

It has been nearly ten years since a small group of Falun Gong practitioners in Changchun (a large city in China's northeast) intercepted television broadcasts on March 5, 2002, replacing them with content about Falun Gong and about the Communist genocide of Falun Gong. Five Falun Gong practitioners involved have been tortured to death. Another, Mr. Sun Changjun, only 26 years old at the time, has been imprisoned at Jilin Prison for nine years for his involvement. At one point the cruel torture nearly took his life.

Mr. Sun Changjun has endured many types of torture, including the Tiger Bench, electric shocks, fractured ribs and more. The long periods of torture have taken a severe toll on his health. He suffers from tuberculosis, pleural cavities as a result of his late-term tuberculosis, tuberculous peritonitis, pleural effusion and ascites (accumulation of fluid in the peritoneal cavity, causing abdominal swelling). Authorities have refused to allow his release on bail for medical attention even though he is in immediate need of medical help. We implore the people of the world to speak up and be heard so that Sun Changjun can be immediately released from prison.

Cable TV Broadcasts Pre-Empted in 2002

On March 5, 2002, a small group of Falun Gong practitioners intercepted the state-run cable television broadcast in Changchun, a city in northeast China, a bold protest that sent shockwaves through the country. They replaced regular programming with two short films about the persecution of Falun Gong, "Self-Immolation or Propaganda [against Falun Gong]?" and "Falun Gong Around the World."

The pre-empted broadcast lasted 50 minutes. The first film revealed loopholes in one of the most widespread hate propaganda stunts against Falun Gong, the staged self-immolation at Tiananmen Square, with frame-by-frame analysis of the official footage from the Chinese state-run media. On March 6, Minghui.org, Falun Gong's official news website, reported the news. On March 7, BBC, Reuters, AFP and CNN reported the news. "The television takeover was one of the most defiant protests by members of the Falun Gong", CNN said.

The Severity of the Persecution

Jiang Zemin, then-Chairman of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), was said to be furious about the action and ordered all participants killed on sight. Over the next three days after the broadcast, security forces arrested some 5,000 Falun Gong practitioners in Changchun. During the massive raids, at least seven Falun Gong practitioners were killed. Another 15 practitioners were sentenced to 4 to 20 years in prison. On March 15, Amnesty International issued a press release, which raised concerns for the detained practitioners because "they are at serious risk

of torture or ill-treatment."

Since 2002, 15 Falun Gong practitioners directly involved in the TV broadcast interception have been imprisoned. Four of them have been tortured to death and one mentally collapsed during brainwashing. Mr. Sun Changjun has been imprisoned for nine years. The on-going torture in prison has almost killed him.

Not long ago, his parents (in their 80s) traveled over 1,000 miles from Yanbian to Jilin Prison. Mrs. Sun asked via telephone behind the glass window, "My son, when will you be released? I am afraid your father and I might not live to see you out of prison."

Falun Gong practitioners come from all walks of life. Since the CCP began its suppression of Falun Gong on July 20, 1999, those practitioners who retained their faith in Falun Gong have paid a dear price for the sake of telling people what Falun Gong is really about and the cruel persecution by the Communist regime.

Shortly before the Chinese New Year in February 2002, the Chairman of the 610 Office (gestapo like organization set up to deal with the 'Falun Gong problem') Liu Jing held a meeting at Nanhu Hotel in Changchun, Jilin Province, during which he allegedly reproached Jilin officials for their "lack of effort [in suppressing Falun Gong]" and gave permission to "shoot Falun Gong practitioners".

After the meeting, Clearwisdom.net received reports from China that the Chinese police shot Falun Gong practitioners in Mishan City, Heilongjiang Province and Anshan City, Liaoning Province. On February 16, 2002, Mr. Xu Zhaobin was shot in the leg when he tried to tap into a local cable TV network [to broadcast films containing important facts about Falun Gong] in Anshan. On Chinese New Year's Eve of 2002, Mr. Jiang Honglu posted important facts about Falun Gong on the streets, when police shot him in his left leg.

