



City of Cambridge

R-30.
IN CITY COUNCIL

December 4, 2000

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR BRAUDE
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DECKER
MAYOR GALLUCCIO
VICE MAYOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: Falun Dafa, also known as Falun Gong, is an advanced traditional Chinese Qigong practice for improving the mind and body through gentle exercise and meditation; and

WHEREAS: The teachings of Falun Dafa, through mediation and spiritual discipline, are perceived as an effective means of encouraging good health benefits through exercise and the reduction of stress; and

WHEREAS: Falun Dafa strives to improve the quality of life and to increase physical and mental health; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge is one of the earliest U.S. cities to benefit from Falun Dafa. Since its introduction in the Greater Boston area in 1995, free instruction and workshops have been offered at the Chinese Academy of Martial Arts, MIT, Harvard University, the Cambridge Library, CCTV and various parks; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record declaring the week of December 10-16, 2000 as "Falun Dafa Week" in the City of Cambridge.

In City Council December 4, 2000.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Margaret Drury".

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

MAS R-90

City of San Antonio



Proclamation

Falun Dafa, also known as Falun Gong, is an advanced traditional Chinese Qigong practice for improving the mind and body through gentle exercise and meditation;

WHEREAS, ~~FALUN DAF~~ ~~FA~~ ~~CTIONERS~~ ~~IN~~ ~~SAN~~ ~~ANTONIO~~ ~~WILL~~ ~~OBSERVE~~ ~~OCTOBER~~ ~~29,~~ ~~2000,~~ ~~AS~~ ~~FALUN~~ ~~DAFA~~ ~~DAY;~~ AND

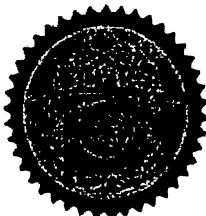
WHEREAS, THE TEACHINGS OF FALUN DAF~~A~~, THROUGH MEDITATION AND SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE, ARE PERCEIVED AS AN EFFECTIVE MEANS OF ENCOURAGING GOOD HEALTH BENEFITS THROUGH EXERCISE AND THE REDUCTION OF STRESS; AND

WHEREAS, FALUN DAF~~A~~ STRIVES TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE AND BETTER PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH; AND

WHEREAS, THROUGHOUT THIS PAST YEAR, FALUN DAF~~A~~ PRACTITIONERS HAVE CONDUCTED FREE CLASSES AND DEMONSTRATIONS AT DIFFERENT VENUES THROUGHOUT THE GREATER SAN ANTONIO AREA TO INTRODUCE LOCAL CITIZENS TO THE BENEFITS OF FALUN DAF~~A~~ EXERCISES.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HOWARD W. PEAK, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, IN RECOGNITION THEREOF, DO HEREBY EXTEND BEST WISHES TO LOCAL FALUN DAF~~A~~ PRACTITIONERS FOR ENDEAVORING TO IMPROVE INDIVIDUAL LIVES ACROSS CULTURAL AND RACIAL BOUNDARIES.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSED THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO TO BE AFFIXED THIS 29TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2000.



HW

HOWARD W. PEAK
MAYOR

W/A: Cambridge is one of the earliest U.S. cities to benefit from Falun Dafa. Since its introduction in the Greater Boston area in 1995, ^{free} instruction and workshops have been offered at the Chinese Academy of Martial Arts, MIT, Harvard University, the Cambridge Library, CCTV and various parks; now therefore be it

Qigong

K That the CC go on record declaring
the week of December 10 - 16, 2000 as
"Falun Daya Week" in the City of Cambridge.

Michael Sullivan, City Councilor
City of Cambridge, MA 02139

Dr. Tianlun Jian
44 Concord Avenue, #102
Cambridge, MA, 02138
November 29, 2000

Dear Councilor Sullivan:

On behalf of a group of Falun Dafa practitioners in Cambridge, I am writing to respectfully request your proclamation of the week of December 10th to 16th as "Falun Dafa Week" in the City of Cambridge.

