

# Torture Outside the Olympic Village: A Guide to China's Labor Camps

The Coalition to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong (CIPFG) presents a guide to labor camps just a stone's throw from Olympic venues.

## Foreword

By Clive Ansley

As spectators and reporters travel to China in August to attend the Olympic Games, they will witness the world's top athletes compete. What they will not witness are the hundreds of thousands of Chinese people languishing in labor camps nearby, many detained for exercising the same fundamental rights we take for granted every day.

Some of those traveling to Beijing may have heard stories of these Chinese gulags, but where are they located? Who is detained there? And what goes on inside?

These are some of the questions this guide seeks to answer, drawing particular attention to the plight of adherents of the Falun Gong, peaceful religious believers who for nine years have suffered one of the largest, most brutal campaigns of persecution that the Chinese people have seen in decades.

Since the first allegations of harrowing torture methods and deaths in custody emerged in 1999 through to more recent evidence of organ harvesting from prisoners of conscience, CIPFG members have repeatedly requested permission to enter China and investigate claims of abuse. Yet, on an equal number of occasions, these requests have been denied.

And that is partially the importance of this guide—for it provides information to journalists traveling to China to take this rare opportunity of access to the country to conduct an investigation of their own.

At the same time, while we realize the possibility of reporters being able to enter these camps is slim, their ability to remember and give voice to innocent Falun Gong adherents and other civil rights defenders who suffer torture and death only miles from where athletes celebrate victory is not. For giving them a voice is not only our duty as responsible global citizens, it is also the true realization of the Olympic spirit.

—Clive Ansley, July 30, 2008

CLIVE ANSLEY is North American President of CIPFG. He is a lawyer and former Canadian professor of Chinese History and Law. Mr. Ansley practiced and taught law in China where he is Advising Professor at Shanghai's Fudan University and was appointed Visiting Professor at Silicone Lake University in 2003. Mr. Ansley has litigated more than 300 cases in China. He is now China Country Monitor for Lawyers' Rights Watch, Canada.

## Introduction

*"When you come to the Olympic Games in Beijing, you will see skyscrapers, spacious streets, modern stadiums and enthusiastic people. You will see the truth, but not the whole truth... You may not know that the flowers, smiles, harmony and prosperity are built on a base of grievances, tears, imprisonment, torture and blood."* – Open letter by prominent Chinese rights defenders Hu Jia and Teng Biao, September 2007.

When 25,000 reporters arrive in China to cover the Olympic Games, enthusiastic youngsters, glittering venues, primly trimmed parks and state-of-the-art subways will leave a strong impression. As Hu Jia and Teng Biao note above, however, there is another side to the "New China" that the Chinese Communist Party is much less keen on showcasing to the international community.

It is a China of electric cattle prods, of 18 hour work days, of unspeakable torture and humiliation, of religious believers forced to endure endless hours of "thought reform."

It is a China of "re-education through labor" (RTL) camps.

It is this China, its daily reality to millions of Chinese, and its incongruity with Olympic ideals of human dignity, peace, and non-discrimination, that this modest booklet seeks to bring forth.

## What's in the Guide?

The focus of this guide are seven labor camps and other detention facilities located in close proximity to Olympic venues and known to be particularly egregious in their treatment of adherents of the Falun Gong spiritual practice, a religious minority that remains the single, largest persecuted group in China today.

Each of the seven detention facilities is presented with:

- **Map:** A map showing the location of the facility, the location of the closest Olympic venue, and English-language directions to the camp from the nearest airport and train station.
- **Description of facility:** A photo and general description of the facility, details of its prisoner population and overall conditions
- **Products and show tours:** Products known to have been manufactured at the site and details of prior show tours to the facility, when relevant
- **Individual cases:** Brief individual case summaries of current and former prisoners of



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The Coalition to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong (CIPFG) was established to unite international human rights organizations, legal experts, medical institutions, distinguished individuals, NGOs and government representatives around the world to participate in a thorough and independent investigation of the Chinese communist regime's imprisonment, torture, killing, and organ harvesting of Falun Gong practitioners. Since August 2007, it has also sponsored the Human Rights Torch Relay, a global grassroots campaign to raise awareness of, and stop, the Chinese communist regime's human rights crimes against all victimized groups prior to the 2008 Beijing Olympics. For more information and to schedule interviews with former prisoners of conscience, contact Clive Ansley at +1-(250)334-3586, Susan Prager at (862) 668-6382 or e-mail info@cipfg.org.

conscience, the abuse they have suffered in custody, and whether they are available to be interviewed.

- **Contact information:** The contact names and phone numbers of the labor camp, as well as of officials who are alleged to have participated in the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners at these facilities. The contact information was gathered from documents published online over a period of several years; as such, since the information was made public, it is possible that it may have been changed.

## Background

**The RTL System:** China's "re-education through labor" (RTL) camp system has been in place since the 1950s and includes a network of dozens of camps. It is a form of administrative detention to which individuals are sentenced by police or other security agencies for up to three years without charge, trial, or possibility for judicial review.

The speed and secrecy with which individuals may be sentenced has made it a central method used by the Party for detaining "undesirables." Those detained at RTL camps include:

- Drug addicts, prostitutes, and vagrants
- Political dissidents and citizens petitioning the government
- Since 1999, large numbers of people who practice Falun Gong.

According to the U.S. State Department's 2007 report on human rights in China: "some foreign observers estimated that Falun Gong adherents constituted at least half of the 250,000 recorded inmates" in China's vast labor camp system.

**Maltreatment and torture:** Conditions within the camps are widely acknowledged to be extremely poor and abusive. Former prisoners report being fed inadequate rations, being denied sufficient time to wash, and being forced to participate in long hours of slave labor, performing a variety of manufacturing tasks.

According to Amnesty International, it "continues to receive regular reports of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment taking place in RTL facilities."

In this context, Falun Gong detainees are particularly vulnerable to severe forms of abuse. A 2006 report by the U.N. Special Rapporteur on Torture stated that Falun Gong practitioners accounted for 66 percent of all alleged torture victims in China. In over 3,000 documented cases, such abuse in custody has led to the adherent's death.

## Pre-Olympic "Clean-up"

Unfortunately, this dynamic has not changed with the approach of the Olympics. On the contrary, according to Amnesty International: "In the lead-up to the 2008 Olympic Games, Beijing police have used abusive detention practices such as RTL to 'clean up' the city." Among those systematically targeted for such detention have been Falun Gong practitioners.

In early July, the Falun Dafa Information Center reported that "there have been at least 8,037 arrests of Falun Gong adherents across 29 provinces, major cities and autonomous regions since December 2007."

Of these, over 208 individuals have been arrested in Beijing and at least 30 of them sentenced without trial to RTL camps for up to 2.5 years.

Their crime? Peacefully safeguarding their fundamental human and Chinese constitutional right to freedom of belief.

## Conclusion

Despite pledges by Chinese leaders of complete media freedom when bidding for the 2008 Olympic Games, it is becoming clear that foreign reporters arriving en masse in Beijing will confront a security-obsessed city and significant challenges in covering stories that do not match the choreographed China the regime seeks to portray to the world.

Nevertheless, we urge you to find ways to follow the directions in this guide, cover the stories of the prisoners mentioned, and seek out the true reality in these facilities. We urge you to do so outside of official channels, because, as several show tours and one former detainee have indicated, "The CCP can stage anything."

To help circumvent these blocks, the Global Internet Freedom Consortium (GIFC), an organization founded by Falun Gong practitioners, is offering tools that allow anonymous, secure access from within China to websites normally accessible outside of the CCP's filters (See Appendix E). The GIFC's secure gateway services handle over 90 percent of the anti-censorship internet traffic from China and Iran, amounting to more than 400 million hits per day. Go here to download the tools: <http://internetfreedom.org> Contact: Tao Wang at 888-937-1688, or email [contact@internetfreedom.org](mailto:contact@internetfreedom.org).

We also highly recommend Falun Information Center's new interactive guide, based on Google Maps, called "A Journalist's Walking Guide to the Persecution of Falun Gong in Beijing." The report details locations in and around Beijing where Falun Gong adherents were detained, tortured or killed, and is available here: <http://faluninfo.net/topic/150/>. (See Appendix F)

Lastly, we recommend reading Human Rights Watch's Reporters' Guide to China Olympics, and taking great care to minimize risk to interviewees, support staff—such as translators, drivers, and guides—and of course, yourself.

*For more information and to schedule interviews with former prisoners of conscience, contact Clive Ansley at +1-(250)334-3586, Susan Prager at (862) 668-6382 or email [info@cipfg.org](mailto:info@cipfg.org).*

# BEIJING

## Tuanhe “Re-education Through Labor” Camp

1-Tuan’gui Street, Liu Village, Huangcun Town, Daxing District, Beijing

Phone: +86-(0)10-61299888

Nearby Olympic Venue: National Stadium, a.k.a. Bird’s Nest

Events: Opening and closing ceremonies, track and field, soccer finals

## Directions to Tuanhe Labor Camp

### From Beijing Capital Airport Total: 55.2 km

Begin heading southwest- 122 m. Turn right going west- 103 m. Turn right going northwest- 46 m. Turn right, enter Yingbinbeiqiao going south, 3.2 km. Slow down; enter Airport Highway, going southwest- 17.3 km. Bear left, enter Andingmendong Blvd going west, 7.0 km. Bear left, enter Deshengmenxidajie, going south, 5.3 km. Bear left, enter Guanganmenbei, Binhelu, going south- 11.3 km. Slow down; enter Jingkai Highway, going south, 5.8 km. Bear right, exit Jingkai Highway, going South, 166 m. Slow down; enter Jingkai Highway auxiliary (side) road, going south, 328 m. Turn right, enter Qingyuan Street, going west, 3.2 km. Turn left, making U turn, enter Qingyuanxi Street, going east, 0.5 km.

**Destination:** Tuanhe Labor Camp- 1-Tuan’gui Street, Liu Village, Huangcun Town, Daxing District, Beijing.

**Total: 55.2 km**

### From Wangfujing Subway Station Total: 29.4 km

Enter East Dongchang’anjie, going west- 4.6 km. Turn right, enter Fuxingmenqiao, going north- 189 m. Turn right, enter Fuxingmenbeidajie auxiliary road, going south- 299 m. Bear left, enter Fuxingmenbeidajie auxiliary road, going south- 133 m. Bear left, enter Fuxingmennandajie auxiliary road, going southwest- 1.1 km. Bear left, enter Guang’anmenbei Binhelu, going south- 11.3 km. Slow down; enter Jingkai Highway, going south- 5.8 km. Bear right, exit Jingkai Highway, going south- 166 m. Slow down; enter Jingkai Highway auxiliary (side) road, to South- 328 m. Turn right, enter Qingyuan Street, going west- 3.2 km. Turn left, making U turn, enter Qingyuanxi Street, going east- 0.5 km

**Destination:** Tuanhe Labor Camp 1-Tuan’gui Street, Liu Village, Huangcun Town, Daxing District, Beijing.

**Total: 29.4 km**

## About Tuanhe “Re-education Through Labor” Camp

### Description

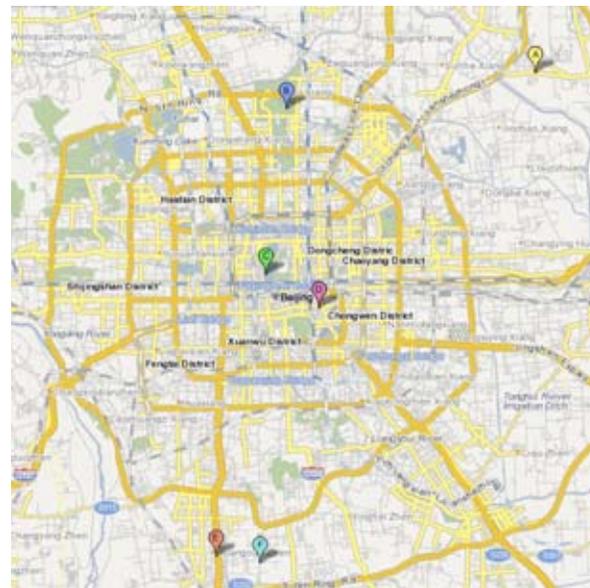
Tuanhe Labor Camp has been in use since the 1960s, and is said to hold several thousand prisoners. Tuanhe Dispatch Center is part of the same complex, and all prisoners sent to “re-education through labor” (RTL) facilities in Beijing must first pass through the Tuanhe Dispatch Center before going to other sites. Both men and women are confined in the dispatch center, but in separate facilities. Tuanhe Labor Camp is male only.

