**NOW AND FOR THE FUTURE --- The Story of Falun Dafa**

Episode 9: On a Mission

This is Junggak Temple in Gyeongju city, Korea. Kim, a 38-year-old monk has practiced Buddhism for sixteen years. On June 7, 2005, a Buddhist worshiper came to the temple to pay respects to Medicine Buddha. He found on the left sleeve of Maitreya Buddha’s wooden statue a white flower, the size of a grain of rice. Kim later confirmed the flower blooming in a place where there is no soil or fertilizer. This is what Buddhist legend calls the Udumbara flower.

More than two months ago in the Sumisan Sunwon Temple in Jeollanam-do and in Cheonggye temple in Gyeonggi-do, Udumbara flowers also appeared.

Udumbara flowers were discovered in Korea as early as July 1997. When an abbot at a temple in Gwangju county in Gyeonggi-do found 24 Udumbara flowers on the chest of a golden brass Tathagata hundreds of people came to see them. Udumbara flowers have since appeared in many parts of the world.

Monk Kim told us that the Udumbara blooms every three thousand years. according to the Buddhist scripture. Its appearance means the King of Falun will come to spread the Fa to save people. The Udumbara’s blossom undoubtedly offered a specific time reference to many legends and prophecies among nations throughout history regarding the return of their Gods.

(Tianliang Zhang, Visiting Professor, US George Mason University) “We see that China has legends that predicted God’s return in great detail. Almost every unified dynasty has left a prophecy. For example, there are prophecies from Quick Predictions of the Han dynasty; Back Pushing Diagrams of the Tang Dynasty; Plum Blossom Poem of the Song Dynasty and Pancake Song of the Ming Dynasty. If we study these prophecies carefully, we will find that they all predicted a major historical event to take place today. Mankind will face a catastrophe, and a saint will be born at that time and travel the world. When the catastrophe is over, humanity will enter a new epoch. The universe will be renewed.”

Although there are so many nations in the world, they share amazing coincidences regarding how history began. The first commonality is the legend that man was made form soil. In the West, God created man out of soil. In the East, Nuwa also made man with clay. Next, almost all nations have retained the memory of a great flood. In western literature there was Noah's Ark. Chinese literature’s The Classic of History: The Canon of Yao recorded the great flood in the east, which was as fierce, embracing the hills and overtopping the great heights. The final commonality is all are waiting for the return of the Holy King, from Buddhist scripture in the east that Maitreya will come again to the Bible’s prophecy that the Lord of Lords will come on Judgment Day. From Pharaoh waiting for God to return to wake them to the Mayas, calculating the time of renewal of the universe, people all seem to be waiting for an event that is destined to happen in history.

The Udumbara flower, 2500 years after Buddha Shakyamuni taught the Fa, came to the world as predicted. What does its appearance mean? For people who are familiar with history, it conveys a clear message.

Here at the California Institute of Technology, USA, on an evening in March 2002 street lamps were lit up, the busy campus grew quieter. What was unusual was that many more Asian faces appeared on campus and the air was filled with excitement. These people got a notice earlier that day and rushed to the campus; they are Falun Gong practitioners.

(Yingnian Wu, Professor, Univ. of California Los Angeles) “We actually knew beforehand that Master Li had visited other places and had met with local practitioners. Master talked about many things that he hadn’t talked about before. A day or two before the event, we got the notice that Master Li would come to Pasadena to teach the Fa at the California Institute of Technology. People came from Los Angeles and San Diego I think there must have been one to two hundred Falun Gong practitioners.”

Mr. Li Hongzhi’s lecture was later complied and titled “Touring North America to Teach the Fa;” This is the first time Mr. Li did an extended tour throughout the US to meet practitioners and teach the Fa.

(Ke Ye, Ph.D., Visiting Professor, Univ. of Southern California ) “While everyone was seated, Teacher came in. Everyone got excited. We all stood up and applauded loudly. The practitioners in the front rows blocked the view of those in the back rows. Teacher kept asking everyone to stop applauding so finally we all sat down.”