Falun Dafa, also known as Falun Gong, is an advanced traditional Chinese Qigong practice for improving the mind and body through gentle exercise and meditation. The practice has a significant positive effect on stress-relief and overall mental and physical health. It also has a higher goal of ultimately bringing people towards wisdom and enlightenment. It is a virtuous system of body-mind-spirit emphasizing the principle of Truthfulness-Benevolence-Forbearance, which has helped numerous people turn away from bad habits to pursue more meaningful lives. Over 100 million people have benefited from practicing it in more than forty countries including China, other parts of Asia, Australia, New Zealand, most countries in Europe, Canada and the United States. In the United States, almost every state has Falun Gong practitioners and exercise locations. Practitioners of Falun Gong include all walks of lives, including successful businessmen and women, engineers, administrators, professors and scientists.

Falun Dafa has received worldwide recognition, including proclamations from over forty cities in the United States (see the list attached), following the first proclamation of Li Hongzhi Day and the appointment of Mr. Li Hongzhi, the founder of Falun Gong, as an Honorary Citizen and Goodwill Ambassador by the city of Houston on October 12, 1996.

Cambridge is one of the earliest cities in the United States to benefit from Falun Dafa. Falun Dafa was introduced to Greater Boston in June 1995. Since then, exercise instructions, workshops and other activities have been offered at Chinese Academy of Martial Arts, Harvard University, MIT, the Cambridge City Library, CCTV, and parks as well. Thousands have learned the exercises and many have incorporated its principles of "Truthfulness, Benevolence, and Forbearance" into their daily lives. All Falun Dafa activities are free of charge.

During the upcoming "Falun Dafa Week," we will hold various activities, including workshops, large group practice demo, free exercise instruction, and press conference to generate more awareness of Falun Dafa and its current situation in China. We hope that through "Falun Dafa Week", more people in the City of Cambridge will learn and genuinely benefit from this ancient Chinese practice.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. I can be reached at 617-954-7348.

Sincerely,



Dr. Tianlun Jian

FALUN GONG: A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

Falun Gong, also known as Falun Dafa, is a mind-body-spirit practice. It is an advanced Chinese qigong, (pronounced "chee-gong"). Like tai-chi, qigong is a vital part of many people's lives in Asia; almost every Chinese park is brimming at the break of dawn with people from all walks of life practicing these arts. Owing much to its effectiveness in improving health as well as its profound principles, Falun Gong has proven to be immensely popular throughout the entire world. Since it was made public in 1992 by its founder, Mr. Li Hongzhi, Falun Gong has attracted millions of people in over 40 nations.

The Principles and the Exercises

Falun Gong cultivates both mind and body. Cultivating one's mind-nature is primary. Falun Gong teaches people to follow the characteristics of the universe: Truthfulness, Benevolence, and Forbearance. Since practicing Falun Gong millions of practitioners have turned away from bad habits and become better and better people.

Falun Gong has five sets of exercises, including meditation. The movements are slow, gentle, and curved. The exercises are easy to learn, good for all ages, beneficial to health, effective in stress relief, and enjoyable to practice. Many Falun Gong practitioners enjoy doing the exercises together in group, as they find themselves benefiting from one another's practice. Most major US cities and universities have such groups. Falun Gong attracts people from all walks of life, as Falun Gong transcends cultural and racial boundaries.

The Books

Mr. Li Hongzhi has written many books. Two major ones that have been translated into English are China Falun Gong and Zhuan Falun. Books are available in many bookstores and public libraries in the Greater Boston area. These books are available for free download from the internet at www.falundafa-newengland.org.

The Benefits

The benefits of practicing Falun Gong are numerous and varied, ranging from improved health and newfound energy to mental clarity, stress relief and peace of mind. However, Falun Gong differentiates itself from most other qigong practices in that it goes beyond the pursuit of health and fitness to the goal of greater wisdom and enlightenment. Key to the practice is to act according to the universal principles of truthfulness, compassion and forbearance. Through a combination of studying the books and doing the exercises, practitioners endeavor to become better people by gradually assimilating themselves to these principles.

All Falun Gong activities are free of charge and open to the public.

Governmental Awards and Recognition of Falun Dafa in North America

Listed below are some of the awards issued by some local governments in Canada and the U.S. in recognition of the extraordinary contribution made by Mr. Li Hong Zhi and Falun Dafa to people's mental and physical health.

