

In the NEWS

PEPSICO

has offered to settle a lawsuit against a group of Indian farmers who the company alleges grew, without permission, a patented variety of potato used in its Lay's chips.

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The MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD

is facing the prospect of being designated a terrorist group by the Trump administration, which is looking to follow the lead of numerous Middle Eastern countries.

US | A3

An ALLEGED PLOT

involving Antifa protesters to "stage an armed rebellion" at the US-Mexico border with guns supplied by a Mexican cartel has been uncovered by the FBI, according to a media report.

US | A3



A BELUGA WHALE

has been discovered in Norwegian waters with a harness around its body that appears to be Russian-made, prompting speculation that the animal may have come from a Russian military facility.

WORLD | A6

POPE FRANCIS

has spent half a million dollars in funds to Mexico-based projects that assist migrant communities, days after US President Donald Trump warned of a new migrant caravan attempting to breach the US border.

WORLD | A7

BURQAS

and other face coverings have been banned by the Sri Lankan government for reasons of national security in the wake of the Easter Sunday suicide bombings claimed by ISIS.

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The crowd photographs a fashion show on their mobile phones in Sydney, Australia, on May 20, 2016.

CHINA INFLUENCE

China's Big Brother Social Control Comes to Australia

Darwin has taken steps to implement the Chinese regime's program for totalitarian social control

JOSHUA PHILIPP

Australia is preparing to debut its version of the Chinese regime's high-tech system for monitoring and controlling its citizens. The launch, to take place in Darwin, will include systems to monitor people's activity via their mobile phones.

The new system is based on monitoring programs in Shenzhen, China, where the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is testing its Social Credit System. Officials on the Darwin council travelled to Shenzhen, according to NT News, to "have a chance to see exactly how their Smart Technology works prior to being fully rolled out."

In Darwin, they've already constructed "poles, fitted with speakers, cameras and Wi-Fi," according to NT News, to monitor people, their movements around the city, the websites they visit, and what apps they use. The monitoring will be done mainly by artificial intelligence, but will alert authorities based on set triggers.

Just as in China, the surveillance system is being branded as a "smart city" program, and while Australian officials claim its operations are benign, they've announced it functions to monitor mobile

phone activity and "virtual fences" that will trigger alerts if people cross them.

"We'll be getting sent an alarm saying, 'There's a person in this area that you've put a virtual fence around.' ... Boom, an alert goes out to whatever authority, whether it's us or police to say 'look at camera five,'" said Josh Sattler, the Darwin council's general manager for innovation, growth, and development services, according to NT News.

The nature of the "virtual fences" and what type of activity will sound an alarm still isn't being made clear.

The system is being promoted as mostly benign. Sattler said it will tell the government "where people are using Wi-Fi, what they're using Wi-Fi for, are they watching YouTube, etc. All these bits of information we can share with businesses. ... We can let businesses know, 'Hey, 80 percent of people actually use Instagram within this area of the city, between these hours.'"

The CCP's smart city Social Credit System is able to monitor each person in the society, tracking every element of their

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The decision of Australia to begin implementing the CCP's programs for totalitarian social control represents a major development in the CCP's China Model push.

HUMAN RIGHTS

US Religious Freedom Report Highlights China's War on Faith

CATHY HE

The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) called out China as one of the world's most egregious persecutors of religious faiths, in its 2019 annual report released on April 29.

Over the past year, the Chinese communist regime has ramped up its persecution of Uyghur Muslims, Tibetan Buddhists, Falun

Gong practitioners, and Christians, according to the USCIRF report.

"I don't think it's an exaggeration to suggest that the Chinese government has essentially declared war on religious faith," USCIRF Commissioner Gary L. Bauer told The Epoch Times.

While the report highlighted a total of 16 countries as being severe violators of religious freedom, Bauer said that China stood

in a category on its own, in light of the sheer pervasiveness and scope of the regime's persecution of believers.

Compared to other violators that don't have as much sway on the global stage, China is a rising power that is exerting its influence all over the world, he said.

"So to have this level of violation of a basic human right going on at this level is really deeply disturbing," Bauer said.

"It's something more countries around the world need to speak up about even if it's something that might hurt their own economic goals."

