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An Update on Falun Dafa Worldwide

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Chinese Consulate Interferes with U.S. Official's Proclamation for Falun Gong

(Clearwisdom.net) To honor the 15th anniversary of Falun Dafa's public introduction, on May 13, 2007, the mayor of Snoqualmie, Washington State issued a proclamation for Falun Dafa, and designated May 13, 2007 as Falun Dafa Day. The day after the proclamation was issued, the Chinese consulate in San Francisco sent two officials to meet with Snoqualmie Mayor Matt Larson, asking him to cancel the proclamation for Falun Gong. The mayor rejected their request, and invited local Falun Gong practitioners to participate in the meeting with Chinese consulate officials. The following are excerpts from the article published in the *Snoqualmie Valley Record* written by journalist Seth Truscott on June 6, 2007, about the incident.



Snoqualmie Mayor Matt Larson got some unexpected attention from the Chinese government after he signed a proclamation in support of the Chinese meditation and exercise practice, Falun Gong, also known as Falun Dafa.

Larson duly proclaimed May 13 as Falun Dafa Day... Larson said. "It's a practice based on the core principles of truth, compassion and tolerance. I think most people would read that those are good things, positive things to teach children and espouse in the community. They emphasize beauty and discipline." World Falun Dafa Day was held Sunday, May 13, in Seattle's Westlake Center. The following Monday, May 14, two officials from the Consulate General's Office of the People's Republic of China in San Francisco, led by Deputy Consul General Zhu Weimin, contacted Larson and arranged a visit that day.

The first thing Larson showed them was the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, respecting freedoms of speech, religion and the right to assemble. ...Larson had already told the officials that he had no intention of rescinding the proclamation. "I basically said, 'Don't waste your time.' "...The consulate visitors handed Larson a document, apparently a transcript of a television program in which male and female commentators criticize a Falun Gong promotional video. "It seemed like the most egregious crime they could claim was maybe... that they were looking to challenge the government," Larson said. "My response was, 'That's bad because ---? I'm supposed to be sympathetic to communism?'... "I've certainly not seen a shred of evidence to suggest the Falun Gong group is going to threaten the U.S. government." "I don't think it's my job to interject into international politics," Larson said. "But after the fact, I wasn't inclined to roll over, just because a couple of guys come into town to pressure me."

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 brutal and 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 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 news and happening inside China as well as from the more than 70 countries around the world where Falun Gong is practiced. Clearwisdom responsibly publishes experiences and understandings of practitioners themselves, who submit the majority of the articles.

Mr. Wang Tongwen Dies as a Result of an Unknown Drug Injection

(Clearwisdom.net) Falun Dafa practitioner Mr. Wang Tongwen lived in Shahe City, Hebei Province. In 2001, police officers injected an unknown drug into his brain, causing him to lose the ability to function normally or to take care of his daily needs. He died on May 29, 2007, at the age of 60.

Mr. Wang Tongwen was an employee at the Shahe City Twentieth Metal Products Factory. He started practicing Falun Dafa in 1996, and he experienced greater physical and mental strength. On January 12, 2001, Mr. Wang went to Beijing to appeal for justice for Falun Dafa, and was arrested when unfurling a banner on Tiananmen Square. Policemen brutally beat him, and bruises covered his body. That January, there were several days of snow. The police officers forced Mr. Wang Tongwen to stand outside in the snow at night wearing only thin clothes, and they poured water over his head. They dragged him in after midnight. Four to five police officers held him down and injected an unknown drug into his brain. The next day, the police ordered his employer to pick him up, saying that Mr. Wang "had a heart attack."



Painting by Yao Chongqi from the Truthfulness Compassion Forbearance Art Exhibition, depicting the torture suffered by practitioner Ms. Chen Zixiu. Ms. Chen died after repeated beatings, electric shocks, and being forced to run in the snow.

Due to damage caused by this unknown drug to his central nervous system, Mr. Wang became very ill. By 2002, half of his body was paralyzed, he could not talk coherently, and he could not take care of himself. By 2005, he was bedridden and had totally lost the ability to talk. By April 2007, Mr. Wang Tongwen's whole body was paralyzed, and he completely lost consciousness. He died on May 29, 2007.

Falun Gong Practitioners Win Award in the Rose Festival Parade

(Clearwisdom.net) June 2, 2007, marked the 100th annual Rose Festival, the biggest festival in Portland. This year, Falun Gong practitioners took part in the Rose Festival parade and won third place in the parade contest.





The parade started after dark. The Falun Gong float, celestial maidens' dancing, and exercise demonstration manifested the beauty of Falun Dafa to the crowds. The spectators applauded the practitioners, and many people took informational materials. Some wanted to learn the exercises.

Before the parade, practitioners handed out materials about Falun Dafa to the bystanders. A group of Indian businessmen asked many questions about Falun Gong, and some Western people learned the exercises from practitioners. The judges of the parade also learned the facts of Falun Gong from practitioners. They expressed admiration for the practitioners' courage in their ongoing efforts to expose and end the persecution in China, and encouraged them to persevere.