

## **Independent Tribunal into Forced Organ Harvesting In China: Witness Testimony**

Submission ID 621P – Zheng Zeng (Jennifer)

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Zheng Zeng, also widely known as Jennifer Zeng. I am the author of “Witnessing History: one women’s fight for freedom and Falun Gong (Allen & Unwin, 9781741144000, <https://www.allenandunwin.com/browse/books/general-books/biography-autobiography/Witnessing-History-Jennifer-Zeng-translated-by-Sue-Wiles-9781741144000>), and the main character of the award-winning documentary “Free China: The Courage to Believe”(http://freechina.ntdtv.org). I am an Australian citizen currently working in Washington as a journalist for the Epoch Times. (<https://www.theepochtimes.com>)

Below is my testimony:

1. I come from China. I graduated from Beijing University with a Master of Science. I came to Australia in 2001 and was granted refugee status in 2003.
2. I began to practise Falun Gong in 1997. After the crackdown on Falun Gong began, I was arrested four times and then sentenced without trial to one year’s hard labour reform in 2000. The first arrest happened on July 20, 1999, when I was walking on the street near the Appeals Office in Zhongnanhai, in Beijing. The police stopped me and asked if I was a Falun Gong practitioner. When I said “yes”, they immediately arrested me and put me onto a bus, which was already full of Falun Gong practitioners. The second arrest happened on December 26, 2000, when I was walking toward the court, where four Falun Gong practitioners would be tried, in an attempt to attend the trial. The police again stopped me and asked if I was a Falun Gong practitioner. When I said “yes”, they again immediately arrested me. The third arrest happened in February 2000. This time the police directly took me away from my workplace. The reason was that they gained information that I had attended a Falun Gong practitioners’ gathering in January at a Falun Gong practitioner’s home. The fourth arrest happened at about 2:00 am in the

morning on April 13, 2000, when I was still fast asleep at home. The police took me away without any explanation. One week later I learnt in the detention center that it was because the Internet police had intercepted an email while it was sending out. The content of the email was a letter I wrote to my parents-in-law to explain why I didn't want to give up Falun Gong even after the crackdown. But that email wasn't sent by me. To this day I still don't know who sent that email, but was given one year in forced labour camp and nearly tortured to death because of it.

3. On the morning I was transferred from the Chongwen District Detention House to the Beijing Labour Camp Personnel Dispatch Centre in Da Xing County, I was taken to a place to undergo a general physical check-up before transfer. About 20 other Falun Gong practitioners were sent to the Dispatch Centre on the same day. All of them went through the same process. Each of us was interrogated intensely regarding medical history, including what diseases we had before. I truthfully told the interrogator that I had had hepatitis C before I practiced Falun Gong.

4. About one month after we were transferred from the Dispatch Centre to Beijing Xin'an Female Labour Camp, we were taken by bus to a hospital outside of the labour camp to undergo a more thorough physical check, including X-rays.

5. One to two months later, a police officer one day ordered all inmates in our room to line up in the corridor. She then took us all to the infirmary inside the labour camp, which was about 60-70 meters away from our dormitory. After our blood was drawn into syringes, we were escorted back. There was no explanation and we found this very strange, as in the labour camp we were treated like animals and slaves, and the police never explained orders. In the Dispatch Centre, we were never allowed to raise our heads and look the police in the face. Neither were we allowed to speak to other inmates. We did not know why they would take blood tests or do other health tests at the hospital as if they were concerned about our health.

6. No result of the blood test was ever shown to us; neither did any of us ever question its purpose, as our work load was so heavy that we had long since lost our ability to think about anything other than how we could achieve our work quota that day and how we would survive to live another day.

7. Inmates of the labour camp were not allowed to exchange contact details, so there was no way to trace each other after we were released. When anyone disappeared from the camp, I would assume that she was released and had gone home. But in reality that cannot be confirmed, as I had no way to trace others after my release and I now fear they might have been taken to a hospital and had their organs removed without consent and thus killed in the process.

8. When I was held in the detention house, unnamed Falun Gong practitioners would often arrive there, being detained for a few days and then subsequently disappearing. On the day of May 11, 2000 alone, 20-plus unnamed Falun Gong practitioners were sent there. One of them was numbered D3. She was detained in the same cell as me. Twelve or thirteen days later she died as a result of force-feeding. We didn't know her name until and after she died, aware only that she was 45 years old, and that she came from Heilongjiang province. I equally have no knowledge of the fate of all the other unnamed Falun Gong practitioners.

9. There were about 1000 inmates in the camp. Ninety-five per cent were Falun Gong practitioners. Apart from long hours of forced labour, I suffered from inhumane physical torture and mental torture and insults. I was forced to squat motionlessly and continuously under the scorching sun when the temperature of the ground was over fifty degrees Celsius. The longest period lasted more than fifteen hours. I was beaten, dragged along the floor and shocked with two electric batons until I lost consciousness when I insisted on my right to ask for a review of my labour camp sentence. I was forced to stand motionless with my head bowed, looking at my feet for sixteen hours every day, while repeatedly reciting out loud the insulting labour camp regulations. The police and criminal inmates would shock me, curse me or force me to squat at any moment if I failed to do so. As a Falun Gong practitioner, I was under endless pressure to sign a statement to denounce Falun Gong as soon as I arrived. I was watched twenty-four hours a day by criminal inmates, who were given the power to do anything they liked to me in order to make me sign. I was also forced to watch and listen to slandering attacks and lies about Falun Gong almost every day. I then had to write 'thought reports' to the police after each session.

10. Because of instigation and anti-Falun Gong propaganda, Falun Gong practitioners have been demonized and alienated. This also prevents us from gaining understanding from family members. Hostile attitudes toward Falun Gong practitioners exist

everywhere in society in China today due to the constant demonization and lies in the state controlled media.

11. I urge for a formal hearing to be conducted, with key representatives/experts who have investigated these allegations to be given due notice to testify on the subject, including the Nobel Peace Prize nominees, Hon David Kilgour, David Matas and Ethan Gutmann, and consider including Dr Zhiyuan Wang, a researcher and spokesperson for the World Organization to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong. I myself would also be willing to testify.

Zheng (Jennifer) Zeng