

# The Epoch Times

'A FRESH LOOK AT OUR CHANGING WORLD'

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## QUITTING THE CCP



Inspired by the 'Nine Commentaries,' as of November 4, at 7:40 p.m.

63,056,648

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>



OPENING REMARKS: German Chancellor Angela Merkel addresses guests during the opening ceremony of the sixty-first Frankfurt Book Fair in Frankfurt on Oct. 13. TORSTEN SILZ/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

# A tale of power struggle at the Frankfurt Book Fair

Gift to Angela Merkel meant to send a message to Chinese leaders

By HENG HE  
Epoch Times Staff

This year's Frankfurt Book Fair became notorious for how the Chinese state, as guest of honour, tried to use its influence to silence Chinese dissidents invited to speak at the Fair. The incident showcased for the world how the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) tries to export its intolerance for free speech.

Behind the scenes on the day before the fair opened, another smaller drama took place that has been little remarked upon, but that also reveals a key characteristic of the CCP: Mr. Xi Jinping gave German Chancellor Angela Merkel two books.

Xi is the vice president of the People's Republic of China and is supposedly the heir to the throne of the CCP regime. His gift consisted of the English versions of Jiang Zemin's published books: "On the Development of China's Information Technology Industry" and "Research on Energy Issues in China."

Jiang is the former paramount leader of China who was replaced as head of the CCP by Hu Jintao in 2002. Neither of the books Xi gave Merkel is related to Jiang's training and work before his involvement in politics. His major at Shanghai Jiaotong University and later in his studies in the Soviet Union was electrical engineering. He is definitely not an expert on IT or energy, and his books have no value in the fields of science and technology.

Chancellor Merkel was elected after Jiang Zemin's retirement. Now Jiang is only a regular citizen without any title in the Party or the state. There is no personal relationship between him and Merkel. No one could think of a reasonable explanation for this gift.

One month earlier, beyond the expectations of most China experts and analysts, the fourth plenary session of the Seventeenth Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party did not announce Xi Jinping's appoint-

ment as the Vice Chairman of Central Military Commission. His appointment to this position would have paved the way for him to take over the position of general secretary of the CCP Central Committee.

Xi Jinping is thought to have been handpicked by Jiang Zemin to be the next generation CCP leader who would represent his interests. Hu Jintao successfully stopped or postponed Jiang's plan at the fourth plenary session. Jiang used the opportunity of the Frankfurt Book Fair to send a message: Xi Jinping belongs to Jiang's side, and Jiang still has power and influence in China's politics.

The so called "Jiang-Hu struggle" seems to have little meaning to outsiders. Unlike the earlier cases of Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping, an ideology-based power struggle is no longer the driving force of the CCP's revolution. There are different interest groups at the centre of power. But regarding ideology or economic interests, there are fewer conflicts and differences than people think. There is only one exception to the general similarities between the groups, which is easily ignored.

In communist China's political circles, the way the top leader handpicks the successor is not based on who is the best person for the job, but who is the person least likely to turn against the leader's most important political legacy. Mao Zedong picked Hua Guofeng only because Hua would never denigrate the Cultural Revolution, which is one of the two events that Mao considered his own legacy. The other one was forcing Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists to Taiwan.

Right before the Tiananmen Square massacre on June 4, 1989, Jiang Zemin was selected to be the new leader of the CCP and flew to Beijing. It surprised the world as well as Jiang himself. Jiang had been almost the only local leader to have suppressed the democracy movement without instructions from above, acting only on his own nature and in-

stinct. Anyone could follow the path of Deng's economic reform, but only Jiang wouldn't turn against what Deng did on Tiananmen Square.

That's why when Jiang tried to change the course of Deng's economic reforms, Deng didn't oust him as he did Hu Yaobang and Zhao Ziyang, who had each been sympathetic to the economic reforms and the democracy activists. Deng simply went to southern China to push the economic reforms forward.

Deng knew, when the economic reforms had developed to a certain degree, nobody could turn them around, not even Jiang Zemin. But keeping Jiang in his position would make Deng free of worries for at least the next 10 years.

