

Self-Immolation or Murder?



The fire on Liu Chunling was put out. Liu is facing the fire extinguisher. A hand can be seen throwing something toward her head.



An object hits Liu's head and then rebounds. Liu is hit so hard that she turns 180 degrees, with her back facing the fire extinguisher.



The object flies into the crowd and then falls quickly. It is obvious that the object is quite heavy.



A man in a military overcoat stands at the spot where Liu was hit, in a pose suggesting that he just threw something.

The Jiang regime uses the alleged “self-immolation” incident that occurred on Tiananmen Square on January 23, 2001, to defame Falun Gong.

But **the IED stated** in a report:

“...we have obtained a video of that incident that in our view proves that this event was staged by the government. We have copies of that video available for distribution.”

- *International Education Development Bureau, August 2001*

“In the slowed version, it appears that Liu Chunling, one of two people who died, collapsed not from the flames but from being bludgeoned by a man in a military overcoat. Falun Gong members identified the man as a police officer.”

- *Charles A. Radin, The Boston Globe, April 18, 2001*

Washington Post journalist Phillip Pan went to Liu Chunling's hometown of Kaifeng to investigate the case. Liu's neighbors said that nobody ever saw Liu practice Falun Gong.

When the Chinese Central TV (CCTV) footage is played in slow motion, it is clear that, in the midst of the smoke, someone strikes Liu Chunling's head with an object. Liu immediately collapses. Then the object rebounds and quickly falls down. So who struck Liu? If we freeze the frame, we see someone's arm wave toward Liu's head, and then an armed soldier walks toward the camera. Next to him stands a man in a military overcoat on the spot where Liu was struck, in a position that suggests he just used force to hit something.

In August 2001 during the “self-immolation” show-trial, the footage from Tiananmen Square was rebroadcast in China. All clips that had been previously pointed out as suspicious by the Western media or analysts were cut from the rebroadcast, especially the clip that showed Liu Chunling's collapse—it was completely eliminated. Why were these suspicious clips cut?