



Submission to the UN Special Rapporteur Mary Lawlor, on the long-term detention of human rights defenders

Prepared by the Falun Dafa Information Center
March 19, 2021

Following is a non-exhaustive list of individuals who have received sentences of ten years or more for advocating peacefully for the rights of Falun Gong (Falun Dafa) adherents. This list is compiled based on reports from Chinese government websites, along with reports from networks of human rights activists within China.

Falun Gong, also known as Falun Dafa, is a Buddhist religious practice indigenous to China. The practice consists of meditation, slow-moving exercises, and the study of moral teachings centred on the virtues of Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance. Falun Gong attracted a large following in the 1990s in China, with state agencies estimating that as many as 70 million people had taken up the practice. Threatened by Falun Gong's popularity, its independence from state control, and its theistic religious teachings, the Communist Party launched a campaign to eradicate Falun Gong in 1999.

Since that time, Falun Gong has been the target of severe, recurring crackdowns. Adherents are subject to widespread surveillance, arbitrary detention, imprisonment, torture, forced religious conversion, and are at a high risk of extrajudicial killing. Hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of Falun Gong adherents have been held in reeducation-through-labour camps, black jails, psychiatric institutions, and prisons, where they are subjected to torture and coercive ideological reprogramming. Information about Falun Gong remains hermetically censored on the internet, and government sources have waged a propaganda campaign meant to vilify and dehumanize Falun Gong adherents to justify their persecution. Over 4,500 named individuals have reportedly been killed, but due to the difficulty in collecting information from within China, the true number is likely many times greater. In 2019, an independent tribunal of jurists and academics concluded that tens of thousands of Falun Gong adherents had likely been killed to supply China's organ transplant industry.

Although a majority of detained Falun Gong adherents are subject to administrative punishment, criminal sentences against Falun Gong adherents remain common. In 2020, the Falun Dafa Information Centre received reports of 6,652 arrests of Falun Gong adherents, and 622 prison sentences. The human rights group Freedom House verified 933 cases of Falun Gong adherents being sentenced to terms of 12 years or more between January 1, 2013, and June 1, 2016.

Among Falun Gong activists who have received prison sentences, most are charged with inciting subversion of state power, or are charged under article 300 of the criminal code – “using a heretical organization to undermine the implementation of the law.” Their actual offenses, however, constitute nothing more than the peaceful exercise of their religious beliefs, and their rights to free assembly and expression. In most cases, they are arrested and sentenced for attempting to document or publicize human rights abuses against their co-religionists, for speaking out in defence of freedom of religion, or for producing literature refuting the official propaganda that seeks to present their faith as deviant, evil, and deserving of suppression. The cases listed in the following pages represent a small sample of these.

Name	Date of birth (if known)	Gender	Date of sentence	Length of sentence	Criminal charge (if known)	Place of detention	Details (past arrests, history of defence work, reports of torture, special concerns)
Li Jing 李晶	1952	Female	April 2 2019	10 years	Unknown	Jilin Women's Prison	<p>Li Jing is a resident of Changchun, Jilin province, and a practitioner of the Falun Gong spiritual discipline. She was arrested on or about March 14, 2018 outside of her apartment building, after police had intercepted phone calls. Police searched her home, and discovered cell phones and computers that she had been using to send automated messages to raise awareness about the human rights abuses against Falun Gong adherents.</p> <p>She was held in pre-trial detention for approximately one year at the Changchun No. 4 Detention Centre. During her interrogation, she was reported deprived of sleep, food, and drink.</p> <p>Ms. Li was indicted on unknown criminal charges and tried on November 7, 2018. During the 20-minute trial, Ms. Li did not have legal representation, and was not permitted to make any statements in her defence. Her family was not informed of the trial.</p> <p>Ms. Li was sentenced to ten years in prison on April 2 2019, and is currently being held at the Jilin Women's Prison. Her family has been prevented from visiting her.</p> <p>Ms. Li had previously spent three years in reeducation-through-labour camps for advocating on behalf of the rights of Falun Gong practitioners.</p> <p>Further information: https://en.minghui.org/html/articles/2018/12/4/173498.html https://en.minghui.org/html/articles/2019/4/22/176581.html</p>
Luan Ning 栾凝	June 27 1959	Male	April 16 2020	10 years	Inciting subversion of state power	Ningxia Hui	<p>Mr. Luan Ning is a resident of Yinchuan city, and a practitioner of Falun Gong. He was arrested in August 2017 for distributing and mailing information about Falun Gong and about human rights abuses perpetrated by the Communist Party.</p>