December 04, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Week, Township of Plainsboro, New Jersey [12/04/00 - 12/10/00]</u>
December 04, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Week, County of Somerset, New Jersey [12/04/00 - 12/10/00]</u>
December 04, 2000	<u>New Jersey State Senate Citation for Falun Dafa Week [12/04/00 - 12/10/00]</u>
November 26, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Week, City of Hollywood, Florida [11/26/00 - 12/03/00]</u>
November 25, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Gong Day, City of Waco, Texas [11/25/00]</u>
November 25, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Durham, North Carolina [11/25/00]</u>
November 25, 2000	<u>"Truthfulness, Benevolence and Forbearance certainly have a safe home here" -- Durham, North Carolina proclaimed November 25 as "Falun Dafa Day" [11/25/00]</u>
November 20, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Gong Week, City of Peru, Illinois [11/20/00 - 11/24/00]</u>
November 18, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Week, City of Saratoga, California [11/18/00 - 11/24/00]</u>
November 18, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Las Vegas, Nevada [11/18/00]</u>
November 18, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Plano, Texas [11/18/00]</u>
November 12, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Galesburg, Illinois [11/12/00]</u>
November 11, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Bryan, Texas</u>
November 08, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Days, November 8 - December 31, City of Omaha, Nebraska [11/08/00 - 12/31/00]</u>
November 04, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Port Arthur, Texas [11/04/00]</u>
October 29, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Calgary, Canada</u>
October 28, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Arlington, Texas</u>
October 22, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Harlingen, Texas</u>
October 21, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Austin, Texas</u>
October 21, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Galveston, Texas</u>
October 19, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Burlingame, CA</u>
October 17, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Week, City of Fremont, CA</u>
October 16, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Week, City of San Jose, CA</u>
October 16, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Week, City of San Mateo, CA</u>
October 16, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Week, City of Richmond, CA</u>
October 16, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Week, City of San Carlos, CA</u>
October 16, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Week, Redwood City, CA</u>
October 14, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa, City of Foster City, CA</u>
October 14, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Week, City of San Leandro, CA</u>
October 14, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Odessa, Texas</u>
October 12, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Rochester Hills, Michigan</u>
October 9, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Week, City of Brownsville, Texas</u>
October 8, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Week, City of Windsor, Ontario, Canada</u>
October 5, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Sunnyvale, CA</u>
October 2, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa, City of College Station, Texas</u>
September 30, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Castroville, Texas</u>
September 23, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Lubbock, Texas</u>
September 15, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Brantford, Canada</u>
September 9, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Newark, Delaware</u>
September 1, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of New Braunfels, Texas</u>
August 19, 2000	<u>Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Stanford, Ontario, Canada</u>

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August 19, 2000	Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Uvalde, Texas
July 29, 2000	Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Corpus Christle, Texas
July 27, 2000	Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Del Rio, Texas
July 22, 2000	Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of McAllen, Texas
July 20, 2000	Proclamation of Falun Dafa Day, City of Fayetteville, Arkansas
July 15, 2000	Proclamation from the City of Deerfield Beach, Florida
May 17, 2000	Congratulations from U.S. Congressman in Pennsylvania
May 17, 2000	Proclamation from the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania
May 13, 2000	Proclamation of World Falun Dafa Day, League City, Texas
May 4, 2000	A Congratulation Letter from the City of Houston, Texas (5/10/00)
January 9, 2000	"Falun Dafa Week" in Boone County, Missouri
December 26, 1999	"Falun Dafa Week" in Columbia, Missouri
November 29, 1999	"Li Hongzhi Day" and "Falun Dafa Week" in Seattle, Washington (Note: rescinded later due to pressure from Chinese government who was against the award)
November 20, 1999	Official recognition by the Mayor of San Antonio, Texas
October 25, 1999	"Li Hongzhi Day" and "Falun Dafa Week" in Kearny, New Jersey
October 16, 1999	"Li Hongzhi Day" in Birmingham, Alabama
October 9, 1999	"Falun Dafa Day" in Middlesex County, New Jersey
October 9, 1999	"Master Li Hongzhi Day" in the City of Edison, New Jersey
September 18, 1999	"Falun Dafa Day" in the City of St. Louis, Missouri
September 3, 1999	City of Atlanta awards Master Li "Honorary Citizen"
August 16, 1999	Proclamation of "Falun Dafa Day" in Philadelphia by Mayor Edward
August 14, 1999	"Honorary Citizenship" awarded by Maryland State Governor Parris N. Glendening (rescinded later due to pressure from Chinese government against the award)
August 13, 1999	"Li Hongzhi Day" in Baltimore, Maryland (rescinded later due to pressure from Chinese government)
August 9-13, 1999	"Falun Dafa Day" in Middlesex County, New Jersey
August 8, 1999	Washington D.C.'s Falun Dafa Week proclaimed by Mayor Anthony A. Williams
July 23, 1999	"Li Hongzhi Day" in Jersey City, New Jersey
July 19, 1999	Commendation letter from Governor Gray Davis of California
June 25, 1999	Mayor Ron Gouzales of San Jose City, California welcomed Master Li
August 14, 1999	Illinois awarded Master Li Hongzhi
	-Commendation letter from Illinois governor George H. Ryan
	-Chicago Master Li Hongzhi Day
	-Illinois Treasurer's Award for Outstanding Service
May 22, 1999	Welcome letter from Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Canada
	Welcome letter from Mayor Mel Lastman of Toronto, Canada
October 12, 1996	"Li Hongzhi Day" in Baltimore, Maryland (rescinded later due to pressure from Chinese government)
	Houston, Texas Named Master Li:
	"Honorary Citizen" and "Goodwill Ambassador"
	Proclaimed "Li Hongzhi Day"

