

Psychiatric Torment



二〇〇〇年五月十七日
北京公安局十三处公安处
法轮功弟子强行灌食

Photo overleaf: Punitive Force_Feeding

A drawing of a force-feeding session in a Chinese prison by Amy Lee, a Falun Gong practitioner now living in the USA, who was subjected to force-feeding torture while detained in China.

Recalling her experience, Ms. Lee said: “They dragged me by my hair and slammed my head against the ground. Then they violently kicked my head and chest. I lost consciousness. When I came to, I had a headache and realized my clothing had been stripped from my body. To protest this treatment, I began a hunger strike. Five days later, I was force-fed. They forced a thick and hard plastic tube into my stomach through my nose. It was excruciatingly painful, especially to my nose and throat. Force-feeding by violently stuffing tubes through the nose and down the throat is a common practice in Chinese detention centers. Very often, it's not food that's forced through the tube, but a highly concentrated salt-water solution that is extremely painful when ingested. Even more appalling is that human feces and urine are sometimes 'fed' to the hunger-striking practitioners. The procedure is usually carried out by untrained guards or sometimes even criminal inmates.”

Repeated Detentions and Torture in Mental Hospital

Wu Xiaohua,^{1,2} female, 47, an associate professor at the Environmental Art Department of the Anhui Civil Construction Engineering College, Hefei City, Anhui Province.



Professor Wu Xiaohua

In early 2000, the local authorities sent Prof. Wu Xiaohua to the Anhui Women's Labor Camp because she had appealed to the government to stop persecuting Falun Gong. In the labor camp, the guards instigated inmates to beat and abuse her. They slapped her face with the sole of a shoe, wrapped her face and head with tape, and stuffed rags that were used for cleaning bathrooms and soaked in urine into her mouth. They

even filled her mouth with sanitary napkins soaked with menstrual blood. They also locked her up in a small solitary confinement cell in the hot summer.

When such torture failed to force Prof. Wu to renounce Falun Gong, the labor camp sent her to the Hefei City No. 4 People's Hospital (a mental hospital) in late July 2000. In the mental hospital, Prof. Wu was handcuffed to a bed with her arms and legs stretched out day and night. She was forcibly given injections, force-fed drugs, and shocked with electric needles. This torture put her in a daze and made her feel fidgety. She often lapsed into a stupor. One day, they handcuffed her hands behind her back and locked her in a warehouse from that afternoon until the following morning to expose her to mosquitoes. Because she was handcuffed, she could not fend off the mosquitoes. The next morning she was covered with blood from mosquito bites. She was detained and tortured in the mental hospital for 50 days before she was transferred back to the labor camp.

On October 23, 2001, Prof. Wu was once again sent to the mental hospital. In the hospital, the nurses forced her onto a bed, grabbed her by her hair, and stripped off her clothes. The doctors cursed at her while cutting her underwear off with a pair of scissors. Then they tied her to the bed with her arms and legs stretched out and shocked her with electric needles and an electric baton all over her body. The pain was beyond description. They then force-fed her and injected her with nerve-damaging drugs. These drugs caused her to feel muddled-headed and sick. During her detention at the mental hospital she went on three hunger strikes, the longest one lasting 21 days. The hospital authorities threatened to electrically shock

her until she passed out if she would not renounce Falun Gong. Because of the injections and drugs she remains in a lethargic state and has a feeling of numbness. She feels uneasy no matter how she sits, stands or sleeps. She has a constant headache, vomits, and suffers from menstrual irregularity. She also suffers from memory loss, and her eyesight is intermittently out of focus, rendering her unable to see people or things clearly at close range. Her hearing has also been terribly damaged. Due to her weakened condition she sometimes passes out three to four times in a single day. Because of the torture, her blood sugar value often reaches 22-28, her blood pressure is very high, and her heart is not in a healthy condition.

In October 2002, guards from the Anhui Women's Labor Camp secretly took Prof. Wu from the hospital. No one knows her current whereabouts.

Chen Biyu Died from Psychiatric Torture

Chen Biyu, female, 51, employed at the China Industrial Commercial Bank's Taijiang Branch, Fuzhou City, Fujian Province.

In November 1999, Ms. Chen Biyu was arrested in Beijing for appealing to the central government to stop persecuting Falun Gong. She was escorted back to Fuzhou City and detained in the Shuitou Detention Center. To force her to renounce Falun Gong, the police first sent her to the Fuzhou Neurological and Mental Illness Prevention Center in Fuzhou City in December 1999, and later to the Fuzhou Mental Hospital Treatment Center in Fuzhou City. She was force-fed with psychiatric drugs in these institutions.

Ms. Chen managed to escape from the mental hospital, but was arrested again and sent back to the Fuzhou Neurological and Mental Illness Prevention Center on January 7, 2000. The chief physician of the Second Unit, Dr. Lin Yaoping, tortured her with electric needles and injected her with nerve-damaging drugs. The severe torture caused her to become incontinent and lose her memory. She was then transferred to another hospital, but was released because she was unable to pay the hospital expenses. When she returned to her job at the bank, she was fired, and then sent to the Fuzhou Mental Hospital.

After Ms. Chen was released, she was once again arrested by the police on September 26, 2001, and suffered more psychiatric torture. Ms. Chen died in custody in October 2001.