This lecture hall can hold more than one hundred people. Practitioners filled all the seats -- even the hallways were filled with people standing. It was here that Mr. Li Hongzhi talked about the cosmos’ regeneration, historical arrangements, the origin of the world’s people and the mission of Dafa practitioners. They were revealed in complete detail, and for the first time Master clearly told His disciples that Falun Dafa cultivation is not simply for achieving personal consummation, but for saving sentient beings at this grave moment of the cosmos’ regeneration.

(Yingnian Wu, Professor, Univ. of California Los Angeles) “Teacher Li Hongzhi then asked us if there is another ten years of saving sentient beings, are you still willing to continue? We all answered in one voice ‘Yes!’ it was not because we were excited at the moment that we expressed our determination. I felt we were all very calm. We have experienced so much that we have firm confidence that our faith will guide us to carry on. So whether it’s ten or twenty years or a lifetime it’s all the same to us. We have the confidence to persevere.”

(Yi Liu Boston University Graduate ) “I remember very clearly that after I listened to ‘Touring North America to Teach the Fa,’ sometimes when I was sitting in the car and saw many people driving on the road -- oh, at that moment, tears were streaming down my face for no reason. Actually I was thinking, ‘Ah, Master told us that these are high-level beings. They all came from Heaven but now they are on the earth and think they are just ordinary human beings who will live only a few decades. So they labor for fame, profit, and survival, till late at night.’ Tears were really running down my face. Since then, I feel that everyone living in this human world is precious.”

An average person may not be able to fully understand what Mr. Li Hongzhi said and what Falun Gong practitioner came to realize. But anyone can feel practitioners’ genuine heart. They are truly thinking about others. They are willing, for the future of others, to sacrifice everything they can, unconditionally and forever.

In those difficult years, Time, with its calm gaze, watched and tested these cultivators over how to fulfill their vows.

It was Spring and still chilly in early March in Changchun, Northeast China. While people were eating dinner and watching TV about 8pm on March 5, 2002, something unexpected suddenly came on TV. Falun Gong practitioner Zhang Zhongyu from Changchun witnessed this: “On the night of March 5, 2002, I wanted to buy something so I went to Yatai street in Changchun to shop at a grocery store near Sandao street. When I walked into the store, to my surprise I found the store owner along with 3 to 5 customers standing around the TV and watching it. They were discussing something and seemed surprised. I looked up at the TV and saw truth-clarification programs about Falun Gong, including the truth about the staged self-immolation, Falun Dafa Around the World and Master Li Hongzhi and Falun Dafa receiving awards from various governments and groups, and so on. I was very happy to see these programs. The store owner saw me coming in and seemed a little frightened. Then he said to himself, ‘Maybe someone is playing a DVD at home.’ What he meant was, the DVD’s signal was transmitted to his store. He tried to adjust a few other channels but they were all playing the same programs, the Falun Dafa truth-clarification programs. I wanted to calm him down, so I said, ‘the program is very good, let’s continue watching it.’ So he stopped changing the channels.”

This was the Changchun Cable TV Interception event that shocked China and the world. Eight channels of a cable TV network in Changchun City simultaneously played a number of Falun Gong videos for as long as forty-fifty minutes. It was estimated that a million Changchun residents watched the programs.

Following the event, Jilin province arrested five thousand Falun Gong practitioners. Jiang Zemin issued a secret order to “Kill them without mercy,” targeting those practitioners involved in the event.

(Zhongyu Zhang Changchun Falun Gong Practitioner ) “On the evening of March 11, I saw almost every intersection having one or two police cars on watch.”

That night Zhang Zhongyu went to the home of Liu Haibo, who took part in tapping the cable TV. While they were talking a large number of police suddenly broke into Liu’s home and abducted Liu, his wife, and Zhang Zhongyu.

(Zhongyu Zhang Changchun Falun Gong Practitioner) “We just chatted for about ten minutes when we heard the door suddenly open. Seven to eight plainclothes police stormed in. Their boss held a pistol pointing at us: ‘Don’t move,’ he said. Seeing this, Liu Haibo and I were both very calm because we didn’t do anything wrong. We had nothing to fear. Then three or four of them assaulted us. They beat us and tried to tie us up. After beating us for ten minutes or so I looked down and saw a pool of blood on the ground near me. I realized one of the police had beaten me with a pistol on my head. My head was bleeding in several places and there was quite a pool of blood on the floor.