Congratulatory Messages for Falun Dafa Week

August 21-27, 2000, Canada

"They cultivate the will to live in peace with themselves and in harmony with the universe, thus learning compassion for others and helping to create a more open and tolerant society."

- *Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General of Canada*

"Falun Dafa has as its aims the refinement of both the mind and the body, using the idea of Zhen-Shan-Ren, which means 'Truthfulness, Compassion and Forbearance'. There are certainly principles which resonate with many Canadians."

- *Herb Gray, Deputy Prime Minister*

"Falun Dafa is rooted in ancient Chinese traditions and promotes the universal values of truthfulness, compassion and tolerance which, as Canadians, we all share and appreciate."

"I am proud to support your commitment to the health and well-being of people from all social backgrounds, races and religions."

- *Sheila Copps, Minister of Canadian Heritage*

"Millions of Falun Dafa followers around the world have found that this advanced traditional Chinese Qigong practice is the answer to the stresses and strains of modern day life."

- *A. Anne McLellan, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada*

"May your continued dedication to Falun Dafa allow you to prosper and achieve greater enlightenment and wisdom, while helping you to contribute to a more harmonious and balanced society."

- *Stéphane Dion, President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs*

"Those who practise Falun Dafa are to be congratulated for advancing the universal dream of a peaceful, tolerant, and compassionate society."

- *Deborah Grey, Leader of the Opposition*

"Integrating the values of truthfulness, compassion, and tolerance into your lives will enhance your quality of life."

- *Ralph Klein, Premier of Alberta, Canada*

"I wish, to all those who have adopted this gentle practice, to shine and express the very goal of their interior search: harmony, the path of health and the joy leading to the tranquil liberation of self."

- *Lise Thibault Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec*

"I would like to take the occasion to congratulate you and your organization for all the good work you have done."

- *Serge Joyal, Senator of Canada*

"It is important that organizations, such as yours, have the freedom to practice their beliefs in Canadian society."

- *Vivienne Poy, Senator of Canada*

"Best wishes to you as you celebrate Falun Dafa Week throughout Canada."

- *Rob Anders, Member of Parliament*

"The practitioners of Falun Dafa must be commended for their commitment to non-violence and peace in the face of adversity."

- *Marlene Catterall, Member of Parliament*

"Falun Dafa's emphasis on truthfulness, compassion and forbearance reminds us of the importance of our common humanity."

- *Brenda Chamberlain, Member of Parliament*

"Followers of Falun Dafa strive for inner peace and seek to live in peace with themselves and in harmony with the universe, learning compassion for others."

- *Gordon S. Earle, Member of Parliament*

"Falun Dafa Week presents a unique opportunity not only for Falun Dafa practitioners but for all of us to celebrate the true meaning of life, to reassess our own personal goals and to reflect on the noblest qualities of women and men"

- *Marlene Jennings, Member of Parliament*

"The principle of Truthfulness-Benevolence-Forbearance, while a piece of Chinese cultural heritage, has helped people around the world to cultivate their mind, body and spirit by leading a more serene and focused life. In today high stress and high tech world, your association provided an outlet for those seeking a source of personal relief and accomplishment."

