Country Advice

China

China – CHN39061 – Falun Gong – 1999
Shandong Arrests – Qingdao 610 Office
5 August 2011

1. Are there any reports of mass arrests of Falun Gong practitioners in Shandong Province in late July 1999?

Reports were located that indicate the Government carried out mass arrests of Falun Gong practitioners in Shandong during late July 1999.1

In late July 1999, there were large-scale Falun Gong activities in Shandong and mass arrests were carried out throughout the country.2 In a March 2001 report, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade stated that “[t]he international media reported demonstrations in several provinces (e.g. Henan and Shandong) around the time [July/August 1999]”.3 While in its comprehensive 2002 report, Human Rights Watch noted that the crackdown against Falun Gong was most extensive in Shandong province.4 Shandong is also listed as one of the 12 provinces in which the Government arrested around 10,000 Falun Gong members following protests involving around 100,000 members in a 2002 Canadian Immigration and Refugee Board report that cites a Tai Yang Pao article.5 The article reports that most of those arrested were released the same day; no details are provided to specify the areas where the arrests occurred.6 Some additional reports were located which report on mass protests by Falun Gong practitioners in Shandong in late July 1999.7

Although limited information was found on specific arrests in July 1999, sources indicate that officials in Shandong arrested and abused Falun Gong practitioners in the following months. Moreover, some sources suggest that group members in Shandong were affected more than those in other areas of China. For example, in a December 2000 report, Amnesty International highlighted that 17 out of the 77 (22 per cent) recorded Falun Gong deaths in custody since

1 Human Rights Watch 2002, Dangerous Meditation: China’s Campaign Against Falungong, January – Attachment 1, see p 46; Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 2002, CHN40180.E – China: Demonstrations by Falun Gong practitioners in Yantai, Shandong province, July and August 1999 and/or August 2001, 22 November – Attachment 2
2 Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 2002, CHN40180.E – China: Demonstrations by Falun Gong practitioners in Yantai, Shandong province, July and August 1999 and/or August 2001, 22 November – Attachment 2; Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) 2001, DFAT Report 162, 19 March – Attachment 3; Human Rights Watch 2002, Dangerous Meditation: China’s Campaign Against Falungong, January, p.64 – Attachment 1
3 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) 2001, DFAT Report 162, 19 March – Attachment 3
4 Human Rights Watch 2002, Dangerous Meditation: China’s Campaign Against Falungong, January, p.64 – Attachment 1
5 Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 2002, CHN40180.E – China: Demonstrations by Falun Gong practitioners in Yantai, Shandong province, July and August 1999 and/or August 2001, 22 November – Attachment 2
6 Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 2002, CHN40180.E – China: Demonstrations by Falun Gong practitioners in Yantai, Shandong province, July and August 1999 and/or August 2001, 22 November – Attachment 3
July 1999 occurred in Shandong. While the abovementioned 2002 Human Rights Watch Report states that “[s]uspicious deaths in custody in Shandong province significantly outstripped those in other parts of China”.

In one of the few specific cases discussed in the literature, the 2002 Human Rights Watch report provides the case of Shandong-based Falun Gong practitioner, Zhang Kunlun, who reported being detained by police on 22 July and held with another 2,000 practitioners in a school yard. According to the report, “[t]he practitioners had to leave their names and addresses; then branch police stations were called to escort them to their home districts”. Zhang further reports being detained several times during 2000 and tortured while in detention.

Amnesty International provides the following cases of arrests and abuse of Shandong Falun Gong practitioners in the latter half of 1999:

**September**

- In Jiaozhou city, Shandong, officials detained several Falun Gong practitioners and held them in a mental hospital. According to Amnesty International, “[a]t the time their detention was reported on 12 October, [they] had been held for over 20 days in the hospital” and “[t]hroughout that period they were reportedly forced to take sedatives”.
- On 21 September 1999, Dong Buyun, a Falun Gong practitioner and teacher from Langshan district, Shandong province, reportedly died while in police custody. She had been arrested earlier in Beijing and returned to Langshan under police escort. Falun Gong sources reported that, “local officials in Langshan claimed that Dong Buyun was killed when she jumped out of a building in the middle of the night, but gave no further explanations” and there was “no official report on her case”.
- On 27 September 1999, Zhao Jinhua was arrested by police from Zhangxing county. While in police custody, she was reportedly repeatedly beaten with clubs and electric batons, according to Amnesty International. On 7 October, she was sent twice to the

