

Clearwisdom Review

An Update on Falun Dafa Worldwide

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Disabled Practitioner Forced into Homelessness Due to Persecution

(Clearwisdom.net) Falun Gong practitioner Mr. Lai is a middle-aged disabled man: he has a raised chest and a hunched back. He is short, about the height of a child. The following is Mr. Lai's personal account of the persecution he has suffered because he practices Falun Gong.



*Falun Gong practitioner
Mr. Lai*

Before practicing Falun Gong, I was full of illnesses. My back always hurt and I felt incapacitated. After practicing Falun Gong, I knew what to do to be a good person. I practiced wholeheartedly.

After the persecution started, I was arrested at the end of November 1999, and detained at the Dianbai Detention Center. I was deprived of sleep and interrogated at 5:00 a.m. the next day. During the interrogation, I was lifted up and dropped down several times. The section head viciously hit me on my legs and feet with a smoking pipe. He hit me so hard that the pipe was broken. I was detained there until January 6, 2000. The center officials extorted 800 yuan from my family before releasing me.

However, in 2000, I was arrested twice while at home. I was first arrested on January 17, and they took me to Zhijiang Headquarters Farm in Poxin Town. I was detained for three months. Then, on July 14, I was detained first at Dianbai No. 2 Detention Center, and then transferred to the No. 1 Detention Center and detained for a month. I was forced to do hard labor 18 hours a day, and forced to pay 400 yuan before I was released.

On January 6, 2001, I was arrested again and detained at the Dianbai No. 2 Detention Center until October. I was forced to do hard labor. Later, I was transferred to the Maoming City Brainwashing Center, where I was pressured to "transform" (renounce Falun Gong). The center forced me to pay them 600 yuan before releasing me. In 2002, I was detained at the brainwashing center for two months and forced to pay 800 yuan.

Around politically sensitive days such as national holidays, the authorities would come to my house to harass me daily or arrest me. I have been detained several times at the town building. Before the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, I was arrested and detained in the Maoming City Brainwashing Center, where I was deprived of the right to practice Falun Gong.

In May 2009, before the October 1 National Day, the head of the 610 Office [an agency instituted specifically to carry out the persecution of Falun Gong], broke into my house and tried to force me to write a statement saying that I would stop practicing Falun Gong. I refused. On May 15, Poxin Town 610 Office head Wu Zai and the head of the Armed Forces Division Huang Qing came to my residence three times on the same day, attempting to arrest me and take me to the brainwashing center. I had no choice but to leave my home and move from place to place to avoid further 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.

Falun Dafa Practitioners from Around the World Respectfully Wish Revered Master Li Hongzhi Happy Chinese New Year!



London: Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance Art Exhibition



Visitors take in the paintings

(Clearwisdom.net) On February 3, 2010, the International Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance Art Exhibition held its opening ceremony at the Hampstead Museum in Burgh House. This was the third time that the exhibition has come to London. A total of 16 paintings were presented to show the beauty of Truth-Compassion-Forbearance and to depict the brutal persecution of Falun Gong in China.

One visitor, who works for a news agency, was moved by what she saw in the exhibit. "When people see that others are suffering, they can't help but display their own humanity," she said. She felt that the exhibition was a good way to introduce Falun Dafa and expose the persecution currently taking place in China.

Shen Yun "More than just entertainment"

(Clearwisdom.net) New York-based Shen Yun Performing Arts held several shows at the Music Hall at Fair Park in Dallas, Texas between February 5 and 6, 2010. In attendance was New York-born musician and producer John Anthony Martinez.

Mr. Martinez said he had never seen a show like Shen Yun before: "All this beautiful music, all this beautiful dancing, all these colors, the screens, all the imagination of the designers comes through, and I realized that this is more than just entertainment, and that there's really a message."

Regarding the two dance pieces, *Nothing Can Block the Divine Path* and *Astounding Conviction* – which both touch on the plight of Falun Gong in China today – Mr. Martinez said, "I thought it was very sad that if people aren't free to think and practice their beliefs, whatever they be, then their imaginations won't be free to create beautiful productions like this ... won't be free to write this kind of music, think of these types of dances, create these kinds of pieces of art that we saw on the backdrop."

Mr. Martinez said that the persecution is sad, "because someone practicing their belief for their faith or religion, is just someone trying to find the meaning of life so that they know what their value is, and what their purpose is."

Martinez added, "I didn't know you couldn't say the truth [in China]. I didn't know that you weren't allowed to do that. And again if people can't express their spirituality, if they can't express their thoughts freely, then you're going to lose that and so this show is important."



John Anthony Martinez and show designer Shueh-li Ong

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To learn more about Falun Dafa as a practice, please visit www.falundafa.org