### Prisoners

According to Chen Gang, New Jersey resident and Falun Gong practitioner held in Tuanhe for 18 months, 2000-2001, the majority of prisoners were Falun Gong adherents.

### Prison conditions

According to former detainees, prisoners are held in unsanitary conditions, with over a dozen individuals sharing a room of 130 square feet in which they eat, work, and perform bodily functions. Former prisoners speak of working over 16 hours a day packaging chopsticks for domestic and international use in unhygienic conditions, as well as being subjected to beatings, severe sleep deprivation, electric baton shocks, and anti-Falun Gong study sessions.



Map to Tuanhe ‘Re-education Through Labor’ Camp.

## Map Reference

- A. Beijing Capital International Airport: 北京首都机场
- B. National Stadium: 鸟巢国家体育场
- C. Tiananmen Square: 天安门广场
- D. Subway station
- E. Women’s Labor Camp: 女子劳教所
- F. Tuanhe Labor Camp: 团河劳教所



Tuanhe Labor Camp, exterior of building.

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## Products

Chopsticks (primary) and steel brushes.

## Former prisoner of conscience

Falun Gong practitioner Ms. Chen Ying, now in France, wrote the following about her experience in Tuanhe Dispatch Center:

“I was locked up with over a dozen other Falun Gong practitioners in a cell that was about twelve square meters (130 square feet) in size. We did everything in this cell, including working, eating, drinking, and using the toilet; therefore, there were many flies and mosquitoes. If we could not finish the work assigned to us, we were not allowed to clean ourselves.

“We were allowed very little sleep each day, and forced to start working the moment we opened our eyes. My hands had blisters and thick calluses from working long hours to finish the assigned quota of packaging disposable chopsticks. I often worked until midnight. We were not allowed to sleep unless we finished the quota. We were forced to work over 16 hours every day, and everything was done in our cells.

The sanitation conditions were extremely poor. Even though we were packaging disposable chopsticks and the label said the chopsticks were disinfected at a high temperature, the entire process was unhygienic. We could not wash our hands, and we had to package those chopsticks that had fallen on the floor. In order to seek a huge profit, Tuanhe Prisoner Dispatch Center and Tuanhe Labor Camp disregarded the health of the general public and knowingly committed such wrongdoings. Many restaurants in Beijing are currently using these chopsticks. I heard they are even being exported to other countries.”

## Show Tours

In 2001, a closely managed tour of the Tuanhe Labor Camp was conducted for foreign media, exhibiting sections of the camp containing green fields and animals such as deer. However, former prisoners held in the camp at the time speak of a staged presentation by prison officials for the benefit of reporters. Chen Gang reports that before the tour, roads were repaired, buildings painted, and prisoners were given a list of questions and answers to memorize. The list included questions like, “Were there any beatings?” Answer: “No.” During that period of time, practitioners who had not renounced their beliefs were sent to a remote corner of the camp. When they returned they were told that reporters had come but officials did not want them to be seen.

Chen also learned after his release that two practitioners who had arrived at Tuanhe only a day or two before the tour were allowed to meet reporters. They were separated and isolated upon their arrival. When reporters asked them if they practice Falun Gong, they replied, “Yes” and when they asked if they had been beaten, they said “no.” Each situation was crafted to convey a positive impression of the facility, as realistically as possible.

## Individual cases

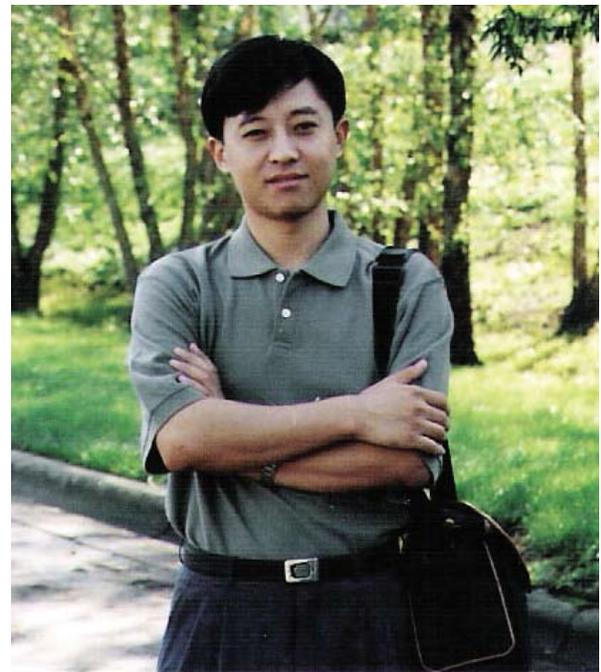
### Amnesty International Prisoner of Conscience

Bu Dongwei, currently serving 2.5 year sentence.

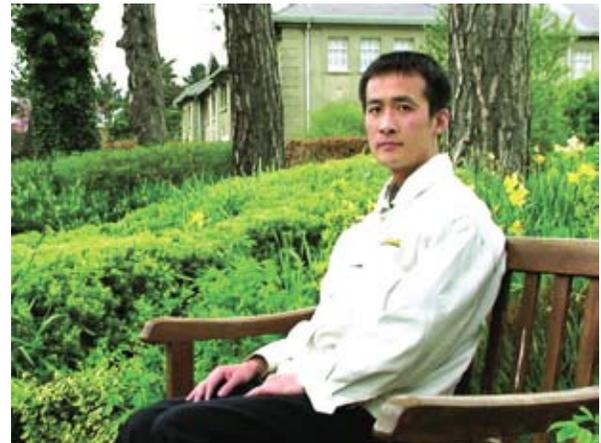
Mr. Bu Dongwei was working for the Asia Foundation, an American aid organization, when he was taken from his home in May 2006 by security agents and sentenced to two and a half years of “re-education through labor” (RTL) because he practices Falun Gong.

According to Amnesty International (AI): “This is not the first time Bu Dongwei has been imprisoned for his beliefs. After petitioning the authorities to review their ban on Falun Gong in 2000, he was sentenced to 10 months RTL.... Amnesty International has been told that during RTL he was deprived of sleep, beaten and forced to sit in a small chair all day - all to make him renounce his beliefs.”

AI considers Bu a prisoner of conscience and is calling for his immediate and unconditional release, an end to the crackdown against Falun Gong,



Bu Dongwei (image courtesy Amnesty International)



Zhao Ming.

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and abolishment of the RTL system. See: <http://www.amnestyusa.org/document.php?id=ENGASA170522007&#9001>

### **Former prisoner of conscience**

Zhao Ming, post-graduate student at Ireland's Trinity College, held at Tuanhe from July 2000 to March 2002.

"In the labour camp ... Ten inmates who were under orders by the police guards in the camp once beat me together, which made my thighs black all over with bruises and made me unable to walk for two weeks after that. Two weeks before I was released, I was shocked with 6 electric batons by 5 policemen while tied up on a bed board."

### **Message for reporters from former prisoner**

Chen Gang, a musician currently living in New Jersey.

"The CCP can stage everything. I don't know if they [reporters] can discover the truth there. If you want to know the facts you have to find a way. Don't be fooled by the CCP. A few of my friends are still in prison there. They could even be tortured to death by now. It's really hard and dangerous but I hope reporters can discover the crimes behind closed doors."— July 26, 2008

**Chen Gang, Zhao Ming and Bu Dongwei's wife, herself a former prisoner of conscience currently residing in the United States, are available for interviews upon request.**

# BEIJING

Beijing Municipal Women's "Re-education Through Labor" Camp  
(formerly Xin'an Women's Labor Camp)

12 Weiyonglu, Daxing District, Beijing.

Nearby Olympic Venue: National Stadium, a.k.a. Bird's Nest

Events: Opening and closing ceremonies, track and field, soccer finals

## Directions to Beijing Municipal Women's "Re-education Through Labor" Camp

**From Beijing Capital Airport, Total: 59.5 km**

Begin heading southwest-122 m. Turn right going west- 103 m. Turn right going northwest- 46 m. Bear right, enter Yingbinbeiqiao, going south- 3.2 km. Slow down, enter Airport Highway, going southwest- 17.3 km. Bear left, enter Andingmendong Blvd going west- 7.0 km. Bear left, enter Deshengmenxidajie, going south- 5.3 km. Bear left, enter Guanganmenbei, Binhelu, going south- 11.3 km. Slow down, enter Jingkai Highway, going south- 11.5 km. Bear left, enter Jingkai Highway, going south- 3.0 km. Bear right, exit Jingkai Highway, going south- 83 m. Slow down, enter Jingkai Highway auxiliary (side) road, going south- 283 m. Turn left, going east- 52 m. Turn right, going south- 208 m.

**Destination:** Beijing Women's Labor Camp, 12 Weiyong Street, Daxing District, Beijing.

**Total: 59.5 km**

**From Wangfujing Train Station, Total: 32.8 km**

Enter Beijingzhandongjie, going east- 0.7 km. Bear right, enter Jian'guomennandajie, going southwest- 12.1 km. Bear left, enter Lizelu, going west- 355 m. Bear right; enter Caihuyingnanlu, going south- 8.1 km. Slow down, enter Jingkai Highway, going south- 11.5 km. Bear left, enter Jingkai Highway, going south- 3.0 km. Bear right, exit Jingkai Highway, going south- 83 m. Slow down, enter Jingkai Highway auxiliary (side) road, going south- 283 m. Turn left, going east- 52 m. Turn right going south- 208 m.