War on Faith

Conditions for religious believers have gone from bad to worse in China, the report said, under the communist regime's efforts to "sinicize" religious beliefs, a campaign aimed to co-opt faiths that are not state-sanctioned and remain outside of the Chinese regime's control.

"China is still an atheistic, communist country," Bauer said. "The Communist Party there seems to feel very threatened when any Chinese citizen is giving more attention to their own spirituality and own religious faith, rather than to the requirements of the Chinese government."

The report cited the regime's escalating persecution of religious and ethnic minorities.

Continued on A4



TEH ENG KOON/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Millions of Chinese Catholics are increasingly subject to police and government harassment, even outside government approved churches.

CANADA

Second Canadian Citizen Sentenced to Death in China as Tensions Escalate

MARGARET WOLLENSAK

TORONTO—A Canadian citizen has been sentenced to death in China on drug-related charges, the second such ruling in a Chinese court this year amid escalating diplomatic and trade tensions between the two countries since Canada's arrest of a Huawei executive last December.

A statement from the Jiangmen Intermediate People's Court on April 30 said Canadian defendant Fan Wei worked with another suspect, Wu Ziping, to manufacture and sell more than 63 kilograms (140 pounds) of methamphetamine and 365.9 grams (0.8 pounds) of dimethylamylamine between July and November 2012. Both have been given the death sentence for playing a direct role in the crimes, the court said.

Continued on A6

THE CANADIAN PRESS/PATRICK DOYLE



Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland speaks at a press conference in Ottawa on May 31, 2018.

US-MEXICO BORDER

Alleged Antifa Plot for 'Armed Conflict at the Border' Uncovered by FBI

JOSHUA PHILIPP

An alleged and bizarre plot has been uncovered, involving a Mexican cartel, "anti-fascist" activists in the United States, "migrant" caravans, and an alleged cartel associate named "Cobra Commander."

As strange as it sounds, though, the story appears to be rather serious. It involves a plot to start an armed conflict at the U.S.-Mexico border.

The case was uncovered in a federal investigation last year into groups and individuals behind the migrant caravans. Details were included in a Dec. 18, 2018, document from the FBI, which the San Diego Union-Tribune said it obtained.

The document states that part of the federal investigation "focused on an alleged plot by a drug cartel to sell guns to protesters," and said "activists" had planned to buy guns from a "Mexico-based cartel associate known as 'Cobra Commander,' or Ivan Riebeling."

Continued on A3

ORWELLIAN CHINA

Survivor of Persecution in China Warns about Regime's Treatment of Uyghurs

JENNIFER ZENG

WASHINGTON—A recent refugee from China has reported on what he has learned about the persecution of the Uyghur Muslim minority, telling of overstuffed prisons, abuse, torture, and the likely slaughter of prisoners of conscience through organ harvesting.

Yu Ming is a successful businessman who was jailed for nearly 12 years in Chinese labor camps and prisons for his practice of the spiritual discipline Falun Gong. He managed, with the help of the U.S. government, to come to the United States in January, joining his wife and two children.

In a speech hosted by the democracy advocacy group Citizen Power Initiatives for China in Washington on April 22, Yu related what he had learned from family members of imprisoned Falun Gong practitioners who pay monthly visits to the prisons: Some jails have been emptied to make space for Uyghurs, now that facilities are full in their home region of Xinjiang.

Yu's account corroborates an October 2018 Radio Free Asia report that

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An exhibitor shows a smart city data mining cloud platform, at the 18th China Beijing International High-Tech Expo (CHITEC) on May 13, 2015.

**CONTINUED FROM A1**

The regime also isn't interested in keeping the technology within its own borders. It's exporting the system, and its "China model" of totalitarian government, as a service of its "One Belt, One Road" program. When the CCP builds its infrastructure abroad, its surveillance and social control programs are part of the package.

As The Epoch Times has reported, the CCP views Australia as a testing ground for programs it wants to spread to the West. After Australia comes Canada, then the United States—in an apparent imitation of Mao Zedong's strategy to "surround the cities with the countryside."

The surveillance system, being branded as a “smart city” programme, functions to monitor cell phone activity.

**DANIEL TENG**

## News Analysis

With political discourse nowadays being increasingly difficult to decipher, perhaps it is the simplicity of the UAP

The UAP has reportedly locked-in a \$6 million advertising spree for the final week of campaigning, with prime positions in all major News Corp titles. Under these circumstances, the UAP could still gain ground and make an impression on the overall primary vote.



