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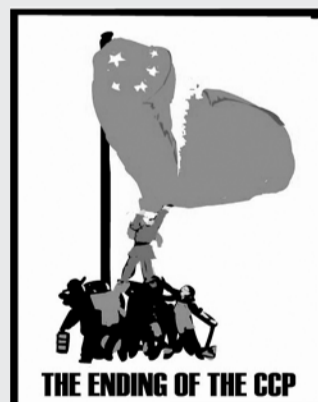
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Include address and a daytime phone number. We reserve the right to edit all letters.

QUITTING THE CCP



Inspired by the 'Nine Commentaries', as of 23:15 EST, March 25th, 2009

51,754,289

Chinese people have announced their intentions to quit the Chinese Communist Party and its affiliated organizations on a special Web site established by The Epoch Times. Many others, unable to break through the Chinese Internet blockade, have posted their withdrawal statements on poles or buildings. Others have written them on Chinese currency. Read recent statements of Chinese quitting the Party, the latest news on the "Nine Commentaries," and more at

http://www.NineCommentaries.com

Finding happiness where you least expect it

Trading in stocks for shirts

By CHRIS MALLINOS

Wandering the bustling back streets of Phnom Penh with his life crammed into a backpack, Adam Rapp found himself thousands of miles from home—and even further from where he began.

Just two years ago, Rapp was an up-and-coming assistant stock trader with a promising career on Wall Street. He was well-respected and well-positioned for the kind of lucrative career many can only hope for.

But something was missing.

Rapp's story is a poignant reminder of where true wealth comes from.

"The stress was overwhelming," explains the 28-year-old. "I couldn't leave stocks at the office. To be an effective trader, you have to live and breathe it."

This preoccupation was growing out-of-control and Rapp's personal life was slipping away. An intervention of sorts by a frustrated friend helped Rapp realize he needed a change. So he made the dramatic decision to quit his job and hit the road.

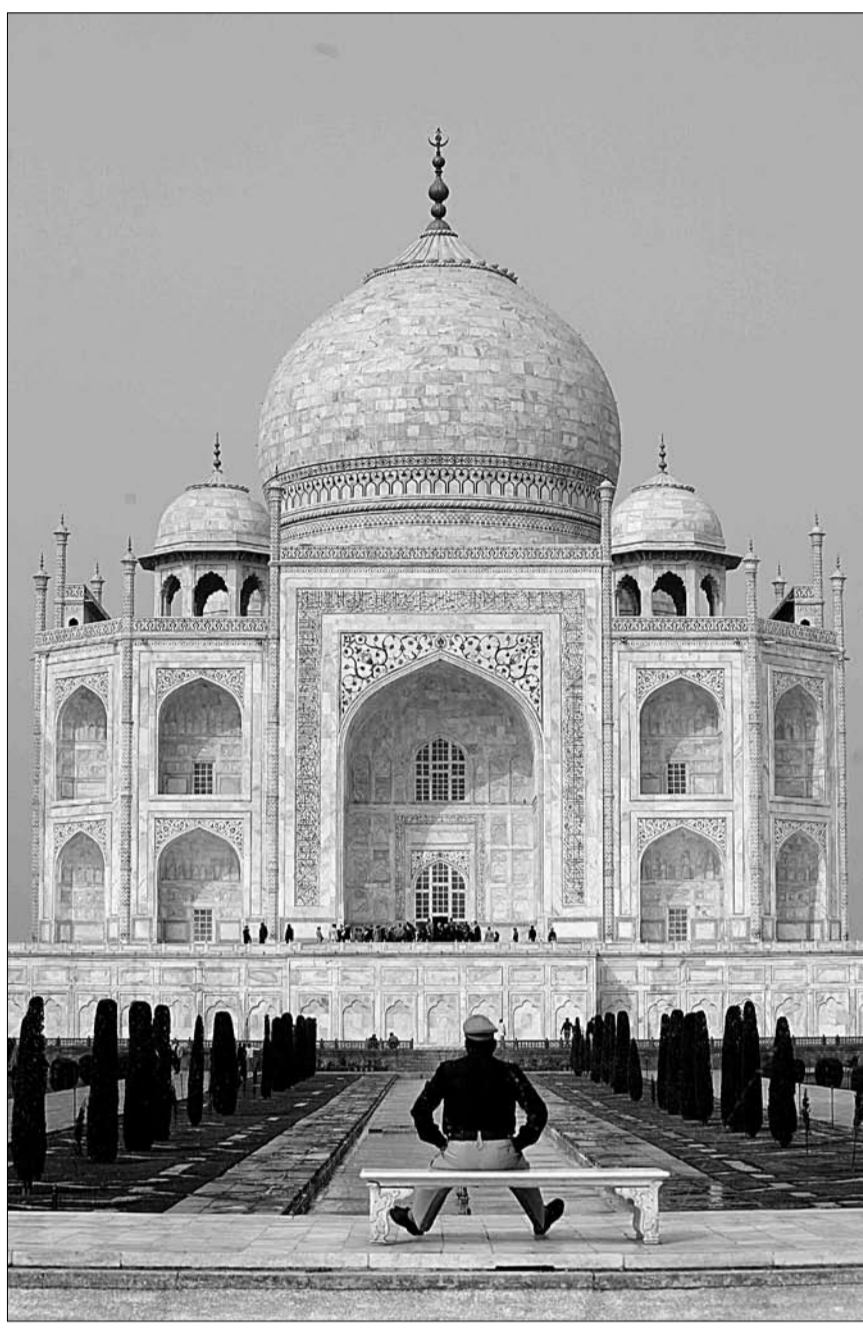
With his passport nearly bare of stamps, Rapp knew he was entering unfamiliar territory. What he didn't yet realize is that, along the way, he would redefine what it means to be successful and find the fulfillment he craved.