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9 Human Rights Watch 2002, Dangerous Meditation: China’s Campaign Against Falungong, January, p.32 – Attachment 1
10 Human Rights Watch 2002, Dangerous Meditation: China’s Campaign Against Falungong, January, pp. 45-53 – Attachment 1
11Human Rights Watch 2002, Dangerous Meditation: China’s Campaign Against Falungong, January, p.46 – Attachment 1
12 Human Rights Watch 2002, Dangerous Meditation: China’s Campaign Against Falungong, January, p.47 – Attachment 1
county hospital for emergency recovery, but she died before arriving at the hospital for the second time.17

October

- Liu Xuguo, a 29-year-old engineer, was arrested in October 1999 for protesting against the Falun Gong ban and sentenced to three years re-education through labour. He was reportedly sent to a labour camp in Jining, Shandong in early February 2000 and “allegedly died in a labour camp on 11 February 2000 due to injuries sustained when he was force-fed by police”.18

November

- Four practitioners from Zhaoyuan county, Shandong were reportedly detained in November 1999 for disclosing the details of the death of Zhao Jinhua (discussed above). It was reported that two of the practitioners received 3 years of re-education through labour.19

2. Is there any information about No. 34 Mingshi Road’s legal education centre in Qingdao City (e.g. location, uniforms, staff, size, routines)?

Several Falun Gong sources refer to a 610 office at North Mingxia Road 34 in Qingdao. According to the Global Mission to Rescue Persecuted Falun Gong Practitioners (Global Rescue) and Minghui (the Chinese Clearwisdom website) the facility – known as Qingdao 610 or the “legal education centre” – is used to forcibly re-educate Falun Gong practitioners.20

17 Amnesty International 1999, People’s Republic of China: Report on Torture and Ill-Treatment of Followers of the Falun Gong, ASA 17/54/99, 22 October, p.2 – Attachment 8; Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1999, CHN3325.EX – China: Falun Dafa (Falun Gong, Falungong) update; update to CHN33180.EX of 26 November 1999; update to CHN33002.EX of 8 October 1999 regarding Falun Dafa in Fujian province; existence of any documentation associated with Falun Dafa practice, 3 December – Attachment 9
18 Amnesty International 2000, People’s Republic of China. the Crackdown on Falun Gong and Other So-called “Heretical Organizations”, 23 March, ASA 17/111/00, Sect.8, pp.34 – Attachment 7
19 Amnesty International 2000, People’s Republic of China. the Crackdown on Falun Gong and Other So-called “Heretical Organizations”, 23 March, ASA 17/111/00, Sect.8, p.29 – Attachment 7;
20 Clearwisdom is a website “created and maintained by Falun Dafa practitioners…designed to serve both fellow practitioners and the general public with daily articles that provide insights into Falun Dafa cultivation practice, expose the harsh persecution in China, and report the news of Dafa activities around the world”. “Welcome to Falun Dafa (Falun Gong) Clearwisdom.net” (undated), http://clearwisdom.net/html/special/welcome.html – Accessed 5 August 2011 – Attachment 10
21 Global Rescue (undated) Qingdao Brainwashing: 532, http://globalrescue.hopto.org/unproj/china/phonecai2.jsp?cid=2157 – http://translate.google.com.au/translate?hl=en&sl=zh-CN&u=http://globalrescue.hopto.org/unproj/china/phonecai2.jsp%3Fcid%3D2157&ei=vP0wToPgLmDsgLytOWPCw&sa=X&oi=translate&ct=result&resnum=5&ved=0CDAQ7gEvBA&prev=/search%3Fq%3Df%3D34%25E6%2598%25AF%2520%25E5%258A%259F%25E4%25B8%25AD%25E7%25B2%259F%25E5%258A%259F%26hl%3Den%26rlz%3D1I7GGLG_en%26prmd%3Divns&rurl=translate.google.com.au&sl=zh-CN&twu=1&u=http://globalrescue.hopto.org/unproj/china/phonecai2.jsp&prev=/search%3Fq%3Df%3D34%25E6%2598%25AF%2520%25E5%258A%259F%25E4%25B8%25AD%25E7%25B2%259F%25E5%258A%259F%26hl%3Den%26rlz%3D1I7GGLG_en%26prmd%3Divns