**Destination:** Beijing Women's Labor Camp, 12 Weiyong Street, Daxing District, Beijing.

**Total: 32.8 km**

## About Beijing Municipal Women's RTL Camp

### Description

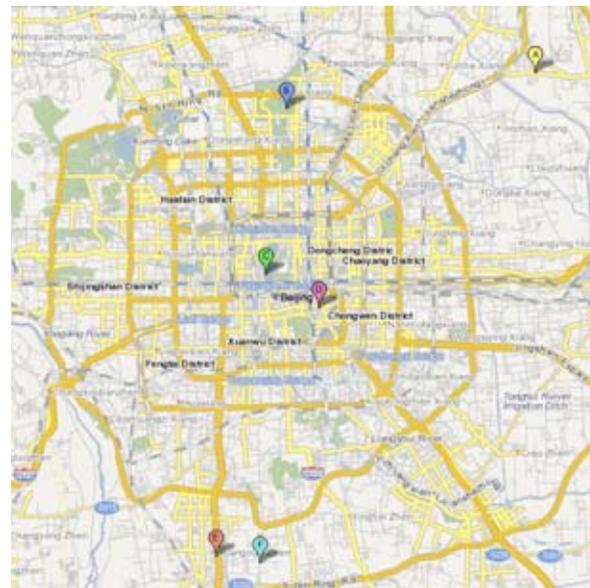
The camp was renovated in 2001, and is said to hold approximately 1,000 prisoners, all female. Among those detained are individuals sentenced for drug addiction, prostitution, or practicing Falun Gong. In 2006, 80 percent were reportedly Falun Gong adherents, while recent accounts indicate that nearly all detainees are currently Falun Gong.

### United Nations visit

The camp was among those visited by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture during his mission in November 2005. Among his findings was that record books at the camp showed that prisoners were placed in solitary confinement for as much as 60 days, far beyond the legally permitted length of time. According to his report on the visit: "Detainees ...stated that Falun Gong practitioners who had not renounced their beliefs after six months in detention were placed in the Intensive Training section until they were 'reformed'. Falun Gong practitioners formerly detained at this facility mentioned that they would refer to this section as the 'Intensive Torture Section'." Annie Yang, a former prisoner, states that several dozen Falun Gong adherents were removed from the premises immediately prior to the Rapporteur's visit.

### Prison conditions

According to former detainees, prisoners are held in unsanitary conditions and severely deprived of food and sleep. Many report being subjected to beatings



Map to the Beijing Municipal Women's 'Re-education Through Labor' Camp.

## Map Reference

- A. Beijing Capital International Airport: 北京首都机场
- B. National Stadium: 鸟巢国家体育场
- C. Tiananmen Square: 天安门广场
- D. Subway station
- E. Women's Labor Camp: 女子劳教所
- F. Tuanhe Labor Camp: 团河劳教所



Beijing Municipal Women's 'Re-education Through Labor' Camp- exterior.



Nestle toy rabbit, a promotional item produced by slave labor at Beijing Municipal Women's 'Re-education Through Labor' camp.

## BEIJING continued...

and anti-Falun Gong study sessions. At least one woman was injected with nerve-damaging drugs whose side-effects, such as muscle spasms and memory, continued long after release.

### Products made

Former prisoners speak of working over 16 hours a day performing the following forms of forced labor: packaging disposable chopsticks, knitting sweaters, gloves and seat cushions, producing large quantities of slippers, and manufacturing stuffed animals.

## Individual cases

### Former prisoner of conscience

Jennifer (Zheng) Zeng, author of *Witnessing History: One Chinese Woman's Fight for Freedom*, held April 2000 to April 2001

Excerpts from *The Sydney Morning Herald*, December 28, 2001: "Cute Toy Rabbits Belie Suffering of Chinese Labor Camps."

"In February 2001, nearly 1000 illegally detained Falun Gong practitioners were forced to make 100,000 toy rabbits for Beijing Mickey Toys Co., Ltd subcontracted by Nestle at the Xin'an Labor Camp. Falun Gong practitioner Ms. Jennifer Zeng was detained there for 12 months.

'I was forced to squat motionlessly and continuously under the scorching sun. The longest period lasted more than 15 hours. I was beaten, dragged along the floor and shocked with two electric batons until I lost consciousness. I was forced to stand motionless with my head bowed, looking at my feet for 16 hours every day, while repeatedly reciting out loud the insulting labor camp regulations. I was watched 24 hours a day by criminal inmates, who were given the power to do anything they liked to me. From February of 2001 I was forced to make 100,000 promotional toy rabbits for Nestle where 130 of us worked up to 22 hours a day to fill the order.'"

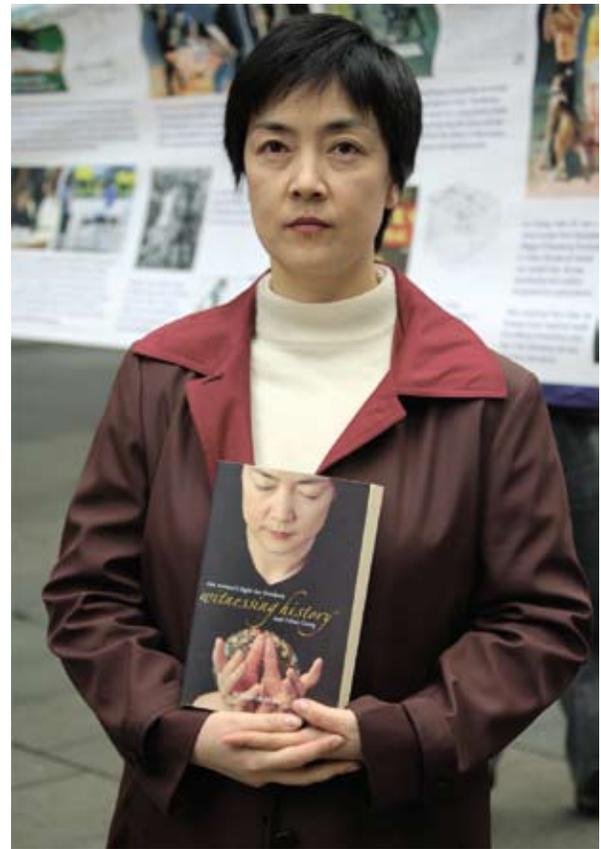
### Former prisoner of conscience

Annie (Feng) Yang, detained from April 2005 to September 2006, was visited by the U.N. mission but refused to speak for fear of retribution. She currently lives in the United Kingdom.

"At the beginning of June 2005, I was sent to a special unit whose sole purpose is to deal with Falun Gong practitioners with a firm belief. The first method they used was 'sitting on a high chair', which was made of plastic about thirty centimeters across. The surface was very uneven. Everyday one was forced to sit for over eighteen hours a day, with a strict sitting posture: both knees touching each other tightly, both legs touching each other tightly, both hands resting over the knees, the back must be kept straight, eyes must be open, and no movement is allowed. After a week or two, many people's bottoms started to rot."

According to the Falun Dafa Information Center, at least three women given "re-education" terms without trial in a recent pre-Olympics crackdown in Beijing are serving their sentences at the camp.

**Former prisoners Jennifer Zeng in Australia, Annie Yang in the United Kingdom, and Chen Ying in France are available for interviews upon request.**



Jennifer (Zheng) Zeng, author of *Witnessing History: One Chinese Woman's Fight for Freedom*



Annie Yang

# QINGDAO

## Qingdao “Re-education Through Labor” Camp

#2, Shangyuan Road, Licang District, Qingdao City, Shandong Province, China

Post code: 266100

Telephone numbers:

Country code 86, city code 532

Switchboard: 87657501, 87657502

(See Appendix A for Qingdao officials and police contacts.)

Nearby Olympic venue: Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center

Event: Sailing

## Directions to Qingdao “Re-education Through Labor” Camp

### From Qingdao Liuting Airport Total: 13.6 km

Take Anshunlu going south- 2.3 km. Turn left on Xianshanlu- 4.2 km. Turn left on 308 Guodao going south- 6.6 km. Turn onto Shangyuanlu.

**Destination:** Qingdao “Re-education Through Labor” Camp #2, Shangyuan Road, Licang District, Qingdao City, Shandong Province

**Total: 13.6 km**

### From Jinantielu Qingdao Train Station Total: 21.4 km

Enter Shanghe Road and go southwest- 378 m. Turn left on Lingxianzhi Road- 195 m. Turn right on Baotoulu. Turn right on Wudinglu- 0.6 km. Turn left on Shanghaiu 0.6 km. Turn left on Jiaodonglu- 1.3 km. Turn left on Yananlu- 1.4 km. Turn left on Yananlu- 0.8 km. Turn left on Ningxialu- 1.4 km. Turn right on Ningxialu- 0.8 km. Turn left on Shaoxinglu- 0.6 km. Turn right on Yanjilu- 0.8 km. Turn left on Fuzhoubeilu- 1.9 km. Keep left and enter 308 Guodao- 10.1 km. Turn left and make a complete U-turn to drive on 308 Guodao going south for 25 m. Turn onto Shangyuanlu.

**Destination:** Qingdao “Re-education Through Labor” Camp #2, Shangyuan Road, Licang District, Qingdao City, Shandong Province.

**Total: 21.4 km**

## About Qingdao “Re-education Through Labor” Camp

### Description

Qingdao labor camp holds male prisoners, including Falun Gong adherents, however, the total size of the prisoner population remains unclear. In March 2005, over 200 Falun Gong practitioners were believed to be detained in the Qingdao City RTL Camp’s Third Team.

### Products

Unreported

### Prison conditions

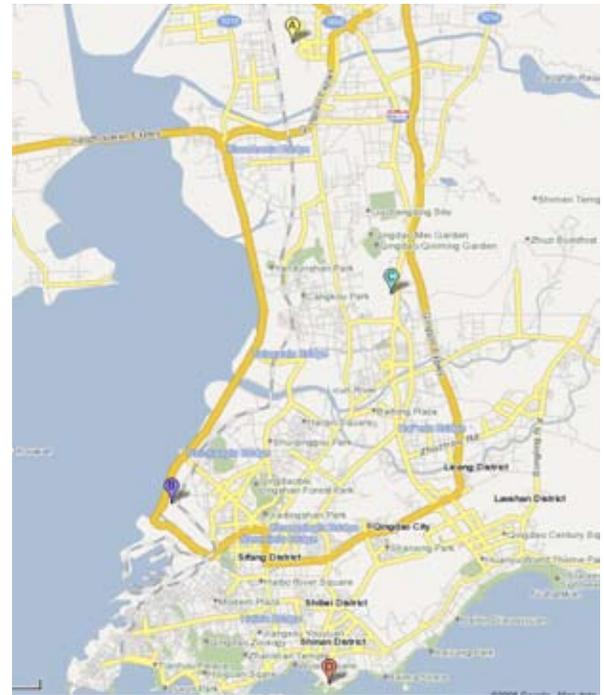
Former detainees describe being subjected to various forms of mistreatment, including: inadequate and unsanitary food, severe beatings, sleep deprivation, burning with cigarettes, being forced to sit motionless for long periods of time, shocks with electric batons, various physical and psychological tortures.

### Individual cases

Wang Bingwen, former director of Laoshan Fire Station was sentenced to three years of forced-labor at Qingdao Labor Camp on August 6, 2003. He was severely beaten by other prisoners, burned with cigarettes repeatedly, and subjected to a form of acupuncture torture.

### Details

Following an incident in 2003 in which Wang was brutally beaten by fellow inmates at the instigation of the camp guards, he began a hunger strike in protest, subsequently causing him to become physically weak. Despite his weakened condition, in order to achieve the goal of forcing him to renounce his beliefs, labor camp staff placed Wang in a form of solitary confinement,



Map of Qingdao ‘Re-education Through Labor’ Camp.

