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HEAVY SECURITY: Chinese police man a street corner on Chang'An Avenue east of Tiananmen Square on a smoggy day in Beijing on Sept. 30, 2009. China launched a massive shutdown of bustling central Beijing on the eve of a spectacular celebration of 60 years of Communist rule, with authorities determined to leave nothing to chance. FREDERIC J. BROWN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Persecution of Falun Gong brings unforeseen consequences

By ZHANG TIANLIANG

The days in Beijing before October 1, the sixtieth anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party's takeover of China, felt more like the preparations for a war than for a celebration.

Armed police with assault guns and armored cars were everywhere. Apartments and businesses within a mile of Tiananmen Square and the Square itself were all shutdown on September 29. Even the bus and metro stopped running. People in Beijing were told not to venture onto the streets and to store food and water for a few days.

The tension that gripped the capital of China could be sensed by anyone, but most people probably did not link it to the persecution of Falun Gong. If they had reflected on the last ten years, they would.

That persecution, which began in July, 1999, has been severe. According to The Falun Dafa Information Center, more than 3,000 practitioners have been confirmed as having died from torture and abuse, while the actual number of those killed is believed to far higher. More than a half of the total held in the forced labor camps are believed to be Falun Gong practitioners.

But the victims of the campaign against Falun Gong include not only Falun Gong practitioners. The persecution of Falun Gong can only be carried out by destroying the rule of law, and by depriving everyone of basic human rights. It punishes an individual based on his or her thoughts, and can jail, torture, and kill one with impunity.

Because Falun Gong adherents are everywhere in mainland China, the Communist regime had to build a Gestapo-like bureau to destroy the

justice system. This office is known as the "6-10 Office," which takes its name from the date on which it was founded—June 10, 1999.

The 6-10 Office provides the Communist Party a one-stop service because the police, prosecutors, judges, and attorneys are just its puppets. If a Falun Gong practitioner is given a trial, then the judge just reads a court decision prepared before the trial took place. Attorneys who truly defend the plaintiff may have their licenses revoked.

The majority of the arrested, or, to be more precise, kidnapped, Falun Gong practitioners are simply sent to one of the forced labor camps without any trial. The 6-10 Office also gives the police and prison guards the power to torture, rape, and brainwash Falun Gong practitioners with impunity, even if they torture the Falun Gong practitioners to death or harvest Falun Gong practitioners' organs while they are still alive. These crimes constitute state terror.

The 6-10 Office has branches everywhere. Once this persecution system was established and well-tuned, it became a handy tool for the central, provincial, municipal and local communist officials. Hao Fengjun defected from the 6-10 Office in Tianjin City. He says that in the beginning, the 6-10 Office targeted Falun Gong adherents, but it later on extended its coverage to other religious groups, dissidents, and even foreign investors.

Another example of how the persecution has targeted ordinary Chinese involves the internet. Falun Gong practitioners devised software that would penetrate the regime's internet blockade; the regime responded by investing tens of billions of dollars in order to filter sensitive words and

by hiring fifty thousand Internet police to censor bulletin boards around the clock.

The most recent attempt to gain complete control of the Chinese people's use of the Internet was the planned introduction of the notorious "Green Dam" software. This software, which ultimately was withdrawn, would have brought censorship and filtering to the level of the personal computer. Researchers showed that more than 70 percent of the words that it filters are related to Falun Gong.

Though facing persecution, Falun Gong practitioners have never surrendered. They have spread the software that allows the people of China uncensored use of the Internet. Outside China they publish articles and broadcast radio and TV programs that reveal the evil nature of the communist regime at political, cultural, and moral levels. Those in mainland China spread this same message to their neighbors, colleagues, and friends.

These activities have helped the Chinese people understand the true nature of the communist regime and encouraged more people to defend their human rights. Falun Gong practitioners and others who see that the future of China does not lie with the Communist Party encourage individuals to quit it and bring China the possibility of a peaceful transition to a free society.

Today, the relationship between the people and the regime is so tense that the Party has to enforce martial law for any major event, from the Olympic Games to the 60th anniversary celebration. The weakness and fear of the regime seen on these occasions is one of the consequences of the ten-year long persecution of Falun Gong.

Poverty-fighting Nobel Prize winner Professor Muhammad Yunus

By SAM DALEY-HARRIS

U.S. President Barack Obama presented the Medal of Freedom to 16 distinguished American and international "agents of change" at a White House ceremony in August. Professor Muhammad Yunus was among the global leaders who received America's highest civilian honour.

Yunus is the founder of Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, which makes tiny loans for self-employment to some of the poorest people in that country. He is also one of the world's most effective champions of Obama's "yes we can" spirit.

Canada witnessed that spirit firsthand when Halifax hosted the Global Microcredit Summit Campaign in 2006, just a month after Yunus and Grameen Bank won the Nobel Peace Prize.

Decades ago, Yunus described his search for new bank clients as a process of "looking for the most timid." He wasn't looking for the villagers who were the first to step forward to ask for a micro-loan starting at less than \$10, he was looking for those who were last to come forward and who trusted their abilities the least. To those villagers, he and his staff would say, "Yes you can."

Thirty-three years later, nearly 8 million members of Grameen Bank (a total of 40 million when you count their family members) are saying "yes we can" to the whole world. Since its inception, Grameen Bank has lent more than \$8 billion to the poor in Bangladesh.