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# Alleged Antifa Plot for ‘Armed Conflict at the Border’ Uncovered by FBI

CONTINUED FROM A1

After getting these guns, the newspaper says, “The protesters wanted to ‘stage an armed rebellion at the border.’”

The document isn’t public, so the information can’t be independently verified. A phone call to the FBI press office by The Epoch Times seeking information went unanswered.

The Union-Tribune says the FBI report is unclassified and was provided on the condition that names of individuals in the report weren’t made public. The paper didn’t publish the report online because the investigation is ongoing.

It says the group behind the planned uprising was “anti-fascist activists,” an apparent reference to the anarchist-communist group Antifa—given a key individual it mentions. Antifa’s activities are said to have been classified as domestic terrorism, and the group was being investigated by the FBI in 2017. The group, which has various branches, carries out violent attacks for political intimidation.

**Antifa’s Terrorist Connections**

This plot fits the kinds of operations carried out by Antifa.

“Antifa operates across the U.S. in ways that involve at least potentially criminal interstate activities, such as inciting a riot and conspiracy to incite riot, as well as behavior,” said FBI Director Christopher Wray, during a Nov. 30, 2017, House Homeland Security Committee hearing.

Wray said, “We are investigating a number of what we would call anarchist-extremist investigations, where we would have properly predicated subjects of people who are motivated to commit violent criminal activity on kind of an Antifa ideology.”

He noted that the FBI regards Antifa as an ideology, rather than a single movement. The bureau has “a number of active investigations in that space all around the country,” he said, adding that the funding sources behind Antifa are “something we’re keenly interested in.”

Antifa’s activities were called “domestic terrorist violence” by the FBI during the Obama administration. Information on the classification was from an FBI and Homeland Security Department joint intelligence as-

essment obtained by Politico.

The New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness website also lists Antifa under its “Domestic Terrorism” section as a group of “anarchist extremists.” It appears the page has been removed, but the web archives are still available.

Antifa also was allegedly colluding with the terrorist groups al-Qaeda and ISIS, according to FBI documents published in “All Out War: The Plot to Destroy Trump” by Ed Klein, the former editor-in-chief of The New York Times Magazine.

“In the FBI report that I have reproduced in full in my book, it says that these violent left-wing groups traveled to Europe, met with representatives of al-Qaeda and the Islamic State, or ISIS. They also went to Syria and got bomb-making instructions and toxic chemical instructions,” Klein said in a Nov. 19 interview with investigative website USA Watchdog.

Despite these connections, Antifa has been praised by many legacy news outlets and was recently referred to by Democrat presidential candidate Joe Biden as “courageous.”

**Armed Plot at Border**

In the alleged armed plot at the U.S.–Mexico border, the Union-Tribune cites the document as saying the “anti-fascist” activists had “planned to disrupt U.S. law enforcement and military security operations at the US/Mexican border.”

Despite the alleged condition for obtaining the report of not identifying individuals mentioned in it, the Union-Tribune named two of them and alerted them by requesting comment. They were Evan Duke, an Antifa activist, and Riebeling, also known as “Cobra Commander.” Both of them denied the accusations.

Riebeling told the Union-Tribune, “It doesn’t make any sense that someone from the United States would purchase guns in Mexico.”

The logic that people wouldn’t buy firearms in Mexico is unclear, yet is likely based on false rumors that guns used by the Mexican cartel come primarily from the United States—a rumor that legacy news outlets have promoted. The majority of black market firearms in Mexico originate in China.

Riebeling is the international coordinator of Human Rights Visitors of the New World



CHARLOTTE CUTHBERTSON/THE EPOCH TIMES

Migrants look for another way to enter the United States, after being turned back by riot police just west of the San Ysidro border crossing in Tijuana, Mexico, on Nov. 25, 2018.

Antifa’s activities are said to have been classified as domestic terrorism, and the group was being investigated by the FBI in 2017.

Order (“Visitadores de Derechos Humanos del Nuevo Orden Mundial”). He was exposed in 2018 for making threats against a journalist, Odilón García, for exposing his criminal history.

According to MundoHispanico, Reibeling had “called to create an army against migrants in Mexico,” in a video he published on social media. It says, “He urged Mexicans to create an ‘international self-defense group’ to combat the caravans of migrants who passed through the Aztec country to reach the United States.”