Mr. Sun Changjun

Sun Changjun was born and raised in Daxinggou, Wangqing County, Yanbian Autonomous Region, Jilin Province. His parents are known to be good and simple folks. Mr. Sun excelled academically.

When he went to college, Mr. Sun began to feel lost in the complicated society. He recalled, "Today's Chinese people are different. Good people are ridiculed as foolish. Am I supposed to abandon kindness and start playing games like others?" He said he was fortunate to have found Falun Gong, which helped him find the meaning of life. He decided that he ought to be kind, truthful and tolerant toward others. He decided that he would focus on doing his job well because he would have what he was destined to have. After that, he no longer felt lost. Tranquility and solidity entered his heart.

After college, Mr. Sun passed the civil service examination and became the mayor's assistant at a town government as part of the management training program. It was early 2000 when the suppression of Falun Gong reached the first peak. The Chinese media ran hate propaganda against Falun Gong every day. Falun Gong practitioners were arrested in Beijing every day for speaking out for Falun Gong. Mr. Sun decided that he would never give up his belief in Falun Gong.

In early 2000, Mr. Sun wrote a letter to his boss in which he announced his plan to travel to Beijing and exercise his constitutional right to appeal for Falun Gong. However, his boss stopped him before he reached Beijing. Mr. Sun ended up in a detention center for 30 days. The assistant secretary in his residence county met with him and promised to reinstate his job as long as he renounced Falun Gong in writing. Mr. Sun refused the offer.

In September 2001, Mr. Sun found a job in Changchun, where he met fellow Falun Gong practitioners. Together they often went out to distribute free materials containing important facts about Falun Gong.

One day Mr. Sun saw a report that a Falun Gong practitioner successfully tapped into a cable TV network in a forest farm and broadcasted a film containing the truth about Falun Gong.

There is no media in China that reports the truth about Falun Gong.

The 'Self-immolation on Tiananmen Square' Was Staged by CCP

On January 23, 2001, the eve of the Chinese New Year, not many tourists were on Tiananmen Square. According to the communist regime news agency, Xinhua, at 2:41 p.m. on the northeast side of the People's Hero Monument, a man named Wang Jindong set himself on fire. "Four police officers immediately surrounded the man with several fire extinguishers." "In less than a minute, the fire was put out." A few minutes later on the north side of the People's Hero Monument, four women also set themselves on fire. A minute and a half later, the police had put out those fires. The entire scene played out in less than seven minutes. One person died at the scene, and four others were burned. China's state-run media claimed that the immolators were Falun Gong practitioners.

Following the incident, the outside world raised many questions.

Falun Gong teachings explicitly prohibit killing and suicide. Then why would genuine Falun Gong practitioners set themselves on fire? Police officers who patrol Tiananmen Square don't normally carry fire-fighting equipment, so why were over 20 pieces on hand that day? In addition, the police had quick access to fire-extinguishing blankets, which are rarely seen under normal circumstances.

Close analysis of footage broadcast by the regime's television station CCTV found significant

inaccuracies. For example, in slow motion, one video sequence revealed that Liu, who in the Xinhua version supposedly died from burn injuries, actually received a sharp blow to the head with what looks like a metal bar, delivered by a man wearing an army overcoat. She was seen falling instantly to the ground and most likely died from the blow. The question arises: Did Ms. Liu willingly set herself on fire or did she die from a blow to the head?

Shortly after the self-immolation incident was staged, Washington Post reporter Phillip Pan visited Liu Chunling's hometown, Kaifeng City, Henan Province, to find out more about her. Her neighbors told him that they had never seen her practicing Falun Gong. He also learned that Ms. Liu was not a Kaifeng native, that she made a living as a hostess in a nightclub, and that she beat her elderly mother and young daughter from time to time, which is not something a true Falun Gong practitioner would do.

Immolator Wang Jindong was shown to have been badly burned. Human hair burns very quickly and plastic melts, but his hair and the allegedly gasoline-filled plastic Sprite bottle between his legs remained miraculously intact. A police officer held a fire-extinguishing blanket up as he walked behind Wang Jindong, but it seems that, as if on cue, he did not cover Wang with it until Wang finished calling out words implicating Falun Gong.