1. AP: August 27, 2002, "Falun Gong Practitioners Call For Support to End Mental Hospital Abuse Used to Persecute Healthy Falun Gong Practitioners in China"
2. The Japan Times: September 5, 2002, "Psychiatric Abuse In China"

Help Rescue My Mother, Han Jizhen, Who was Cruelly Persecuted In Nanjing Mental Hospital

By Jason Wang³⁻⁴

My mother's name is Han Jizhen. She is a Falun Gong practitioner. Like millions of other Falun Gong practitioners, my mother has suffered severely because of the Chinese government's persecution. This is her story.

My mother began practicing Falun Gong in 1998. Within a few months, a chronic gynecological disease that had plagued her for 28 years disappeared, and so did many other illnesses. For the first time in many years, my mother was completely healthy by practicing Falun Gong. My mother became known as a very kindhearted person in her work unit and throughout her neighborhood.



From right: Jason's mother, Han Jizhen, his father, brother, and sister-in-law. The photo was taken during his brother's wedding Ceremony.

On July 20, 1999, out of resentment towards the popularity of Falun Gong, China's president, Jiang Zemin, launched a nationwide persecution against Falun Gong practitioners. As one who had benefited greatly from practicing Falun Gong, my mother felt it was her responsibility to explain to the Chinese government their misconception about Falun Gong, so she went to Beijing on December 23, 1999 to appeal for the restitution of Falun Gong's reputation. On her way, a policeman stopped her and asked, "Do you practice Falun Gong?" My mother answered, "Yes." The policeman immediately pushed my mother into a police van. In the van, the policeman slapped my mother repeatedly, until he got tired. Then he grabbed a bag and hit her many times with that.

Later, my mother was escorted back to her hometown of Nanjing City, Jiangsu Province. Without any legal documentation or medical diagnosis, the police detained her against her

will in the Nanjing Mental Hospital (currently renamed as the Nanjing Brain Hospital). Initially, the hospital refused to admit my mother because the doctor could see that she was a perfectly healthy person. The police placed a lot of pressure on the doctor and eventually forced the hospital to admit her. The doctor told the members of our family, "She is not here because she has a psychiatric problem. It is because she does not want to give up her belief in Falun Gong!"

I was shocked and anxious when I heard my mother was being detained in a mental hospital because of her belief in Falun Gong. I immediately flew back to China and visited my mother in the Nanjing Mental Hospital. I asked my mother how the hospital was treating her, a healthy person. My mother told me, "I am forcibly injected with unknown drugs combined with some oral medicine. If I refuse to take their drugs, they use ropes to tie me up and force the injections into me. The drugs make my body so painful. I cannot calm down regardless of whether I am sitting, standing, or lying down. I feel listless and dizzy. My head just stops thinking, I am easily irritated, and cannot calm down." My heart was pained when I looked at her. My mother's every motion was extremely slow, whether while talking or while making tiny physical movements. When she spoke, it sounded as if her tongue was swollen and could not move easily. She could not speak fluently and her thoughts were cluttered and random. After all those days in the hospital, my mother, a previously healthy person, looked like a real mental patient.

We suddenly heard a nurse yelling something outside of the door. My mother said to me nervously, "They are going to give me drugs again!" Soon a young nurse came in with a cup of water and some drugs in her hands. She said while feeding my mother the drugs, "Do you still want to practice Falun Gong? Give it up now!" I was standing on the side and silently watching what was happening. Watching my mother suffering right in front of my eyes is far beyond what I can describe. It was agonizing for me. The painful scene stabbed my heart and ripped it into pieces.

Later I met with the doctor and said, "I am Han Jizhen's son. I came back from America because I wanted to know about my mother's situation." The doctor said, "Your mother can be discharged from the hospital at any time as long as the police allow it." When I asked them about the drugs they were administering to my mother, she said, "We have no choice. The police want her to be here, and we have to use drugs on her. Otherwise, if she goes to appeal for Falun Gong in Beijing again, we would bear the responsibility."

3. Houston Chronicle, by EDWARD HEGSTROM, Nov 19, 2001, "China takes Falun Gong fight overseas - Local followers say consulates cracking down"

4. The Dallas Morning News, by ESTHER WU, Oct 3, 2002, "UT student hopes rally helps father"

After repeated requests from our family, the hospital released my mother several days before the Chinese New Year. To our dismay, the police came to our home the next day and threatened my mother, asking her to write a statement promising not to appeal for Falun Gong again in Beijing, or else she would be put back into the hospital. Under the pressure, my mother gave in. We thought that the police would not harass us any more, and we could have a peaceful New Year's Festival. But the police came to our home again the next day. They said to my mother, "You only wrote a statement promising not to appeal for Falun Gong in Beijing. That is not enough. You must write a statement promising never to practice Falun Gong again, or we will put you back into the mental hospital." My mother told them, "How can I make such a statement? Practicing Falun Gong has solved all of my health problems. How can I stop practicing such wonderful exercises?" The police said brazenly, "It seems that you still have a psychiatric problem, and were not cured at all in the hospital. You must still need further treatment in the hospital." Without any legal process, the police took my mother away and put her into the hospital again for an additional two months.

My father's health is not good. He had cancer at the time, and needed my mother to take care of him at home. Since the police took my mother away, she could not take care of him, and instead he had to send meals to her every day. My family was in a crisis.

At the end of 2000, I had the documents ready for my parents to visit me in America. Right before they were to board the flight, my parents were stopped by customs at the Shanghai airport because they found my mother's name on the blacklist in their computers.

Right now, the police and other government officials are still watching my mother. She cannot leave her hometown without permission from the authorities. I appeal to the international community to help free my mother so that our family can be reunited.