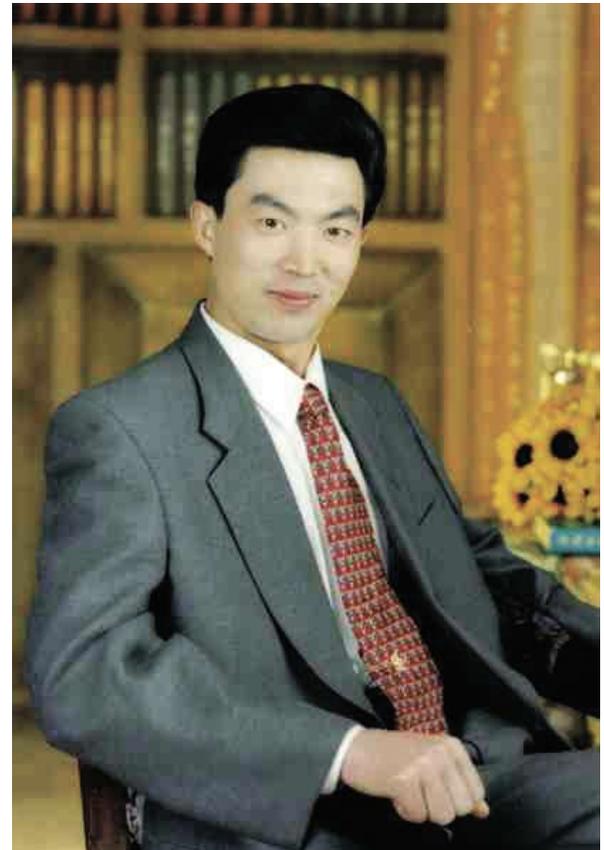
## Map Reference

A: Qingdao Liuting Airport: 青岛流亭机场

B: Qingdao Train Station: 济南铁路局青岛站

C: Qingdao Labor Camp: 青岛劳教所

D: Olympic site: Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center: 青岛奥林匹克帆船中心



Wang Bingwen, sentenced to three years for Re-education Through Labor at Qingdao camp.

## QINGDAO continued...

termed “long-term strict management.” This confinement involved holding Wang in a small cell with closed windows in which he was forced to relieve himself and was denied contact with the outside world. During this time, he was continuously bound to a stool in the same position and unable to move, causing his muscles to severely atrophy.

Medical personnel employed by Qingdao Labor Camp are also alleged to have participated in abusing Wang. According to available reports, in 2003, a form of acupuncture torture was applied to Wang in several 30-minute sessions during a two-week period. A Dr. Xie is alleged to have inserted needles into all of Wang’s finger tips and the soles of his feet. During the acupuncture torture, Xie is said to have twisted and pulled the needles outward and pushed them inward quickly and forcefully. When this technique was applied to Wang’s wrists, it reportedly simulated the feeling of their having been broken.

In April 2004, Xie is alleged to have again placed needles into each of Wang’s finger tips directly beneath his fingernails. This reportedly caused extreme pain and bleeding in his hands and resulted in the need for several people to restrain him to prevent his screaming. Over four months after the torture session, black stains under Wang’s fingernails were still clearly visible.

A Mr. Yang, Director of the Medical Office, is alleged to have used forced feeding to torture Wang Bingwen as a plastic tube, which had been inserted through his nose and into his stomach, was not changed during a seven week period. The tube extended into Wang’s stomach and was eventually corroded by stomach acid. Rather than replacing it with a new tube, medical staff at the labor camp are said to have pushed the tube deeper into his stomach, causing excruciating pain and leading Wang to cough up blood.

### **Olympics-related persecution in the Qingdao/Shandong region:**

July 29, 2008: The Falun Dafa Information Center reported that a 46-year old woman who had been illegally arrested and tortured continuously for 21 days, died from her wounds and was cremated on June 21, 2008.

The report states, “Xiao Sumin (肖素敏) was the 3,163rd adherent known to have died as a result of the persecution of Falun Gong in China, though it is expected that the actual number is many times higher. Ms. Xiao was from Pingdu city in Shandong province; approximately 80 km north of Qingdao. The province is also notable for having the fourth highest death rate throughout China for Falun Gong practitioners tortured by security personnel for their spiritual beliefs.

“Sources further stated that Ms. Xiao was subjected to non-stop torture for almost two weeks, after which she was taken to Qingdao Haici Hospital in Qingdao city in critical condition. However, she never recovered from the effects of the abuse, and she died within three weeks of her hospital admission on June 21st. Her body was immediately cremated and her ashes were taken to her home. She is survived by a young daughter.”

**The phone number of Mr. Wang’s family is available upon request.**



Ms. Xiao Sumin is shown before and after her tormentors beat her.

# QINHUANGDAO

## No. 1 Qinhuangdao Detention Center

No exact address, Tutaizi, Haigang District, Qinhuangdao, Hebei Province

(Postcode for Qinhuangdao 066000, Shanhaiguan 066200, area code for Shanhaiguan 0335; numbers started with 505 can also be switched with 515)

(See Appendix B for Qinhuangdao officials and police contacts.)

Nearby Olympic Venue: Qinhuangdao Olympic Sports Center Stadium

Event: Preliminary soccer matches

## Directions to No. 1 Qinhuangdao Detention Center

### From Qinhuangdao Airport Total 16.5 km

Take 266 Shengdao [Province Highway] going northwest- 3.7 km. Turn left onto 48 Shengdao (Province Highway) going west- 10.7 km. Enter Huandao and then Beihuanlu going west- 1.9 km.

Turn right onto Xigangbeilu, going northwest- 287 m.

Destination: No. 1 Qinhuangdao Detention Center, Tutaizi Community, Qinhuangdao City, Shandong Province (no exact address).

**Total: 16.5 km**

### From Qinhuangdao Train Station Total: 2.1 km

Right onto on Beihuan Road (take a rickshaw) going west- 1.7 km. Turn right onto Xigangbeilu, going northwest- 287 m.

Destination: No. 1 Qinhuangdao Detention Center, Tutaizi Community, Qinhuangdao City, Shandong Province (no exact address).

**Total: 2.1 km**

## About No. 1 Qinhuangdao Detention Center

### Description

This detention center is one of thousands across the country where individuals are held upon being arrested and prior to being sentenced to RTL camps or prisons. In the case of Falun Gong, it is at such centers that the authorities first attempt to force adherents to renounce their beliefs through a combination of interrogation, sleep deprivation, beatings and more severe forms of torture. When adherents refuse to issue such a renunciation after several weeks or months, they are often sentenced to RTL or prison terms and then transferred to the corresponding facility.

In recent investigations into allegations of organ harvesting from Falun Gong prisoners of conscience, this detention center was among those called by investigators seeking information about the source of organs. In a communication transmitted to the Chinese authorities in August 2006 by the United Nations Special Rapporteurs on torture, religious intolerance, and human trafficking regarding organ harvesting, the Rapporteurs pointed to the following:

“It is reported that employees from the following detention facilities have indicated that organs from Falun Gong detainees have been used for transplants: ...First Detention Centre of Qinhuangdao City... and Second Detention Centre of Qinhuangdao City.”

### Products

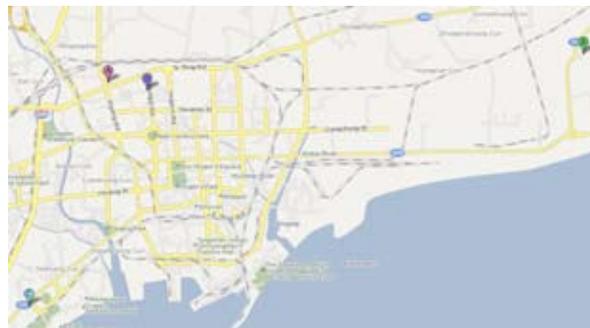
Unreported

### Detention Center Conditions

Former detainees report coercion by various methods to renounce their faith, including: extortion, persecution of family members, loss of savings, loss of employment, and various forms of physical and psychological torture.

### Olympics-related persecution in Qinhuangdao City

From July 1-10, 2007, as preliminary preparation for the 2008 Olympic games,



Map to No. 1 Qinhuangdao Detention Center.

## Map Reference

A: Qinhuangdao Detention Centre 秦皇岛第一看守所

B: Qinhuangdao Airport 秦皇岛机场

C: Qinhuangdao Olympic Stadium 秦皇岛市奥林匹克体育中心

D: Qinhuangdao Train Station 秦皇岛火车站



No. 1 Qinhuangdao Detention Center, exterior.

## **QINHUANGDAO continued...**

the city hosted the International Women's Soccer Invitational Competition and the Beijing Men's Olympic Soccer Group Meeting at its Olympic Sports Center.

At that time, the Secretary of the Communist Party's Political-legal Committee of Hebei Province, Wang Qijiang (male), traveled to Qinhuangdao in a visit that served to accelerate the persecution of Falun Gong adherents in the city. The Secretary of the city's Political-legal Committee Yang Tai'an and local security agents subsequently intensified the pressure on local practitioners.

The escalated persecution included the pressuring of friends and family of adherents; "dropping in" on local residents known to practice Falun Gong to intimidate and harass them; and intensifying the monitoring of adherents the Party had targeted as "focus" individuals. In addition, according to one report, in late June 2007, the Qinhuangdao City Sports Bureau and the Olympic Center disqualified several athletes simply because their relatives were known to practice Falun Gong.

### **Individual cases**

#### **Former detainee, Mr. Chen Qijiang**

An electrical engineer employed at the Qinhuangdao City Grand Hotel.

Chen was detained by police in August 2007 after paying a visit to the mother of a fellow Falun Gong adherent who had been imprisoned. He was reportedly taken to the No. 1 Qinhuangdao detention center, where he was interrogated and severely beaten. He remained at the center for over six months at the end of which he was sentenced to five years in prison. He was reportedly transferred to nearby Tangshan Prison at the end of April 2008.

#### **Former detainee, name withheld**

Excerpts from testimony of former detainee, dated May 8, 2003 (the individual's name has been withheld for her protection)

"On December 25, 1999, policemen from No. 2 Division of Police Station abducted me from my home and again sent me to the #1 Detention Center. I was illegally detained for one month. During my detention there, I was forced to sit on the [tiger bench- a form of torture] bench for a long time every day. The police also encouraged a drug addict named Fang to curse and beat practitioners arbitrarily. Fang was even allowed to steal practitioners' money and property. After my release, the Department of Transportation leaders refused to allow me to work. They used money as a tool to blackmail me. Our family has four people, including two school-aged children. My husband's salary was only 400 Yuan a month. After five months, our savings were drained. However, the managers said, 'No job, no food, let's see what you can practice now. You have to write the guarantee letter in order to come back.' Feeling desperate and hopeless, I wrote a guarantee letter against my conscience. Later, I regretted this very much."

As a result of a later detention at Kaiping District RTL camp in nearby Tangshan, where the adherent was repeatedly shocked with electric batons, she lost the use of her legs and remains permanently disabled.

