

**Refugee Review Tribunal  
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**RRT RESEARCH RESPONSE**

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**Questions**

- 1. Is there a type of punishment in the People’s Republic of China (PRC) called ‘rigorous restraint’ and if so, what is it?**
- 2. Please provide details of the First Brigade of Heizuizi Women’s Forced Labor Camp in Changchun City as at 30 April 2006 or thereabouts.**
- 3. Are family members denied visiting rights if a detainee breaches the regulations and the discipline of the labour camp, in particular, if the breach was practising Falun Gong?**
- 4. How many Falun Gong members have been detained /sentenced/ killed in the People’s Republic of China (PRC) since 1999?**

**RESPONSE**

- 1. Is there a type of punishment in the People’s Republic of China (PRC) called ‘rigorous restraint’ and if so, what is it?**

In a report from December 2006, the Falun Dafa website Clear Wisdom mentions the ‘rigorous restraint’ (严谨克制) form of punishment as used at the First Brigade of Heizuizi Women’s Forced Labor Camp in Changchun City, though the report does not clarify exactly what is involved in this form of punishment:

**Dafa practitioner Ms. Wang Bing in Qian’an County, Jilin Province, is suffering a type of persecution called “rigorous restraint,” and has been forbidden visits by family members at the First Brigade of Heizuizi Women’s Forced Labor Camp in Changchun City.** Instigated convicts use all kinds of measures to torture and agonize Ms. Wang Bing in attempting to force her to give up Falun Gong practice.

Li Yanbo, from the National Security Division of Qian'an County Police Department, and Li Dongyang from Dabusu Police Station, as well as another five villains, broke into Ms. Wang's house after 9:00 p.m. on the evening of April 20, 2006. **She was illegally arrested and her house was searched, and then she was taken to the Heizuizi Forced Labor Camp in Changchun for persecution on April 30.** Wang Bing went on a hunger strike to protest the illegal detention, and was then force-fed many times. As a result, her stomach was injured in several places and she lost a lot of blood. Her life was in danger. After more than three months of illegal detention, her weight dropped to 35-40 kilograms (77 to 88 lbs.) from her original weight of more than 65 kilograms (143 lbs.). Since she persisted in practicing, she was hung by her handcuffed wrists at her bed around the clock every day by the guard Wei Dan and the division head Yan Lifeng, and was monitored by two "personal cangues" (1)

On November 20, 2006, one of Ms. Wang Bing's family members came to Heizuizi Women's Forced Labor Camp to request a visit with her. After following the procedures and going upstairs, the guards informed Ms. Wang's relative, "Wang Bing's visitation is suspended. This is an order approved by our superiors." When the family member asked "Why?" the answer was, "She breached the regulations and the discipline of the Labor Camp." The family member then asked, "Which item was breached?" The answer was, "It is none of our business, we only monitor visitors. You should go inquire at the front building."

The family member then said, "It is illegal to restrain people's freedom." The guard smiled, "freedom? How can freedom be talked about here?"

Ms. Wang's relative went to the front building and asked to see the division head. At the beginning the guard was unwilling to call, but later he called the First Division very reluctantly after the repeated requests by Wang Bing's family member. After the call he said, "Go out of the gate and wait there." After waiting a long time, there was no result so the relative asked again. The janitor said, "Didn't they tell you that she is not allowed any visitors because she breached the regulations and the discipline of the labor camp? You should go back home as soon as possible!" The family member asked, "Which possible item was breached? We came from far away and we need to understand this!" The janitor handed over the telephone and said, "You can ask for yourself."

When the telephone was answered, the family member asked, "May I have your surname?" The answer was "my surname is Li." The family member said, "I want to talk to the head of the division." That person answered, "That's me." The family member then asked why Ms. Wang Bing was not allowed visitors. The answer was still, "She has breached the regulations and discipline of the Labor Camp." When the family member asked which item was breached, a voice was heard on the telephone, "Here you are." Then the telephone was passed to another person. The voice was identified as of that of Wei Dan. She said, "Wang Bing is not allowed any visitors because she has breached the regulations and the discipline of the Labor Camp. The order has been approved by our superiors, we just handle things based on the regulations." The family member asked again which item was breached. The answer was, "She practices Falun Gong" ('Family Extremely Concerned for Ms. Wang Bing's Welfare – They Are Forbidden From Seeing Her at Heizuizi Women's Forced Labor Camp in Changchun, Jilin Province' 2006, Clearwisdom.net, 28 December <http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/articles/2006/12/28/81224.html> – Accessed 20 February 2008 – Attachment 1).