Fan Lihong Died from Psychiatric Torture ⁵

Fan Lihong,⁵ female, 29, a resident of Xining City, Qinghai Province

Ms. Fan Lihong was arrested in the autumn of 2000 and sentenced to one year of forced labor in the Qinghai Women's Forced Labor Camp. Because she refused to renounce Falun Gong, the labor camp sent Ms. Fan to a mental hospital for psychiatric torture. At the mental hospital, the doctors and policemen force-fed Ms. Fan with psychiatric drugs. She was detained several times in the mental hospital because she

would not renounce her belief. The drugs severely damaged her nervous system, and she often fell into a lethargic, trance-like state. Because of her critical condition, the hospital released her, fearing that she would die in custody. Ms. Fan never recovered from the severe nerve damage, and in December 2001, she was found dead in the Qinghai People's Park.

Tortured at Fangcun Mental Hospital

Dong Yuhua, female, age 31, resident of Baiyun District, Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province.

On July 20, 1999, Ms. Dong Yuhua was arrested because she went to Beijing to appeal to the government to stop banning Falun Gong. During her detention, Ms. Dong was forced to drink water laced with an unknown drug. This caused her to feel very sick and dizzy. The drug also caused her lips to crack. From that time until October 2001, she was arrested six times and was detained at 15 different locations, including 43 days at the Fangcun Mental Hospital of Guangzhou.

At the end of August 2001, the police from Guangzhou City coerced Ms. Dong's family to send her to the Fangcun Mental Hospital in Guangzhou City. At the hospital, Ms. Dong was locked in an iron cage. Whenever she tried to practice the Falun Gong exercises, the male staff and doctors in the hospital beat her viciously until she fell to the floor. They tied her to a bed with handcuffs and shackles, each time for a period of 1-3 days. She was not allowed to go to the restroom and had to defecate and urinate in the bed. At the same time, she was forcibly injected with large doses of drugs, which caused her to become disoriented and dizzy to have a rigid facial expression and a splitting headache; she was also constantly tired and felt sleepy all day. As the doctors continued to increase the dosage, Ms. Dong suffered temporary memory loss, not even being able to remember who she was. The drugs caused Ms. Dong to wake up every morning with a large area of her pillow drenched in her saliva, and from then she would roll up and withdraw into a corner. Nevertheless, the hospital staff continued to increase the drug dosage and to charge her family more and more money.

Ms. Dong was tortured in the hospital until October 9, 2001, when her family finally withdrew her from the hospital.

5. Washington Post Foreign Service, August 26, 2002, Philip P. Pan, "The Silent Treatment From Beijing, Mental Hospitals Allegedly Used to Quiet Dissidents, Falun Gong"

How I was Tortured with Drugs in a Mental Hospital

By female practitioner Wang Huifan

My name is **Wang Huifan**. I am a retired worker.

During the 2000 Spring Festival, because I practice Falun Gong, plainclothes policemen arrested me and threw me into a drug rehabilitation center to be brainwashed. After I went on a hunger strike for two days, they force-fed me. One day, several people from my workplace took me to an army hospital. They dragged me to the mental illness section on the third floor and forcefully changed me into a patient's clothes. I shouted loudly, "I don't have any illness!" The nurse forcibly injected me with an unknown drug, and shortly afterwards I lost consciousness. When I regained my consciousness, I found my mouth very stiff, and I couldn't make it do what I wanted it to. I couldn't speak clearly even if I wanted to. I was force-fed with more medicine. I spent the whole day unconscious. My legs were weak and I was unable to walk. My hands wouldn't do what I wanted them to, and I felt very dizzy all day long. They force-fed me twice a day with some other medicine. As a result, I could only lie in bed all day, either unconscious or hallucinating.

After one week, I was transferred to a bigger room. I was force-fed medicine twice a day. My arms and legs felt weak all day long. I felt dizzy and nauseated. Every day the director on duty would come and check on me. Because I did not give up the practice of Falun Gong, the director increased my dosage from three tablets to five tablets. Finally my dosage was a handful of tablets, three times the amount everyone else was taking. At the same time, every Friday I was asked to go to the pharmacy room by myself to take two big tablets of yellow medicine, and I had to open my mouth for them to check. Since the dosage of medicine was continuously increased, I felt more and more disoriented and nauseated.

The mental persecution was no less severe than the physical torture. Since I was forced to take large dosages of medicine for long periods of time, my entire body became bloated. My face was swollen like a bubble. My complexion was also very bad. Everyone who saw me said I was in bad shape. I could not read Falun Gong books or do the exercises in this place, and was forced to live among the truly mentally ill patients. After they finally released me from the hospital, I had been tortured so severely that both of my eyes were red, swollen, and very puffy. I had difficulty opening my eyes. My ears festered inside and out. My neck also filled with yellow fluid.

Suffered a Mental Collapse after Three Years of Torture

Zhu Hang, female, in her 40's, an associate professor at the Dalian Polytechnic University in Dalian City, Liaoning Province.

Prof. Zhu Hang was arrested in September 1999 and detained in the Yaojia Detention Center in Dalian City, Liaoning Province for three years. During her detention, she was beaten, handcuffed, shackled, and deprived of sleep for extended periods of time. Once, her hands and feet were handcuffed together in such a way that she could neither stand nor sit. She was forced to squat all the time. She went on a hunger strike to protest the torture. The inmates were then ordered to pry open her mouth with a spoon, injuring her mouth in the process. Since she was not allowed to use the restroom, she had to urinate in her underwear and on the ground. Then they forced her to lick the urine off the ground. She was also force-fed through her nose. She was tortured until she lost consciousness. She was sent to the Dalian Second People's Hospital for emergency treatment on September 17, 1999.

