

Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission
Congressional Hearing: The Global Gender-Based Violence Threat

2:30 pm – 4:30 pm, Wednesday, November 20, 2013
2175 Rayburn HOB, US Congress

Testimony submitted by
Ms. Wang, Chunying, a Victimized Falun Gong Practitioner at Masanjia Camp in China

My name is Wang Chunying. I am 59 years old. Before I retired, I worked at a hospital as manager to the nursing staff. Before practicing Falun Gong, I suffered from various diseases, including chronic gastritis, colitis, arthritis, and chronic thyroiditis, which required lifelong medication in order to control my thyroid function. I lived my life in constant pain.

I started practicing Falun Gong in 1998. In just a few days, all my physical ailments dissipated. I became healthy and happy. When my sisters witnessed the enormous changes in me, they also started to practice Falun Gong.

Ever since Jiang Zemin launched his horrifically inhumane persecution on Falun Gong, the lives of my sisters and I fell from heaven straight down to hell. My elder sister was sentenced to three years in prison; my younger sister was sentenced twice to a total of seven years in prison. I was sent to the notorious Masanjia Labor Camp twice for a total of five years and three months. I was severely tortured there.

On the morning of December 29, 2007, I refused to sign the required form for all inmates because the first item on the form was an admission of guilt. I practice Falun Gong in accordance with Falun Gong's principles of Truthfulness, Compassion and Forbearance to be a better person. That is not a mistake. That is not a crime. It is exercising my freedom of belief granted by the Communist Chinese constitution. So, I refused to sign. The Brigade Commanders Zhang Chunguang and Li Mingyu, the Director-General Zhai Yanhui, and a total of six prison guards put me through the form of extreme torture known as Diagonal Hanging (see Photo Exhibit 1).

This is done by handcuffing both hands, one to the upper bunk of an iron bed and the other to the lower bunk of another iron bed. In this way, a person can neither stand up nor squat down. The hands are tightly jammed by the handcuffs; soon the hands will swell up and turn blackish purple. Shenyang weather is minus 17 or 18 degrees Celsius (zero degree Fahrenheit) in the winter, but I was sweating profusely with excruciating pain. The police officers were still not satisfied. They kicked the beds hard with their feet so that my arms were further stretched. I felt my body was being ripped apart. Every two or three hours, the guards would shake my handcuffed hands to make sure my pain would intensify. I felt as if fistfuls of salt were being sprinkled on my open wounds. I was hung up thus for 16 hours, without a morsel of food or a

drop of water, and without being allowed to use the toilet. My hands were swollen like risen dough; the skin on my wrists was cut in innumerable places by the handcuffs and caked with dried blood.



(Photo Exhibit 1 - Diagonal Hanging)



(Photo Exhibit 2 - Hanging Up High)

The second time I was submitted to torture was October 7, 2008, again for refusing to admit my guilt and sign the required form. This time, the current Masanjia Labor Camp Director Yang Jian, the current Brigade Commander Wang Yanping, the former Brigade Commanders Zhang Chunguang and Li Mingyu, and two male prison guards from the Division of Corrections Peng Tao and Zhang Liang, put me through another form of torture known as Hanging Up High (see Photo Exhibit 2).

Police officers Peng Tao and Zhang Liang handcuffed my hands tightly, wound up both my wrists with long pieces of cloth, and affixed my upper limbs to the head of the bed. Then, they stood at the foot of the bed, one on each side, and viciously pulled at my feet. My whole body was stretched from the head of the bed to the end of the bed. My full body weight was all pressed onto my wrists. At that point, they tightly wound a six-inch wide cloth tape around both my knees and feet. In so doing, I became completely immobile. My whole body felt as if it were being torn apart. Sweat poured forth uncontrollably. My clothes were dripping wet. I nearly lost consciousness. My hands and wrists soon turned purple. The ordeal lasted 23 hours. This torture was far worse than the previous one. I felt I had passed on to another world. The piercing pain is impossible to describe even if I were to exhaust all words in the human language. A nurse appeared and told me to swallow some heart pills. Being in the medical field, I knew this medicine is a rescue drug that can only be prescribed by a doctor. To take it without a doctor's order can be life-threatening. So, I refused to open my mouth. The nurse pinched my nose and hit my mouth until I could not hold my breath any longer but had to gasp for air. The nurse swiftly stuffed nine heart pills into my mouth. Even after all that, Wang Yanping and Peng Tao still tugged at my hair and slapped me on both my cheeks.

On May 12, 2008, about 200 people at Masanjia's First and Second Battalions were all given blood tests. Because I refused to have my blood tested, several guards stepped forward to pull me over. I held tightly to the door handle, struggling with all my might, but was finally overcome by nine prison guards, including the two male guards from Masanjia Hospital who were there to draw blood. I was forced down onto the bed. I could not move a muscle, so I called out: "Falun Dafa is good! To persecute Dafa disciples is a crime!" Wang Yanping grabbed a pillow and stuffed it into my face. Suddenly, everything went dark. I was unable to come up for air. I desperately shook my head from side to side and hit my head on the wall. In so doing, I somehow found a little breathing gap between the pillow and the wall, and narrowly escaped death by suffocation. Otherwise, today, I would not be able to tell my experience of persecution in the Masanjia Labor Camp. That was how they succeeded in drawing 5 milliliters of my blood.

I have spent 30 years with the nursing profession. I have done biochemical tests and am knowledgeable that for liver function and kidney function tests, only 2 milliliters of blood is needed. They drew 5 milliliters instead. They must have had other, ulterior motives. With me at Masanjia, there was a Dafa disciple Xin Shuhua from Benxi, who was also tortured repeatedly. Masanjia's political commissar Wang Naimin said to her, "Aren't you practicing being compassionate? So be compassionate and donate your heart." To which Xin Shuhua replied: "I would need to be alive in order to practice." Wang Naimin answered: "It's not up to you. I will send you off to Sujiatun." Sujiatun is the name of the hospital that has been exposed as possibly having harvested a large number of organs from Falun Gong practitioners. Wang Naimin then promptly gave Sujiatun Hospital a call. The hospital said it would do a pick-up at 9 o'clock that evening and would send over a vehicle. But no vehicle showed up. The next day, Wang Naimin called the hospital again. An afternoon pick-up was scheduled, and again it was a no show. The same thing happened the third day. Finally, Wang Naimin couldn't do anything and let the matter drop.

With me was also Wei Yanhua, a Dafa disciple from Tieling. Wang Naimin told her, "Just look at you and I have to send you to Sujiatun." One night in 2005, Wei Yanhua was taken away by several male police officers and was never heard from again. The various forms of torture, which I suffered at the Masanjia Labor Camp, represent but the tip of the iceberg of the persecution that Falun Gong practitioners are forced to endure.

I appeal to the international community to please initiate an independent investigation into Masanjia's alleged crimes based on the evidence, and release the findings, so that all those involved in the persecution of Falun Gong will be tracked down and brought to justice, so that all the injustices Falun Gong practitioners have undergone and are still undergoing at Masanjia can be redressed. Thank you very much!