Beyond this report, no other specific mention of 'rigorous restraint' as a term used in punishments was found in any of the searches conducted. This may simply be one of the many terms used by Falun Gong to describe the various combinations of ill-treatment against detainees, or it may refer to a specific type of treatment that has not been widely used or reported on. 'Rigorous restraint' may also be a general term to refer to the 'restraining'

methods of torture used by Chinese authorities against detainees. Clearwisdom.net details a lengthy list of torture techniques carried out against Falun Gong practitioners, many of which ‘restrain’ the victim through the use of ropes, handcuffs, shackles, cages, and other devices:

Under Jiang Zemin’s orders to, “physically destroy” Falun Gong, Falun Gong practitioners have suffered many kinds of torture. All the tortures were used to augment the spiritual persecution in order to force Falun Gong practitioners to give up their practice and write the “[Three Statements](#)“ ([Guarantee Statement](#), breaking away statement, criticizing statement), and give up their beliefs. The following illustrate some of these tortures. They are part of over 100 torture methods used to persecute Falun Gong practitioners

1. Flying (an Airplane)
2. Needle and Thread
3. Swallow Flying
4. Damaging Force-Feeding
5. Hanging Upside Down
- 6. Hung up with Hands Shackled Behind the Back**
- 7. Being Pressed Under the Bed**
8. Burning Practitioners Bodies With Red Hot Objects
9. Feeding the Insects
10. Pouring Freezing Cold Water Over People
11. Electric Shocks
12. Stabbing with sharp objects
- 13. The Tiger Bench (Illustration)**
- 14. Handcuffing and shackling so that the body is forced into a painful position and makes the victim move from one cell to another**
15. Burying alive
16. Electromagnetic Shock
17. Exposure to the Baking Sun
18. Dragging Behind a Vehicle
19. Brutal Beating
20. Hanging Up in the Air
- 21. Handcuffing Hands Behind the Back with One Hand Crossed Over a Shoulder**
- 22. Sitting on a Small Stool**
- 23. Deprived of Sleep, Forced to stand**
24. Forced-feeding Feces
25. Tacked with Push Pins
26. Exposed to Extreme Weather
27. Water Dungeon
28. Injected with Drugs
29. Sexual Abuse
30. Rape or Group Rape

(‘Clearwisdom Collection: Illustrations of Torture Methods Used to Persecute Falun Gong Practitioners (Part I, 30 torture methods)’ 2004, Clearwisdom.net, 31 August <http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/articles/2004/8/31/51910.html> – Accessed 21 February 2008 – Attachment 2).

In addition to the list cited directly above, Clearwisdom.net also provides hundreds of illustrations, photos, and descriptions of the torture methods used in China (‘Clearwisdom Collection: Illustrations of Torture Methods Used to Persecute Falun Gong Practitioners (Part I, 30 torture methods)’ 2004, Clearwisdom.net, 31 August <http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/articles/2004/8/31/51910.html> – Accessed 21 February

2008 – Attachment 2; ‘Torture Methods Used in Persecution’, (undated), Clearwisdom.net <http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/134/> – Accessed 21 February 2008 – Attachment 3).

## **2. Please provide details of the First Brigade of Heizuizi Women’s Forced Labor Camp in Changchun City as at 30 April 2006 or thereabouts.**

Sources indicate that Heizuizi Women’s Labor Camp (also called Changchun Women’s Labor Camp) is located in Changchun City, Jilin Province, in north-east China (Changchun, China, MSN Encarta Interactive World Atlas – Accessed 21 February 2008 – Attachment 4; ‘Global Rescue Persecution Location Id: 316’ (undated), Globalrescue.net <http://globalrescue.net/gmr/location.asp?id=316> – Accessed 21 February 2008 – Attachment 5). A report from the Laogai Research Foundation also made note of the Jilin Women’s Prison:

Location: Heizuizi, Xingfuxiang, Changchun City Postal Code: 130022 Tel: 0431-5705073/5384296/5384663 /5384296/ 5385317(color printing)

**Produces police uniforms. Housed 3000 Falun Gong practitioners as of March 2000. Forced them to work 19 hours a day. Also known as Provincial Heizuizi Women's Prison. Only prison in province for females. Apr. 2006 1,700 inmates, 260 female police. 1997 paroled 8 people (0.76%) out of 1,042 total. 1998 paroled 5 (0.43%) of total 1,155, 1999 paroled 5 (0.43%) out of 1,162** (The Laogai Research Foundation 2006, ‘Laogai Handbook’, October, p. 390 Attachment 20)

Aside from the Clearwisdom.net report provided in the above response, no other details could be found on the First Brigade of the Heizuizi Women’s Forced Labor Camp specifically in April 2006. Nonetheless, reports were found on the First Brigade of the camp at different periods, and other reports were located detailing conditions on the camp in general (with no specific mention of the First Brigade) in, or around, April 2006.

This response thus looks at reports on the [First Brigade of the Heizuizi Women’s Forced Labor Camp](#), and then explores [reports on the camp in general from around April 2006](#).

### **The First Brigade of the ‘Heizuizi Women’s Forced Labor Camp**

Specific mention of the ‘First Brigade’ of the ‘Heizuizi Women’s Forced Labor Camp’ is made in a number of reports. A February 2005 report from the Falun Gong website Globalrescue.net described the experiences of one Falun Gong practitioner who stayed in the First Brigade of the camp:

**A Falun Dafa practitioner from Changchun went to Beijing to make an appeal for Falun Dafa in October 1999 and was arrested and escorted back home. After that, she was illegally detained in the Heizuizi Forced Labor Camp in Changchun for over three years and has been tortured endlessly there.** Even her father, who is not a Falun Dafa practitioner, was tortured and had money extorted by the police. What follows is her account of what occurred during this time.

... In the forced labor camp, police try to coerce every Falun Dafa practitioner to write a “severance guarantee” [to give up the practice of Falun Dafa]. In the first three days, they sometimes used groups of people to try to brainwash Falun Dafa practitioners. Falun Dafa practitioners were not allowed to sleep for three nights in order to mentally disorient them. Falun Dafa practitioners who didn’t renounce their belief were tortured, shocked with electric batons, bound to a “dead man’s bed,” or locked in a closed cell until they were on the verge of

dying. After a period of time and as the Falun Dafa practitioners began to recover, police would repeat the torture process. **In the first brigade where I stayed, Piao Lianying was twice bound to a sheet metal bed, without quilts or pillows, during which all eating or excretion occurred while she was bound. The second time, Piao was bound for over a month, after she was released from the binding one of her arms could not move and she was severely injured. There was a Falun Dafa practitioner from Huaxun, name unknown, that firmly refused to write a “severance guarantee.”** Her family was not allowed to see her or send her clothes. Anyone giving her clothes or other items was cursed or punished. Her parents, not knowing if she was still alive, became very worried.

One Falun Dafa practitioner was shut inside a closed cell for over one month. The experience left her mentally disoriented and unable to recognize people; yet the police still didn't let her go.

When I went to the clinic to see a doctor, I saw a female Falun Dafa practitioner bound on the “dead man's bed.” One police officer gave her an injection and then started to force-feed her while a group of police officers shocked her with electric batons. The lady was almost tortured to death and yet wasn't even crying. Policewoman Li Man asked us to look the other way to avoid seeing the torture. Wang Xiufen from the 4th brigade was a college teacher at the Jilin Special Agricultural School. After being locked in the closed cell, she also became mentally disoriented. Some practitioners were even tortured to death in the camp.

One day, four police guards were playing cards and at midnight two went to asleep, while the other two kept watching me. When I tried to escape, I broke my legs. One officer, in his thirties, ran at me, cursed me for about 4 minutes, and then dragged me away. The owner of the hotel and the guests all saw what happened. The officer stuffed my mouth to prevent me from crying out ('Illegally Detained in a Forced Labor Camp in Changchun' 2005, Globalrescue.net, 22 February <http://globalrescue.net/gmr/case.asp?id=23758> – Accessed 21 February 2008 – Attachment 6).