- *Inky Mark, Member of Parliament*

"I trust you will continue to be successful as you strive to make the world a better place."

- *Grant McNally, Member of Parliament*

"On behalf of the people of South Surrey - White Rock - Langley, I offer our heartfelt congratulations on your celebration of falun dafa week August 21th-27th, 2000."

- *Val Meredith, Member of Parliament*

"On an individual level, the tireless pursuit to establish unity among the mind, body and spirit has helped to improve the physical and spiritual well-being of countless people around the world."

- Jerry Pickard, Member of Parliament

"As Canadians, we support the practitioners of Falun Dafa in their peaceful desire to improve their moral standard while deepening understanding of life, humanity and the universe."

- Svend Robinson, Member of Parliament

"Congratulations to all celebrating Falun Dafa Week. With my best wishes."

- Lou Seeker, Member of Parliament

"Your goals of furthering honesty, courtesy, loyalty and unselfishness will go a long way in lessening the negative impact of those who do not hold to these virtues"

- Darrel Stinson, Member of Parliament

"The practice of Falun Gong, a comprehensive exercise and meditation program for the body, mind and spirit which leads to a healthier, more spiritual individual is a benefit to us all, not just your members."

- Sandra Pupatello, MPP of Ontario, Canada

"Falun Dafa teaches practitioners to always look within themselves for self-improvement, and to take responsibility for their own decisions and actions."

- Bob Chiarelli, Regional Chair of Ottawa-Carleton

"The message of tolerance and compassion inherent in this traditional Chinese practice has had a positive influence on the mental and physical wellbeing of its practitioners and on the community at large."

- Gerry Lelonde, Mayor of Cumberland, Ontario

"Please accept my warmest welcome to the Falun Dafa Practitioners across Canada. I hope you have a very enjoyable and successful event."

- Merle Nicholds, Mayor of Kanata, Ontario

"I am pleased to provide you with this letter of support for "Canada Falun Dafa Week"."

- Mayor Hurst and the Member of Council, the city of Windsor, Ontario

"On behalf of City Council, I applaud the Falun Dafa Association of Canada for fostering and contributing to the spiritual growth of our community."

- Bill Smith, Mayor of Edmonton, Alberta

"Falun Gong is unique practice, which sets its goal at improving overall physical and mental health. A regular routine, such as Falun Gong can be key to a healthy lifestyle."

- Brent Needham, Acting Mayor of City of Waterloo, Ontario

"The practice of Falun Dafa has brought healthier physical and mental benefits to more than one hundred million individuals throughout the world. The citizens of Stratford are fortunate to have local Falun Dafa classes in which to participate in exercises designed to integrate the mind, body and spirit."

- Dave Hunt, Mayor of the City of Stratford, Ontario, Canada

"Your commitment to promoting healthier lifestyle by improving both physical and mental health is outstanding. We commend you for your dedication."

- Carl J. Zehr, Mayor of the City of Kitchener, Ontario, Canada

"Falun Dafa has equipped people with the understanding necessary to endure the hardest and unjust of tribulations without resorting to violence." "The practitioners of Falun Dafa have remained true to the teaching of Mr. Li Hongzhi, who has worked tirelessly to convey Falun Dafa from China to the rest of the world and has touched the lives of countless people in many countries, earning an international reputation."

- Proclamation of August 19, 2000 as "Falun Dafa Day", Mayor of the City of Stratford, Ontario

"Falun Dafa's contribution to humanity has been widely recognized and honored in Canada"

- Proclamation of August 21 - 27th, 2000 as "Falun Dafa Week", Mayor of City of Port Coquitlam, BC, Canada

For more information, please visit our WEB:
www.falundafa.org or falundafa-newengland.org

Frequently Asked Questions About Falun Dafa

Q: What is Falun Dafa or Falun Gong?

A: Falun Dafa, also known as Falun Gong, is an ancient Chinese qigong practice. It cultivates both mind and body. Falun Gong teaches its practitioners to follow *truthfulness*, *benevolence*, and *forbearance*. The five sets of exercises involve slow, gentle movements and a meditation. It is easy to learn, good for all ages, enjoyable to practice, and free of charge.

