

Congressional-Executive Commission on China
December 18, 2012
Testimony of Chung Ting-pang (Bruce Chung)

I want to thank Chairman Smith and Co-chairman Brown for holding this important hearing and inviting me to testify today.

My name is Chung Ting-pang, manager of INTEK TECHNOLOGY CO., LTD. in Taiwan. I have been practicing Falun Gong since 2001. Like hundreds of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners in Taiwan, I follow this spiritual path because Falun Gong has not only brought me good health but also provided me with meaningful spiritual guidance.

I traveled to Ganzhou City, Jiangxi Province to visit my family members on June 15, 2012. My father's ex-wife and my two elder half-brothers live there. During the several days of visit, I didn't do any Falun Gong activities or contact any Falun Gong practitioners in Mainland China. On June 18, I was on my way back to Taiwan as planned. When I was just about to board the flight from Ganzhou to Shenzhen, I was forcefully taken away by the State Security agents. I was then detained for 54 days under the vague accusation of sabotaging national security and public safety until my release on August 11.

My family members in both Mainland China and Taiwan didn't know about my secret arrest. First, I protested with a hunger strike. I demanded that these plain-clothed State Security agents should inform my family members. At the same time, I should have an attorney. However, my legal rights were ignored. No attorney came to my defense. In the afternoon of the second day of my detention, I was allowed to see my family members in Ganzhou City. Then, while under police surveillance, I was allowed to make a call home. They instructed me to inform my wife that I would be able to go home two days later, but that turned out to be a lie.

Without the presence of my attorney, I was subject to marathon interrogation sessions that drove me to deep fatigue. They verified my answers over and over again. On July 11, I finally saw Attorney Guo Lianhui, who my family in Ganzhou retained for me. However, I couldn't communicate with my attorney in private. He only saw me once.

He was turned down by the State Security when he requested to see me for the second time. During my detention, I was deprived of my basic human rights. I had no protection at all. My pain was beyond words.

The place I was detained included a bedroom, an interrogation room, and a dinner table. Two or more people were watching me at all times. I had to keep the bathroom door half open – I had no privacy at all.

The main content of the interrogations was as follows:

1. An incident in 2003 in which I mailed TV hijacking equipment to Falun Gong practitioners in Mainland China.
2. I had once asked a Mainland China Falun Gong practitioner to provide documents regarding how the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) tried to systematically eliminate and persecute Falun Gong. At the time, this Mainland China practitioner was an officer himself. Afterwards however, he was arrested later and forced to sign the so-called “guarantee letter” not to practice Falun Gong.
3. I tried to broadcast truth films regarding persecution of Falun Gong via satellite signals in Taiwan.
4. They wanted to know all the methods that Taiwan Falun Gong practitioners use to expose the persecution of Falun Gong in Mainland China.
5. They tried to force me to provide all names, phone numbers, email address and participating projects of Falun Gong practitioners in Taiwan.

Without the presence of my attorney, State Security agents interrogated me for a long time and threatened me if I did not cooperate with them. These threats included:

1. That they would bring in a harsher team to handle me.
2. That they would change my civil detention to a criminal detention. Once this change was made, I would then be detained with other prisoners and interrogated behind bars.
3. That they would send me to judicial authorities and threaten that I would have to serve at least three years of jail term.

What is most unacceptable to me was the State Security Bureau in Ganzhou City forced me to sign a “Confession Statement”, and asked me to admit that I committed a crime to endanger (Chinese) national security, public safety, and sabotage public property. They said my help to intercept TV signals resulted in losses for the nation and society. Among all these nonsense accusations, they never asked why I would think of using satellite interception technology to help the Chinese public understand the truth of the persecution of Falun Gong (in the first place); Chinese people are entitled to freedom of belief under the Chinese Constitution, and they should be not be persecuted for what they believe.

The day before they allowed me to go back Taiwan, they told me that as early as one week before I arrived in mainland China, they had already prepared to put me under “house arrest” and waited for me. This showed that when I was preparing for the trip to mainland, they’d known my itinerary and were ready to take action against me.

Three weeks or so before I went back Taiwan, they began to threaten me to admit my “guilt” and “remorse.” I was forced to write and re-write many times the statement. The night before they let me go back to Taiwan, Jiangxi Television (the government TV station in Jiangxi Province) was arranged to be where I was held in Nanchang City (the capital city of Jiangxi Province) to video-tape my “remorse,” and I was threatened “not to be too outspoken” after I got to Taiwan. If I spoke out, they threatened to release this “remorse” video.

Undeterred, I called for a press conference on the third day after I landed in Taiwan, openly stating that:

1. What I wrote in that so-called “confession statement” and all the interrogation records, were not done with my free will. All the details I provided (during the interrogation) were made up by me to deal with their threats.
2. I will continue to spread the truth to the Chinese public until the day the persecution ends.
3. As an individual living in free and democratic Taiwan, it is an appropriate and just action for me to help the Chinese public, who have been deceived and persecuted by the Chinese community party.

Not until I returned to Taiwan did I realize that Falun Gong practitioners in Taiwan, non-government organizations, and the people of Taiwan had put in tremendous efforts to rescue me: about 200,000 people in Taiwan signed a letter campaign that urged President Ma Ying-jeou to strive to gain my release; over 30 non-government organizations came together to organize activities and on three occasions accompanied my family during their petitions at the Office of the President. As far as I know, the main reason that I was able to come back to Taiwan as a free man was the support from the people in Taiwan, while the Administration was relatively passive. Up to now, the Taiwan government has not formally responded to the requests of myself, my family, and other organizations regarding the protection of Taiwanese personal safety in Mainland China.

Additionally I wish to make two points clear.

First, the Chinese Communist does not only persecute Falun Gong practitioners in China; they have also extended the persecution overseas toward Taiwan. According to the Taiwan Falun Dafa Association, I am the 17th Taiwanese Falun Gong practitioner subject to persecution from the Chinese Communist Party.

Second, the Chinese Communist Party has hired spies overseas to illegally collect Falun Gong practitioners' personal information and information of their activities. The regime has illegally abducted foreign Falun Gong practitioners that travel to China. The international society should condemn these behaviors.

In Taiwan, I am a respected and highly educated intellectual with a decent job and no criminal record. I am the same as the hundreds of thousands of people in Taiwan who practice Falun Gong and adhere to the principle of Truthfulness-Compassion-Tolerance. I enjoy the freedom of expression and freedom of belief guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic of China. I also join the great efforts of tens of millions of fellow Falun Gong practitioners in spreading the facts of the persecution and calling for the international community to stop this prolonged persecution.

Finally, I would like to thank members of U.S. Congress and European Parliament for their efforts to secure my release. At the same time, I am also worried about many Falun Gong practitioners in prisons, labor camps, and detention centers in China who

are facing torture and even facing the risks of been killed for their organs. The United States is the world's leader in human rights. I hope that the U.S. Congress and President Obama publicly ask the Chinese Communist Party to stop the persecution of Falun Gong. I sincerely hope that when the regime's crimes against humanity are finally put to an end, all the Chinese people around of the world will be able to thank the righteous efforts from the United States.

Thank you.

Chung Ting-pang (Bruce Chung)

2012.12.16