# SHANGHAI

## Tilanqiao Prison

147 Changyanglu, Tilanqiao District, Shanghai

### Education Office

Li Yongfang, the Director of the Education Office, is allegedly in charge of persecuting Falun Gong practitioners. She works in collaboration with Tilanqiao First Division Chief Tang.

**Surveillance Office:** 86-21-65848703, 86-21-35104888 ext.5423, 5405

**Fax:** 86-21-65454647

**Criminal Affairs Office:** 86-21-65419040, 86-21-35104888 ext. 8858

**Nearby Olympic Venue:** Shanghai Stadium

**Event:** Preliminary soccer matches

## Directions to the prison

### From Shanghai Hongqiao Airport Total: 27.9 km

Drive west-.6 km; Turn right on Wucaolu- 1.8 km. Turn right on Beizhailu- 1.9 km. Turn right onto A20 Gonglu south- 4.5 km. Turn right on Huqingpinglijiaoqiao- 167 m. Turn left on A9 Gonglu east- 5.7 km. Turn left on Yanangaojialu- 9.7 km. Turn right on Daminglu- 2.7 km. Turn right on Changyanglu- 2.2 km.

**Destination:** Tilanqiao Prison, 147 Changyanglu, Tilanqiao District, Shanghai.

**Total: 27.9 km**

### From Shanghai Train Station Total: 7 km

Enter Shenjiazhailu going north- 194 m. Turn right on Zhongxinglu- 1.1 km. Turn right on Xizangbeilu- 0.9 km. Turn left on Daminglu- 1.7 km. Turn right on Changyanglu.

**Total: 7 km**

## About Tilanqiao Prison

### Description

Shanghai's Tilanqiao Prison was built in the early 1900's and resides in the back streets and alleys around Changyang Road; its walls are surrounded by barbed wire. Most of the prisoners held there are reportedly either political prisoners or serious criminals. Since 2000, it has been used to hold Falun Gong adherents sentenced to long prison terms for exercising their rights to freedom of belief and expression. Adherents are reportedly concentrated in the prison's "first division."

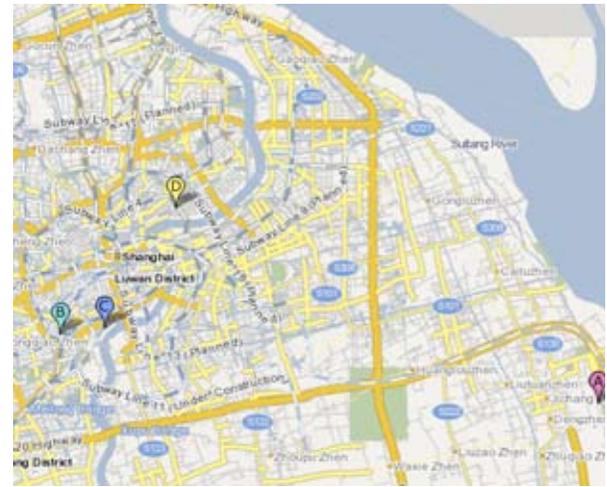
### Prison conditions

Former detainees speak of Tilanqiao Prison's "strict discipline" section, located on the west wing of the fifth floor of the No. 2 Ward. "Strict discipline" constitutes a more informal type of punishment, compared to "solitary confinement" for which there are legal limits imposed on the length of time it is allowed. With "strict discipline," however, no such legal clarity exists. As a result, former prisoners report that at Tilanqiao, "strict discipline" is often more severe than "confinement," continuing for a longer period of time and involving severe beatings.

In Tilanqiao's "strict discipline" section, prisoners are reportedly held for long periods of time in cells sized 3.3 square meters. They report being severely beaten, denied adequate food, forced to sit motionless on an uneven plastic stool for over 15 hours per day, and witnessing fellow prisoners having their heads forced into a chamberpot full of excrement and urine. Those who disobey guards, reportedly have their hands cuffed behind their backs and tied to the ground with shackles for extended periods of time, in some cases up to a year.

### Products

Former Tilanqiao inmates report being forced to produce high-end hygiene products including Bee & Flower (Feng-hua) soaps and Maxam (Mei-jia-jing) hygiene products. Prisoners reportedly work from morning to night packaging



Map to Tilanqiao Prison.

## Map Reference

A: Shanghai Hongqiao Airport: 上海虹桥国际机场

B: Shanghai Stadium: 上海市体育场

C: Shanghai Train Station: 上海火车站

D: Shanghai Tilanqiao Prison: 上海提篮桥监狱



Tilanqiao Prison's "strict discipline" section, located on the west wing of the fifth floor of the No. 2 Ward.



图一 蜂花檀香皂（上海提篮桥监狱经常加工的几种）

Bee & Flower (Feng-hua) soaps, reportedly produced with slave labor at Tilanqiao Prison.

## SHANGHAI continued...

hundreds of bars of soap a day. In some cases, materials for production have been brought into the solitary confinement cells of Falun Gong adherents where they are forced to contribute to the manufacturing. See Appendix C for more information about products made at Tilanqiao Prison.

### Individual cases

#### Qu Yanlai

A graduate of Shanghai's Jiaotong University, Energy Engineering department in his early 30s.

Qu was abducted by police and sentenced to five years in prison in 2003 without his family or a lawyer present. He almost immediately began a hunger strike to protest his illegal sentencing and continued the strike for 780 days. During that time, he was repeatedly beaten and force fed a salt water mixture, causing his health to significantly deteriorate. In 2005, his family succeeded in hiring attorney Guo Guoting to represent him, but Guo was denied access to Qu in prison despite multiple requests. Guo was subsequently forced into exile in Canada for posting information online about Qu's case and for representing other prisoners of conscience.

**Defense attorney Guo Guoting and Xinxia Jiang, a former prisoner of conscience from Shanghai and acquaintance of Qu Yanlai, are available for interviews upon request.**

# SHENYANG

## Masanjia Labor Camp

No exact address, Masanjia Town, Yuhong District, Liaoning Province

Phone: +86(0)24-89210822/89212252/89210454

Olympic venue: Shenyang Wulihe Stadium

Event: Preliminary soccer matches

## Directions to Masanjia Labor Camp

(no exact address found; directions are to town office)

### From Taoxian Airport (to Masanjia Town Office) Total: 54 km

Enter onto Shendangaosurukou going northeast- 3.8 km. Turn left on Shendangaosu- 9.1 km. Turn right on Xiashengouchurukou- 0.9 km. Turn right on Shenhuangaosu going west- 14.6 km. Turn right on Shenhuangaosu going north- 16.4 km. Turn right on Hongqitaichurukou- .5 km. Turn right on Danpogonglu- 7.4 km. Turn right on Xincaixian- 1.3 km.

**Destination:** Masanjia town office, Masanjia Town, Yuhong District, Liaoning Province.

**Total: 54 km**

### From Shenyang Beizhan (train station) to Masanjia Town Office Total: 23.7 km

Drive southeast- 195 m. Turn left onto Youhaojie- 353 m. Enter Huandao going south- 162 m. Keep right onto Haerbinlu going southwest- 288 m. Slight turn on left onto Haerbinlu going west- 0.8 m. Keep left onto Haerbinlu going west- 8.4 km. Keep right onto Zhonggongbeijie going northeast- 279 m. Keep right onto Guangyelu going northwest- 11.9 km. Turn right onto Xincaixian going northeast-1.3 km. Turn left and continue going west- 51 m.

**Destination:** Masanjia town office, Masanjia Town, Yuhong District, Liaoning Province.

**Total: 23.7 km**

## About Masanjia Labor camp

### Description

Masanjia is widely known as one of China's most brutal labor camps, particularly for Falun Gong adherents. It has been in operation since 1957 and some 36,000 detainees had passed through there in its first four decades of operation. Since the crackdown on Falun Gong began in 1999, it has become one of the largest detention centers for practitioners in China.

According to Falun Gong practitioner Zhao Shuhuan, who was incarcerated in Masanjia from Sept 2000-April 2001, Masanjia is a "huge, huge compound. There are three groups of buildings very far from each other so you never know who's in there." A new building now houses all prisoners, says Zhao. Similar to the obscuring techniques used by the authorities at other camps described in this booklet, the Masanjia compound includes a large amount of acreage devoted to farmland and orchards.

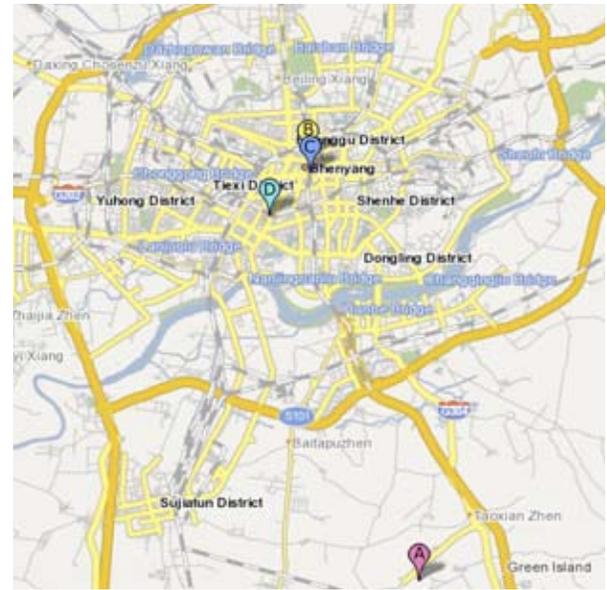
In October, 2000, international media reported on the allegation of large scale sexual abuse in this camp where 18 female practitioners were reportedly stripped naked and thrown into male jail cells where they were gang raped, as a form of torture aimed at breaking their will and forcing them to renounce their faith in Falun Gong. The Falun Dafa Information Center has documented the deaths of 11 Falun Gong practitioners in this camp.

### Prisoners

The compound holds both male and female prisoners. The exact number of people detained at the camp is unclear, but estimates suggest it is several thousand. Zhao reports that in the section in which she was incarcerated, each Falun Gong practitioner was monitored by two former, or "reformed" practitioners, who had renounced their faith following severe physical and psychological abuse.

### Products

Costume jewelry, handcrafts such as "butterfly fairies," vines, hats,



Map to Masanjia Labor Camp.

## Map Reference

A: Taoxian Airport: 桃仙机场

B: Shenyang North Train Station: 沈阳北站

C: Masanjia Labor Camp: 马三家劳教所

D: Shenyang Olympic Stadium: 沈阳奥林匹克体育中心体育场



Masanjia Labor Camp- exterior view.



Examples of costume jewelry reportedly produced at Masanjia Labor Camp, under slave labor conditions.

# SHENYANG continued...

boutonnieres, hairpins and other items.

## Conditions

Falun Gong practitioners in Masanjia are reported to be subjected to beatings and torture including electric shocks, force-feeding, injections of nerve-damaging drugs and anti-Falun Gong “re-education” sessions. Due to the prolonged mental and physical torture, and extremely poor living conditions, some of the adherents detained at Masanjia have become disabled or are suffering from serious illnesses.

Despite some detainees’ ill health, the guards continue to torture practitioners and force them to work up to 20 hours every day. Zhao reports that during the three months of summer when she was detained there, she was allowed to shower at most five times. There was no toothpaste, no shampoo, no soap, and no sanitary products for menstruating women available. Detainees received inadequate food rations and were deprived of sleep.