A 2004 report from the Falun Gong website Clearwisdom.net also described conditions in the camp, and made mention of the First Brigade:

**Methods of persecuting Falun Gong practitioners not only include cruel torture but also forcing high intensity labor in Changchun Heizuizi Female Forced Labor Camp in Jilin Province. Overworking practitioners is a method used by the officials of the Forced Labor Camp to break down Falun Dafa practitioners physically and mentally. For example: each person processing the masks is required to finish 500 pieces per day when it is only possible to do about 300. Each person processing handicraft products on small clothes is required to finish from 100 to 150 pieces per day. It is impossible to finish. Any practitioner who doesn't finish the unreasonable quota, is punished and beaten. So, the curses and the threats happen every day.**

**Under extreme mental pressure and harsh physical labor Falun Gong practitioners can't practice Falun Gong in Changchun Heizuizi Female Forced Labor Camp, so their physical bodies have become very weak. Many of the practitioners have heart disease, high blood pressure, cough up blood, have pulmonary disease, or are in a coma and bleeding. Even though some practitioners can't get up, the police still force them to go to work. As long as the practitioners can still breathe, they have to work.**

**... The girl who continuously refused to give her name: “In Changchun Heizuizi Female Forced Labor Camp, the First Brigade was required to make butterflies and birds. The Second Brigade was making birds and collating book pages. The Third Brigade was making the birds and collating book pages. The Fourth Brigade was collating book pages and processing the small toy clothing craft products. The Fifth Brigade was making various birds.**

Some of the birds were made of feathers while others were made of paper. The Sixth Brigade was making the birds and processing the small toy clothing craft products. The Seventh Brigade was making birds, small toy ship craft products and sewing products. In addition to that, they also processed some other products such as advertisement banners, paper bags, paper boxes and other things. The bird and butterfly craft products and small toy clothes were exported to Japan, America and other countries. Every year the brigades regularly turn over a lot of money to the Changchun Heizuizi Female Forced Labor Camp, the rest of the money all becomes the warden's bonus, so the production quantity directly relates with the warden's benefits" ('The Story Behind Making China's "Sanitary" Chopsticks -- Exposing Slave Labor Practices Inside Chinese Labor Camps (Part Three)' 2004, Clearwisdom.net, 8 April <http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/articles/2004/4/8/46851.html> – Accessed 21 February 2008 – Attachment 7).

## **Reports on the Heizuizi Women's Forced Labor Camp in, or around, April 2006**

There are numerous reports of conditions within the camp in general. A May 2006 report from the Falun Gong website Clearwisdom.net provides some details on the ill-treatment of detainees:

The means employed to persecute Falun Dafa practitioners in the Heizuizi Women's Forced Labor Camp are both brutal and despicable, especially in the No. 1 Division. Heizuizi is located in Changchun, in China's northeast.

To achieve the target "transformation" rate and thereby earn themselves bonuses, the guards in the No. 1 Division put their full efforts into persecuting Falun Dafa practitioners. A guard from the No. 3 group, Wang Lei (female), forced practitioners to write "transformation" statements. If a practitioner refused, Wang Lei would shock the practitioner with an electric baton. It was quite common to hear the sizzling sound of electric batons or to smell burnt flesh. This began five years ago, in 2001.

Su Guiying (female), a guard in the No. 1 group, applied even more despicable means to persecute Falun Dafa practitioners. She forced the practitioners to take off their clothes, handcuffed their hands and poured a bucket of water over their bodies (to increase electrical conductivity). She then shocked them with an electric baton.

What is worse is that Su Guiying used an electric baton to shock the vaginal area and the vaginal tract of practitioners. Those who were tortured this way could not walk normally for a long period of time after.

Run Lifeng (male), the chief of the No. 1 Division, used an electric baton to torture practitioners, frequently causing them to lose control of urination and defecation.

Guard Ye Jiong (male) was specifically violent towards Falun Dafa practitioners. Guards Li Ying (female), Su Guiying (female), Chen Ping (female) and others hold practitioners' heads underwater in a large water storage tank until they are close to drowning. After the practitioners wake up for a little while, they resume the torture.