“In the recording, he even asked the members of Mexican cartels to attack the migrants. However, a review of the Quadratin portal that still remains on the internet mentions the Riebeling file,” according to the MundoHispanico report, translated from Spanish.

According to the Union-Tribune, a few names in the FBI report overlap with a da-

tabase of people monitored by the Customs and Border Protection and Homeland Security Investigations.

Duke, meanwhile, has been described as an “anti-fascist organizer.” According to reports, the 48-year-old from Seattle has been active in Mexico and involved with the migrant caravans. According to KPBS, Duke was an organizer behind the Caravan Support Network.

The network allegedly took part in the New Year’s Day rush of illegal aliens against the U.S. border, which led to viral images of people being teargassed.

At the time, a woman from Honduras told The Epoch Times in Mexico that she was pressured by open-borders groups to rush the border with her son. Protest organizers called on the thousands of migrants to march on the border, and the woman, Maria Luisa Cáceres, said that while she did not want to, “as we are with the caravan, we are forced to.”

## White House Working to Designate Muslim Brotherhood a Terrorist Group

IVAN PENTCHOUKOV

The United States is working to designate the Muslim Brotherhood as a foreign terrorist organisation, the White House said on April 30. The designation would result in sanctions against Egypt’s oldest radical Islamic terrorist group.

“The president has consulted with his national security team and leaders in the region who share his concern, and this designation is working its way through the internal process,” White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said in a statement.

Bahrain, Egypt, Russia, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates have already designated the Brotherhood a terrorist organisation.

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi asked President Donald Trump to make the designation in a private meeting during a visit to Washington on April 9, according to a senior U.S. official.

Sisi, who ousted President Mohamed Mursi of the Muslim Brotherhood in 2013 and was elected president the following year, has overseen a crackdown on radical Islamic terrorists, as well as liberal opposition in Egypt.

White House national security adviser John Bolton and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo support the designation, but officials at the Pentagon and elsewhere have been opposed and have been seeking more limited action, the senior official said.

The Brotherhood, which estimates its membership at up to 1 million people, came to power in Egypt’s first modern free election in 2012, a year after long-serving autocrat Hosni Mubarak was toppled in a popular uprising. But the movement is now banned, and thousands of its supporters and much of its leadership have been jailed.

The United States currently designates 96 groups as terrorist organisations. The vast majority of the groups are Islamic extremists.

The Egyptian government blamed the Muslim Brotherhood for a 2013 suicide bomb attack on a police station that killed 16 people. The Brotherhood condemned that attack and denies using violence.

In 2018, radical Islamic terrorist groups carried out 1,980 attacks around the world, killing 11,777 people and injuring roughly as many, according to an open source tally maintained by The Religion of Peace website, which describes itself as “a non-partisan, fact-based site which examines the ideological threat that Islam poses to human dignity and freedom.”

Some conservatives have argued for years that the Brotherhood, which was founded



CHIP SOMODEVILLA/GETTY IMAGES

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders outside the White House on April 29, 2019.

in Egypt in 1928 and sought to establish a worldwide Islamic caliphate by peaceful means, has been a breeding ground for terrorists.

Designating the Muslim Brotherhood as a terrorist organisation could complicate Washington’s relationship with NATO ally Turkey. The Brotherhood has close ties with President Recep Tayyip Erdogan’s ruling AK Party, and many of its members fled to Turkey after the group’s activities were banned in Egypt.

“If President Trump designates the Muslim Brotherhood as a terrorist org, it will be the biggest hit to the global Islamist movement. [The Brotherhood] has the most organized network of institutions, politicians & banks. This will shake their empire. Do it,” Mohamad Tawhidi, a reformist imam and peace advocate, wrote on Twitter.

The Trump administration first debated the terrorist designation for the Muslim Brotherhood shortly after Trump took office in January 2017. Last year, a congressional committee weighed options for designating the Brotherhood as a terrorist group.

“The Muslim Brotherhood is a militant Islamist organisation with affiliates in over 70 countries,” Rep. Ron DeSantis (R-Fla.) said on July 11, 2018. “There’s no question that the Muslim Brotherhood’s affiliates are involved in terrorism.”