After being beaten for about ten minutes Liu Haibo and I had lost the strength to struggle. We almost went into shock. Liu Haibo and I were dragged into the Kuancheng Public Security Bureau in Changchun city and were kept in separate rooms. We were tortured. The police used electric batons about this long. Several people simultaneously shocked different parts of my body. I felt clearly when the electricity reached my chest. It almost felt like the electric baton pierced through my chest. They also shocked my genitals. No place in my body was left out. Six to seven people beat me and shocked me at the same time. After a while I heard another policeman come over and walk into my room. I heard him making a phone call and say, ‘Is this Changchun city hospital? There is a man here named Liu Haibo, his heart stopped beating. We need an ambulance.’ At this time I thought Liu Haibo must be dying from torture. Sure enough it was confirmed that Liu Haibo was tortured to death.”

 According to reports from the Minghui website, police used extremely cruel means. They stripped Liu Haibo of his clothes, handcuffed him to the tiger bench, pushed a high-voltage electric baton into his anus, and shocked his internal organs. Liu passed away in extreme pain. The Kuancheng district police didn’t notify Liu’s family, but cremated his body secretly and made up lies, claiming he died from heart disease.

(Song)

*Looking at my homeland from far away, tears fall.*

*I know who came to my dreams every night.*

*I don’t know if my loved ones are safe and healthy.*

*I don’t know if the mountains are green and waters clear.*

This is a melody well-known to Chinese people. This is a common greeting Chinese often hear. The moon in the homeland is the brightest. In the land I’m so attached to. Are my family, relatives and fellow-townsman safe and sound? Being saturated with overwhelming lies and propaganda, do they have the chance to learn the truth of Dafa?

(Tianliang Zhang Visiting Professor, US George Mason University) “A story from ‘Warring States’ says Confucius's disciple Tzu was known for his virtue. His mother had very good understanding of him. But once someone with the same name as Tzu killed a person. Three people, one after another, ran over to tell Tzu’s mother the same story -- that Tzu had killed a person. When the first person said this, his mother didn’t believe it at all. When the second person said it his mother was dubious. When the third person said it his mother not only believed it but also became frightened.”

“Lies of killing repeated three times frightened the kind mother.” For Falun Gong practitioners, Li Bai’s poem is a true portrayal of reality, but now, instead of 3 people talking the entire state machinery runs at full capacity to make up lies and propaganda. Ordinary people absolutely can’t resist the brainwashing on this scale. Hence they developed the views towards Falun Dafa and Dafa practitioners of rejection, and even hatred.

People instilled with atheism from a young age won’t think there’s anything wrong with this ideology, but those who truly understand history and the law of the cosmos will know the seriousness of the matter.

(Tianliang Zhang Visiting Professor, US George Mason University ) “Before Jesus went to Jerusalem, he said tearfully, ‘Ah Jerusalem you often killed the prophets.’ Later Jesus carried the cross and walked to the execution ground. A group of Jewish women held the edge of Jesus clothes, crying. Jesus told them, ‘Daughters of Jerusalem do not weep for me, but weep for you and your children.’ What did Jesus mean by this? Two thousand years have passed and we look back at this. Perhaps we can appreciate what Jesus said back then, his heart and his message. Shortly after Jesus' departure, disasters fell on the Jews. Romans killed many Jews.”

This was recorded in Luke, Jesus’ words in 23: 27,28. His disciples back then bore personal witness. Jerusalem and the Jewish people, just as Jesus predicted, in the 2,000 years since that time have endured much suffering.

(Tianliang Zhang Visiting Professor, US George Mason University ) “Why? Buddhism emphasizes karma. Jesus was a prophet; he was a God. Humans crucified a God! How huge of a sin this was! Not just those who had sentenced Jesus to death, those bystanders -- the entire Jewish nation bore the sins.

The vicissitudes of time have passed. When we look back at this bitter history today it may have a special meaning because this is a special time. The prophets in different periods of history constantly and repeatedly said that today the world would face extremely significant and unprecedented challenges or a choice.