After Ms. Zhu returned from the hospital, the detention center guards took turns torturing her. They pricked her face, forehead, and eyebrows with toothpicks and needles whenever she closed her eyes. Sometimes they took turns slapping her face. Dark purple-colored bruises appeared all over her face. As she was wearing shackles all the time, her ankles swelled up and festered with open sores. She developed a high fever as a result of being tortured for such a long period. Instead of giving Ms. Zhu medical treatment, the authorities sent Ms. Zhu to the Dalian Psychiatric Hospital in Dalian City, Liaoning Province, where she was forced to take narcotics that numb the nervous system. If she refused to take them, the so-called doctors would tie up her arms and legs and give her injections against her will.

Brain Damage Resulted from Injection of a Harmful Drug

Zhao Xuexia, female, resident of Xingtai City, Hebei Province

Ms. Zhao Xuexia was detained in the No. 2 Women's Group of the Shijiazhuang Labor Camp for practicing Falun Gong. In the labor camp, she was tortured severely. In order to make her renounce Falun Gong, the guards injected her with nerve damaging drugs that damaged her brain. She went into a coma. While she was in this state, the head of No. 2 Women's Group held her hand and signed her name to a statement renouncing Falun Gong. In April 2002 Ms. Zhao's family members took her home and looked for treatment, but she was diagnosed with serious brain damage and pronounced very unlikely to wake up from the coma.

Ding Jianhua Mistreated at the Nanjing Psychiatric Hospital

Ding Jianhua,⁶ female, 47, a first-rank police supervisor and head of the Department of Health Care of the Jiangsu Province Police Station, Nanjing City, Jiangsu Province.

On October 3, 1999, Ms. Ding Jianhua was sent to the Nanjing Psychiatric Hospital to receive forced treatment because she refused to renounce Falun Gong. The abusive “treatment” harmed her physically. Afterwards, she had slowed responses and blurred eyesight. Ms. Ding was detained in the 27th Bed of the Sixth District in the Nanjing Psychiatric Hospital. Three other Falun Gong practitioners were also detained and mistreated there.

Given Forced Injections Until Comatose at Hefei City Mental Hospital

1. **Guo Qiong**, 30, female, bank cashier, Anhui Province.
2. **Wang Caiyun**, over 40, female, a worker of the Hefei Beer factory, Hefei City, Anhui Province.

Because Ms. Guo Qiong practices Falun Gong, her company threatened to fire her. Under pressure from the authorities, her family reluctantly sent her to the No. 4 People’s Hospital in Hefei (a mental hospital). As soon as the doctors in the hospital learned that she was a Falun Gong practitioner, they did not ask any other questions and forced her to stay in the hospital for treatment. She was treated as a mental patient even though she was healthy. She was forcibly given injections and electric shocks. After being injected and shocked, she fell to the ground and lost consciousness. She was forced to take the drugs three times a day. After swallowing the pills, she had stomach pains and she would vomit until she started bleeding. She also felt very tired and listless.

Threatened with the loss of every family member’s job and heavy fines, Ms. Wang Caiyun’s family reluctantly let her be taken to the mental hospital. The diagnosis showed that she was normal, but the hospital staff still forced her to be hospitalized. They tortured her with electric shocks and injections when she refused to take their drugs. After being injected, she lay on the ground and lost consciousness. Ms. Wang was forced to stay at the hospital for more than 30 days.

A Pregnant Mother Given Psychiatric Drug Injections at a Mental Hospital in Jiangsu Province

Zhang Wuying, female, an instructor at the Changzhou City Normal Institute of Technology, Changzhou City, Jiangsu Province.

Ms. Zhang Wuying and her husband were forced to leave their teaching positions at the Changzhou City Normal Institute of Technology because they appealed to the authorities to stop persecuting Falun Gong. Moreover, the police from the Cuizhu Police Station, Changzhou City, Jiangsu Province repeatedly detained Ms. Zhang. Even though she was pregnant, the police forced her to stand for the entire night.

At the beginning of April 2000, Ms. Zhang and her husband went to Beijing to appeal to the central government for justice. At that time, Ms. Zhang was more than four months pregnant. Twenty or more plainclothes policemen took turns beating her in front of the State Appeals Office in Beijing. Afterwards, Ms. Zhang and her husband were escorted back to their school. School officials then sent them to the People’s Liberation Army No. 102 Mental Hospital, where they were incarcerated with mental patients. Although Ms. Zhang was five months into her pregnancy, the nurses at the hospital tied her to a bed, injected her with psychiatric drugs, and force-fed her other drugs.

In August 2000, Ms. Zhang gave birth to her son. Her school assigned two colleagues to monitor her during her three days in hospital. After she checked out of the hospital, the local authorities did not allow anyone to visit her.

In October 2000, Ms. Zhang and her husband wanted to visit their parents in Shandong Province, but the authorities held their baby as a hostage and prevented them from leaving. In late January 2001, when the couple was finally allowed to visit their parents in Shandong Province, local police from that area were instructed to follow and harass them. On February 28, 2001, when the couple returned to Changzhou City, eight policemen in two police vehicles from the local police station at the Cijiao Train Station intercepted them. The police dragged them into a police vehicle, tearing both the baby’s and Ms. Zhang’s clothing. The baby was so frightened that he had diarrhea and cried throughout the night.