All of the guards in the No. 1 Division changed their despicable means in order to achieve their goals. When some guards who still have consciences refused to collude with them, they use despicable means such as writing reports on these guards, accusing them of supporting Falun Dafa, and finally pushing these guards to be transferred away ('Crimes Committed by Guards in the Heizuizi Women's Forced Labor Camp No. 1 Division' 2006, Clearwisdom.net, 24 May <http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/articles/2006/5/24/73692.html> – Accessed 21 February 2008 – Attachment 8).

Another report from The Falun Gong Human Rights Working Group, undated, but estimated to be from late 2005 or early 2006, provides details on people detained in the camp, and on the types of ill-treatment they have experienced:

The harsh treatment of Falun Gong practitioners in Heizuizi routinely includes detention incommunicado, forced hard labor for 18 to 19 hours a day, deprivation of sleep for a week or longer, solitary confinement, and savage beatings. Shocking practitioners with electric batons is so common that the guards regard it as a matter of “electric policy.” The guards sometimes shock a practitioner with multiple batons simultaneously for extended periods time, to the point where the smell of burnt flesh permeates the air. Sometimes the guards force an electric baton into a practitioner’s mouth to shock her; this often leads to her face being disfigured. A particularly degrading torture is the “death bed” where the practitioner is stripped naked or wears only a T-shirt . She is then handcuffed and shackled to an iron bed. Movement is completely restricted, leading to painful muscular atrophy. The practitioner is not allowed a reprieve to use the restroom, and her excrement, both stool and urine, is left on the metal bed for her to lay in. Most of the time this torture is combined with leaving the practitioner in a freezing storeroom. When Falun Gong practitioners resort to hunger strikes to protest the inhumane treatment, they are often subjected to force-feeding. The injection of nerve-damaging chemicals has also been used for torture. There are several dozen physical torture methods used. Practitioners also suffer from various kinds of psychological torment (‘Heizuizi Women’s Labor Camp’, (undated), The Falun Gong Human Rights Working Group [http://flghrwg.net/reports/Laborcamps/pdf/Heizuizi\\_Labor\\_Camp\\_Chuangchun\\_Jilin%20Province.pdf](http://flghrwg.net/reports/Laborcamps/pdf/Heizuizi_Labor_Camp_Chuangchun_Jilin%20Province.pdf) – Accessed 21 February 2008 – Attachment 9)

A more recent 2008 report from Clearwisdom.net further reveals the nature of ill-treatment within the camp:

The authorities at Heizuizi Women’s Forced Labor Camp in Changchun City send steadfast practitioners to “restricted rooms” in attempts to force them to write the so-called guarantee statement. The “restricted rooms” are in a secret location and not easy to find. Any remote room can become a “restricted room,” as long as the room is equipped with a wooden bed, handcuffs, and a special belt.

The wooden bed in these rooms supports only a very thin sleeping pad. The guards handcuff a practitioner’s hands to the corners of the headboard, then use two specially-manufactured leather belts from underneath the bed to tie the practitioner’s knees so as to restrict all movement. Someone constantly monitors the practitioner and forces her to eat, drink, and relieve herself on the bed for days at a time. The victims are not allowed to clean their faces, hair, feet, or teeth. Not even during menstruation do officials permit the practitioner to be released for personal hygiene. During the entire time, guards and instructors show up one after another, attempting to coerce the practitioner into writing the guarantee statement [promising to abandon the practice]. If they are unsuccessful, they humiliate the practitioner further and verbally abuse her. Then they send collaborators to try to persuade her not to make trouble for the regime or the guards. If the practitioner still refuses to write the statement, the authorities urge the collaborators to use every means of torture on the practitioner, including tightening the belts, no longer providing drinking water, depriving the practitioner of sleep, removing the comforter, and restricting her from relieving herself, trying to break her spirit and make her submit.

To avoid leaving any evidence, they wrap the practitioner’s wrists with soft cloth before handcuffing her wrists so as to not leave any marks. However, the torture is so brutal that the practitioner is often handicapped before long. In addition, lying down without a pillow for days makes one feel dizzy and hurt everywhere, and even causes absent-mindedness. Some

practitioners cannot stand this torture for more than three days before they agree--against their will--to write the so-called "guarantee statement" ('The Facts of the Persecution of Falun Gong' 2008, Clearwisdom.net, 12 February <http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/emhweekly/2008/2/17/2008-02-12-persecution.html#15> – Accessed 21 February 2008 – Attachment 10).