On September 5, 2010, Mr. Li Hongzhi said the following at the New York Fa Conference. “People think that it’s Falun Gong that is being persecuted, when in fact it is the world’s people who are the victims. I say that because they have been taken in by the lies during the persecution, and have hatred toward Falun Gong. Yet “Falun Gong” is the name that the Great Law of the cosmos assumes here in this world. What Dafa disciples are doing here is validating the Fa, and they are Disciples of Fa who are saving sentient beings, and have tremendous missions. Put another way, they are emissaries of the Divine. If an earthly person’s mind is full of negative thoughts about Dafa or Dafa disciples, or if this person has maligned that is Zhen, Shan, Ren, then this person is slated to be weeded out, to be eliminated, by divine forces. And this is particularly true for those who have been directly involved in persecuting Dafa disciples, said bad words against Dafa, or done bad things against it. So, when you consider that however severely Dafa disciples may be persecuted they are still walking the path to godhood, and that whether they depart early or late they are still bound for Consummation and will return, is it not in fact human beings who are the true victims of the persecution?”

This is the real reason that Falun Gong practitioners clarify truth to the world people Falun Dafa is the Buddha Fa. He does not intend to establish anything in the world. Falun Gong practitioners know that even if they do nothing, history will soon turn the page and the new era will come. The truth will come to light, and Falun Dafa's reputation will be restored. But the prophecies from China and elsewhere point to this critical moment. The world’s people are faced with making a choice. Many may listen to the lies and make the wrong choice, thus losing their future.

The gigantic heaven’s gate opens only once in an eternal life. How many beings came down and returned? Coming from a long history, every life is most cherished. Mr. Li Hongzhi told his disciples to go and save the sentient beings down there. So the world’s people saw Falun Gong practitioners use their flesh and blood, stand in front of the masses and shed their blood in exchange of a moment of truth. With their lives they provided an opportunity for the world’s people to make a choice.

Among the Falun Gong practitioners who were involved in the Changchun cable TV interception, fifteen were illegally sentenced to four to twenty years in prison. At least eight were tortured to death. Liu Chengjun, one of the key people, endured a year and nine months of brutal torture in prison. On December 26, 2003, he passed away. Another person Lei Ming, had both legs disabled from torture. When he was released on medical parole from prison this 30-year-old man weighed less than 100 pounds. This is a video shot three months after his release. Two years and five months later, Lei Ming died.

While Changchun Falun Gong practitioners who tapped into cable TV were tortured in prison and many were persecuted to death, many more Falun Gong practitioners from north to south China came out to do the same thing. On April 20, 2002, the cities of Harbin, Daqing, Shuangcheng Qiqihar, Mudanjiang, Jiamusi, Hegang Shuangyashan, and Jixi in Heilongjiang Province had their Cable TV Networks intercepted by Falun Gong programs, for as long as 75 minutes. On May 12, 2002, in Inner Mongolia, Yunnan, Sichuan, Guizhou, Henan, Hunan, Qinghai, Shaanxi, Gansu, -- the Falun Gong-slandering segment of China Central TV’s News Simulcast program relayed by the “satellite radio and television reaching every village” system was suddenly interrupted for 3 minutes until the program ended.

*(Poem by Falun Dafa practitioners in China)*

*“These heroic acts shocked the cosmos.*

*They were so tragic that humans and Gods cried.*

*Even faced with hellish prison and torture,*

*the practitioners still wanted to save sentient beings.*

*Without complaint of the bitter cold,*

*smiling at the evil wind as if were play,*

*proudly facing snow and welcoming frost, the plum flowers*

*appear exceptionally delicate and radiate with more fragrance.”*

Everyday before 4 a.m., while most people are still in deep sleep somewhere in mainland China, people in a small apartment were already up and beginning their extraordinary day.

This is a Falun Gong practitioners’ materials production center. What you are watching now is shot by the practitioners themselves. The film recorded their activities of that day.

Running materials production centers in China is a unique activity of Falun Gong practitioners, where they make truth clarification materials to distribute to the public.

By the end of 2002, Mainland China practitioners adopted the “Materials production centers blossoming everywhere” strategy that transformed the relatively centralized production of truth clarification materials to many small production centers that were located everywhere. This would not only increase the total amount of production, it was also more secure.