In May 2001, police from Changzhou City arrested Ms. Zhang’s husband and sentenced him to two years of forced labor. The school’s security guard, Li Honggen, kept Ms. Zhang and her child under surveillance 24 hours a day, even when she went to buy food. They interrogated anyone who communicated or interacted with her. The police also threatened to send Ms. Zhang to a labor camp once her baby reached one year old.

6. Nando Media, Beijing, April 5, 2000, “China commits Falun Gong instructor, force-feeds her drugs”

Jiang Jing Repeatedly Tortured and Drugged in the Zhonghan Mental Hospital

Jiang Jing, female, resident of Chengyang Town in Qingdao City, Shandong Province

In March 2000, Ms. Jiang Jing was detained because she appealed to the government to stop persecuting Falun Gong. She was locked up and tortured in a small basement for over six months. There was no bathroom in the basement, and she was forced to urinate and defecate in the same room. She was also not allowed to wash. There was no bed, and she was given nothing to cover herself with at night. To protest the violation of her human rights, Ms. Jiang went on hunger strike three times, each time for more than twenty days.

In September 2000, Ms. Jiang escaped from the basement, but was detained again in October 2000. She was put back in the same basement to suffer the same conditions as before.

In November 2000, because she refused to renounce Falun Gong, she was sent to the Zhonghan Mental Hospital in Qingdao City, Shandong Province. The hospital staff forcibly injected her with a drug. A few minutes after the injection, Ms. Jiang felt ill. Her heart beat very rapidly and she felt panicked. Her vision first became blurred and then went totally dark. Her mouth and tongue felt dry. When Ms. Jiang asked the medical staff what kind of drug it was, they lied, saying that it was a sedative to help her sleep. A medical expert revealed the truth: this drug is banned by the government. It was only used on rabbits in lab experiments. When used in high doses, it kills rabbits instantly.

During the next few days, Ms. Jiang couldn't eat or drink and she became too weak to walk. She was repeatedly asked to renounce Falun Gong. When she refused, more injections were forced into her. While administering the injections, a doctor also threatened to torture her with electric needle shocks. After a month, Ms. Jiang escaped from the mental hospital. In July 2001, Ms. Jiang was detained again. She went on a hunger strike for half a month, and was force-fed many times. Then she escaped again.

In August 2001, Ms. Jiang was detained once more and severely tortured. On August 26, 2001, she attempted to escape, but fell from a fourth-story window. She was severely hurt with several broken bones. However, she was still tied to a wooden bed and beaten by Zhang Zhongkai, the director of the Chengyang Town Synthetic Management Office. She was not sent to a hospital until September 14, 2001. Her current situation is unknown.

My Painful Experience of Psychiatric Torture ⁷⁻⁹

In early August 1999, under the Chinese government's propaganda and pressure, my father, uncle, another relative forced me into a mental hospital, although I am not mentally ill. Under the authorities' order, they and several patients forcibly carried me into a cell. A doctor interviewed me to determine whether my mental health was normal. I correctly and clearly answered all of his questions, but the doctor still claimed that I had a slight mental problem.

Because I protested the illegal and immoral treatment the hospital had used on me, I was tied up on a bed for most of the last nine days of my detention. I was forced to eat and urinate on the bed. The doctors force-fed me with drugs and used intravenous injections on me. The inhuman treatment once made me faint in the restroom. Once they shocked me with an electric baton, knocking me unconscious. It took me a long time to recover my memory and recall what happened before. The torture in the mental hospital was so painful that I cannot endure the memories. The physical and mental torture is beyond anything I can describe.

In the summer of 2001, under pressure from the local "610 Office," my father complied with their demands and forcibly sent me to the anti-Falun Gong brainwashing center.

Transformation Center: People's Liberation Army No. 215 Mental Hospital

Under pressure from the authorities at the local "610 Office," the People's Liberation Army's No. 215 Mental Hospital imprisoned more than ten Falun Gong practitioners in a brainwashing class. Policemen, doctors, and nurses persecute the practitioners who refuse to give up their practice. The hospital authorities admit that it is illegal to imprison these people, but will not do anything because it was a decision made by the government.

This brainwashing class is located on the third floor of this hospital. The staff of the brainwashing class welded iron bars to the doors and windows and over 20 policewomen guard the area.

It has been reported that this hospital had previously secretly detained over 20 Falun Gong practitioners who were on hunger strikes at other detention centers or labor camps.

7. Dagbladet (Norwegian Daily Newspaper Website): August 26, 2002, "The Opposition In [China's] Mental Hospitals"
8. Radio Free Asia: Jiang Nan, August 24, 2002, "Tens of Thousands Dissidents Detained in Mental Hospitals"
9. AFP: August 26, 2002, Jonathan Annell, "World psychiatrists consider call to inspect Chinese hospitals"

Vicious Scenes in the Masanjia Labor Camp

A Survivor's Testimony

I am a female Falun Gong practitioner from Liaoning Province. In October 1999, I was sent to the Second Brigade of the Second Women's Division of the Masanjia Labor Camp for one year of "re-education through labor." I had to do very heavy manual work (sewing cotton-padded clothing for the army). During the winter, the weather was very cold but I was never given enough nourishment or sleep. One evening, a female practitioner started screaming and yelling in the corridor. People said she had a mental disorder, but of course she had been a normal, healthy woman when she first arrived. When I went to the restroom I saw her in the corridor tied up with rope and lying on the ice-cold cement floor shivering in the early winter air. This healthy woman had been abused until she suffered a mental breakdown.