Q: Who practices Falun Gong, and how do they find it beneficial?

A: Falun Gong is practiced by people of all ages, cultures, and backgrounds, in over 40 countries worldwide. Almost everyone who practices reports significantly improved health, reduced stress, and increased levels of energy. Surveys show more than 97% who have practiced Falun Gong have recovered from previous illnesses. Millions have turned away from bad habits and are living a more meaningful life.

Q: How can I get started?

A: All practice sites offer free instruction, and everyone is welcome. To find a site near your home, you can visit the website <http://falundafa-newengland.org> or call 1-877-AT-FALUN. There are also instructional books and a videotape available from bookstores. All materials can also be downloaded for free from the internet.

Q: Who is Mr. Li Hongzhi?

A: Mr. Li Hongzhi introduced the practice of Falun Gong to the public in China in 1992. He then taught the practice publicly for two years in China, after which the practice continued to grow primarily through word of mouth. In keeping with Chinese tradition, Mr. Li is sometimes respectfully referred to as “Master” or “Teacher.” He has ensured that the practice be available to all people, and without any terms or conditions. Mr. Li has given occasional public lectures over the past few years in various countries, including Australia, Switzerland, Canada, and the USA.

Q: Is Falun Gong a religion or a sect?

A: There has been some confusion about how to categorize Falun Gong, but this is easy to clarify. Falun Gong is neither a religion nor sect – it has no temples, no rituals, no clergymen or priests, and no ranks. It never collects money from people, and there is no initiation or membership. Practitioners lead normal lives and participate actively in their communities. The practice is an individual choice and is centered on the improvement of one’s self. There are no obligations, and everyone is free to come and go as one chooses.

Q: Why has the Chinese government persecuted Falun Gong practitioners?

A: Falun Gong has no political agenda or affiliation. The Chinese government has perceived Falun Gong as a threat as Falun Gong practitioners outnumber the Chinese communist party members. In July 1999, the Chinese government banned the practice of Falun Gong and started persecuting its estimated 100 million practitioners inside China. Since then over 60,000 Falun Gong practitioners have been detained, and many of them have been beaten, forced from their jobs, homes, schools, and sent to labor camps without trial. In the past year at least 76 practitioners have died while in police custody.

Q: How are Falun Gong practitioners responding to the Chinese government’s crackdown?

A: Falun Gong practitioners have appealed to the Chinese government via the proper legal channels, but without response. Thousands continue to be arrested in China simply for persisting in the peaceful practice and not giving up their belief in Truthfulness, Benevolence and Forbearance. In face of severe torturing and beating, not a single practitioner has ever struck back or physically retaliated against police. Falun Gong practitioners from all over the world have been calling for an open dialogue with the Chinese government. Falun Gong has received support from many international organizations, including Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, and groups within the United Nations.

Mr. Tsuruzono Masaaki In Charge of Falun Gong in Japan Won the Social Culture Contribution Award



Mr. Tsuruzono Masaaki, who is the top responsible person for Falun Gong in Japan, won the Social Culture Contribution Award, conferred by the Japanese Art Promotion Association on November 15, 2000. This is the only Social Culture Contribution Award in the year 2000 in Japan. The Japanese Art Promotion Association was initiated by the Japanese royal family members and celebrities in social cultural circles, aiming at developing Japanese traditional culture, fostering the international cultural exchanges and world peace. It has great influence worldwide.

On November 20, the Japanese Art Promotion Association held a celebration party for its 30th anniversary at the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo. Five hundred people from 26 countries attended this celebration, including Japanese royal family members, government officials and celebrities in social cultural circles. Mr. Tsuruzono was also invited to attend this celebration. He took this opportunity to promote Dafa and clarify the truth about Falun Gong. He brought with him Dafa materials and told people in different circles that "Falun Dafa is the righteous Fa. We cultivate our Xinxing (*mind or heart nature*) in accordance with Zhen (*Truthfulness*)- Shan (*Compassion*)-Ren (*Forbearance*). At the same time, Falun Dafa enables the human beings to upgrade their morals. As a result, many who did not understand Falun Dafa have gained a proper understanding of Dafa.