Zhao reports a tightly guarded environment in Masanjia, in which prisoners, particularly Falun Gong adherents, were prohibited from communicating with one another, even through body language, including in their cells. If adherents were caught looking at one another, they would be reported by “reformed” practitioners, reprimanded and possibly beaten.

## Individual case

### Former Prisoner of Conscience Zhao Shuhuan

54, from Shenyang City, incarcerated at Masanjia from September 2000 to April 2001, currently resides in the United States

As in the case of other adherents who refuse to renounce Falun Gong, during her time at Masanjia, Zhao was subject to severe abuse. In the winter of 2000, Masanjia guards stripped her, put a light piece of cloth over the inside of her thighs and repeatedly pinched until her skin came off and the wounds festered with pus. They then kicked the wounds with the tips of their shoes, leaving large scars on her thighs that remain visible today.

During her detention at the camp, Zhao was also force fed, whereby a plastic tube was violently shoved into her stomach through either her nose or mouth. During one such incident, Zhao felt her stomach fill with blood. She was also injected with psychoactive drugs which caused her to feel severely ill and disoriented.

### Show Tours

According to Zhao, in the time before several visits from foreign media, camp officials purchased sports equipment such as badminton sets and decorated the compound. Similarly, while under normal circumstances, two prisoners would share a twin bed, before a tour, half the prisoners would be moved elsewhere, enabling the remaining prisoners to have their own beds. When the tour was over, however, the two returned to sharing a small bed. In addition, only “reformed” practitioners would be able to see reporters—those whose faith was firm would be sent to a far corner of the compound. In the spring of 2001, a human rights group came to investigate Masanjia. According to Zhao, ten Falun Gong practitioners in her group were hidden away. Of those ten, two have since been tortured to death.

### Message for reporters from a former prisoner

“The communists will never let those reporters see the truth. They will transfer practitioners to someplace else. I don’t believe they can find anything on a tour of the facility. Make sure to tell reporters, they will not see the firm practitioners – they will have been sent somewhere already. Everything they see will be an illusion.”

—Zhao Shuhuan, July 27, 2008

**Zhao Shuhuan currently resides in the United States and is available for an interview upon request.**

# TIANJIN

## Jianxin Labor Camp

6 Jiafangnanlu, Hexi District, Meijiangdao, Tianjin.

Olympic Venue: Tianjin Olympic Center Stadium

Competition: Football Preliminary

## Directions to Jianxin Labor Camp

**From Tianjin Binhai Airport: Total: 13.1 km**

Enter Huandao going south 439 m. Turn on Huandao going west 1.7 km. Turn left on Waihuanxian 299 m. Turn right on Jinbindadao 6.6 km. Turn left on Dongfengqiao 1.1 km. Turn left on Hongxinglut 2.2 km. Turn left on Jiefangnanlu 73 m.

**Destination:** Jianxin Labor Camp, 6 Jiafangnanlu, Hexi District, Meijiangdao, Tianjin.

**Total: 13.1 km.**

**From Tianjin Train Station: Total: 4.6 km**

Go northwest on Jianguodao for 213 m. Turn left on Sanjinglu for 154 m. Turn right on Jinbudao for 190 m. Turn left on Wujinglu for 2.4 km. Turn left on Qufudao for 128 m. Turn right on Jiefangnanlu for 1.5 km.

**Destination:** Jianxin Labor Camp, 6 Jiafangnanlu, Hexi District, Meijiangdao, Tianjin.

**Total: 4.6 km.**

## About Jianxin Labor Camp

### Description

Jianxin Labor Camp of Tianjin City was expanded especially for the purpose of holding Falun Gong adherents. Since the inception of the Sixth Division for female detainees, several hundred practitioners have been detained there. Most were older than fifty years of age, the oldest being seventy-three.

### Conditions

According to former Jianxin detainee Ms. Wu Yanying, the labor camp conditions are “very harsh.” Every morning, she was forced to get up at 5:30am to begin her day of forced labor, which typically lasted until midnight. At Jianxin Labor Camp witnesses describe harrowing torture performed on Falun Gong practitioners. One special torture tool adopted by this particular camp has been called the “Black Coffin,” which is 50cm long, 40cm wide and 1.89m high. The inside is covered by black leather and becomes airtight except for one front hole, which allows guards to monitor the victim. Those who are put into the coffin cannot sit or squat or move. Prisoners have reportedly been forced into the “Black Coffin” for up to two weeks.

### Death in Custody

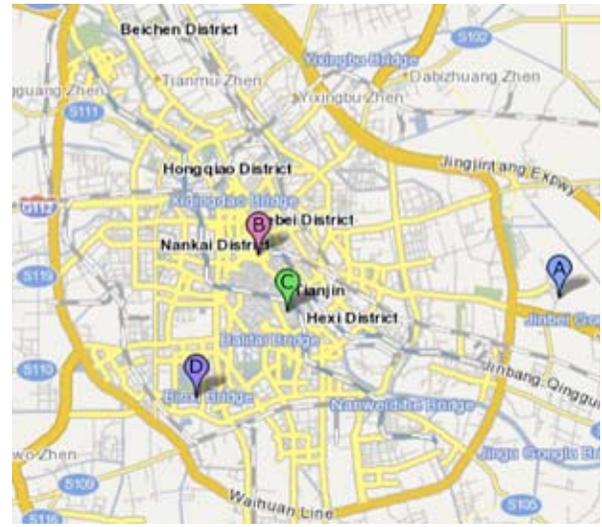
Ms. Xu Weiwen, a 40-year-old adherent from Heixi district in Tianjin was arrested for practicing Falun Gong and sentenced to Jianxin RTL camp. The camp guards reportedly instigated other inmates to severely beat Xu and force-feed her without proper medical means when she went on hunger strike. As a result of the prolonged abuse, Xu reportedly died in custody in July 2002. At the time of her death, she was detained at the Fourth Team in the labor camp and the team leader, Jiao Menghua, is said to have been closely involved in her mistreatment.

### Products

Jianxin Labor Camp produces a selection of melon seeds, wrapped candy and, folded cookie trays for the Chinese market; inmates are forced to labor 16 to 17 hours per day.

### Public Relations

When Ms. Wu Yanying was released from Tianjin’s Jianxin Labor Camp, she revealed that detainees were being forced to write letters slandering Falun Gong and declaring complete support for Jiang’s persecution of the practice.



Map to Jianxin Labor Camp.

## Map Reference

A: Tianjin Binhai Airport: 天津滨海国际机场

B: Tianjin Train Station: 天津站河北区

C: Tianjin Jianxin Labor Camp: 天津建新女子劳教所

D: Tianjin Olympic Centre Stadium: 天津奥林匹克中心体育场

## TIANJIN continued...

According to Wu, all Falun Gong practitioners detained in the Jianxin Labor Camp were made to write UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan a letter acknowledging that they had been “deceived” by the founder of Falun Gong and that Falun Gong was an “evil cult.” In addition, their letters had to contain language supporting the government’s ban and completely renouncing Falun Gong. Any letter failing to meet these four requirements had to be re-written, and practitioners who refused to write such letters were subject to further punishment, including torture.

Ms. Wu and her brother were detained in January of 2001. On February 10, 2001, while they were still incarcerated, an article was published by state-run media that claimed that Mr. and Ms Wu had quickly “renounced” Falun Gong under the “care” of the Chinese Communist Party and moved on to become “rich” grape farmers.

The article, entitled, “Abandoning Falun Gong, Stepping on the Road to Making a Fortune” claims that Wu and her younger brother, Wu Zhanzhong, were once “obsessed” with Falun Gong but with the “care” and “help” of the Chinese Communist Party and local government officials, both had “renounced” Falun Gong and went on to make a fortune growing grapes. After “conversion” away from Falun Gong, the article claims, the sister and brother concentrated all their efforts on running their business, and were “sincerely grateful” for the “care” from the Chinese Communist Party.

Wu says she neither renounced Falun Gong nor was released at that time; much less did she embark on a new career of growing grapes. “The article is completely fabricated for the purpose of persecuting Falun Gong and deceiving the public,” she says. See Appendix D for additional information.

# THE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

*Courtesy of the Falun Dafa information Center*

## 1. What is Falun Gong?

Falun Gong (also known as Falun Dafa) is a traditional Chinese spiritual discipline that includes exercises and meditation. After being passed down in different forms for generations, the practice was first made public by Mr. Li Hongzhi in China in 1992. It quickly spread by word of mouth throughout China and then beyond—70-100 million Chinese were said to have practiced it by 1998 and today it is practiced in over 70 countries. The discipline is taught and practiced without charge, and its central books—Falun Gong and Zhuan Falun—can be downloaded for free.

Rooted in the Buddhist school of practices, Falun Gong emphasizes moral rectitude. Three values—truthfulness, compassion, and forbearance—form the backbone of Falun Gong’s teachings and represent its highest ideals. Practitioners aspire to live by these values in their daily lives, achieving, over time, a state of selflessness along with a release from attachments and desires. Many who practice Falun Gong find a deep sense of joy in putting others first and aspiring to goodness. With a belief that mind and body are one, Falun Gong sees this process of purifying one’s thoughts as also key to better physical health. In Chinese, practices of this nature are often referred to as “cultivation” paths and form important parts of traditional Asian cultures.

## 2. Why is the Chinese Communist Party persecuting Falun Gong?

The complex rationale behind the campaign can be broken into four elements: Falun Gong’s popularity, the role of Jiang Zemin, conflicting ideology, and the very nature of China’s Communist Party.

While a common misconception is that the gathering of 10,000 adherents in Beijing on April 25, 1999 is what led to the Party’s opposition to Falun Gong, oppression of the practice actually began at least three years earlier. The more popular Falun Gong became, the more the resistance it encountered. When Falun Gong books became bestsellers in 1996 they were banned; when state-run media estimated that over 70 million people practiced Falun Gong—more than the Communist Party membership—the media began attacking Falun Gong; state security began spying on and harassing practitioners. It was in response to these early abuses that practitioners gathered in Beijing. Party leaders fear any large, independent group beyond its direct control, and Falun Gong was perhaps the largest.

Fearing Falun Gong’s rapidly growing popularity was overshadowing his own legacy, then-Chinese leader Jiang Zemin ordered the practice “eradicated.” According to a 1999 Washington Post article, “Communist Party sources said that the standing committee of the Politburo did not unanimously endorse the crackdown and that Jiang alone decided that Falun Gong must be eliminated.” Journalists and inside sources have described Jiang as “jealous” of Falun Gong and “obsessed” with eliminating the group. As China analyst Willy Lam has argued, by creating a national campaign Jiang sought to both align power to himself and eradicate a group he saw as a threat to his power.

A third element is the ideological differences between the atheist Communist Party and the spiritual Falun Gong. While religion is becoming increasingly popular in China, and the Party does allow some religious affiliations, spiritual groups must submit to the state and their leaders must be Party approved. Other groups who, like Falun Gong, have chosen to preserve their belief system and refused to tender to the Party have also met persecution, including Tibetan Buddhists and house church members.

