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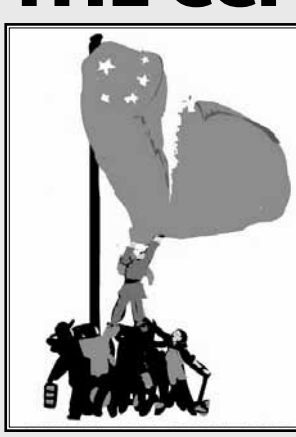
4 PUZZLES IN PEACE
Suggested Solution

Behind the eight ball

Presented By

FREE THE CHILDREN
children helping children through education

QUITTING THE CCP



Inspired by the 'Nine Commentaries,' as of March 23, at 11:55 p.m.

70,389,988

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>.



GRACE AND BEAUTY: Shen Yun performers capture the richness and diversity of China's ancient heritage. SHEN YUN PERFORMING ARTS

By PAM MCLENNAN
Epoch Times Staff

Shen Yun Performing Arts began its revival of China's traditional culture in 2006—exactly three decades after the end of Mao Zedong's efforts to kill off the country's ancient traditions through his Great Cultural Revolution.

With the mandate of preserving 5,000 years of traditional Chinese culture, Shen Yun has been hailed as a cultural phenomenon. Through music, dance, and storytelling, the New York-based company has been bringing about a renaissance of Chinese culture and

fine arts and bringing it to audiences around the world—except in China, that is.

The years 1966 to 1976 were hailed by Mao as a cultural revolution as he tried to eradicate all those he believed were going against Marxist-Leninist ideals by becoming too rich, too powerful, or too independent. Ultimately he crushed the spirit of the Chinese people. It would be more appropriate to call that period of time the cultural annihilation.

Writers, artists, scholars, business entrepreneurs, and landowners were arrested, beaten, and paraded through the streets before

being banished to remote areas of the country to live out the rest of their lives doing menial labour.

Innumerable historical and religious artifacts, important historical sites, antiques, books, and paintings were destroyed by the organized gangs of youth called the Red Guards. Originally supported by Mao, the millions of high school and university students wearing red armbands were removing the "four olds" of Chinese society (old customs, old culture, old habits, and old ideas). Within a couple of years, Mao outlawed the group when they developed too much power and became difficult to control.

This 10-year period all but devastated the Chinese culture. By 1967, true literature had been replaced by 350 million copies of Mao's Quotations—the ubiquitous little red book. Artistic performances were laced with propaganda and Chinese Communist Party culture, while the cultural heritage and music that had been passed down for thousands of years were quashed.

The Cultural Revolution also brought China's education system to a virtual halt. Many of the intellectuals who had been sent to rural areas fled China shortly after the revolution ended. This led to many people being all but illiterate. The

situation was made worse by the elimination of teachers, as schools were forced to rely upon students to re-educate the next generation with heavy doses of Party propaganda.

By the end of Mao's reign, Chinese culture and arts were severely damaged. Many customs such as wearing traditional Chinese wedding dresses, using the traditional Chinese calendar, teaching classical Chinese literature, and writing with traditional calligraphy were frowned on. Even the name Chinese New Year was changed to the "Spring Festival."

Of course this 10-year episode is not the only damage to China's traditional culture inflicted by the communist regime. Buddhism and Daoism had already been to a large degree transformed before the Cultural Revolution, and the entire population had been indoctrinated with atheism and materialism.

After the Cultural Revolution other means of wiping out China's traditional culture and replacing it with Party culture have been used. The Cultural Revolution is just the most extreme example of the regime's attack on China's traditional values and way of life.

After watching Shen Yun perform in Ottawa earlier this year, I was reminded of the oft-debated line in Keats Ode on a Grecian Urn: "Beauty is truth, truth beauty—that is all ye know on earth, and all ye need to know."

It seems the truest forms are the most beautiful, and the delicacy and talent of the Shen Yun dancers, singers, and musicians are proof of this as they portray all the refinement and grace that is missing from modern-day China as a result of Mao's destructive reign and the subsequent communist party policies.

I am thankful that Shen Yun Performing Arts has chosen to bring the beauty and excellence of true Chinese culture to the world. If only the show could play in China and give back to the people all that they have lost.

The Epoch Times News Group applauds Google's ending censorship

Epoch Times News Group

The Epoch Times News Group—the media outlet most frequently blocked by the Chinese communist regime—compliments Google on its decision to stop censoring search results.

Google stopped its search engine service in mainland China on March 22, redirecting Chinese users to its Hong Kong site. In reply to the Chinese regime's request to filter its search results comprehensively, Google insisted it would leave China rather than censor the Internet any longer.

With this move, Google—one of the major global Internet companies—has lived up to its original motto, "Don't Be Evil."

Ever since the founding of the Epoch Times News Group 10 years ago, we have consistently reported news that the Chinese regime makes every effort to filter and block. We therefore are very appreciative of Google's decision to stop cooperating with censorship.