The Falun Gong site Globalrescue.net also provides some details from 2004 on people detained in the Heizuizi Women's Labor Camp, and on what occurred within the camp:

Without any legal procedure, we were taken to the Heizuizi Women's Forced Labor Camp in Jilin Province, and on the same day were brutally tortured by the policemen. For days and nights, we were brainwashed without being allowed to sleep due to the round the clock efforts of collaborators. The collaborators took turns trying to force Falun Dafa practitioners to give up their cultivation practice. After five days, when I still hadn't changed my attitude towards Falun Dafa, they decided to use the method called "abortion" to torture me on the sixth day. Six people pushed me down on the ground, but I resisted them and stood up, so they tied my feet and my hands with ropes and physically forced my hand to write the "renouncement statement." They fooled the other Falun Dafa practitioners by showing them the renouncement statement that they forced me to write. I later wrote a solemn declaration, instead of writing a required progress report, to prevent the fake statement from fooling others. This action infuriated the policemen, so they started a new method of persecuting me. In the beginning, I wasn't allowed to sleep for two days and two nights. Later, I was forced to work in the daytime and only allowed to sleep for a few hours every night for the next three months.

In October 2002, before the 16th People's Congress Meeting began, the policemen started another round of cruel violence to persecute Falun Dafa practitioners. For seven days, I was forced to stand in the ward facing a wall. For seven nights, I was forced to stand in a corridor. They still couldn't change my heart and mind. After torturing me in a variety of ways, I still insisted on believing in Falun Dafa, and so they had to give up trying to control me.

Because I had terrible experiences in the detention center for a year, I believed even more firmly in Falun Dafa. It didn't matter how long the police threatened to add penalties onto my sentence, they could never stop me from practicing Falun Dafa. Over the year, the Falun Dafa practitioners still did their best to validate the principles of Truth, Compassion, and Tolerance, even though the environment in the detention center was very tough. Some of them went on hunger strikes to protest the persecution; some of them clarified the facts of Falun Dafa with loud and clear voices; some of them exposed the dark schemes and tricks of the policemen through writing. However, they also suffered terrible torture, such as force-feeding by painfully having a tube crammed down their throat, humiliation, beatings, being shocked by electric batons, and so on.

I remembered Li Cong, a twenty-one year old girl in the First Division. Since she had been taken to the detention center, she had been tortured by various violent means. The camp deputies in the First Division called her Yuan Ying (Chinese: Cherub). One day, without any reason she was called to the camp deputy's office. As soon as she walked into the room, the camp deputy shocked her with an electric baton. The violence lasted over an hour. Her screaming continuously came out from the office and our hearts trembled for her. The tendon on her left foot then atrophied and her left leg couldn't move any more. Even in such a state, those policemen still humiliated her with abusive words.

Another Falun Dafa practitioner, Li Shuying of the 4th Division (whose husband had been tortured to death), instead of cooperating with the policemen, went on a hunger strike to protest the persecution. She was not only force-fed through a tube by guard Wang Jing and



the others in the 4th Division, but was also obligated to beg for food from the criminals of the different divisions. Finally, Li Shuying's legs became paralyzed due to the repeated torture.

Wang Jing beat whomever he wanted; it didn't matter how old the Falun Dafa practitioners were or how bad their physical condition was. Shuai Yazhen, a sixty-four year old Falun Dafa practitioner was in the 4th Division of the detention center. One day, she wouldn't violate the principles of Falun Dafa and was thus beaten up. Since she resisted the beatings, Wang Jing asked five helpers to drag her to the camp deputy's office. They held her on the ground and beat and shocked her with electric batons. They also put a dirty cloth into her mouth to stop her screaming ('Violence at Heizuizi Women's Forced Labor Camp – The Ordeals of a Falun Gong Practitioner Whose Hand was Forced to Write a Renouncement Statement' 2004, Globalrescue.net, 17 November <http://globalrescue.net/gmr/case.asp?id=25886> – Accessed 21 February 2008 – Attachment 11).