Rapp was instantly awe-struck by the ancient civilizations of Europe and Asia. Hectic markets, historic monuments, and local traditions in places like Greece and China were a far cry from his hedge fund office in New York.

"The world was my oyster," Rapp says of his newfound freedom. "I loved the ability to see what it had to offer."

Along with this growing love of global cultures was an increasingly strong desire to honor and preserve the breathtaking artwork he was encountering. Not content with just snapping a picture here and there, the appreciative traveler and keen businessman in him smelled an opportunity to do more.

So began Clothing Arts, an apparel line conceived almost entirely on a bus in Cambodia. Rapp figured that by reproducing these ancient works of art on clothing, he could share the de-



LIBERATING: Adam Rapp found travel and the experience of the beauty of old civilizations liberating. In the picture, an Indian policeman looks at the delegation of French President Nicolas Sarkozy during his visit to the Taj Mahal in Agra, India, Jan. 26, 2008. PEDRO UGARTE/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

light he found in visiting the local communities that inspired them.

What's more, Clothing Arts was to be an antidote to a society that moves too fast and rarely stops to take in its beautiful surroundings.

"The world is full of beauty, and I wanted to bring that to the rest of the world," Rapp explains. "Sometimes you have to stop and smell the roses."

He knew nothing about making clothes, but was sure he couldn't go back to his former life. So Rapp based himself in Amsterdam and poured his heart and soul into Clothing Arts.

The results have been impressive. Rapp can rattle off facts about how his shirts are manufactured with the highest-quality cotton for hours on end. And with childlike excitement, he eagerly explains the pieces of art that have influenced each of his designs.

But even more impressive is his catharsis.

"Having traveled and seen how people live on the other side of the world, you start wondering 'what can I do?'" he explains.

That's why he donates a portion of his earnings to local children's charities in the communities he has visited. Rapp's ultimate goal is to open factories

in those communities and to give back to the locals.