I was forced to attend brainwashing sessions where I was physically attacked and beaten with electric batons. The labor camp staff took turns torturing me. Because I refused to renounce Falun Gong, the Brigade Leader constantly reprimanded me, forbade others to talk to me, but just had them watch me. At that time, I really felt that every single day seemed like a year. I was forced to stand for long periods of time in a position called "riding the horse" [a position where the person has to squat down with legs wide apart as in riding a horse. The position quickly exhausts a person when held for long periods of time]; my clothes quickly became soaked with sweat and whenever I fell down I had to get up and continue holding the position or be beaten. When other people were taking a break, the officers forced me to "study" communist theory. The Brigade Leader also threatened to send me to a small solitary confinement. After one year of my term, the labor camp arbitrarily extended it for another three months.

Another practitioner I knew, Ms. Su Juzhen, had been tortured with severe electric shocks and other forms of corporal punishment. One day I saw that she could not smile or speak. Her face had no expression at all, her eyes were glassy and didn't move, and her pupils were large and fixed. When I greeted or even touched her she didn't respond. It seemed that she did not know me. Her whole body was very feeble and traces of blood were visible on her face. I saw black and red marks on the backs of her hands, which were the scars from electric shocks. I knew Ms. Su was a mentally healthy person; so the Brigade Leader must have forced her to take some kind of drug. I recalled that it had been early in the morning, and I had still been in bed when I heard her blood-curdling screams. I wonder how long she had been deprived of sleep by the corporal punishment and torture. She walked with a strange gait. Apparently her legs had been damaged in some way. I later learned that the beatings and long-term forced squatting had caused her serious injuries.

When my extended sentence was over, the labor camp declared that my term would be extended indefinitely because I still had not given up my belief! I would either be kept in the labor camp for further observation or transferred to Dabei

Prison of Northwest China. One day in January 2001, the Brigade Leader wanted to talk with me. When I went downstairs I was put into a car with three other practitioners. The four of us were taken to the psychiatric ward of a hospital. I was maliciously "diagnosed" with schizophrenia and forced to pay 489 Yuan for the drugs. I repeatedly explained to the doctor that I had no illness and refused to buy or take any medication; but it was to no avail. We were denied all of our rights; other Falun Gong practitioners were falsely diagnosed as having depression or manic depression.

Back at the labor camp, the criminal prisoners tried to force me to take medication. When I tried reasoning with them, they said they were simply carrying out orders from the Brigade Leader. When I refused, two prisoners would force me onto my back. Then one of them pinched my nose with his fingers and the other poured the medicine down my throat. Sometimes, when I spit out the medication, it would land in my hair and on my clothes. Every time they finished pouring the medicine down my throat, they would force me to stay in bed for half an hour. This occurred twice daily, morning and evening. They said that they would continue to do this until I had some "good sense." During the time I was forced to take the drug I lost the desire to eat and was easily startled; at the call of my name my heart would race. I always felt very tired, unsteady, and could not concentrate. In the fourth month of my extended term, I was informed that my parents had come to take me for medical treatment.

Later on I learned that among those fellow women practitioners detained with me, the staunchest ones were sent to Dabei Prison. Some were confined in special torture cells; others had their terms extended. The male practitioners were transferred to other labor camps. Mr. Zou Guirong, after being transferred from place to place, was tortured to death at a prison in Fushun City, Liaoning Province. Mr. Jiang Wei suffered a mental collapse from the extreme adversity and torture.

Forced to Take Mind-Altering Drugs

Shortly before July 20, 2000, in order to prevent me from going to Beijing to appeal to the central government to stop persecuting Falun Gong, the police in my hometown locked me up in a local psychiatric hospital. The chief of the local police station sent me there himself. In the hospital, I was forced to take drugs, orally and by injection, that damage the central nervous system. One day a female doctor, two male doctors, and some of the patients tied me to a bed and injected the drugs. Immediately after the forced injection I could not think clearly any more. I lost my balance when I tried to walk, my hands shook, I began to drool, and I could not control my tongue when I tried to talk. I was tortured like that for a month and charged 4,000 Yuan in "hospital treatment fees."

Practitioners Frequently Tortured to Death at Baiyun Mental Rehabil¹⁰⁻¹³

Baiyun Mental Rehabilitation Center was established as a charitable organization under the supervision of Guangzhou City. Under the direction and coordination of the Guangzhou Security Department, however, Baiyun Mental Rehabilitation Center has become a place for torturing Falun Gong practitioners.

On May 4, 2001, Zhang Dazi, a hospital doctor, told some practitioners, "We kill people like we kill ants in this hospital. We have a mortuary here and nobody has ever investigated who ends up there. I issue the death certificates, and nobody ever finds out the real cause of death."

On May 2, 2001, more than ten female practitioners were transferred from Shahe Detention Center to Baiyun Mental Rehabilitation Center. They were brutally beaten by a group of male drug addicts, as ordered by Zhang Dazi. The drug addicts divided themselves into groups, with three men using thick iron batons to beat each female practitioner. The practitioners were beaten until they lost consciousness. As a result of these violent beatings, these practitioners were covered with open wounds and bruises of bluish and purple color. A 60-year-old female practitioner and a 20-year-old female practitioner lay on the ground unconscious, their faces swollen with bruises.

