

Lives Risked to Call for Justice and Conscience

On October 28, 1999, a secret press conference organized by practitioners was held in Beijing. It successfully broke the news blockade imposed by the Chinese government, and for the first time, the Western media had a chance to listen to Falun Gong practitioners' own stories. Foreign reporters who attended this press conference were deeply moved by the undaunted spirit of Falun Gong practitioners, and they filed a factual report of the events happening in China.

This incident, however, angered the Jiang regime. Officials arrested all the Falun Gong practitioners who attended the conference, imprisoned them, and subjected them to extreme torture. As a result, well-known practitioners like Ding Yan and Cai Mingtao (one of the translators for the press conference) were tortured to death.



On October 28, 1999, Falun Gong practitioners held a secret press conference that shocked China and the world.



Walking thousands of miles to appeal in Beijing

An old farmer from Xinjiang Province walked thousands of miles to Beijing to appeal. When he was arrested, he opened his backpack and took out a dozen threadbare straw sandals. He showed these to the policeman and said, "I walked so far just to get here, just to say a few words from my heart. Falun Gong is good! The government made a mistake!"



Hunger strike to gain freedom



The first Falun Gong conference held in Guangzhou since persecution began in July 1999

On November 19, 1999, Falun Gong practitioners from 13 provinces of China, as well as Australia, the United States, Sweden, and other countries, gathered in Guangzhou Province to hold a monumental experience-sharing conference. On November 25, at 3 o'clock in the morning, police broke into the conference room and forcibly arrested all those who attended the conference. Yet facing the menacing policemen, practitioners calmly posed for a group photo in front of Master Li's picture. It was an unforgettable scene. With a composed smile, Ding Yan surveyed the room full of police and said to all the practitioners, "before the policemen take me away, let me read to everyone the experience-sharing article that I wrote for this conference." All the practitioners swarmed to Ding Yan and formed a wall around her. Then with flowing tears she read her article, "Let Life Display Its Brilliance in Fa Rectification," word by word. All 17 practitioners wept; even the policemen shed tears.