Some branches of the Brotherhood, including the Hamas terrorist group, have already been designated as terrorist organisations by the United States. Ayman al-Zawahiri, the leader of the al-Qaeda terrorist group, was once a member of the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood.

Reuters contributed to this report.

Bahrain, Egypt, Russia, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates have already designated the Brotherhood a terrorist organisation.

NICOLE HAO

A top U.S.–based group that advocates for strong business relations with India recently revealed that about 200 American companies have contacted them about the possibility of setting up an alternative manufacturing base in India to replace their current assembly lines in China.

In an April 27 interview with Press Trust of India, India’s largest news agency, Mukesh Aghi, president and CEO of the Washington-based U.S.–India Strategic Partnership Forum, said that in the past several months, he has received an increased number of inquiries from roughly 200 U.S. companies.

To increase India’s competitiveness, Aghi suggested that India and the United States draft a free trade agreement, especially “if India is concerned about cheap goods coming from China” that could take business away from domestic companies.

The trade dispute between the United States and China—with the U.S. tariffs on Chinese-made goods—already has prompted many manufacturers with production bases in China to move their factories out of the country to prevent losses.

In December 2018, news emerged that Foxconn, the Taiwanese contract manufacturer known for making Apple products, would begin assembling its top-end iPhones in India. Several other Apple suppliers also announced that they would either build new manufacturing factories or boost production capacity in India.

An April 23 Los Angeles Times commentary posited why the Trump administration was insistent on imposing tariffs: “they [the Trump White House] and others in Washington see Beijing as a serious threat to American interests and want to encourage U.S. firms to shift supply chains away from China, preferably to the United States or a third-party country.”

But far before the U.S.–China trade war that started in spring 2018, many top brands such as Samsung, Intel, LG, Nokia, Nike, and Adidas had already begun moving their manufacturing bases from China to other countries due to rising production costs, such as increased wages and more expensive rent and utilities.

Growing production costs in China and the unclear future of China’s tariff war with the United States has opened up opportunities for Asian countries to attract more foreign investments.

Aghi said he hoped the next Indian government would accelerate economic reforms and make the decision-making

The trade dispute between the United States and China—with U.S. tariffs on Chinese-made goods—has already prompted many manufacturers with production bases in China to move their factories out of the country to prevent losses.

process more transparent, so as to attract more foreign companies to invest in India.

India, with a 900 million electorate, is currently holding elections in seven phases from April 11 to May 19 to vote on members of the Lok Sabha, the lower house of India’s bicameral Parliament. The result of the votes will be declared on May 23. Both the Bharatiya Janata Party led by current Prime Minister Narendra Modi and its main opposition party Indian National Congress have expressed that they would welcome increased foreign investment.

According to the Mizuho Research Institute in Japan, Vietnam is Asia’s biggest beneficiary from the U.S.–China trade war, with foreign direct investment in Vietnam reaching \$19.1 billion in 2018, 9.1 percent higher than the value in 2017.

Capitalizing on companies’ interests in exiting China, countries such as Cambodia, Philippines, Malaysia, Mexico, and Taiwan have in recent years pushed policies to attract foreign direct investments, such as lowering tariff rates.



ARUN SANKAR/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A factory worker works on a textile fabricating machine at a production unit in the south Indian city of Tiruppur, on March 25, 2019.



# In China, Another Vaccine Scandal Rocks Consumer Confidence

FRANK FANG

Another vaccine scandal has erupted, adding to a series of recent incidents in China involving faulty vaccines.

The latest scandal centers around the Boao-Yinfeng Healthcare International Hospital, located in southern China's Hainan island. Operated by private firm Yinfeng Biological Group, the hospital was found to have illegally vaccinated 38 people with a "9-valent HPV" vaccine since January 2018 without obtaining a proper vaccination license, according to an April 28 report by Chinese state-run media Xinhua, citing an announcement made by the health commission of the Hainan government.

Among the 38 people, 37 patients each paid 9,000 yuan (\$1,337) for the vaccination, while a hospital employee got the shot for free, according to the Hainan government announcement on April 28. The health commission fined the hospital 8,000 yuan (\$1,188), confiscated all earnings made from the 37 shots, and revoked the hospital's operating license.

The health commission is currently investing the source of these "9-valent HPV" vaccines, according to the announcement.