Finally, as the Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party has argued, the persecution of Falun Gong is the latest in a continuum of violent campaigns that the Party uses to remind the population of its control. Mao Zedong once said that China should have a Cultural Revolution every seven or eight years. Indeed, since the 1950s not a decade has gone by without some violent state-led campaign aimed at the masses. From the suppression of “counterrevolutionaries,” the Great Leap Forward, the Cultural Revolution, the



# ESSENTIALS continued ...

1989 crackdown on the democracy movement, to Falun Gong, the Party has killed 60-80 million Chinese citizens.

## 3. What form has the persecution taken?

Inside China, the Party has used every method available to terrorize and pressure people to renounce their faith. Practitioners are denied schooling, jobs, and custody of their children; they are publicly humiliated, raped and sexually assaulted by police. Those who disclose the abuses they experience in captivity are jailed for “leaking state secrets.” Adherents are denied legal representation, and some have received prison sentences of up to 18 years for merely their beliefs. Hundreds of thousands have reportedly been sent to labor “re-education” camps—China’s gulag system—without any legal trial. Many healthy, normal Falun Gong practitioners have been committed to psychiatric wards where they are abused with nerve-damaging drugs. As of July 2008, 3,163 deaths have been documented, mostly from torture, of which there are over 63,000 accounts in total. The real death toll is believed to be in the tens of thousands.

## 4. How have Falun Gong practitioners responded to the persecution?

Falun Gong has responded with markedly nonviolent means, refusing to use force throughout nine years of suppression. Inside China, adherents’ response has consisted of trying to file petitions or writing letters to China’s rulers, informing fellow citizens about the persecution they face and its illegality, meditating in public, hanging banners and posters in visible places, calling labor camps and prisons to directly speak with the perpetrators, and publishing records of the persecution online.

Overseas, practitioners have been holding round-the-clock vigils for years outside Chinese embassies and consulates, have held parades, rallies, hunger strikes, and cross-country car tours to raise awareness of the persecution in China. Other activities have included compiling reports for United Nations special rapporteurs, holding forums, producing printed, electronic, and broadcast media about the persecution, as well as developing advanced software to help Chinese break through China’s Internet firewall.

## 5. How has the rest of the world responded to the persecution?

First, it should be noted that Chinese people both in China and abroad are increasingly standing up in defense of Falun Gong. Chinese lawyers like Guo Guoting and Gao Zhisheng, in particular, have risked and lost their careers trying to defend Falun Gong practitioners in recent years. After initially being greatly influenced by mainland propaganda and pressures, overseas Chinese have also become more supportive recently, and have given Falun Gong awards recognizing its contributions to the community and to the cause of freedom in China.

Prominent individuals, including leading members of the Jewish religious community, have been speaking out about the killing of Falun Gong practitioners for their organs. Amnesty International and other human rights organizations have issued urgent appeals for Falun Gong practitioners and have helped document the persecution. The U.N. Special Rapporteur on Torture has repeatedly queried the Chinese authorities and issued reports in which cases of Falun Gong torture comprise the majority of the China section. The U.S. Department of State has highlighted the persecution of Falun Gong in its annual reports, as have other countries. Two resolutions condemning the persecution have been passed in Congress and others have been passed in European parliaments. With the notable exception of Taiwan, however, executive branches throughout the world have yet to firmly speak out. After an initial interest in the story, the Western press has been largely avoiding the issue.



# APPENDIX A

## Qingdao Officials Contacts

Qingdao officials alleged to have been involved in, or responsible for, the torture and persecution of Wang Bingwen and other Falun Gong practitioners:

### 1. The Qingdao City Forced Labor Camp

Superintendent: Liu Xuyun, 87657887

Vice Superintendent: Zhu Guangchang, 87650298

Administration Office: 87657354

Education Office: extension 8035; Yao Jinming 87081302, 87657050

Medical Office: extension 8063 (Director Yang is in charge of practitioners' physical examination and the forced feeding of practitioners on hunger strikes.)

Director: Wu Zhongsen and Liu Xuyun

Vice Director: Wu (allegedly oversees persecution of Falun Gong; his first name is unknown)

Third Team officials: Brainwashing: Wang Kaiyuan, Len Jiaguang and Lu Ling.

Policemen: Ji Guoqiang, Wang Yongjian, Mr. Dai, Wang Bin, Liu Tongxian, Wang Zhen, Ni Weiguo, Feng Quanjun, Yang Hongwei, Yao Jinming and Wang Yongjian.

Among them, Mr. Dai, Wang Bin, and Lu Liang are alleged to have directly participated in torturing and beating Wang Bingwen, Wang Hongde, Tian Zhenjian, Zhang Xiaochen, Liu Deming, Kuang Bao, Zhang Fengyi, Yu Peihao and many other Dafa practitioners.

### 2. The Qingdao City Judiciary Bureau

Address: Minjiang Road No. 7, Qingdao City, Shandong Province

Zip code: 266000

Director: Ma Guohua 86-532-5912289 (Office), 86-13708978897 (cellular), 86-532-2863568 (Home)

Vice Director: Cao Renzheng 86-532-5912206 (Office), 86-13705320196 (cellular), 86-532-5771267 (Home)

Vice Director: Zhao Gaoling 86-532-5912202 (Office), 86-13853290666 (cellular), 86-532-5966098 (Home)

Vice Director: Lu Tao 86-532-5912203 (Office), 86-13708979982 (cellular), 86-532-5769982 (Home)

Vice Director: Guo Yongjun 86-532-5912297 (Office), 86-13808976725 (cellular), 86-532-3879137 (Home)

Official: Yan Qunhua 86-532-5912205 (Office), 86-13505328908 (cellular), 86-532-5873881 (Home)

Official: Li Jianzheng 86-532-5912210 (Office), 86-13625326239 (cellular), 86-532-5830076 (Home)

*[Note- since publication online, some numbers may have been changed.]*

# APPENDIX B

## No. 1 Qinhuangdao Detention Center Contacts

**Qinhuangdao City-related officials and offices alleged to have been involved in, or responsible for, the torture and persecution of Falun Gong practitioners:**

(Postcode for Qinhuangdao 066000, Shanhaiguan 066200, area code for Shanhaiguan 0335; numbers started with 505 can also be switched with 515)

### **Shanhaiguan Public Security Bureau**

Address : No. 61 Wenhua Road Haigang District Qinhuangdao City  
Shanhaiguan Public Security Bureau Director: Chen Guangtai, 86-335-3034919 (office)  
Local Police Station : 86-335-3631722, 86-335-3631723  
Public security division : 86-335-3034887

### **No. 1 Qinhuangdao City Detention Center**

Former head of detention center: Zhao Baogui  
Head of detention center: Gao Bo  
Police: Li Jianguo, Chen Shujun, Li Xiaomei, Li Qiaolan, 86-335-3648207, 86-335-3062419, 86-335-3078244  
National Security Team: Lu Ping, 86-13833589652 (Cell)

### **Shanhaiguan District's Committee of the CCP at Qinhuangdao City, Hebei Province**

Secretary of Shanhaiguan District's Committee: Zheng Baoliang, 86-335-5051052, 86-335-5052602 (Office)

### **Shanhaiguan Police Station**

Director of the Shanhaiguan Police Station, Zhao Ran: 86-335-5052196, 86-335-3060933  
Political Commissioner, (reported to have oversight over local efforts to persecute Falun Gong), Head of the 610 Office, Liu Guansheng: 86-335-5062814, 86-335-3088933, 86-335-5052421, 86-335-5052315 (Office), 86-335-5057838 (Home), 86-13930385885 (Cell)  
Head of First Division at the Police Department of Shanhaiguan: Zhang Deyue, 86-335-5052464 (Office), 86-335-5076600 (Home), 86-13930326695 (Cell), 86-13930321117 (Cell)  
First Division of the Police Department at Shanhaiguan: Fu Yong, 5052464,8664332

### **The Detention Center at Shanhaiguan**

86-335-5051427  
Head of Detention Center: Zhang Haiqing, 86-335-5051168 (Office)  
Director: Wang Hongbing, 86-335-5051167  
Former Head of the 610 Office at Shanhaiguan District, Vice-Secretary of the Political and Legal Committee: Ding Guolai, 86-335-5037277 (Office), 86-335-5053296 (Home)  
Head of the 610 Office at Shanhaiguan District: Guan Xiyu, 86-335-5051072 (Office), 86-335-5050267 (Home), 86-13903345303 (Cell)

# APPENDIX C

## While Woman Languishes in Forced Labor Camp, Chinese State-Run Media Claim She Lives Life of the "Rich"

NEW YORK, September 18, 2002 (Falun Dafa Information Center) -- According to a February 2001, Chinese state-run media report, Ms. Yanying Wu and her brother had quickly "renounced" Falun Gong under the "care" of the Chinese Communist Party and moved on to become "rich" grape farmers.

As of September 16, the Tianjin "Tonight" news website still claims Ms. Yanying Wu renounced Falun Gong and enjoyed excellent care under the Communist Party. The story was fabricated, and Ms. Wu's brother still remains in detention for his beliefs.

Ms. Wu begs to differ, saying she suffered in a Chinese labor camp for her beliefs from January, 2001 until early September, 2002.

A February 10, 2001 report in the Tianjin Tonight Newspaper entitled "Abandoning Falun Gong, Stepping on the Road to Making a Fortune" claims that Ms. Wu and her younger brother, Zhanzhong Wu, were once "obsessed" with Falun Gong but with the "care" and "help" of the Chinese Communist Party and local government officials, both had "renounced" Falun Gong and went on to make a fortune growing grapes. After "conversion" away from Falun Gong, the article claims, the sister and brother concentrated all their efforts on running their business, and were "sincerely grateful" for the "care" from the Chinese Communist Party.

According to Ms. Wu, however, she and her brother were detained in January of 2001. On February 10, 2001--the day the Tianjin Tonight article was published--Ms. Wu and her brother were still in police custody. The two remained in custody and in September 2001, Ms. Wu's family learned that she had been sentenced to two years in the Jianxin Labour Camp in Hexi District of Tianjin City.

Ms. Wu says she neither renounced Falun Gong nor was released at any time; much less did she embark on a new career of growing grapes. "The article is completely fabricated for the purpose of persecuting Falun Gong and deceiving the public," Ms. Wu says.

Under the pressure from an on-going nationwide rescue campaign in Canada, initiated by Wu's sister in Toronto, Ms. Wu was released from the labor camp earlier this month -- about six months ahead of her scheduled term. Her brother remains in detention. His relatives believe he is being held in the Beichen District Shuangkou Labor Camp in Tianjin City.

"Fabricated news is commonplace in Jiang's persecution against Falun Gong," comments Falun Dafa Information Center spokesperson Erping Zhang. "The state-run media in China is utilized to bend the minds of the public against Falun Gong and in favor of Jiang's campaign. There are thousands of stories like Ms. Wu's where 'news' is fabricated to support Jiang's policy."



The Tianjin "Tonight" news website claimed Ms. Yanying Wu renounced Falun Gong and enjoyed excellent care under the Communist Party. The story was fabricated, and Ms. Wu's brother still remains in detention for his beliefs.