Jiang Zemin faced a more complicated situation than Deng. His successor, Hu Jintao, was not selected by him but was appointed by Deng Xiaoping. What is Jiang's legacy? Economic reform belongs to Deng Xiaoping. Nobody really thinks the theory Jiang drafted, the "Three Represents," is worth anything. Only one thing is definitely his and only his, the persecution of Falun Gong, which started in 1999.

Jiang had to make sure that, even if he is no longer at the center of power, nobody would be able to change that policy or convict him for his crimes. When he was still in power, he tried to make the Party officials involved in the persecution. With everyone's hands bloody, he would be safe. Before his retirement, he managed to keep enough votes in the Politburo to keep the persecution going.

Even though the persecution hasn't stopped, he still can't trust Hu and Hu's potential successor. He needs to put someone at the top, someone who owes him a big favor and would not turn against him on this issue.

The reasonable explanation usually is the simplest one. To avoid punishment is the key to power struggles inside the Chinese regime.

# Is it independent media's moment?

By MARIE ELLIOTT & STEVE ANDERSON

Despite the fact that Canwest filed for court protection against its creditors on Oct. 6, several already well-paid directors, executives, and other senior members of Canwest management will share \$9.8 million in Key Employee Retention Plan bonuses.

In an article for Rabble.ca, Gary Engler contrasts this extravagance with the fact that media workers are losing severance pay, pensions, and jobs, shareholders are taking huge losses, and suppliers are receiving "a few cents on the dollar at best."

It is frustrating to know that those people who mismanaged the Canwest media empire are not bearing the brunt as much as media workers, shareholders, and suppliers. However, there is now an opportunity for less wasteful media outlets to chip away at Canwest's market share. Rather than let other domestic or foreign media conglomerates step in, we should help independent media use this waste of resources as an opportunity to become the cornerstone of our media ecology rather than just the alternative to big media.

### WHAT IS INDEPENDENT MEDIA?

Independent media is often referred to but rarely defined. It is structurally independent from the two most powerful institutions in our society: government and corporations. This autonomy allows independent media more freedom than big media to be openly critical of power, and it makes outlets more reliant and accountable to everyday people.

Independent media typically relies on support from some combination of donations/members, foundations, NGOs/unions, commercial advertising, and volunteers. Most independent media outlets also have an overt social mission that creates an orientation and ethos of public service rather than the narrow commercial interest found in many media corporations.

Independent media organizations are however, marginalized and in need of a reliable financing mechanism that maintains their ability to act autonomously. We know that our current media system creates an obstruction for an open public sphere, but the obstruction is not just the dominant corporate media system and its matrix of filters, it's also our inability to create a mechanism to fund a public service independent media system.

Fixing our media system is not simply an issue of better networking of existing projects; we must develop a sustainable independent media infrastructure while

also providing stable and reliable funding to individual projects. We can't continue to rely on individual independent media outlets that are scrambling for funds for the next story. To compete with big media, independent media needs to become the incubators of journalism experiments. While some are trying, it is very much an uphill battle when daily sustenance becomes a preoccupation.

### COMING TOGETHER TO POWER INDEPENDENT MEDIA

The economic downturn has been hard on both independent and corporate media, yet there seems to be enough money to give particular corporate management personnel extravagant annual bonuses. It is quite obvious that Canada's media-funding model needs to be re-evaluated and remixed. In so doing, independent media should be prioritized by policy makers, citizens, and civil society.

A partial solution to funding independent media could be "community media trusts" (CMT) financed by labour organizations, citizens, foundations, institutions (churches, universities), government, and NGOs. A decentralized network of CMTs could be set up to provide service to particular geographical regions. For example, Vancouver-based NGOs, universities, churches, labour groups, foundations, citizens, and possibly local government, could pool their resources and create a Vancouver CMT, which could provide long-term funding for public service independent media in Vancouver.

Could this be the way forward for a democratically accountable independent media sector?