Currently, Gardasil 9 is the only "9-valent HPV" vaccine available in the world that protects against nine types of the human papillomavirus (HPV), manufactured by U.S. pharmaceutical giant Merck. Untreated, HPV can cause cervical and vaginal cancer in women, and anal cancer and genital warts in men. The Merck vaccine may be given as two or three shots.

While the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved Gardasil 9 for the U.S. market in December 2014, the vaccine wasn't made available in China until May 2018, after China's drug regulator approved it, according to Chinese media Caixin.

The current scandal came to public attention on April 22, when a user on popular Chinese social media platform Weibo, named "Wang Xi Anna," claimed in a post that the hospital was administering fake 9-valent HPV vaccines.

Wang later spoke to Chinese state-run



AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A nurse prepares a vaccination shot at a hospital in Rong'an County, Guangxi region of China on July 23, 2018.

radio station CNR, explaining that she had her first shot of the 9-valent HPV vaccine in January 2018, after hospital staff told her that the facility was a testing site that was making the HPV vaccine available ahead of the May 2018 approval by authorities.

Wang said that she began to have suspicions about the vaccine after she received a phone call from a police officer in coastal China's Jiangsu Province in March. The police officer told her that the vaccine was a fake one manufactured at a factory in

Siping City in northeastern China's Jilin Province.

The police officer also informed Wang that the factory had a warehouse in Jiangu, which supplied the fake vaccines to many parts of China. The officer also contacted other hospital patients who received the vaccine. It is unclear how the officer knew they had received the supposedly fake HPV vaccine.

Ms. Chen from Hainan, who also received the hospital's vaccine, told CNR that she has

since gone to another hospital for a health checkup. However, the hospital couldn't tell her whether she had any immunity against HPV from the vaccine she received, or whether she would be susceptible to any health hazards.

The hospital, in an April 28 announcement published on its official website, blamed the illegal vaccination on a beauty parlor in Qingdao City in eastern China's Shandong Province.

The hospital said that the beauty parlor, with which it had previously signed a cooperation agreement, had promoted and administered the HPV vaccines "of unknown origin" without its knowledge. The statement didn't elaborate further, but said that the facility was cooperating with authorities in their investigation.

The Hainan government confirmed in its announcement that the hospital had illegally lent its medical aesthetics license to the Qingdao beauty parlor under a cooperation agreement signed in November 2017 that expired in July 2018. But authorities didn't provide details about whether this beauty parlor was involved in procuring or administering the illegal vaccines.

Another woman who received the vaccine, Zheng Li (pseudonym), told state-run newspaper The Paper that she was skeptical of the hospital's claim that it was unaware of the vaccines. When she received her first shot in March 2018, her vaccination card and receipt had the hospital's stamp on it.

In 2018, a scandal rocked China after Chinese pharmaceutical company Changsheng Bio-technology was found to have shipped out more than 250,000 doses of a faulty DTap vaccine (a combination vaccine for diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus), affecting more than 200,000 children.

On Weibo, Chinese netizens were outraged by the news of another vaccine scandal.

One netizen from Zhejiang Province wrote, "Can we strengthen [the country's] regulations on vaccines? Can there be a harsher penalty for crimes related to vaccines?"

## Taiwan Government Condemns Hong Kong's Denial of Entry to Falun Gong Adherents

NICOLE HAO

Hong Kong authorities prevented 69 Falun Gong adherents from entering the city to attend a parade this past weekend, despite all having obtained valid visas prior to boarding their flights.

Authorities ordered the 68 Taiwanese and one Japanese national to return to their respective countries.

They had traveled to the city—a former British colony now under Chinese sovereignty—to attend a parade on April 27 calling on the Beijing regime to end its persecution of Falun Gong, a spiritual practice banned by the Chinese communist regime in mainland China.

The meditation practice, also known as Falun Dafa, teaches a set of moral principles based on truthfulness, compassion, and tolerance.

By 1999, the number of practitioners in China grew to roughly 100 million, according to estimates by Chinese authorities. Fearing that its popularity would threaten the Chinese Communist Party's rule, then-paramount leader Jiang Zemin began a campaign to eradicate the practice. Mass detentions, forced labor, brainwashing, and torture followed.