Site location and building

Number 34 North Mingxia Road is reported to be Qingdao’s main Falun Gong re-education facility. The complex is reported to have four buildings, which are kept under 24-hour surveillance. Clearwisdom provides the following translation from Minghui in an article that appears to be dated from 2003:

The Qingdao City “610 Office” (an agency specifically created to persecute Falun Gong, with absolute power over each level of administration in the Party and all other political and judiciary systems) is located at 34 Mingxia Street, Northern District in Qingdao City, postal code 266000. Its public front is “Qingdao City Massage Vocational Training Center”. The second, third and fourth floor of the building are surrounded with metal bars.23

Several photos were located on Minshui and Clearwisdom. These photos – provided below – show the street number, signs outside and the bar windows on the building. A translation of Minghui on Clearwisdom notes:

This group of pictures shows the outside of Qingdao City’s current brainwashing center. The city’s 610 Office located on 34 Mingxia Road in the North District of Qingdao City, Shandong Province, is responsible for this center. To hide its true identity, signs were hung up in front of the entrance, which say “Qingdao City Massage Instruction Center for People with Visual Impairment” and “National Appraisal Center for Professional Skills.” However, none of these places exist. All of the windows are equipped with strong steel railings.24

Accessed 5 August 2011 – Attachment 13

Accessed 5 August 2011 – Attachment 14

Accessed 5 August 2011 – Attachment 15
Photo 1. Qingdao 610

Photo 2. Sign outside of Qingdao 610

Photo 3. Street number 34, outside Qingdao 610\textsuperscript{27}

Photo 4. Qingdao 610 showing bars on the windows\textsuperscript{28}

\textsuperscript{26}‘Qingdao City 610 Office Brainwashing Center Fabricates Lies and Frames Innocent People (Photos)’ 2005?, Clearwisdom.net, \url{http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/articles/2005/2/21/57750p.html} – Accessed 5 August 2011 – Attachment 15

\textsuperscript{27}‘Qingdao City 610 Office Brainwashing Center Fabricates Lies and Frames Innocent People (Photos)’ 2005?, Clearwisdom.net, \url{http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/articles/2005/2/21/57750p.html} – Accessed 5 August 2011 – Attachment 15
A map of the area around the complex has also been provided below:

Map 1. 34 Mingxia Rd

Processes and practices

The Falun Gong sources consulted refer to the use of physical and psychological abuse as methods to re-educate detainees. The staff of the Qingdao 610 Office reportedly use “brainwashing” and “illicit enrichment”; those that do not “transform” are then reportedly sent to forced labour camps.

Clearwisdom also provides some details on the routines and practices of the Qingdao City 610 Office. Based on information from previous detainees, Clearwisdom reports that staff “forced them to attend brainwashing classes, played video programs over and over as part of the brainwashing effort, and continuously talked to practitioners in an...
attempt to make them give in and accept the brainwashing”.  

The same report claims that “[t]alking among Dafa practitioners was strictly forbidden” and that each detainee has an instructor assistant assigned to monitor them. While in class, detainees belongings are reportedly regularly searched.

Staff

Falun Gong groups provide the names of key staff at Qingdao 610 but details about the nature of their positions is unclear. Clearwisdom reports that the 610 office is used to train local cadres and government officials. According to Clearwisdom, Qingdao’s “610 Office” continuously transfers division level officials from the Qingdao City government to this office. The article elaborates that “Qingdao City Public Judiciary office, Rules and Means Office, Women's Federation, National Security, and even Residential Association Office would periodically send their officials to work at the 610 Office”.