Since then, “Materials production centers blossoming everywhere” became the mainland Falun Gong practitioners' most important form of clarifying the truth to the people. Many practitioners were arrested for making the materials. They were persecuted and forced to leave home. Despite the shortage of food and clothing faced by those practitioners who were displaced they started new materials centers. If one fell, the next follows; this pattern went on and on.

The video you are watching is of a production center that practitioners who were forced to leave home temporarily formed. Perhaps they did not know each other before. They were likely to have any income, and their standard of living was at the minimum level. They left home, having no friends in this new place, and being constantly chased by the police. There are a large number of production centers in China. The living conditions in many centers were even inferior to the one you just saw.

(Jinying Gao China Falun Gong Practitioner) “They would like in a humble flat. Inside the flat there is a coal-burning stove. You probably are familiar with stoves that burn coal balls. That’s the one. More than ten people lived in one room, sleeping on the concrete floor. They put a plastic sheet, a large plastic sheet on the floor for sleeping. They would sleep with their clothes on when there were no quilts. Sometimes, four or five people share one quilt in that difficult circumstance. But even under such difficult conditions, living in such a house, they had to move if the police found them. When they couldn’t find a place to relocate, they had to sleep in the wild fields or near the riverbank. Sometimes after corn stalks had been collected they crawled into the corn stalks to sleep. Sometimes when things were really difficult they slept in the snow or sleep inside the firewood piles.”

These colorful gift papers of beautiful patterns are, in this humble room the most beautiful items. Variety of books, materials, and amulets are carefully packed tied with a cute bow, placed in a plastic bag to protect them from wind and rain, No matter where they are they won’t get dirty. Perhaps when people see them, because they are beautiful and clean they are willing to take them home.

On a cold winter night, when tens of thousands of lights go on and people return to their warm homes, at this time, these people in the apartment take the truth materials their fellow practitioners have made, and after saying goodbye to others in the room walk out of the door into the dark, cold and windy night to distribute the materials. The simple goodbye, a slight smile, actually means a lot in each other’s hearts.

(Weixun Li Falun Gong Practitioner) “In 2002, I got out of prison. I couldn’t go home, nor could I go to my relatives’ place. About fifty of us who were in the same situation, all Falun Gong practitioners, lived in separately rented rooms. Three, five, seven or eight people in one room. They did Fa study and exercises after getting up in the morning, then started making truth materials, then went out to distribute them in residential communities, shopping malls, and rural and urban areas everywhere. But we all knew when we left in the morning, some of us may not return at night. We know today we live here, but we don’t know where we’ll be tomorrow. Sometimes when you go and visit someone the place turns out to be empty and the person is gone. This happens frequently.”

In China’s vast land in those obscure cities and villages, countless Falun Gong practitioners quietly persisted. They seem ordinary, but this is where the secret of cultivation lies. Amidst enormous suffering, letting go of personal gain, the destruction of fame, even infinite loneliness, being able to persist, always thinking about others while putting aside one’s own suffering-- this process can create a selfless life. In Falun Dafa cultivation, this is exactly what a cultivator must accomplish.

 (Jinying Gao China Falun Gong Practitioner) “This fellow practitioner is a young man who can run very fast. We gave him the nickname ‘Magic Traveler’ because he runs extremely fast. While he was writing posters on the street, the police found him. They wanted to catch him with the police car. He was running in the front. At that time there was a taxi whose driver was quite righteous. He drove over to him and said: ‘Hey, young man, hop in. Five yuan’ The young man said, ‘No, I will just run.’ He ran through small alleys and escaped. Later we talked to him about what happened. ‘Why didn’t you take the taxi, wouldn’t it had been faster?’ He said, ‘five yuan can make quite a few copies of materials. I absolutely can’t spend this money.’ So he just kept running.”

(Weixun Li Falun Gong Practitioner ) “He told me that it was very dangerous because the police had been watching the material center. He must go because there were machines and materials at the center that only he could handle. He couldn’t let them go into the wrong hands. So he went there and got everything out into a car. We shared an experience. Although the circumstances were harsh and dangerous our hearts were calm like water, we had no fear, but just one thought: Take them out of there, we’ve got to take them out.”

