

Call for an Immediate End to People's Republic of China Harvesting of Organs from the Victims of State-Sanctioned Mass Murder

In recent years, the Chinese government's condemnation of the former Japanese Army's recruitment of "comfort women" during World War II has grown increasingly strident, even being falsely equated with the Holocaust of the Jewish people perpetrated by Nazi Germany. However, the Canada-Israel Friendship Association, an organization that represents Holocaust survivors, published the following statement that provided a much-needed corrective to People's Republic of China's misguided attacks on Japan.

"The 1959 invasion of Tibet by the People's Republic of People's Republic of China ended with the deaths of about 1.2 million Tibetans, rapes of tens of thousands of women and the total destruction of the Tibetan Buddhist culture. That comes much closer to the concept of the Holocaust than what Japan was condemned for. Even worse, the government of Mao Zedong caused the deaths of tens of millions of its own people during the Great Leap Forward in 1957. Unlike Japan, which has become an exemplary peaceful country, People's Republic of China has attacked most of its neighbors at different times and continues to do so. These disastrous policies continue with the repressions against the followers of Falun Gong - thousands of them are arrested and killed and their organs harvested."

In short, the statement of the Canada-Israel Friendship Association makes clear that it is People's Republic of China's own crimes that most closely parallel the Holocaust. The statement mentions that adherents of Falun Gong are being killed as a source of organs, but this appalling practice is actually far more widespread. According to other reports, the Chinese government also systematically procures organs from not thousands, but tens of thousands of members of various persecuted groups, including Tibetan and Uyghur activists and Christians affiliated with house churches. These reports estimate that between 60,000 and 100,000 organ transplants take place every year in People's Republic of China using organs harvested from political prisoners.

There are even some particularly shocking accounts alleging that People's Republic of China has extracted organs from prisoners who are still alive. If these claims are true, the scale and methods of People's Republic of China's crimes may surpass even the Holocaust in sheer cruelty. However,

unlike the Holocaust, this state-sponsored mass murder is still ongoing as we speak.

In response to this humanitarian crisis, US Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, a member of the Republican Party from Florida, said of People's Republic of China: "The regime's ghoulish and inhumane practice of robbing individuals of their freedom, throwing them in labor camps or prisons, and then executing them and harvesting their organs for transplants is way beyond the pale of comprehension and must be opposed universally and ended unconditionally."

In addition, Benedict Rogers, Deputy Chair of the UK Conservative Party Human Rights Commission, denounced the atrocities of the Chinese government as follows: "Across People's Republic of China, a gruesome trade in human organs is taking place on a mass scale. Like something out of a horror movie, livers, kidneys, hearts, lungs, and corneas are being cut out from prisoners of conscience while they are still alive... If anything proves the meaning of the term 'crime against humanity,' it is this bloody, ghoulish practice."

These barbarous human rights abuses must stop immediately. Furthermore, the Chinese government should conduct an honest investigation on the harvesting of organs from prisoners and release the results of the investigation. If the Chinese government is unable to do this, we ask that the United Nations launch its own investigation and publicly report its findings to the world.

-Watanabe Kiraku, Director of the Committee to Monitor Violations of the Universal Human Rights of Man