According to Global Rescue, Wang Hongjun (the resident Director) and Shi Xiang (the Deputy Director) manage the facility. According to Clearwisdom, Director Wang Hongjun is the former Head of the Number two division of the Qingdao City Public Security Bureau and the Deputy Director, Geng Shi Xiang, is the former Associate General Secretary of Qingdao City's North District Political and Juridical Committee. Clearwisdom provides considerable detail on Shi Xiang:

Geng Shixiang, a 58-year-old male, is the former Associate General Secretary of Qingdao City's North District Political and Judicial Committee. His wife, Chen Jing, is a Qingdao City Central Hearing Impairment School retired teacher, and she has negative opinions towards Falun Dafa as well. Since June 10, 1999, Geng has been the Qingdao City’s North District 610 Office manager, and he has set up brainwashing centers at the Fushanhoutao Yuan Hotel, Shaoxing Road Mili Training Base, Jiaoliu Hotel, and other places, where he has detained practitioners who hold on to their beliefs. Since July

35 Global Rescue (undated), Untitled http://globalrescue.hopto.org/unproj/china/text.jsp?did=3684 – http://translate.google.com.au/translate?hl=en&sl=zh-CN&u=http://globalrescue.hopto.org/unproj/china/text.jsp%3Fdid%3D3684&ei=XwAxTsLKJ8mBsgLqhJjyCg&sa=X&oi=translate&ct=result&resnum=3&ved=0CCUQ7GVwAg&prev=/search%3Fq%3D%E9%9D%92%E5%B2%259B%E5%25E5%2525B8%25258234%2525E8%2525B7%2525AF%2525E5%25258C%252597%2525E6%252598%2525E8%2525E9%252525C%25259E%2525E6%2525B3%252595%2525E8%2525BD%2525AE%2525E5%25258A%25259F%2525E7%25258E%25258B%2525E6%2525B4%2525AA%2525E5%252586%2525B%26hl%3Den%26sl%3Dzh-CN&prev=/search%3Fq%3D%E9%9D%92%E5%B2%259B%E5%25E5%2525B8%25258234%2525E8%2525B7%2525AF%2525E5%25258C%252597%2525E6%252598%2525E8%2525E9%252525C%25259E%2525E6%2525B3%252595%2525E8%2525BD%2525AE%2525E5%25258A%25259F%2525E7%25258E%25258B%2525E6%2525B4%2525AA%2525E5%252586%2525B%26hl%3Den%26sl%3Dzh-CN
20, 1999, the Qingdao City’s North District has been the district where practitioners are persecuted most severely. He received so much credit for forcing practitioners to renounce their beliefs through persecution that the Qingdao City 610 Office hired him again after he retired in 2001. For the time being, he still often sets up brainwashing sessions at 34 Mingxia Road in Qingdao City and continues to persecute practitioners. As one of the people directly in charge of the city 610 Office, he is directly or indirectly associated with all the illegal cases of sentencing, including sentences to forced labor camps and the detaining of Falun Gong practitioners. 37

The names of other staff were located but the nature of their positions is unclear. Below are the names of other staff recorded by Minghui:

- Deming (Liu, Deming) 38
- Jo (Cao, Mou) 39
- Sun Gui-Mei
- Jiangchun Bin
- Choi (full name not provided). Reported to be a Police Academy graduate involved in security. 40
- Gu Shuji 41

40 ‘Choi’ 2005, Minghui, 1 October, http://translate.googleusercontent.com/translate_c?hl=en&prev=/search%3Fq%3D%25E9%259D%2592%25E5%25B2%259B%25E5%25B8%2582%25E8%25B7%25A8%25E5%25B8%258F%25E5%258C%259F%25E5%258E%259F%25E5%259C%2595%25E9%259C%259E%25E6%25B3%2595%25E8%25BD%25AE%25E5%258A%259F%25E7%258E%258B%25E6%25B4%25AA%25E5%2586%259B%26hl%3Den%26rls%3Dcom.microsoft:en-au%26rlz%3D1I7GGLG_en%26prmd%3Ddivns&url=translate.google.com.au&sl=zh-CN&u=http://library.minghui.org/criminal/c11638.htm&usg=ALkJrhhRt4Q5COQh83uespcHDxMTKdNi6g – Accessed 5 August 2011 – Attachment 20
3. Is there any information about Director Wang Hongjun (e.g. age, appearance, and role)?

Reports indicate that Wang Hongjun is the Director of Qingdao 610 office but no details were located on him or his role. As stated above, according to Falun Gong source Clearwisdom, Hongjun was formerly Head of the Number two division at the Qingdao City Public Security Bureau.  