(Tianliang Zhang, Visiting Professor, US George Mason University) “A nation needs a moral backbone when it encounters any kind of hardships and setbacks. It needs a group of people who adhere to their faith and principles. In a normal society, this is easy to say, but in China it is difficult because it is a communist country. The Communist Party not only controls all the state power, it’s a wicked evil cult itself, a culmination of the evils of all times. Under such a circumstance, Dafa disciples are still able to adhere to their faith in ‘Truthfulness, Benevolence, Forbearance’ and are able to clarify the truth peacefully. This is extraordinary. That is to say, they uphold the moral sky of the Chinese nation. I think when history turns this page people in the future will see what Dafa disciples have suffered, what they have done, and what all this means to the Chinese nation. For the future China, this moral monument is the foundation for its continuing existence and revival.”

2002 was a troubled time for China. While Falun Gong practitioners quietly spread the truth in the land of China, many Chinese people focused on another place: Beijing.

On November 8, 2002, the Chinese communist party’s 16th National Congress was held in Beijing. The meeting confirmed that Jiang Zemin would resign as the President and as chairman of the national military commission, which meant his power would dwindle, Before his resignation Jiang, who is addicted to power, arranged a series of high-profile visits.

In June of that year, taking advantage of attending a meeting on China-Asia security, he first visited four countries in Europe.

In Iceland, Northern Europe something happened that shocked the world.

(Xiaoxu Lin, Ph.D. US Army officer) “When we learned that Jiang Zemin had planned a four-day visit to Iceland, the overseas Falun Gong practitioners thought it would be a good opportunity to call on the Chinese Communist regime to stop the persecution. Therefore, many practitioners in North America decided to go to Iceland to protest.

My wife and I, as well as some practitioners from Atlanta, flew to Reykjavik, Iceland’s capital, on June 10. Upon arriving at the airport, we realized that the situation was different from what we thought. Many practitioners of Asian descent were profiled by the airport staff and detained. Other practitioners, the western practitioners, were also detained—”

(Wei He, US Falun Gong Practitioner ) “A total of 26 of us. We saw that all who appeared Asian were stopped. Later at the police station they questioned every one of us. When it was my turn I asked the immigration officers why we were detained. They said they had a list of names and my name was on it. I asked him where the list came from and why was my name on it? He didn’t answer my question.”

Those on the blacklist were refused entry by the Iceland Customs. We were detained at the airport. Some didn’t even have a chance to get on the plane, but were stopped at the departure airport instead.

But some practitioners arrived in Iceland a week before the blacklist was issued, so they got into the country without incident.

(Wei Shi, US Falun Gong Practitioner) “When I was let out of Customs I did the exercises in the park with other practitioners. Many Icelandic people came from morning to night to learn the truth about Falun Gong. They wanted to know what Falun Gong is. They were very eager to learn and they learned quickly. Everyday people kept coming to learn.

On June 11, after those practitioners were refused entry, when they learned the news they immediately used their cell phones to send text messages. One person texted all his friends, so did others, and within an hour or two all Icelanders became aware of the matter of what had happened.”

(Wei He, US Falun Gong Practitioner ) “The same afternoon when we had been detained at the police station for four or five hours, many police came in and out and were all very friendly to us and very angry that we had been arrested. They felt things like this had never happened in Iceland They told us before we came here the Chinese government gave them a bunch of materials slandering Falun Gong. Although they didn’t believe the lies they were under pressure and couldn’t do anything but follow orders.”

Afterwards, the police dispatched a large vehicle to take these 26 Falun Gong practitioners to a nearby elementary school.

(Xiaoxu Lin, Ph.D. US Army officer) “This school was vacated in order to detain us Falun Gong practitioners. So this matter became a considerable concern for the media; thus, when we got off the vehicle, before we got in the school a bunch of reporters were already there waiting. There were reporters from radio, newspapers, and television.”

(Wei He, US Falun Gong Practitioner) “Many local residents also came to the school to show their support. But the police would not let them into the school. Many local residents said they were also Falun Gong practitioners. ‘You can lock us up too!’ The scene was indeed very moving.”

Soon after Falun Gong practitioners got to the school, the most senior officer at the Iceland airport told them the Minister of Foreign Affairs had ordered them, to deport all Falun Gong practitioners, civilly or forcefully, before 4 p.m.