Revealing the Truth

"If only we could run a film in a large city, wouldn't more people know the truth about Falun Gong?" Mr. Sun shared his idea with fellow practitioners. He thought of tapping into the TV network in Changchun. Mr. Sun and several other Falun Gong practitioners began to learn the relevant technology required for the operation. Soon they learned what was needed to make it happen. They decided to make it a reality in Changchun on March 5, 2002.

The CCP's suppression was at its peak at the time. Every Falun Gong practitioner was fully aware of the danger of hijacking television in China to broadcast the truth about Falun Gong. But no one backed off. After repeated discussions, every practitioner involved in the operation decided that they would do it as long as they could save people from the CCP's lies.

Mr. Sun is known to be a very kind man. It is "every man for himself" in prison, but not with Sun. After all, Falun Gong teaches its practitioners to be kind at all times. There was a prison inmate who suffered from cerebral cysticercosis and was paralyzed. He was filthy and smelled foul. Everyone avoided him. When Mr. Sun saw that his outgrown fingernails and toe nails had cut into his flesh, he decided to trim them for him. Mr. Sun soaked the inmate's hands and feet in warm water before he trimmed the nails.

Mr. Sun has spent nearly 10 years in prison. His parents have been missing their only son. When Mrs. Sun first heard the news of the arrest and imprisonment, she became ill for two years. His parents had problems with hypertension and stroke. They live over 1,000 miles away from Jilin Prison. It takes several days for them to journey to Jilin Prison. His father gets carsick easily, but they always buy the cheapest seats with no cushion to save money. When they visit their son in prison, they never spend the night in Changchun to save hotel expenses. They have

aged very quickly in the past 9 years.

Yet Mr. Sun remains steadfast in his faith in Falun Gong.

10,000 Viewers in Changchun Saw the Broadcast on March 5

The operation took place in three different locations—Songyuan, the province hotel and Nanguan District. The practitioners prepared for the operations separately and executed them at the same time. They were determined to show the truth about Falun Gong to the world.

At around 8:00 p.m., on March 5, 2002, viewers of Changchun Cable TV Network were watching news, movies and other programs on eight different channels when the content was replaced with two video programs, "Self-Immolation or Propaganda [against Falun Gong]?" and "Falun Gong Around the World". The broadcast lasted 50 minutes.

It took people by surprise as they watched Mr. Li Hongzhi, the founder of Falun Gong, and Falun Gong practitioners practicing Falun Gong exercises in public around the world. Viewers were surprised, amazed, afraid, excited or simply speechless. Some even thought it might have been a paid advertisement. It sent shockwaves to the viewers. The next day it was the only thing people in Changchun were talking about. The films showed people that Falun Gong is embraced by people around the world and that the so-called "Self-Immolation of Falun Gong practitioners" was a staged act to justify the CCP's suppression of Falun Gong.

When the films were broadcast on TV on March 5, many people in Changchun thought the persecution of Falun Gong had been lifted and rejoiced.

Epilogue

The Chinese Communist regime's persecution of 100 million Falun Gong practitioners is backed up by its genocidal policies, such as, "Defame their reputations, bankrupt them financially, and destroy them physically," and "Beating them to death is nothing and shall be counted as suicide."

The regime has killed thousands of Falun Gong practitioners and sold their organs. See [Blood y Harvest](#) for details. Legal scholars view the persecution as "the most serious violation against human rights since World War II." It is also a huge catastrophe for the Chinese people.

Despite brutal persecution, millions and millions of practitioners still firmly believe that the world needs Truthfulness-Compassion-Forbearance. They risk their lives to rationally and peacefully raise people's awareness about the persecution, uphold Chinese people's right to know the

truth, and hope that more people will have a wonderful future.

We call upon all democratic governments to demand that China release Mr Sun and stop the genocide of Falun Gong practitioners.