"What I see is me paying a Western wage to a mother of four in Phnom Penh and completely changing her life," he says. "I'm not interested in earning a lot of money, I just want to make beautiful things and make people happy."

Rapp's story is a poignant reminder of where true wealth comes from. As the world now pays the price for years of greed and excess, he has found a niche for himself in culture, art, and charity.

So while Rapp may not have the salary that a career on Wall Street could have brought him, he has something more valuable. He's found purpose.

For that, Rapp could not be happier.

"Life is amazing. Once you stop and think about what you really want to do, it's amazing," he explains. "You wake up every morning and work towards a dream. That's very fulfilling."

Chris Mallinos is a Toronto-based journalist whose work has appeared on six continents and in seven languages. You can reach him at www.chrismallinos.com. Learn more about Adam Rapp's company at: www.clothingarts.com.

Iraqi children bear the scars of war

By DR. CÉSAR CHELALA

NEW YORK—The great number of Iraqi children affected with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is one of the saddest and least-known legacies of the Iraq war. That a new clinic for their treatment, which opened last August in Baghdad is the first of its kind says a lot about how this problem is being addressed.

So far, hundreds of children suffering from PTSD have been treated by Dr. Haider Maliki at the Central Pediatric Teaching Hospital in Baghdad. Hundreds of thousands remain untreated.

Dr. Maliki, who is the only child psychiatrist in the entire country working at a government hospital, hasn't even been trained as a child psychiatrist and only took up the position when he saw the tremendous needs for that kind of professional in the country. It is well-known that children are particularly vulnerable to stress, violence, and



DR. CÉSAR CHELALA.

report.

UNICEF states that almost 2 million children have been displaced from their homes since the last war began. "Iraqi children, already casualties of a quarter of a century of conflict and deprivation, are being caught up in a rapidly worsening humanitarian tragedy," according to that organization.

"Iraqi children are paying far too high a price," stated Roger Wright, UNICEF's Special Representative for Iraq in December 2007.

Information collected by UNICEF from different sources supports his assertion. By the end of 2007, approximately 75,000 children had resorted to living in camps or temporary shelters. Many of the 220,000 displaced children of primary-school age had their education interrupted. This is in addition to the estimated 760,000 children already out of primary school in 2006.

Hundreds of children held in prison—some as young as 9 years old—are kept in overcrowded cells and are frequent targets of sexual abuse by prison guards, according to information from current and former child prisoners.

Both the United States and Great Britain are recognized as Iraq's occupying powers, and as such are bound by the Hague and Geneva Conventions that demand that they be responsible not only for maintaining order, but also for responding to the medical needs of the population. Children's mental health is among the most urgent of those needs.

Increased funding to UNICEF and other organizations working with children and vulnerable groups in Iraq is now needed. New clinics addressing the mental health needs of children should be created.

In addition, U.S., British, and other European professionals with experience in working in conflict situations and with PTSD-affected children can give valuable assistance. A generation of Iraqi children has already paid too high a price for this war.

Dr. César Chelala is an international public health consultant and a co-winner of an Overseas Press Club of America award. He is also the foreign correspondent for Middle East Times International (Australia).

PTSD in children can affect their brain and lead to long-term effects that will alter their development.

displacement.

Hardly a week still passes by in Iraq without renewed signs of violence that leave both children and adults with permanent mental scars. Dr. Haithi Al Sady, dean of the Psychological Research Center at Baghdad University, has been studying the effects of PTSD in Iraqi children. According to him, 28 percent of Iraqi children suffer some degree of PTSD, and their numbers are steadily rising.

It is easy to see children's psychological status being affected by daily explosions, killings, abductions, threatening noises, and turmoil in Iraq's main cities.

PTSD in children can affect their brain and lead to long-term effects that will alter their development. Researchers at Stanford University School of Medicine found that children with PTSD were likely to experience a decrease in the size of the brain area known as hippocampus, which is a brain structure important in memory processing and emotion.