(Wei He, US Falun Gong Practitioner ) “At that time, we felt very sad. We told him about the persecution of Falun Gong in China. We told him that if we are deported this will give the President of China more excuses to suppress Falun Gong practitioners. He would feel he’d received international support. Falun Gong practitioners are being killed every day, so more innocent lives will be lost. We showed him photos of practitioners being killed, the elderly, babies, children, and many young people. We asked him to help those victims and the Chinese people. We saw he was deeply touched but he said helplessly he couldn’t do anything because this was the order of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. We told him an honest person should step forward to stop this. ‘You can help us.’ He thought for a moment and said he needed to make a phone call. After a while he told us we could at least stay in the school that night. We were pleased with his decision.”

At 9 pm in the evening more than 300 Icelanders spontaneously came to the elementary school. They would like to hold a protest for the detained Falun Gong practitioners. They hoped the government would allow them to enter Iceland.

(Xiaoxu Lin, Ph.D. US Army officer) So they came to the school on behalf of the detained Falun Gong practitioners. I came out to have a talk with them. During the sharing I felt deeply moved because of their enthusiastic support, and their kindness touched me very much. I was standing on a … Because there was not an appropriately high ground, hundreds of people could barely hear my speech, so I stood on a railing and asked everyone to step back. I then asked them for their sincere support. Falun Gong practitioners want to express their heart-felt thanks. I started to teach them the exercises, as everyone calmed down to learn the first set. It was a spectacular scene: hundreds of people crowded in a small square in the school. It was packed with people, everyone doing the first set of exercise.”

Around 1 o'clock that night, the police woke up the practitioners and told them they could enter Customs.

On June 13, the day Jiang Zemin arrived in Iceland, Iceland's largest newspaper used four full-pages to announce apologies to the Falun Gong practitioners. Since this announcement was from Members of Parliament and 450 celebrities it caused quite a stir in Iceland.

The announcement began with “Sorry” in large Chinese characters. The title was "An Apology to (Falun Gong) Students". It emphasized that the Icelandic government had succumbed to Chinese dictator Jiang Zemin, and that denying Falun Gong’s entry to Iceland to hold a peaceful protest was a wrong decision. The people of Iceland felt ashamed and wanted to apologize to all Falun Gong practitioners.

(Gongshi Wang Canada Falun Gong Practitioner ) “We met a lot of Icelandic people in the street. When they saw us they would say ‘Sorry!’ They told us that the Icelandic government did not represent the people of Iceland.”

On June 14, during Jiang Zemin’s official visit more than a thousand people from all over Iceland gathered peacefully in front of the government council to protest the Chinese dictator and to call on the government to immediately cancel “the ban” on Falun Gong practitioners entering Iceland.

(Xiaoxu Lin, Ph.D. US Army officer) “A lot of people held a self-made Falun Gong banners and covered their mouths with strips of black cloth. It was a symbol of the Chinese regime not allowing Falun Gong to speak and also defied their government’s cooperating with the Chinese regime not allowing Falun Gong practitioners to protest to prevent Falun Gong from speaking so they covered their mouth to protest.”

There are only 250 thousand people in Iceland and only 600 police. It was a major event a thousand people participating in a demonstration like this. It represents the voice of the people.

Because of the mass protests, Jiang Zemin had to leave Iceland ahead of schedule and go to Lithuania.

(Xiaoxu Lin, Ph.D. US Army officer) “The Icelandic event didn’t end when Jiang Zemin left Iceland. Many Falun Gong practitioners went there to teach the exercises because so many people wanted to learn. One year later, the Iceland Information Protection Bureau specifically made a formal ruling after its investigation that the Iceland Justice Bureau’s targeting Falun Gong practitioners and using a blacklist to prevent them from entering was illegal. The ruling continued to be effective. In 2011, Iceland's Foreign Minister apologized to Falun Gong practitioners at a special meeting, and admitted that their action nearly 10 years ago was unreasonable.”

Four months after Jiang Zemin left Iceland and before the 16th National Congress, Jiang arranged for himself for the last time a high-profile visit to the United States.

On October 22 in the Midwest, Chicago’s O'Hare Airport, the sky was overcast and security was very tight. This was Jiang Zemin’s first stop in the US. In order to keep up appearances, Jiang put enormous effort planning this trip. The 16th National Congress and power transfer was postponed. Chinese consulates in the US spent a lot of money on overseas students and pro-community leaders to welcome Jiang, but everywhere Jiang went, what he saw were Falun Gong practitioners standing with erect palms.

