

# Clearwisdom Review

## An Update on Falun Dafa Worldwide

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### Ms. Zhang Zhenmin Brutally Tortured in Prison

**(Clearwisdom.net)** Ms. Zhang Zhenmin, 47, lives in the New Railroad Village of the Chengguan District, Lanzhou City, Gansu Province, China. She was employed by the Lanzhou City Meat Processing Factory. Since the persecution of Falun Gong started more than eleven years ago, Ms. Zhang has been imprisoned and brutally tortured numerous times. Below is Ms. Zhang's story:

After the persecution started in July 1999, Ms. Zhang decided to read *Zhuan Falun* (the book containing the principal teachings of Falun Gong), to help her understand why the Chinese state-controlled media was propagating information contradictory to her husband Niu Wanjiang's experience of practicing Falun Gong. She then discovered that the government was creating lies and slanderous propaganda against Falun Gong. Inspired by the profound teachings in *Zhuan Falun*, Ms. Zhang decided to become a Falun Gong practitioner. Her bronchitis, migraine headaches, stomach problems, sciatica, rheumatoid arthritis, lumbar vertebral fracture, and a painful fractured hip were healed through the practice.

Because she practiced Falun Gong, agents from the Lanzhou City Domestic Security Division arrested Ms. Zhang on May 3, 2002. They ransacked her residence, confiscating 9,500 yuan in cash (1,000 yuan is equal to the average monthly salary of an urban worker in China), her son's computer, her clock and watches, and her husband's salary cards.

Ms. Zhang was transferred to the Hualingshan No. 2 Detention Center on September 17, 2002, where she was subjected to forced labor. When she began a hunger strike in November to protest the persecution, she was tortured with the "backward bending" torture method. The guards shackled her feet, handcuffed her hands behind her back, and then connected the handcuffs and the shackles with a one-foot-long metal wire, forcing Ms. Zhang to kneel in a position with her back arched for a long time. This torture method, often used on Falun Gong practitioners, renders a person unable to stand or squat. Ms. Zhang was tortured with the "backward bending" method for 39 days, until her whole body became swollen.

After the guards unlocked the shackles from the handcuffs, they didn't remove the handcuffs, so Ms. Zhang had to rely on inmates to help her eat, drink, and use the restroom. The handcuffs cut into her flesh at the wrists and could not be removed when they were finally unlocked. Ms. Zhang could not straighten her back, move her legs, or raise her arms for several days. Several inmates applied hot towels to her arms to prevent the muscles from stiffening.

In the winter, Falun Gong practitioners at the detention center were forbidden from wearing coats, and were forced to stand in an open field, exposed to the howling wind.

Ms. Zhang was finally released from detention on September 17, 2010.

#### 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 100 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 Gong Welcomed in NYC Veterans Day Parade

(Clearwisdom.net) On November 11, Falun Gong practitioners were invited to participate in the 91<sup>st</sup> Veterans Day Parade in New York City. The theme of the parade was "Freedom Is Not Free." The parade is the oldest and largest of its kind in the nation. About 20,000 people, including veterans of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War, marched from 26<sup>th</sup> Street to 56<sup>th</sup> Street in Manhattan. Countless spectators watched the parade.



*Falun Gong practitioners participated in the 91<sup>st</sup> Veterans Day Parade in New York City*

## Congenital Cerebral Palsy Cured after Practicing Falun Dafa

I was born as a twin in an ordinary home in China. Our birth was supposed to bring a lot of happiness to my family, but when we were one year old, our backs were still very weak, so my parents took my brother and me to the hospital. They were told that we had congenital cerebral palsy. It was shattering news for my parents, who had just started their family.

My parents stopped working and took us everywhere, seeking treatment. I was given shots and pills every day in the hospital. Whenever I heard the doctor call my name, I would be scared and cry out loud. None of the treatments brought much improvement. Instead, they consumed all of my parents' savings. My dad would not give up and steadfastly believed that I could be cured. He was willing to give up everything he had to cure my illness.

After a few years of treatment, the illness was not cured, and medical expenses had left my family heavily in debt. Seeing that I was not getting any better, my dad lost all hope and planned to take me home after surgery. I remember seeing him crying next to me when I woke up from surgery. It was the first time I had ever seen him cry. It was a scene I will never forget.

When we were in despair, a good friend of my mother told her, "I heard that Falun Gong is truly good. It may help your daughter. Why don't you take her to a practice site and try it?" My mother did not believe her, but I cried and pleaded, and finally got her to take me there. At the practice site, my first impression was that it felt so very peaceful. While the practitioners were meditating, I sat next to them and crossed my legs too. It felt so comfortable and I did not have any pain at all.

Originally, my illness was more serious than my brother's. But miraculously, after I began practicing Dafa, I could sit up, and I could walk too. Seeing the change in me, my dad began to smile again.

### Dafa Harmonized My Family

My parents used to fight and cry because of my illness. They were under tremendous stress and worried about what others thought of our family.

After my mother began practicing Falun Dafa, she changed completely. She began to go out and socialize with others, and seldom fought with my dad anymore. I now have a happy family. My dad also followed the principles of Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance. He began to think of others first, and when he would have conflicts with others, he learned to be tolerant. Sometimes, when his friends had conflicts with people and complained to him in anger, he would guide them by talking about the principles of Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance. I know it was Dafa that changed him and changed my whole family. I want to truly thank our benevolent and great Teacher for allowing me to learn the great Dafa.