Attachments


2. Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 2002, CHN40180.E – China: Demonstrations by Falun Gong practitioners in Yantai, Shandong province, July and August 1999 and/or August 2001, 22 November. (CISNET CHN40180)


9. Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1999, CHN3325.EX – China: Falun Dafa (Falun Gong, Falungong) update; update to CHN33180.EX of 26 November 1999; update to CHN33002.EX of 8 October 1999 regarding Falun Dafa in Fujian province: existence of any documentation associated with Falun Dafa practice, 3 December. (CISNET CISLIB 12530)


16. ’34 Mingxia Road, Qingdao, Shandong, China’ n.d., *Goggle Maps*, http://maps.google.com.au/maps?q=34+Mingxia+Road,+Qingdao,+Shandong,+China&hl=en&ll=36.074129,120.354227&spn=0.006868,0.020556&ssl=29.643547,-82.350619&sspn=0.013577,0.013733&z=17 – Accessed 5 August 2011.


20. ‘Choi’ 2005, Minghui, 1 October, http://translate.googleusercontent.com/translate_c?hl=en&prev=/search?q=%E9%9D%92%E5%B2%9B%E5%B8%8234%E8%B7%AF%E5%97%258C%E5%97%2597%25E6%2598%258E%25E9%259C%259E%25E6%25B3%2595%25E8%25BD%25AE%25E5%258A%259F%25E7%258E%258B%25E6%25B4%25AA%25E5%2586%259B%26hl%3Den%26rls%3Dcom.microsoft:en-au%26rlz%3D3I17GGGL_en%26prmd%3Divns&url=translate.google.com.au&sl=zh-CN&u=http://library.minghui.org/criminal/c11636.htm&usg=ALkJhiiUd8oW6Tbdk0f3QehveJDypxndA – Accessed 5 August.


22. ‘Long Cui’ 2005, Minghui, 1 October, http://translate.google.com/google?hl=en&prev=/search?q=%E9%9D%92%E5%B2%9B%E5%B8%8234%E8%B7%AF%E5%97%258C%E5%97%2597%25E6%2598%258E%25E9%259C%259E%25E6%25B3%2595%25E8%25BD%25AE%25E5%258A%259F%25E7%258E%258B%25E6%25B4%25AA%25E5%2586%259B%26hl%3Den%26rls%3Dcom.microsoft:en-au%26rlz%3D3I17GGGL_en%26prmd%3Divns&url=translate.google.com.au&sl=zh-CN&u=http://library.minghui.org/criminal/c43674.htm – Accessed 5 August.

23. ‘Sun Yuliang’ 2009, Minghui, 11 August, http://translate.googleusercontent.com/translate_c?hl=en&prev=/search?q=%E9%9D%92%E5%B2%9B%E5%B8%8234%E8%B7%AF%E5%97%258C%E5%97%2597%25E6%2598%258E%25E9%259C%259E%25E6%25B3%2595%25E8%25BD%25AE%25E5%258A%259F%25E7%258E%258B%25E6%25B4%25AA%25E5%2586%259B%26hl%3Den%26rls%3Dcom.microsoft:en-au%26rlz%3D3I17GGGL_en%26prmd%3Divns&url=translate.google.com.au&usg=ALkJrhe2VtSS-6wnUHGIBetBuJdF_DQ – Accessed 5 August 2011.

24. ‘Hu Jun’ 2009, Minghui, 11 August, http://translate.googleusercontent.com/translate_c?hl=en&prev=/search?q=%E9%9D%92%E5%B2%9B%E5%B8%8234%E8%B7%AF%E5%97%258C%E5%97%2597%25E6%2598%258E%25E9%259C%259E%25E6%25B3%2595%25E8%25BD%25AE%25E5%258A%259F%25E7%258E%258B%25E6%25B4%25AA%25E5%2586%259B%26hl%3Den%26rls%3Dcom.microsoft:en-au%26rlz%3D3I17GGGL_en%26prmd%3Divns&url=translate.google.com.au&sl=zh-CN&u=http://library.minghui.org/criminal/c47988.htm&usg=ALkJrhe2VtSS-6wnUHGIBetBuJdF_DQ – Accessed 5 August 2011.