						<p>He was tried by the Intermediate People's Court of Yinchuan City in the Ningxia Autonomous Region, where he was sentenced to ten years in prison for inciting subversion of state power. Mr. Luan was represented at trial by lawyer Ran Tong, who appealed the sentence. The appeal was rejected.</p> <p>Mr. Ning was sentenced to prison on two previous occasions. In 2000, he was sentenced to three years in prison for his defense of Falun Gong and for attempting to raise awareness of the persecution of its practitioners. Following his release he was arrested again, and in 2009 was sentenced to four years in prison. He was released in 2012.</p> <p>More information: http://www.lawking.com.cn/Index/show/catid/32/id/6585.html</p>
Jiang Wei 姜伟		Female	2016	12 years	Unknown	<p>Liaoning Women's Prison</p> <p>Ms. Jiang Wei is a resident of Chaoyang City, Liaoning Province, and a practitioner of Falun Gong.</p> <p>In June 2015, Ms. Jiang filed a legal complaint against former Chinese leader Jiang Zemin for torture and human rights abuses that she had previously endure in custody. In response to her claim, she was arrested in November 2015. On March 21, 2016, she was tried at the Shuangta District Court and sentenced to 12 years in prison. She is currently being held at the Liaoning Women's prison.</p> <p>Ms. Jiang was previously held at the Masanjia reeducation-through-labor camp for three years, from 1999 - 2002. There, she was tortured with electric shock batons, was suspended in stress positions, force-fed, deprived of sleep, made to perform forced labor, and was given injections of unknown drugs. She was released on medical parole in 2002. Ms. Jiang was then arrested again in 2004, and sentenced to eight years in prison. She was again tortured, held in solitary confinement, beaten, and suspended in stress positions.</p> <p>More information: https://en.minghui.org/html/articles/2020/2/6/183111.html</p>

<p>Duan Xiaoyan 段小燕</p>		<p>Female</p>	<p>July 24 2017</p>	<p>10 years</p>		<p>Gansu Women's Prison</p> <p>Duan Xiaoyan is a resident of Qingyang City, Gansu province. She has been detained and imprisoned on several occasions for seeking to inform her fellow citizens about the human rights abuses perpetrated against Falun Gong adherents.</p> <p>In 2000, Ms. Duan spent one year in a reeducation-through-labor camp due to her practice of Falun Gong. In 2002, she was sentenced to seven years in prison for broadcasting television programs that exposed human rights abuses against Falun Gong adherents.</p> <p>In 2015, Ms. Duan was again arrested for disseminating information supporting the free exercise of religion, and detailing human rights abuses perpetrated by the Chinese party-state. She was held in pre-trial detention, and was sentenced in January 2017 to ten years in prison.</p> <p>She is currently being held at the Gansu Province Women's Prison. In prison, she has reportedly been beaten, subject to coercive ideological reeducation, deprived of sleep, forced to squat for extended periods, and denied family visits.</p> <p>More information: https://en.minghui.org/html/articles/2020/6/8/185423.html</p>
<p>Guo Pingzhen 郭平珍</p>	<p>1978 (approx.)</p>	<p>Female</p>	<p>July 23 2020</p>	<p>10 years</p>		<p>Qichun County Detention Center (for pre-trial detention; local of prison unknown)</p> <p>Guo Pingzhen is a resident of Wuxue City, Hubei Province, and is an adherent of the Falun Gong spiritual discipline. On February 3 2018, she was arrested along with four other Falun Gong practitioners, all of whom had been involved in the production and distribution of informational literature advocating for the rights of Falun Gong adherents. Ms. Guo held a hunger strike while being held in detention center.</p> <p>A trial was convened on July 23 2020, and all five individuals received prison sentences ranging from five to ten years. Ms. Guo was sentenced to ten years in prison. Her last known location was at the Qichun County Detention Centre.</p> <p>More information: https://en.minghui.org/html/articles/2020/8/19/186410.html</p>

Liu Mouling 刘某玲	1997 (approximate)	Female	Date of indictment: July 8 2015 (date of sentencing unknown)	10 years	Article 300 (‘using a heretical organization to undermine the implementation of the law’)	Unknown	<p>Liu Mouling is a resident of Meizhou City, Guangdong Province.</p> <p>On April 3, 2015, police searched Liu’s home and discovered numerous books, documents, audio and visual materials related to Falun Gong, along with laptops and a printer. The search was prompted by reports that vehicles near Ms. Liu’s work were found with Falun Gong leaflets and CDs. Ms. Liu apparently fell under suspicion for noting that other countries (besides China) respect the rights of Falun Gong adherents to practice their faith.</p> <p>Sentencing documents indicate that Liu began printing and distributing materials advocating for the rights of Falun Gong adherents, and detailing human rights abuses committed against the group, in 2011. Liu was indicted on criminal charges on July 8 2015 and sentenced to ten years in prison.</p> <p>More information: http://wenshu.court.gov.cn/content/content?DocID=6052790d-3882-4fec-a130-d262b38734b2</p>
Cui Fenglan 崔凤兰	Unknown	Female	December 26, 2016	15 years	Article 300 (‘using a heretical organization to undermine the implementation of the law’)	Unknown	<p>Falun Gong practitioner Cui Fenglan is a resident of Harbin City, Heilongjiang province. She was detained on May 16 2016 when she went to pick up packages that authorities alleged contained good luck charms bearing Falun Gong-related motif “Truth, Forbearance, Compassion.” Police reportedly raided her home and confiscated 67,000 Yuan.</p> <p>On December 26, 2016, she was sentenced to 15 years in prison during a secret trial. She had no legal representation in court, and her family was not informed of the trial. During the proceedings, Ms. Cui argued on her own behalf that article 300 violated the human right to freedom of conscience and religious belief.</p> <p>Authorities have repeatedly harassed or punished Cui in connection with her Falun Gong human rights advocacy. In 2001, she was detained and reportedly tortured at the Harbin No. 2 Detention Center, after she had travelled to Beijing to appeal for the human rights of Falun Gong adherents. She was then imprisoned for one year at the Wanjia Reeducation-Through-Labour camp, where she was beaten severely.</p>