### **3. Are family members denied visiting rights if a detainee breaches the regulations and the discipline of the labour camp, in particular, if the breach was practising Falun Gong?**

A report from Clearwisdom.net, cited at length in the response to question 1, explores the treatment of an individual in the First Brigade of Heizuizi Women's Forced Labor Camp in Changchun City in 2006 and elaborates on how family members were denied visiting rights if detainees breach regulations and discipline of labour camps:

When the telephone was answered, the family member asked, "May I have your surname?" The answer was "my surname is Li." The family member said, "I want to talk to the head of the division." That person answered, "That's me." The family member then asked why Ms. Wang Bing was not allowed visitors. The answer was still, "She has breached the regulations and discipline of the Labor Camp." When the family member asked which item was breached, a voice was heard on the telephone, "Here you are." Then the telephone was passed to another person. The voice was identified as of that of Wei Dan. She said, "Wang Bing is not allowed any visitors because she has breached the regulations and the discipline of the Labor Camp. The order has been approved by our superiors, we just handle things based on the regulations." The family member asked again which item was breached. The answer was, "She practices Falun Gong."

The family member asked, "Which item of your regulation and discipline reads that practice is forbidden?" The answer was, "This is all regulated by Ms. Lian, the head of the Management Section. You must go to Ms. Lian to inquire. What's more, I have already informed your family." The family member asked, "Whom did you inform?" She couldn't answer, however.

The family member then called Ms. Lian, the head of the Management Section. Lian said, "She practices Falun Gong." The family member asked, "Which item is breached by practicing Falun Gong?" The answer was, "Is it necessary for me to tell you?" When the family member answered, "Yes." Ms. Lian answered, "She practices Falun Gong. We talked to her, but she didn't listen to us." The family member said, "We live a long way from here and it is difficult to come. Please arrange a meeting for us – what's more, you didn't inform us in advance." Then she answered, "How could we inform you without your telephone number?" The family member said, "So how did you inform us when Wang Bing was hospitalized last time?" Ms. Lian then lost her temper and said, "What is your educational background? You can't understand my words?" With a bang, she hung up the telephone ('Family Extremely Concerned for Ms. Wang Bing's Welfare – They Are Forbidden From Seeing Her at Heizuizi Women's Forced Labor Camp in Changchun, Jilin Province' 2006, Clearwisdom.net, 28 December

<http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/articles/2006/12/28/81224.html> – Accessed 20 February 2008 – Attachment 1).

A 2005 report from the Laogai Research Foundation notes the removal of visitation rights:

According to the group Human Rights in China, Mao Hengfeng, a long-term campaigner against China's coercive family planning policies, has had her custodial sentence at a Reeducation Through Labor (RTL) Camp in Shanghai increased by three months.

... **In addition, sources told HRIC that when Mao refused to sign a document acknowledging thought reform, camp officials threatened to reduce her family visits and telephone privileges** ('Mao Hengfeng's Sentence Extended' 2005, Laogai Research Foundation website, 4 January <http://www.laogai.org/news/newsdetail.php?id=2225> - Accessed 22 February 2008 – Attachment 18).

Another report from the Laogai Research Foundation noted:

According to the group Human Rights in China (HRIC), labor activist Yao Fuxin has been threatened with a curtailment of family visits while he continues to suffer severe abuse in prison.

...HRIC's sources say that prison officials have threatened Yao with a curtailment of family visits if reports of his treatment and condition circulate outside. For that reason, Yao has continued to bear his abusive treatment in silence, hoping that his compliance will result in more sympathetic treatment. Instead of improving, however, Yao's conditions have deteriorated, and a letter to prison officials by Yao's wife, Guo Sujing, requesting better treatment has gone unanswered ('Imprisoned labor activist further mistreated' 2004, Laogai Research Foundation website, 1 December <http://www.laogai.org/news/newsdetail.php?id=2208> - Accessed 22 February 2008 – Attachment 19).