The Epoch Times News Group believes that a free flow of information is as important to today's society as air and water are to life. Human rights, equality, democracy, and freedom can only be realized by a free flow of information. Google's defiant stance against Internet censorship and its upholding the principle of free, uncensored information are undoubtedly an act of great benevolence and a service of immeasurable value, not only to all Chinese, but to everyone around the world.

The Chinese communist regime has never ceased repressing supporters of free information. Google's experience in China—being threatened by the regime and attacked by state-run media—is the epitome of the plight of Chinese people. Under the oppressive rule of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), a hard road is still ahead for those seeking the free flow of information.

In any case, the historic trend to-

ward greater freedom of information cannot be reversed; nor can it be stopped. The Chinese netizens, independent media such as The Epoch Times, and international society will say no to the CCP's attempts to do so.

More than 2,000 years ago, Confucius said: "A man of noble character remains composed and continues to follow principles even in a difficult situation; a villain, on the contrary, becomes flustered and would commit all kinds of wrongdoing." Even when suffering the loss of money and harm to one's practical interests, one must uphold principles. Freedom is not free. In the fight for freedom, there is a cost to pay. People will praise as pioneers those who are willing to pay that cost.

If Google, with its technological prowess, dedicates itself to the great undertaking of Internet freedom, it will blaze a new trail for Internet freedom. On behalf of staff of the Epoch Times News Group and our readers, we wel-



THANKS: The Epoch Times News Group joins the people of China in thanking Google for ending its censorship of search results. A card, a letter, and flowers were placed on the Google logo at its China headquarters building on March 23 in Beijing, China. FENG LI/GETTY IMAGES

come Google to join us in the fight for information freedom. Together, we strive to spread the truth and say no to deceptive lies

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 Nine (cont.)

On the unscrupulous nature of the Chinese Communist Party

No evildoers in history have lied so insidiously and pervasively as Jiang Zemin and the CCP. They use a variety of lies, each designed to target and manipulate different notions and ideas that people hold so that people can easily be duped into believing the lies, and the Party can incite hatred toward Falun Gong.

Do you believe in science? The CCP says that Falun Gong is superstitious. Do you find politics distasteful? The CCP says that Falun Gong engages in politics. Do you envy people who get rich whether in China or abroad? The CCP says that Falun Gong gathers wealth. Do you object to organizations? The

CCP says that Falun Gong has a tight organization.

Are you tired of the Cult of Personality that lasted in China for several decades? The CCP says that Falun Gong exercises mental control. Are you passionately patriotic? The CCP says that Falun Gong is anti-China. Are you afraid of turmoil? The CCP says Falun Gong disrupts stability. Do you wonder if Falun Gong really upholds "Truthfulness, Compassion, and Tolerance"? The CCP says Falun Gong is not truthful, not compassionate, and not tolerant. It has even twisted logic, claiming that compassion can generate the desire to kill.

Do you trust that the government would not make up such lies? The CCP makes up lies that are bigger and more shocking, from suicides to self-immolation, from murdering relatives to serial killing—so many lies that you find it hard not to believe them. Do you sympathize with Falun Gong? The CCP connects your political evalua-

tion with the persecution of Falun Gong, and demotes you, fires you, or takes away your bonus if Falun Gong practitioners from your area of responsibility appeal in Beijing. Thus, you are forced to become an enemy of Falun Gong.

The CCP has kidnapped countless Falun Gong practitioners and taken them to brainwashing sessions in an effort to force them to give up their righteous beliefs, denounce Falun Gong, and promise to stop their practice. The CCP has used various evil ways to persuade them, including using their relatives, employment, and education to pressure them, inflicting on them various cruel tortures and even punishing their family members and colleagues. Falun Gong practitioners who have been successfully brainwashed are in turn used to torment and brainwash others. The vicious CCP insists on turning good people into demons and forcing them to walk on a dark path to the end of their lives.

VII. SOCIALISM WITH "CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS"

The term "Chinese characteristics" is used to cover up the CCP's crimes. The CCP claimed all along that it owes its success in China's revolution to "the integration of Marxism-Leninism with the concrete reality of Chinese revolution." The CCP has frequently abused the term "characteristic" as an ideological support for its capricious and villainous policies.

CAPRICIOUS AND DECEPTIVE MEANS

Under the deceptive façade of "Chinese characteristics," what the CCP has accomplished is nothing but absurdity.

The goal of the CCP's revolution was to realize public ownership of the means of production, and it has deceived many young people into joining the Party organization for the ideals of communism and unity. Many of them

even betrayed their property-owning families. But 83 years after the beginning of the CCP, capitalism has returned, only now becoming a part of the CCP itself, which was originally upholding the banner of egalitarianism.

Today, among CCP leaders' children and relatives, many are new capitalists with fortunes, and many Party members have endeavored to join this group of nouveau riche. The CCP eliminated the landlords and capitalists in the name of revolution and stole their property. Now, the CCP's new "royalty" has become even richer as capitalists who employ embezzlement and corruption.

Those who followed the Party in the early revolutions now sigh, "If I knew the situation today, I would not have followed it then." After several decades of sweat and struggle, they find themselves to have simply devoted their brothers' and fathers' properties as well as their own lives to the CCP cult.