On May 13, 2001, Zhang Dazi instructed eight to nine male drug addicts to break into the female section of the hospital and drag out a female practitioner who refused to renounce Falun Gong. When a few practitioners tried to stop them, the men then turned their attention to these female practitioners. Some used planks to hit them, some kicked and punched them, and some threw them to the floor and choked them. They stopped only when these practitioners were beaten so severely that they had all lost consciousness. Then, these criminals took the practitioner they had initially targeted elsewhere, where she was violently beaten until she lost consciousness.

Every day, screaming was heard coming from the male cells. It was not unusual for five or six dead bodies to be carried out of the cells each day. Someone said a male practitioner doing the exercises was beaten to death and his body later carried out of his cell. The hospital did not disclose any information and secretly disposed of the bodies in the mortuary. Nobody knows how many practitioners have been tortured to death in this living hell.

Zhang Dazi proudly presented the hospital "accomplishments" to the Guangzhou "610 Office" and was "recognized" and "supported" by the Office. This has turned Baiyun Mental Rehabilitation Center into a designated site for torturing practi-

tioners and a site for teaching these tactics to other mental hospitals. On May 9, 2001, Zhang Dazi instructed his people to demand that practitioners "write a thank-you letter to express your appreciation to the hospital for curing your illnesses. Either you write the letter or you risk another serious beating."

Practitioners who were on hunger strikes to protest their detention had been suffering from the vicious torture on a daily basis. On May 14, 2001, all the practitioners started another hunger strike and asked for their unconditional release. Zhang Dazi was somewhat frightened, but the Executive Director of the hospital decided to continue to detain and torture practitioners. All information relating to their maltreatment was covered up.

Under the guise of a "government organization," the hospital officially set up an area where taking drugs was "legal." Under the pretext of rehabilitation, drug addicts "legally" dealt with "doctors" in buying and selling drugs. At the same time, the "doctors" recruited male drug addicts to torture practitioners. Practitioners in the hospital lost all their belongings and money to these drug addicts.

A 60-year-old practitioner was arrested for distributing Falun Gong information. In October 2001, she was initially detained in the Chatou Detention Center, and then transferred to Baiyun Mental Rehabilitation Center. She escaped after 97 days of imprisonment. She said that the Center was a filthy place where many patients had sores and skin ulcers all over their bodies. She was kept in the same cell with several drug addicts. Although the hospital made it known to people that they would be released if they paid the asked price, Falun Gong practitioners were exceptions to this.

It is difficult to estimate how many people have been transferred to this hospital, as the number of people involved has been quite enormous. Anyone released by the hospital had to pay 600 Yuan.

Some of the practitioners were released by the hospital but transferred to brainwashing classes or to forced labor camps by the Security Department. Some of these practitioners started hunger strikes and in several cases their weight dropped from as much as 60 kg (approximately 130 pounds) to around 20 kg (approximately 50 pounds). They looked like skeletons and were quite close to death. Sometimes the Security Department instructed the families of these practitioners to come pick them up, while extorting money from them for their release. Only a very few practitioners have been released and so have had the opportunity to expose the crimes that took place inside the hospital.

10. Reuters: August 26, 2002, Stuart Grudgings, "Psychiatry mission to visit China, no censure yet"

11. UPI: August 26, 2002, Bruce Sylvester, "World psych group wants China abuse eyed"

12. Sydney Morning Herald: August 28, 2002, "Psychiatrists Put China On The Couch"

13. Houston Chronicle: September 9, 2002, "China's Dissidents - Must Open Mental Wards For Honest Examinations"

Tortured in the Yichun City Mental Hospital

Shi Yinghua, female, a highly ranked teacher in Jinshantun, Yichun City, Heilongjiang Province.

Ms. Shi Yinghua has been tortured because she practices Falun Gong. Officers from the local “610 Office” and the police station ordered Gao Fu, her husband, to torture her. Gao Fu often cursed at and beat Ms. Shi. He grabbed her by the hair and knocked her head against the wall. He brutally hit her forehead with a pair of pliers. He even tried to force her to hang herself. Later, policemen arrested her and sent her to a detention center, where they brutally tortured her.

They tied Ms. Shi’s arms onto a cross and used a metal rod to keep her mouth pried open. Then they sent her to the Yichun City Mental Hospital and continued to torture her there. After she was released from the mental hospital she was not allowed to teach. Later, she was arrested at the Shanhaiguan Railway Station because she was on her way to Beijing to appeal to the government to stop persecuting Falun Gong. On the way back to the detention center, the handcuffs cut her wrists to the bone and her hands were bleeding. Afterwards, the local police authorities again sent her to the mental hospital for further torture.

Forced Injections at Qiqihar City No. 3 Mental Hospital

Qu Jinfeng, female, 26, a resident of Fuyu County, Heilongjiang Province.

On November 30, 1999, Ms. Qu Jinfeng went to Beijing to appeal to the government to stop persecuting Falun Gong. She was arrested in Beijing on December 2, 1999 and escorted back to the Fuyu County Police Station. Policeman Liang Shichao slapped Ms. Qu, leaving marks on her face. The police tied Ms. Qu to a “Tiger Bench” and beat her with an electronic baton. 26 days later Ms. Qu was released and sent back home.