## The Crimes Behind Shanghai's Prestigious Labels

### "High Class" Products Actually Made at Tilanqiao Prison in Shanghai

05 Sep 2007

Bee & Flower (Feng-hua) and Maxam (Mei-jia-jing) are both well known brand labels from Shanghai in China, and their products are sold in southeast Asia as well as all over China. Very few people however know that some of these products, such as the soaps, are processed in Tilanqiao Prison and other jails. The companies behind these prestigious labels are participating in the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners and other prisoners, which is in violation of international laws.

At the gate of Section 2 of the Shanghai Tilanqiao Prison, trucks loaded with soaps and other hygiene products are often seen. They unload unpackaged products and reload with boxes of packed soap. Prisoners are forced to finish the most complicated step of packing Bee & Flower soap bars: gluing on two strips of paper with instructions and a label (1 and 2 in Photo 1) and two trademark stickers (3 and 4 in Photo 1).

For the Bee and Flower products, every prisoner in the "soap group" has to finish the following workload daily: Pack over 70 boxes of large soap bars (72 bars in each box) or pack over 30 boxes of small soap bars (144 bars in each box). Prisoners each have to work from morning to night to finish packing about 5,500 bars of soap. Prisoners also have to fold a piece of paper with information for each bar and to fold small paper boxes to be filled with either four or 12 bars. In order to finish all the work, prisoners give up their break time, which is not much, to fold the papers and the small boxes. For the packages with information in English they also have to glue serial numbers on the soaps.

For the Maxam products, prisoners pack soap bars and liquid soap. They both come in large quantities. (Photo 2)

These kinds of soaps contain medicinal ingredients (Photo 3), which were in great demand when SARS was at its peak in 2003. Many prisoners at Tilanqiao Prison were forced to work on these products overtime every day. Like other types of contract work that prisoners at Tilanqiao Prison are forced to complete, these companies collaborate with prison officials for their own considerable gain since very little is paid in salaries. This despicable practice also disrupts the global economic market.

Since late 2000, the Shanghai Tilanqiao Prison has actively participated in persecuting Falun Gong practitioners who believe in Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance. Besides being locked in separate cells, beaten, verbally abused, and brainwashed, practitioners have been forced to work on packing soap. The "soap group" prisoners worked in unequipped but spacious workshops, while Falun Gong practitioners have to work in the hallways outside their cells. For those practitioners being strictly monitored because they were very steadfast, usually the soap bars and packing materials were taken into their cells and they had to work there. The dark prison cells, measuring only 3.3 square meters, became their workshop to pack soap. Most of the practitioners in the prison packed the medical soap as well when it was in high demand in 2003.

Falun Gong practitioners in the Tilanqiao Prison have also been forced to make handicrafts. One of them was a type of card (Photo 4) on which two small decorative items are glued in certain positions. Another type of card requires that a star be glued to a certain place. All the stars have two pointed hooks at the back, which are to be bent at a 90-degree angle and glued. Practitioners were not provided with any tools, so they have to use their unprotected hands to make these products. The small pointed hooks quickly penetrate their fingers, which bleed. Their hands are swollen after a whole day of work. One month before the Moon Festival, tons of paper handbags for carrying moon cakes are brought to practitioners to work on, so they have to work on the handbags in the stuffy hallways of the prison cells on hot summer days.

Products from other well known Shanghai labels are soaked in prisoners' sweat. For example, the building for Group 3 at the Shanghai Women's Forced Labor Camp is a makeshift workshop for the famous brand Threegun (San-qiang), where Shanghai Falun Gong practitioner Ms. Bai Gendi, who was illegally arrested and detained many times, worked and was persecuted. Group 2 forced the practitioners to work on Daphne (Da-fu-ni) shoes. Practitioners are detained and persecuted by the Chinese Communist Party because they believe in Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance. Every day after being forced to work extremely hard for more than 10 hours, they are then subjected to intense brainwashing by prison wardens.



图一 蜂花檀香皂 (上海提篮桥监狱经常加工的几种)

Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

# APPENDIX E

## Global Internet Freedom Consortium (GIFC) Offers China-Based Reporters Software to Break Through Internet Blockade

Washington, DC, August 2, 2008 — The Global Internet Freedom Consortium (GIFC) announced today that their anti-censorship software tools are ready to help journalists and tourists during the Olympics, to circumvent China's Internet blockade. The software, which is available free of charge, can be downloaded onto a hard drive or USB drive to safely and effectively overcome the Internet censorship in China.

In the run-up to Olympics, Beijing tightened control over media and Internet. Overseas web sites that have keywords on Beijing's blacklist are blocked and cannot be visited from China without any "anti-censorship" tools. The decision to block access to these websites is in contravention to Beijing's earlier promises to grant unrestricted Internet access to foreign reporters during the Games, and will seriously impede reporters' ability to do their work in Beijing. Although web restrictions were relaxed to some degree on Friday, it is unclear how long these conditions will last.

In order to overcome these Internet restrictions and gain free access to the Internet in China, the GIFC recommends that journalists and tourists download the free software packages by its partners. All Internet traffic through the tools is encrypted and can successfully bypass the Internet blockades in repressive nations around the world.

GIFC partner organizations have been developing and maintaining anti-censorship tools of all shapes and flavors since 2000. Some of the tools, such as "UltraSurf," "FreeGate," "Garden," "GPass" and "FirePhoenix," are very popular among web surfers in China who are eager to explore the world behind the Great Firewall. About one million users worldwide are using these GIFC tools on a regular basis.

The software tools can be downloaded at <http://www.internetfreedom.org> .

"You can try the tools here first to get acquainted with the interface. Then you can circumvent the censorship and continue to visit any web site when you are in China," said Tao Wang, Director of Operations. He stressed, "We will continue to roll out new releases quickly during the Olympics. So please make sure you always come to our official web sites for latest updates and stay connected."

For more information, please contact Tao Wang at 888-937-1688, or email [contact@internetfreedom.org](mailto:contact@internetfreedom.org).

### About The Global Internet Freedom Consortium

Formed in 2006, the Consortium is an alliance of organizations that develop and deploy anti-censorship technologies for Internet users residing in oppressive regimes. The Consortium partners have contributed significantly to the advancement of information freedom in China. The anti-censorship technologies which the Consortium members developed have enabled Internet users in China, Iran, Vietnam, Burma, etc. to securely visit websites blocked by the regimes, such as those of Voice of America and Radio Free Asia. For more information, visit <http://www.internetfreedom.org> .

<http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/08-02-2008/0004860451&EDATE=>

## Beijing Reporters, Tear Down This Firewall (and How To)

### The Falun Dafa Information Center Offers Tools for Breaking through the CCP's Internet Filters and Securing your Data while Covering the Beijing Olympics

02 Aug 2008

NEW YORK — With the International Olympic Committee having admitted prior consent to the Chinese authorities to block access for foreign reporters to certain websites (article), the Falun Dafa Information Center, in cooperation with Internet freedom activists, hereby offers journalists in Beijing a resource to gain free access to information during their stay in China.

The tools available on the Global Internet Freedom Consortium (GIFC) website [www.internetfreedom.org](http://www.internetfreedom.org) allow anonymous, secure access to public websites normally accessible outside of the CCP's filters.

The tools available on the Global Internet Freedom Consortium (GIFC) website [www.internetfreedom.org](http://www.internetfreedom.org) allow anonymous, secure access to public websites normally accessible outside of the CCP's filters.

The Global Internet Freedom Consortium (GIFC) is an organization founded by Falun Gong practitioners, offering tools that allow anonymous, secure access from within China to websites normally accessible outside of the CCP's filters. The GIFC's secure gateway services handle over 90 percent of the anti-censorship internet traffic from China and Iran, amounting to more than 400 million hits per day.

The tools available on the GIFC's <http://internetfreedom.org> website are the very same tools that millions of Chinese citizens employ to access information blocked by the CCP. They operate by scattering web requests across a dynamic network of servers outside China, then re-assembling the encrypted data into a normal web page on the user's computer.

In addition to allowing access to otherwise filtered sites, these tools also assist users inside China in keeping the details of their Internet usage, including passwords, safe from Beijing's army of internet monitors. GIFC researchers and recent information released by Senator Brownback (article) indicate that such surveillance is especially active in the run-up to and during the Olympics, as the authorities attempt to secure information from the computers of visiting journalists, diplomats and foreign travelers.

It is recommended that these tools be downloaded and installed before arriving in Beijing, if possible, to ensure unrestricted access to the real [internetfreedom.org](http://www.internetfreedom.org) website. Chinese security agents are known to have created fake versions of the site that do not provide these tools and may even install viruses or monitoring software on a user's computer. However, those already in Beijing could also visit this website from their bureau headquarters, which normally has unrestricted access to the Internet. Another alternative is to obtain the tools from a colleague in the reporter's home office outside China via a virtual private network (VPN) connection.

### Falun Gong Sites Remain Blocked Even as Restrictions on Other Sites Loosen

After the initial outcry from reporters in Beijing over Internet restrictions, GIFC researchers and media reports indicate that the CCP has begun to allow reporters to have access to some previously-blocked sites, such as Amnesty International's or the BBC in Chinese, but Falun Gong-related websites remain blocked.

"Based on our experience, the overwhelming reason for the CCP to block a website is not because it may have harmful content, such as pornography or excessive violence," says GIFC's chief technologist, Mr. Bill Xia. "The main reason they block a website is because they are trying to cover up human rights abuses and other crimes carried out by the state. So, the real question here, I think, is why are they so afraid of journalists having free access to information about Falun Gong?"

One possible reason is that in preparing to host the Olympics, there has been a sharp increase in arrests and brutality against Falun Gong practitioners. In a July report, the Center detailed a campaign of door-to-door arrests in which thousands of Falun Gong practitioners have been detained, with many subsequently sentenced without trial to forced labor camps for two to three years (news).

Indeed, since their inception, much of the CCP's Internet monitoring efforts have positioned information about Falun Gong as a key target. "Falun Gong" and related terms (about) have been on the short list of blocked keywords, often in the top position, ever since the persecution of Falun Gong began in 1999 (see Harvard University's Open Net Initiative Report on Internet filtering).

More recently, according to a May 20, 2008 Washington Post report, California-based

Cisco Systems prepared an internal document indicating that one of the main objectives of China's "Golden Shield Project" -- a multi-billion dollar initiative to restrict and monitor Internet usage inside China -- was to "combat the Falun Gong." (news) Cisco Systems is reportedly one of the largest suppliers of technology to the Golden Shield Project.

### **Background**

Founded in 1999, the Falun Dafa Information Center is a New York-based organization that documents the rights violations of adherents of Falun Gong (or "Falun Dafa") taking place in the People's Republic of China. In July of 1999 China's autocratic Communist Party launched an unlawful campaign of arrests, violence, and propaganda with the intent of "eradicating" the apolitical practice; it is believed certain leaders feared the influence of the practice' 100 million adherents. The campaign has since grown in violence and scope, with millions having been detained or sent to forced labor camps. The Center has verified details of over 3,000 deaths and over 63,000 cases of torture in custody (reports / sources). Falun Gong is a traditional-style Buddhist "qigong" practice, with roots in the Chinese heritage of cultivating the mind/body for health and spiritual growth.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE FALUN DAFA INFORMATION CENTER**

Contacts: Gail Rachlin (+1 917-757-9780), Levi Browde (+1 646-415-0998), Erping Zhang (+1 646-533-6147), or Joel Chipkar (+1 416-709-8678)

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