

Clearwisdom Review

An Update on Falun Dafa Worldwide

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Chinese Human Rights Lawyer Sentenced to Seven Years in Prison for Defending Falun Gong Practitioners

(Clearwisdom.net) On the morning of November 27, 2009, Mr. Wang Yonghang, a 36-year-old lawyer from Dalian, Liaoning Province, was put on trial at the Dalian Shahekou District Court for defending Falun Gong practitioners. He was immediately sentenced to seven years in prison for "damaging the implementation of the law."



Mr. Wang Yonghang

Mr. Wang had previously worked at the Liaoning Qianjun Law Firm. Since 2007, he has provided legal assistance to Falun Gong practitioners who have been detained by the authorities for practicing Falun Gong. In May 2008, Mr. Wang's wife, Ms. Yu Xiaoyan, who is a Falun Gong practitioner, was illegally detained by police in Shanghai. He wrote an open letter to Communist Party head Hu Jintao and Premier Wen Jiabao, challenging the legality of the decade-long persecution of Falun Gong practitioners and urging the authorities to immediately correct their mistakes and release all illegally-detained Falun Gong practitioners.

In July 2008, Mr. Wang published a more detailed article on the Internet, analyzing the illegality of Article 300 – the provision most often used to imprison Falun Gong practitioners. He argued that Article 300 does not meet minimum international legal standards of clarity and specificity. Moreover, it is essentially nonsensical because simply practicing a religion or belonging to a religious group cannot obstruct justice or "undermine the implementation of the law," as Article 300 states. He also submitted his article to the Procuratorate and Supreme People's Court, urging them to correct their mistake so that Article 300 would no longer be used to unlawfully persecute innocent citizens who practice Falun Gong.

After Mr. Wang published the article, the law firm terminated its employment contract with him, and the authorities revoked his license to practice law.

On June 16, 2009, Wang Yonghang represented Mr. Cong Rixu, a Falun Gong practitioner, in court and pleaded not guilty for his client. This drew the ire of the communist regime again. On July 4, 2009, approximately twenty plainclothes police officers barged into Mr. Wang's home, searched it, and took both him and his wife into custody.

While being held incommunicado in detention, Mr. Wang was severely beaten, causing fractures to his right ankle. One of his legs has atrophied as a result of delayed medical treatment. On August 10, 2009, nearly one month after his injury, Mr. Wang was sent to the hospital for surgery. He was placed under tight surveillance by the State Security police while he was in the hospital. His wife's request to visit him was turned down.

Introduction to Falun Dafa

Falun Dafa, also known as Falun Gong, is a practice for benefiting physical health and elevating the mind. Introduced by Mr. Li Hongzhi in China, the practice consists of five gentle exercises including meditation, and diligent effort on the part of practitioners to follow the universal principles of Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance in daily life. Falun Gong is not only beneficial to one's own health and well-being, it also benefits others. Although the practice originated in China, today it is practiced throughout the world by people of all races and walks of life. In the face of the most brutal and vicious persecution perpetrated on them by the Chinese Communist Party, Falun Gong practitioners have found the spiritual strength to resist peacefully and tirelessly by upholding the principles of Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance.



About Clearwisdom

Clearwisdom.net is the most authoritative source of information about the practice of Falun Gong and about the persecution of Falun Gong in China, reporting timely news and events happening inside China as well as from the more than 70 countries around the world where Falun Gong is practiced. Clearwisdom responsibly publishes the experiences and understandings of practitioners themselves, who submit the majority of the articles.

Spanish Foreign Ministry: Administration Does Not Interfere with Judiciary

(Clearwisdom.net) The Spanish National Court recently indicted five high-ranking Chinese Communist Party (CCP) officials, including former Communist Party head Jiang Zemin and his followers Luo Gan, Bo Xilai, Jia Qinglin and Wu Guanzheng on charges of genocide and torture of Falun Gong practitioners. Spokeswoman María Salcedo of Spain's General Department of Foreign Policy for Asia and the Pacific, Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, said on November 27, 2009 that Spain is a democratic country and the administration does not interfere with the judiciary.

The plaintiff's lawyer Carlos Iglesias confirmed on November 19 that the Spanish National Court issued a summons to the five CCP officials and asked them to explain their genocidal conduct, including organ harvesting from living Falun Gong practitioners for profit. If the defendants refuse to respond, the court can make a default judgment and the defendants would then face international arrest warrants and extradition to Spain, where they would face sentences of twenty years or more.

The Spanish court made the decision based on the Universal Jurisdiction of international law. Universal Jurisdiction applies to crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and crimes of aggression. Once the ruling is issued, it has the permanent effect of law.

For this principle to have applied, the crimes of Jiang and the other CCP officials were extremely severe. As a result, any country can prosecute the defendants. Over a decade ago, the Spanish court asked Britain to extradite Pinochet, the former dictator of Chile. In 2006, China and Spain signed an extradition treaty. This case is expected to deliver a shock to the CCP regime, which has not yet made any response.

The Miracle of a Six-year-old Girl

A Falun Dafa practitioner in Yushu City has a six-year-old granddaughter named Xiao Qiu. The child had not been feeling well since last December – she could not eat much, felt gassy and had pain in her stomach. She gradually lost weight and her arms and legs became very thin. She was so weak that her voice was very soft.

The little girl's parents took her to the hospital. After an examination, it was found that there was an 8-cm tumor in her abdominal cavity. After medications failed to improve her condition, the family went to Changchun Cancer Hospital to have the tumor removed. A week after the surgery, another 8-cm tumor was found at the same site. The doctors and experts concluded that the speed of tumor growth was such that surgery would not control it. The only treatment available was chemotherapy, followed by observation for awhile, before attempting another surgery. As a result, Xiao Qiu was hospitalized for another month and had chemotherapy twice before she was allowed to go home.

After she returned home, Xiao Qiu's condition deteriorated. Her hair became dry and sparse and the pain in her abdomen was severe. She cried and screamed constantly. Her parents and grandparents took turns holding her.

At this time, the little girl's maternal grandmother suggested that the child's mother let Xiao Qiu practice the Falun Gong exercises and study the teachings of Falun Gong with her. Xiao Qiu then came to her grandmother's house. First, her grandmother taught her to sincerely recite, "Falun Dafa is good, Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance is good." They watched Master Li's lecture videos together every day. Her grandmother also taught Xiao Qiu how to do the exercises. Very soon, Xiao Qiu could eat again and no longer was in pain. Gradually, she became happier and more energetic.

Over a month after Xiao Qiu came to her grandmother's house, she had gained weight and her hair grew back. The tumor that had been palpable in her tummy disappeared. An examination in the hospital confirmed that the tumor was gone. Now Xiao Qiu has returned home. Her family is together once again and their life has become harmonious and happy. They are very grateful to Falun Dafa.