							<p>Ms. Cui's lawyer unsuccessfully appealed the sentence in 2017. Her family members have reportedly faced pressure and intimidation from authorities.</p> <p>More information: https://www.cecc.gov/sites/chinacommission.house.gov/files/documents/2020%20ANNUAL%20REPORT%20FINAL%201223.pdf</p>
Liu Qing 刘庆	Unknown	Male	August 27 2019	11 years	Unknown	Jilin No. 2 Prison	<p>Mr. Liu Qing is a resident of Songyuan City, Jilin Province, and is a Falun Gong practitioner.</p> <p>He was arrested on August 15, 2019, and tried in secret on August 27, 2019, in Fuyu City, Jilin Province. His family was not informed of the trial. Mr. Liu argued at trial that practice of Falun Gong was a human right, and sought to defend the principle of freedom of religion and conscience. He was sentenced to 11 years in prison.</p> <p>Mr. Liu's wife reports that he is emaciated, with evidence of injury to his head. During a previous detention, he suffered a stroke.</p>
Wang Desheng 王德生	Unknown	Male	November 29 2016	13 years	Unknown	Yinchuan Prison	<p>Wang Desheng is a resident of Zhongning County, Ningxia Autonomous Region. He and his wife were arrested in November 2015, for producing and distributing literature advocating for the religious freedom of Falun Gong adherents, and detailing instances of human rights abuses against Falun Gong practitioners.</p> <p>On November 29, 2016, Mr. Wang was sentenced to 13 years in prison. His wife, Shan Jining, received a three-year sentence.</p>

							Mr. Wang was previously sentenced to four and eight years in prison in 1999 and 2005, respectively. His wife has also been imprisoned on numerous occasions in prisons and reeducation-through-labor camps.
Zuo Hongtao 左洪涛	Unknown	Male	November 16 2017	13 years	Article 300 ('using a heretical organization to undermine the implementation of the law')	Unknown	<p>Mr. Zuo Hongtao is a resident of Qinhuangdao City, Hebei Province, and a practitioner of Falun Gong.</p> <p>He was arrested on June 9, 2017, at his real estate office, along with several others. While in detention, he held a hunger strike, and was force-fed. His health declined and he was hospitalized, but was denied medical parole.</p> <p>Authorities allege that Mr. Zuo was involved in printing information about Falun Gong.</p>
Wu Wenzhang 吴文章	Unknown	Male	November 11 2018	11 years	Article 300 ('using a heretical organization to undermine the implementation of the law')	Unknown	<p>Mr. Wu Wenzhang is a resident of Qinhuangdao City, Hebei Province, and a Falun Gong practitioner. He was arrested on June 9, 2017, at the office of Mr. Zuo Hongtao. Authorities allege that he was involved in printing information about Falun Gong. He was sentenced to 11 years in prison.</p> <p>Mr. Wu had previously been arrested and detained, and was subject to persist police surveillance and harassment. In 2001, he travelled to Beijing to stage a peaceful appear for the human rights of Falun Gong adherents, and was detained for 15 days and tortured. In May 2004, he was sentenced to three and a half years for his continued human rights advocacy and practice of Falun Gong.</p>
He Ping 何萍	Unknown	Female	Unknown	12 years	Unknown	Shanyou Detention Center (last known location)	Ms. He Ping is a resident of Songyuan City, Jilin Province. She was abducted from her home on September 10, 2019. Searching her house, police found Falun Gong-related books, a computer, five cellphones, and SIM cards, which she had been using to make automated phone calls to raise awareness about the human rights abuses suffered by Falun Gong adherents. She was sent to the Shanyou Detention Center.

							Her family has since learned that she was sentenced in a secret trial to 12 years in prison.
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--