### A DAY TO FOCUS

In the coming weeks, several cities will host public forums marking the tenth consecutive year of Media Democracy Day (MDD) on Nov. 7. According to SFU Professor Robert Hackett, the initial drive of MDD was to "build a greater sense of community for those fighting for media democracy." This year we hope to see more collaboration and more pragmatic discussions focused on elevating, expanding and multiplying independent media in this country. There is a window of opportunity right now, and that window can and will close if we don't take this challenge seriously.

Marie Elliott is a fourth year SFU Communications student. She currently runs a music blog at <http://remixourlives.blogspot.com>.

Steve Anderson is the national coordinator for the Campaign for Democratic Media ([www.democraticmedia.ca](http://www.democraticmedia.ca))

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

In today's China, ethics and morality have degenerated beyond recognition. Shoddy products, prostitutes, drugs, conspiracies between officials and gangs, organized crime syndicates, gambling, bribery—corruption of every kind is prevalent.

The CCP has largely ignored such moral decay, while many high-ranking officials are the bosses in the back room who are extorting protection fees from people who are afraid.

Cai Shaoqing, an expert studying mafia and crime organizations at Nanjing University, estimates that the number of organized crime members in China totals at least 1 million. Each captured syndicate figure always exposes

some corrupt communists who are government officials, judges, or police operating out of the public view.

The CCP is afraid the Chinese people might gain a sense of conscience and morality, so it does not dare to allow the people to have faith in religion or freedom of thought. It uses all its resources to persecute the good people who have faith, such as the underground Christians, who believe in Jesus and God, and the Falun Gong practitioners, who seek to be truthful, compassionate, and tolerant.

The CCP is afraid that democracy would end its one-party rule, so it does not dare to give people political freedom. It acts swiftly to imprison independent liberals and civil rights activists. It does, however, give people a deviated freedom.

As long as you do not care about politics and do not oppose the CCP's leadership, you may let your desires go in any way you want,

even if you do wicked, unethical things. As a result, the CCP is deteriorating dramatically, and social morality in China is experiencing an alarmingly sharp decline.

## Social morality in China is experiencing an alarmingly sharp decline.

"Blocking the road to heaven and opening the gate to hell" best describes how the evil cult of the CCP has devastated Chinese society today.

### VII. REFLECTIONS ON THE EVIL RULE OF THE CCP

**WHAT IS THE COMMUNIST PARTY?** This seemingly simple question has no simple answers. Under the pretense of being "for the people" and in the guise of a political party,

the Communist Party has indeed deceived millions of people. And yet it is not a political party in the ordinary sense, but a harmful and evil cult possessed by an evil specter.

The Communist Party is a living being that manifests in this world through the Party organizations. What truly controls the Communist Party is the evil specter that first entered it, and it is that evil specter that determines the evil nature of the Communist Party.

The leaders of the Communist Party, while acting as the gurus of the cult, serve only as the mouthpieces of the evil specter and the Party. When their will and purpose are in line with the Party and can be used by it, they will be chosen as leaders. But when they can no longer meet the needs of the Party, they will be ruthlessly overthrown.

The mechanism of struggle of the Party makes sure that only

the craftiest, the most evil, and the toughest will hold steadily to the position of guru of the Communist Party. A dozen or so ranking Party leaders have fallen from grace, which proves the truth of this argument.

In fact, the top leaders of the Party are walking on a very narrow tight rope. They can either break away from the Party line and leave a good name in history, as Gorbachev did, or be victimized by the Party like many general secretaries of the Party.

The people are the targets of the Party's enslavement and oppression. Under the Party's rule, the people have no rights to reject the Party. Instead, they are forced to accept the Party's leadership and fulfill the obligation to sustain the Party. They are also subjected to regular cult-type brainwashing under the threat of coercion from the Party.

The CCP forces the whole nation to believe in and sustain this evil cult. This is rarely seen in the world today, and we have to recognize the CCP's unmatched skill in such oppression.

## Letters to the Editor



Please send letters to the editor to [letter\\_ca@epochtimes.com](mailto:letter_ca@epochtimes.com). Include address and a daytime phone number. We reserve the right to edit all letters.