Similarly, a 2004 report explained how detainees who break regulations are denied visiting rights:

If any of the labor camp regulations were violated, or if quotas or other criteria were not met, a detainee would be punished by having to wrap chopsticks, sometimes until 1 a.m. If no extra work was available, the punishment might be being forced to stand until midnight or 1:00 a.m. **Other methods of punishment included denying permission to meet with family members or being denied any snacks for a whole month.** Prisoners might be forced to carry a certain amount of beans upstairs, sort them at night, and take them downstairs again in the morning. For answering questions defiantly, prisoners were punished by being placed in a small cell ('An Account of the Brutal Slave Labor at the Dalian Forced Labor Camp' 2004, Clearwisdom.net, 6 May <http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/articles/2004/5/6/47759.html> – Accessed 22 February 2008 – Attachment 12).

Clearwisdom.net also includes numerous other articles detailing the refusal of visitation rights for undisclosed reasons (see for example 'Practitioners Zhang Chuanzheng and His Wife Guo Xiuhong Suffer Relentless Persecution' 2004, Clearwisdom.net, 10 September <http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/articles/2004/9/10/52273p.html> – Accessed 22 February 2008 – Attachment 13; 'Practitioner Li Wenjun Sent from the Jiutai Labor Camp in Jilin City to the Police Hospital for Further Persecution' 2005, Clearwisdom.net, 31 December <http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/articles/2005/12/31/68516.html> – Accessed 22 February 2008 – Attachment 14).

#### **4. How many Falun Gong members have been detained /sentenced/ killed in the PRC since 1999?**

A report from Clearwisdom.net provides details on the names, number, and circumstances of an estimated 3124 Falun Gong members who have been killed in the PRC since 1999.

**According to incomplete statistics, within the past five years beginning on July 20, 1999, more than 3124 practitioners have been verified as being tortured to death in over 30 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities.** However, according to the government's official internal statistics, the actual number of practitioners who died after being arrested had reached 1,600 by the end of 2001. **In addition, there are at least 6,000 Falun Gong practitioners who have been illegally sentenced to prison. Over 100,000 practitioners have been sentenced to forced labor camps.** Thousands of practitioners have been forcefully sent to psychiatric hospitals to be tortured with injections that are damaging to the central nervous system. Large groups of Falun Gong practitioners have been forcefully sent to local brainwashing classes, where they have been subjected to both physical and mental torture. Many more practitioners have been severely beaten and had large sums of money extorted from them by so-called "law-enforcement officials." When large numbers of Falun Gong practitioners are beaten to death, injured, and their families are broken up, when they have to leave home and go from place to place because of the persecution, millions of Falun Gong practitioners' families, relatives, good friends and colleagues are also implicated and brainwashed to varying degrees ('List and Case Description of the 3124 Falun Gong Practitioners Who Have Been Killed In the Persecution' 2008, Clearwisdom.net, 29 January [http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/special\\_column/death\\_cases/death\\_list.html#outline](http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/special_column/death_cases/death_list.html#outline) – Accessed 22 February 2008 – Attachment 15).

A more dated report in *Newsmax* from 2003 estimated that the number of Falun Gong practitioners killed at the time of reporting was at least 800, whilst a 2002 report estimated the number killed to be around 1 600 at the time of reporting (Smith, C. R. 2003, 'War With China', *Newsmax*, 21 November <http://archive.newsmax.com/archives/articles/2003/11/20/155720.shtml> – Accessed 22 February 2008 – Attachment 16; The Report on Human Rights Practices in Mainland China Research Group 2002, '2002 Report on Human Rights Practices in Mainland China (Abstract)', 9 December <http://www.sef.org.tw/doc/research/rsch2.doc> – Accessed 22 February 2008 – Attachment 17).

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Altavista <http://www.altavista.com/>

Ask <http://www.ask.com/?ax=5>

Exalead <http://www.exalead.com/search>

Yahoo! <http://search.yahoo.com/>

##### **Government Information & Reports**

Immigration & Refugee Board of Canada <http://www.irb.gc.ca/>

UK Home Office <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk>

US Department of State <http://www.state.gov/>

##### **Non-Government Organisations**

Amnesty International website <http://www.amnesty.org/>

Human Rights Watch <http://www.hrw.org/>

## **International News & Politics**

BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/index.shtml>

### Databases:

BACIS (DIMA Country Information database)

REFINFO (IRBDC (Canada) Country Information database)

ISYS (RRT Country Research database, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, US Department of State Reports)

RRT Library Catalogue

## **List of Attachments**

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