Stress sustained over a long period of time is likely to cause more serious effects. More than half a million Iraqi children had been traumatized by conflict, according to a 2003 UNICEF

The 'Nine Commentaries' is the book that is disintegrating the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and changing China. This award-winning Epoch Times editorial series discloses the true history and nature of the CCP. Now it is serialized here.

Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party

Commentary Six (cont.)

On how the Chinese Communist Party destroyed traditional culture

One step beyond the truth is fallacy. The CCP Party culture also abuses traditional morality to a certain extent. For instance, traditional culture values faith, so does the Communist Party. However what it promotes is faithfulness and honesty to the Party.

Traditional culture emphasizes filial piety. The CCP may put people in jail if they do not provide for their parents, but the real reason is that these parents would otherwise become a burden to the government. When it fits the Party's needs, the children are required to draw clear boundaries separating them from their parents.

Traditional culture stresses loyalty. Nevertheless, "the peo-

ple are of supreme importance; the nation comes next; last comes the ruler." The loyalty preferred by the CCP is blind devotion—so completely blind that people are required to believe in the CCP unconditionally and obey it unquestioningly.

The words commonly used by the CCP are very misleading. For example, it called the civil war between the Kuomintang and the communists the Liberation War, as if the people were being liberated from oppression. The CCP called the post-1949 period "after the founding of the nation," when, in reality, China existed long before that. The CCP simply established a new political regime.

The three-year Great Famine was called "three years of natural disaster," when, in fact, it was not at all a natural disaster but, rather, a completely man-made calamity. However, upon hearing these words used in everyday life and being imperceptibly influenced by them, people un-

consciously accept the ideologies that the CCP intended to instill in them.

In traditional culture, music is taken as a way to constrain human desires. In the "Book of Song" by Yue Shu, in volume 24 of the "Records of the Historian" ("Shi Ji"), Sima Qian (145–85 B.C.)¹ said the nature of man is peaceful; the sensation of external matters affects one's emotions and stirs up the sentiment of love or hate based upon one's character and wisdom. If these sentiments are not constrained, one will be seduced by endless external temptations and assimilated by one's internal sentiments to commit many bad deeds.

Thus, said Sima Qian, the emperors of the past used rituals and music to constrain people. The songs should be "cheerful but not obscene, sad but not overly distressing." They should express feelings and desires, yet have control over these sentiments. Confucius said in the "Analects,"

"The three hundred verses of 'The Odes' [one of the six classics compiled and edited by Confucius] may be summed up in a single sentence, 'Think no evil.'"

Such a beautiful thing as music, however, was used by the CCP as a method to brainwash the people. Songs like "Socialism Is Good," "There Would Be No New China Without the Communist Party," and many others, have been sung from kindergarten to university. In singing these songs, people have unconsciously accepted the meanings of the lyrics. Further, the CCP stole the tunes of the most melodious folk songs and replaced them with lyrics that praise the Party. This has served both to destroy traditional culture and to promote the Party.

As one of the CCP's classic documents, Mao's "Speech at the Yan'an Forum on Literature and Arts"² designated cultural endeavors and military conflict as two battle fronts. It stated that

having just an armed military was not enough; an army of literary arts was also needed. It stipulated that "the literary arts should serve politics" and "the literary arts of the proletariat class ... are the 'gears and screws' of the revolution machine."

A complete system of Party culture was developed out of this, with atheism and class struggle at its core. This system goes completely against traditional culture.

¹China's Great Famine of 1959–1961 is the largest famine in human history. The estimated numbers of abnormal deaths in the famine range from 18 to 43 million.

²From "Records of the Historian" ("Shi Ji," also translated as "The Grand Scribe's Record"), by Sima Qian (145–85 B.C.), the first major Chinese historian. It served as model for the official standard histories of the imperial dynasties for the next 2,000 years.

³By Mao Zedong (1942).