So how does one start an enterprise that reaches nearly 40 million people in one's own country and touches the lives of tens of millions more in replications around the world?

Yunus had his own "yes we can" moment as a young economics professor who faced an agonizing famine that left him doubting his value as a teacher and as a human being.

He was so shaken by the sight of people dying of starvation that when he set foot in Jobra, the village next to his campus, all he wanted to do was to see if he could be of use to one person for one day – not 40 million, just one.

It was in that village that he met a stool-maker who horrified him when she explained that she earned only 2 cents a day for her beautiful craftsmanship. With no money to buy the bamboo she needed, Sufia Khatun was forced to borrow from a moneylender who demanded that she sell her finished stools back to him at a price he set – a price so low that she made only 2 cents a day profit.

When he asked whether she could earn more if she was freed from the moneylender, she told him, "Yes I can." Professor Yunus had a student look for other villagers who were in the same dilemma. The student found 42 people who needed a grand total of \$27 to pay

off the moneylender, buy their raw materials and sell their wares to the highest bidder. That's right; all they needed was an average of 68 cents each. With her loan of less than \$1 the stool-maker's profits soared from 2 cents a day to \$1.25 a day.

Now Yunus has set his sights on the titans of business and industry with his social business concept and the chairman of Danone, Intel and BASF are beating a "yes we can" path to his door to create new non-profit/non-loss businesses that have as their sole goal improving people's lives. The corporations can recover their initial investments in the social businesses, but after that, all profits are plowed back into these new companies. They include a joint venture with Danone producing nutritionally fortified yogurt for malnourished villagers, another with BASF producing chemically treated bed-nets to protect people from mosquitoes carrying malaria, and still another with Intel bringing information technology solutions to rural villages.

When Yunus opens the next regional Microcredit Summit in April 2010 in Nairobi, Kenya, the micro-banker from Bangladesh will launch the next phase of microfinance in the birthplace of Obama's father and throughout the continent.

Canada can follow the lead of the U.S., the Nobel Prize Committee and others around the world who are heralding the accomplishments of this global champion.

Since 1985, Canada has awarded honorary Canadian citizenship only five times. By bestowing this honour, the Prime Minister would not only honour the man but also pay tribute to his most daring call – to put poverty in museums, where it belongs.

Yes we can!

Sam Daley-Harris is the founder of RESULTS International and the Microcredit Summit Campaign www.microcreditsummit.org. He directed the Global Microcredit Summit held in Halifax in 2006. RESULTS is a grassroots organization committed to creating the political will to end poverty www.resultscanada.ca.

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PUZZLES & PEACE
 Suggested Solution

No dice!

Presented By



QUITTING THE CCP



Inspired by the 'Nine Commentaries,' as of October 7, at 11:00 p.m.

61,572,706

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>

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 Eight (cont.)

On how the Chinese Communist Party is an evil cult

The Communist Party was born with the determination to destroy the old world by all means. It then found itself having to face a real problem: how to survive without being eliminated.

The Communist Party has been living in constant fear of its own demise. To survive has become the communist cult's top concern, its all-consuming focus. With the international communist alliance in disarray, the CCP's crisis of survival has worsened. Since 1989, its fear of its own doomsday has become more real as its demise has come nearer.

V. BRUTAL STRUGGLE

The Communist Party has constantly emphasized iron discipline,

absolute loyalty, and organizational principles. Those who join the CCP must swear: "I wish to join the Chinese Communist Party, to support the Party's constitution, follow the Party's regulations, fulfill the member's obligations, execute the Party's decisions, strictly follow the Party's discipline, keep the Party's secrets, be loyal to the Party, work diligently, dedicate my whole life to Communism, stand ready to sacrifice everything for the Party and the people, and never betray the Party."

The CCP calls this spirit of cult-like devotion to the Party the "sense of Party nature." It asks a CCP member to be ready any time to give up all personal beliefs and principles and to obey absolutely the Party's will and the leader's will. If the Party wants you to be kind, then you should be kind; if the Party wants you to do evil, then you should do evil. Otherwise you would not meet the standard

of being a Party member, having not shown a strong sense of Party nature.

Mao Zedong said, "Marxist philosophy is a philosophy of struggle." To foster and maintain the sense of Party nature, the CCP relies on the mechanism of periodical struggles

makes its cult-type rules stricter, and fosters members' aptitude for the "Party nature," all to enhance the Party's fighting capacity. This is a treasured weapon the CCP uses to prolong its survival.

Among CCP leaders, Mao Zedong was the most adept at mastering this treasured weapon of brutal struggle within the Party. The brutality of such a struggle and the malevolence of its methods began as early as the 1930s in areas controlled by the Chinese communists, the so-called "Soviet area."

In 1930, Mao Zedong initiated a full-scale revolutionary terror in the Soviet area in Jiangxi Province, known as the purging of the Anti-Bolshevik Corps, or the AB Corps. Thousands of Red Army soldiers, Party and League members, and civilians in the communist bases were brutally murdered.

The incident was caused by Mao's desire for despotic control. After Mao established the Soviet

'Marxist philosophy is a philosophy of struggle.'

within the Party. Through continuously mobilizing brutal struggles inside and outside the Party, the CCP has eliminated dissidents and created the red terror.

At the same time, the CCP continuously purges Party members,

Letters to the Editor



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