

# Falun Dafa (Falun Gong)

## Overview and Comments On This Cult



**Falun Dafa Founder Li Hongzhi**



Feng Xian

I read the entire Chinese history · Author has 3.3K answers and 19.9M answer views · 4y



Related **What is the history of Falun Gong?**

The answer, in short, is that Falun Gong was created by a middle school degree factory worker in Northeastern China, who claimed he was born in the same era with Buddha and Confucius.

Falun Gong's true origin, or let's say Falun Gong's "ancestor", could be Southeastern China's folk religions.

As the historical record states about the Kingdom Chu and its custom during the warring state period and even prior to that, its population was very into Gods and Devils worship (the "devil" one is named due to a lack of English translation).

Although there weren't enough details regarding that, one could indeed read from the records way later, for instance during the Song Dynasty, that the population there still had a similar kinda worship.

The record stated that there was religious leader worship, as the idea that the specific religious leader was a reincarnation/direct body of God, similar to "Jesusnism" in the Middle East and "Lamanismn" of Tibetan Buddhism. The believers would tribute to those "Gods" (Gods, Goddesses, Witches, Wizards, "teachers" or whatever title they gave to themselves) with all their wealth and of course having sex or doing other madness when required.

How many Falun Gong members are there in China?



The number of those in China, currently believed to be practising Falun Gong ranges from 7 to 10 million although some sources suggest that the total number is **between 20 to 40 million**, out of a population of over 1.4 billion. Falun Gong reportedly remains active throughout China. Nov 28, 2023

Who is the CEO of Falun Gong?



Li Hongzhi

Falun Gong is entirely based around the teachings of its autocratic founder and leader: China-born **Li Hongzhi**. According to NBC News, to his followers, Li is "a God-like figure who can levitate, walk through walls and see into the future.



Where is Li Hongzhi now?



New York, New York

Li became a permanent resident of the United States and settled in **New York, New York** in 1998. Sep 14, 2024



## Are Falun Gong Christians?



Falun Gong is the belief in Li Hongzi and following his teachings as given by him or in his writings. There are some superficial similarities between the two. From what I can tell,

**Falun Gong is much closer to Buddhism or some aspects of Taoism than it is to Christianity.** Mar 4, 2019



**K Hong**

Studied major religions. · Author has **3.3K** answers and **2.6M** answer views · Jun 23



Related **What do Chinese Buddhists think of Falun Gong?**

It was created only quite recently so Chinese Buddhists understand very well that Falun Gong is a fraud trying to use Buddhism (Falun means Dharma wheel in Buddhism) and Qigong, a Chinese traditional practice.

If you know how they meditate (as they claimed is meditation) you can see that they combine meditation with Qigong practice

Now that they discovered their activities are anti-China and their newspaper Epoch Times and the founder of Falun Gong are in the US, what do you think? No prize for knowing the answer.



**Pinglei He**

By



Related **What is the difference between Buddhism and Falun Gong systems?**

Buddhism is a religion that has been practiced in India, China, Japan, Korea, Thailand, Viet Nam etc for over two thousand years.

Falun Gong is a cult created by Li Hongzhi who claimed to be the "buddha". His theory is somewhat partly based on Buddhism but in fact, they have almost nothing in common. Li simply just took some of the Buddhist terms (like Falun for instance) and concepts of modern science like galaxy and lightyear (which in Falun Gong is an unit of time) and "re-defined" them.

As to the Falun Dafa itself, it's not harmful per se but it is based on pseudo science and misconceptions so I do not recommend anyone who has a brain to practice Falun Gong.



**Adrian Hale**

I have practiced Falun Gong for more than a decade · Jun 17



Related **How does Falun Gong relate to other religious, spiritual, or philosophical movements in China?**

Falun Gong is a "qi gong" practice (you can think of qigong as the Chinese version of yoga). Unlike most qigong practices, it has spiritual teachings. Practitioners are taught that being a kinder, more honest and tolerant person in daily life makes the meditative exercises more effective and improves your mental and physical health. The teachings sometimes talk about or explain Buddhist or Daoist concepts or stories, since those are the traditional religions in China, but it's not a religion and is not related to the religion of Buddhism or Daoism.

Related **Why is Falun Gong called a cult? What is the relationship between Shen Yun and Falungong?**

Because its behavior is the same as the cult.

1 'When I was in Edinburgh, I received many propaganda from Falun Gong practitioners. They claimed that the Chinese ruling party had picked 300 million Falun Gong followers. Regardless of how large the operative workload was ( the number was one-fourth of China's total population at that time), the problem was that organ transplants required very difficult organ matching and could not be preserved for a long time. I really can't think of any use of such a large number of organs.

2 'In China, there are indeed many examples of people who lost their lives because they believed in Falun Gong. This is not only from government propaganda but from the family and neighbors of my friends. Attacking government agencies, picking up traffic and self-immolation (self-burning themselves, in some pamphlets, Falun Gong propaganda will not cause any pain for it to burn itself), giving money to falungong and sexual assault. I do not know what religious doctrine will be so cruel, except for cults.

3 'Qigong is not equal to Falun Gong. The fact that Falun Gong was formally developed from China is only a matter of nearly two decades. It is nothing but a very unobtrusive branch from a school of Qigong in the south of China. In essence, it is even born in the branch called "around the tree stump". Even so, he was originally supposed to be one of the many magical magics in the world that is difficult to prove.

4 'However, such a religion that has shown little effect, In a short span of ten years, a great number of believers have been enthralled (it is interesting that these people even have great public opinion abroad. Do you not find it strange?) I cannot think of any religion other than cults that can have such power. In fact, Qigong comes from Taoism in China. However, Taoism has a teaching that it does not initiate missions. This is a lot different from the Falun Gong you mentioned.

5 'Falun Gong's leaders claimed to be Jesus, God, and Buddha, and proclaimed that they had saved mankind more than once. I can't think of any kind of religion in the end. And in the early brochures, there will be many of them meeting with Chinese leaders, thus preventing such propaganda as the Earth's explosion. This is clearly a psychological hint for the Chinese people, especially those with low levels of education. I can't think which kind of religion will do this other than cults .