On the same day that Jiang checked into the Ritz Hotel, 3 process servers and 4 Falun Gong practitioners worked together and completed a historic task.

(Zhihua Hu US Falun Gong Practitioner) “I was as a translator. There were 4 or 5 security guards at the hotel. When the Chinese plain-clothes security personnel saw us, they asked why we were there. When they learned we were there to serve Jiang with a lawsuit, they became nervous. Some of them threatened us and told us to leave immediately, but our lawyer insisted on giving the papers to the security guards.”

(Terri Marsh US Lawyer ) “On the court order it told us we could serve different securities guards. It told us we can serve the chief of police Griffin on behalf of Jiang Zemin. So we had the process service actually hand it to Griffin and he accepted the papers. And so again he was served. And then we mailed copies of the papers. Anytime that we filed anything in court we would mail it, FedEx, actually not mail. FedEx it to Zhongnanhai. Jiang Zemin was served, and he was served well.”

Since the communist regime seized power, this is the first time the Chinese top leader has been sued in an international court. To the perpetrators, it sent a clear message: whoever you are, you must be responsible for your actions. You must pay the price for the crimes you commit.

During Jiang Zemin’s brief one-day stay in Chicago, approximately two thousand Falun Gong practitioners came to Chicago from around the world to protest. Just two weeks after Jiang Zemin left Chicago on November 6, Chicago Mayor and City Council passed a unanimous resolution to condemn the Chinese government’s persecution of Falun Gong and urge the U.S. Government to investigate the Chinese government and its diplomats targeting U.S. residents who practice Falun Gong. With unlawful acts of harassment they should be tried and expelled from the US.

Also, that year the Canadian Parliament unanimously passed a motion to support Falun Gong and demand that China release imprisoned Falun Gong practitioners. Geneva State Parliament passed the R461 resolution showing its concern about China's human rights violations, in particular the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners.

On July 28, the U.S. Congress, passed Resolution No. 188 with 420 votes in favor and 0 votes against. The resolution urges the Chinese government to stop persecuting Falun Gong.

(Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, US Congresswoman) “The persecution of Falun Gong must end and it must end now!”

(Dana Rohrabacher, US Congressman) “The heart and soul of American people are with you!”

(Tom Tancredo, US Congressman) “End this activity immediately!”

(Lynn Woolsey, US Congresswoman) “I will continue to fight with you, until all people on the world are free.”

(Joe Hoeffel, US Congressman) “End the abuse of Falun Gong!”

In the Northeastern United States, fall is the most beautiful season of the year because the leaves in the mountains begin to change colors-- red, yellow, purple, orange-- a stretch of endless, gorgeous color, echoing with the blue and lofty sky. One glance brings a relaxed mind, happiness and endless longing.

Now in the activity room of a Maryland high school, three to four hundred the Falun Gong practitioners are looking at the beautiful scene outside the window and are longing too. This is a small Fa conference where Falun Gong founder Mr. Li Hongzhi would come to teach Fa.

(Gongshi Wang, Canada Falun Gong Practitioner) “Teacher said that if Dafa disciples continue to go on at the present pace it would be possible to save 200 million Chinese. A small number of disciples misunderstood the Teacher and applauded at the thought of 200 million. At that time, we were a little dazed, and then we saw Teacher wave his hand and look very serious. ‘Only 200 million! There are 1.4 billion Chinese in Mainland China!’ Of course, these are not the exact words, only what I can remember. I vividly felt Teacher’s mighty compassion to save all sentient beings, to save all the world’s people. Such a compassionate heart!”

It was then that Mr. Li Hongzhi wrote this poem:

*“Hurry up and tell them As Dafa disciples tell people the facts*

*It's like sharp swords shooting out together from their mouths*

*Shredding apart the rotten demons' lies*

*Lose no time and save them, hurry up and tell them”*

This busy world still goes on according to its routine, but precious moments may slide away when the world’s people aren’t paying attention. In the upcoming years, what should Falun Gong practitioner do?

Please watch episode 10 - Countering Propaganda.