On February 9, 2001, Policemen Yang Hongge and Wang Zewei broke into Ms. Qu’s home and brought her to the Fuyu County Detention Center, where Liu Jianchun slapped her in the face and beat her face with an electric baton. On March 8, 2000, they sent Ms. Qu to the Shuanghe Forced Labor Camp of Qiqihar City, where she was beaten very severely. During the 56 days of her detention, they kept her handcuffed around the clock except when she used the restroom and had meals. The guards also instigated a criminal, Li Xiaoyang, to seal her mouth with tape, slap her face, and trample on her feet. Because Ms. Qu went on a hunger strike to protest the torture, guards forced her to stand for a long time, bashed her head against a wall, hung her up (usually from a rafter or a tree), and stuffed towels in her mouth. She was also force-fed and forced to receive intravenous drips. Later Ms. Qu was sent to the Qiqihar City No. 3 Mental Hospital, where she received forced

injections that made her lose consciousness. Fifteen days later Ms. Qu was sent home. On January 21, 2001, because Ms. Qu still refused to renounce Falun Gong, the Fuyu County Police Station again sent her to the Fuyu Detention Center. There, they shackled Ms. Qu and beat her with clubs. Ms. Qu went on a hunger strike to protest the continued torture and was force-fed; the officers inserted the feeding tube into her trachea, almost suffocating her.

A Nursing Mother Tortured into Mental Illness

Gu Peng, female, 27, a kindergarten teacher at the Baoding City Cigarette Factory, resident of Baoding City, Hebei Province.

In January 2001, Ms. Gu Peng, a nursing mother, was arrested, along with her husband and their six-month old baby, for going to the central government to appeal for an end to the persecution of Falun Gong. After they were escorted back from Beijing to Baoding City, her husband was detained at the Baoding Detention Center and Ms. Gu was sent to a mental hospital. Every day she was forced to take drugs and injections. This previously healthy mother was tortured with drugs until her mind was completely debilitated. Now, Ms. Gu unceasingly paces the floor in a drug-induced stupor. Her baby is deprived of vital nutrition and maternal care because of her mother’s psychiatric torture in the mental hospital.

Tortured at the Yantai Psychiatric Recovery Hospital

Chen Yujie, female, employee of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Laixi Branch, Laixi City, Shandong Province.

In July 2000, Ms. Chen Yujie was arrested because she went to Beijing to appeal to the government to stop persecuting Falun Gong. The local police sent her, along with six other Falun Gong practitioners, to the Yantai Psychiatric Recovery Hospital.

Upon their arrival, the hospital director, Li Tao, told Ms. Chen, “We specialize in treating Falun Gong practitioners.” Without going through any diagnosis, the nurses forcibly gave Ms. Chen injections, and asked if she would continue practicing Falun Gong. They continued to increase the dose as long as she refused to give up her faith. Under the influence of the drugs, Ms. Chen was unable to focus, her attention span was significantly shortened, and her arms and legs also became weak and numb. Ms. Chen was tortured there for 45 days.

Three Female Falun Gong Practitioners Tortured in Jiaozhou City Mental Hospital ¹⁴⁻¹⁵

1. **Tan Guihua**, female, 42, a worker at the Third Leather Shoe Factory in Jiaozhou City, Shandong Province
2. **Qiu Yuaner**, female, 33, an employee of an oil company in Jiaozhou City, Shandong Province
3. **Kuang Bencui**, female, 48, an employee at the Third Leather Shoe Factory, Jiaozhou City, Shandong Province

On September 12, 1999, Mr. Song and several others from the Third Leather Shoe Factory in Jiaozhou City forcibly took Ms. Tan Guihua to a hospital because she had gone Beijing to appeal to the central government to stop persecuting Falun Gong. When she asked, "I am healthy, why do you take me here?", Mr. Song answered, "You went to Beijing, and that is your mental illness." A nurse at the hospital then had eight men hold down Ms. Tan and injected a large dose of drugs into her. In only a few seconds, she felt nauseated and sick, her heart started to beat very quickly, and she eventually fainted. Over the next few days, a female doctor repeatedly asked her if she would continue to practice Falun Gong. Because Ms. Tan always answered yes, the doctor shocked her with electric needles, injected her with a nerve-damaging drug, and cursed, "I will see to it that you will say 'no' one day."

This torture went on for two months, but was not able to force Ms. Tan to renounce Falun Gong. The doctor then injected Ms. Tan with an even stronger drug, and cursed, "Aren't you good at biting the bullet? I want to see if you continue to practice Falun Gong." After the injection, Ms. Tan stopped menstruating. She was unable to control her eyes, and her actions and reaction time became very slow. A few days later, they added another drug to her injections. As a result, she started to shake violently and could not even hold a bowl. She was tortured like this for 20 days. When her family finally picked her up, she was disoriented and could not see things clearly. She had lost her memory and her whole body had become bloated.

In February 2000, because Ms. Qiu Yuaner went to Beijing to appeal to the government to stop persecuting Falun Gong, she was tortured in the same mental hospital for two months.

On February 14, 2000, Ms. Kuang Bencui went to Beijing to appeal to the government to stop persecuting Falun Gong. She was arrested and escorted to a mental hospital. Although she was healthy, during her two months of detention in the mental hospital, Ms. Kuang was treated like a mental patient. She was forced to take drugs and receive injections. Usually two men grabbed her arms while one pinched her nose; then

they drove a chopstick between her teeth and force-fed her drugs. Ms. Kuang was force-fed drugs three times a day, with the dosage increasing from one to six tablets at a time. She was detained in the mental hospital for two months before being released to her family.

14. Amnesty International, CHINA: The crackdown on Falun Gong and other so-called "heretical organizations" <http://www.amnesty.ca/library/asa171100-6.htm>

15. 2000 Annual Report on International Religious Freedom: China http://www.state.gov/www/global/human_rights/irf/irf_rpt/irf_china.html