political stability ranks higher than its people's lives and safety.



1993: Mr. Li Hongzhi, the founder of Falun Dafa, giving lecture in the second seminar series in Guangzhou, southern China

Falun Dafa (Falun Gong) was introduced to the public in May of 1992, when Mr. Li Hongzhi gave his first lecture in Changchun, China. Soon afterwards he traveled with several practitioners to the Oriental Health Expo in Beijing, where the wondrous health benefits earned Falun Dafa several awards, prompting the organizers to invite Mr. Li to give several impromptu lectures.

During the following two and a half years, Mr. Li was invited to lecture in almost every major Chinese city, giving 54 lecture series in all. All lectures were organized and overseen by the Chinese government's top qigong institution, the China Qigong Scientific Research Society.

Mr. Li stopped giving Falun Gong lecture series at the end of 1994. Falun Dafa continued to spread almost entirely by word of mouth. By the end of 1998, the number of people practicing Falun Gong, according to a Chinese government survey, had grown to between 70 and 100 million.

Falun Gong in the USA Newsletter

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