This award was confirmed after several months' meticulous investigation and evaluation. Mr. Tsuruzono thought, "I can win this glory because I have cultivated Falun Dafa, and my Xinxing has been constantly upgraded. I certainly should take this opportunity to introduce Falun Dafa to the royal family members, the government officials and celebrities in social cultural circles, letting more people know the truth about Falun Gong. I should also enable the people with predestined relationship to join in the cultivation of Dafa, and enable more people to benefit from Dafa."

November 22, 2000

(Translated on November 24, 2000 from

http://www.minghui.cc/gb/0001/Nov/23/heyuan_yazhang_112300_shishi.html)



Li Hong Zhi

We, the duly authorized city officials, do hereby
take pleasure in appointing you an

Honorary Citizen

of the City of Houston, Texas, in recognition of the outstanding success you have
achieved in your worthy vocation and in appreciation of the valuable contribu-
tion you have made, and are making, through unselfish public service for the
benefit and welfare of mankind.

Furthermore, as a token of high esteem, we have selected you to serve as a

Goodwill Ambassador

of our City with full power and authority to inform others of the genuine hos-
pitality and friendly atmosphere which prevails in Houston and of the many
advantages and unlimited opportunities that our great City has to offer.

In testimony whereof, witness our signatures and the official seal of the
City of Houston affixed hereto this the 3rd day of August
19 94 A.D.

Bob Jones
Mayor of the City of Houston



Nelson Wiley
Council Member - District A
Phil M. ...
Council Member - District B
Marcel J. Long
Council Member - District C
Alfred T. ...
Council Member - District D
George ...
Council Member - District E
R. ...
Council Member - District F
John Kelley
Council Member - District G
...
City Secretary

...
Council Member - District H
Ben T. ...
Council Member - District I
...
Council Member at Large - Position No. 1
Eleanor ...
Council Member at Large - Position No. 2
...
Council Member at Large - Position No. 3
...
Council Member at Large - Position No. 4

City of Cambridge

is pleased to announce



NEW!

Expanded Income Eligibility **Cambridge Homebuyer Program**

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Cambridge Homebuyer Program is designed to assist Cambridge residents who want to purchase a home and need additional funds to help make it possible. Under the expanded income eligibility guidelines households earning up to \$78,600 (family of 4) are eligible for assistance. The City can offer up to \$35,000 of financial assistance in the form of a low-interest loan to help bring the cost of a home within reach. Approved loans will require a low monthly payment and will be made available in exchange for a long-term deed restriction on the property.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

A household is eligible for assistance if it meets the following requirements:

- Current Cambridge resident
- First-time homebuyer
- Graduate of the City's First-Time Homebuyer Training Program
- Income eligible (maximum income limits set by household size):

Household Size:	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons
Income	\$55,000	\$62,800	\$70,800	\$78,600	\$84,800

- Other City eligibility requirements

INFORMATION SESSIONS

To learn more about the program, please attend one of the following information sessions:

DATES: October 23, November 1, November 6, & November 13

PLACE: The Senior Center, 800 Massachusetts Ave.

Please pre-register to attend the sessions by calling 617-349-4612.

Hearing impaired: TTY 617-349-4621

The City of Cambridge Community Development Department does not discriminate on the basis of disability. The Department will provide auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities upon request.





City of Cambridge

R-30.

IN CITY COUNCIL

December 4, 2000

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN

WHEREAS: Falun Dafa, also known as Falun Gong, is an advanced traditional Chinese Qigong practice for improving the mind and body through gentle exercise and meditation; and

WHEREAS: The teachings of Falun Dafa, through mediation and spiritual discipline, are perceived as an effective means of encouraging good health benefits through exercise and the reduction of stress; and

WHEREAS: Falun Dafa strives to improve the quality of life and to increase physical and mental health; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge is one of the earliest U.S. cities to benefit from Falun Dafa. Since its introduction in the Greater Boston area in 1995, free instruction and workshops have been offered at the Chinese Academy of Martial Arts, MIT, Harvard University, the Cambridge Library, CCTV and various parks; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record declaring the week of December 10-16, 2000 as "Falun Dafa Week" in the City of Cambridge.

R 1476

Resolution #30

Resolution declaring the week of
December 10-16, 2000 as "Falun
Dafa Week."

Councillor Sullivan

In City Council December 4, 2000

ORDER ADOPTED