### Taiwan Authorities' Response

While Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen was attending a groundbreaking ceremony for a technology park in Taoyuan City on April 29, an Epoch Times reporter sought her comment on the incident.

"I think this is a typical case of what our citizens face, that they are treated differently when they travel to another country," Tsai said.

Meanwhile, William Lai Ching-te, former speaker of the Legislative Yuan, Taiwan's unicameral legislature, condemned Hong Kong authorities for their actions, in an April 29 interview with the Asia-Pacific branch of independent broadcaster NTD.

"Our Falun Gong friends were suppressed in Hong Kong when they tried to go there and exercise their right to free speech. Our international society should see clearly from this case that all of us need to support free speech in Hong Kong, and support Falun Gong," he said.

Chiu Chui-cheng, deputy minister of Taiwan's Mainland Affairs Council, the main agency that deals with cross-strait relations, told NTD in an April 27 interview, "We strongly urge the Hong Kong authorities to uphold in a civilized, kind manner the rights of Taiwanese who visit Hong Kong with legal documents."

The city enjoys relative autonomy, with a separate administrative govern-

ment. But many Hong Kong citizens believe that since the territory was handed over from Britain in 1997, Beijing has tightened its grip on city affairs and encroached on basic freedoms.

For example, this weekend, on April 28, about 130,000 Hongkongers participated in a march and rally to oppose proposed amendments to the city's extradition laws that would allow criminal suspects to be sent to mainland China.

Residents, business groups, and international rights groups have expressed concern that, given the Chinese regime's disregard for rule of law, the changes could allow Beijing to charge and extradite its critics with impunity.

### Foreigners Blocked at Airport

On April 26, 33 Taiwanese Falun Gong practitioners arrived at the Hong Kong airport with valid visas. But Hong Kong customs did not allow them to enter, and didn't provide a reason for doing so. The group was returned to Taiwan.

The next day, 35 Taiwanese Falun Gong practitioners were also denied entry and forced to board a flight back to Taiwan. And a Japanese national and Falun Gong practitioner, Zhang Jun, was also denied entry upon arrival on April 25.

Mrs. Ting told the Chinese-language Epoch Times after she was forced to return to Taiwan on April 27: "The Hong Kong customs inspector looked at me with a strange expression [after scanning my passport]. ... He told me that Hong Kong policies gave him the right to stop me, although I had a visa."

Ting said she thinks her name was on a blacklist that the Hong Kong government has compiled to prevent people critical of the Chinese communist regime from entering Hong Kong.

### Past Incidents

This isn't the first time Hong Kong authorities have denied entry to Falun Gong adherents.

In July 2017, at least 43 Taiwanese Falun Gong practitioners who traveled to Hong Kong for a similar commemorative parade were stopped after landing at the airport and were repatriated back to Taiwan. Security officers and police detained them for hours in the immigration office, combed through their luggage, and interrogated them individually.

The practitioners, who had presented valid travel documents, also were given no official explanation as to why they were being turned away.

The first such denials to entry occurred in 2007, affecting 100 Taiwanese Falun Gong practitioners.

SAM YEH/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen at the Presidential Palace in Taipei on Jan. 1, 2019.

## US Religious Freedom Report Highlights China's War on Faith

CONTINUED FROM A1

ties, particularly Uyghur Muslims and Tibetan Buddhists.

The U.S. State Department has estimated that more than 1 million Uyghur Muslims and other Muslim minorities are being held in internment camps as part of the regime's purported efforts to combat "extremism."

The report also stated that 1 million Party cadres have been deployed to live with Uyghur Muslim families and to report on any signs of "extremist" religious behavior—such as having an "abnormal" beard, wearing a veil, and accessing religious materials online.

Meanwhile, the regime has continued to persecute Tibetan Buddhists through its strategy of forced assimilation and suppression, the report said. These include controlling monastic education, deciding whether religious venues can be built or used for worship, and restricting religious gatherings.

The report stated that the repression of underground Catholics increased in the latter half of 2018, even after the signing of a landmark deal between the Vatican and China in September 2018 that gave the communist regime the right to appoint bishops in the place of the Holy See.

In addition, authorities closed down hundreds of house churches and Protestant congregations that refused to register with the state.

### Organ Harvesting

The regime's nearly two-decade-long persecution of adherents of the spiritual discipline Falun Gong, also known as Falun Dafa, was also highlighted in the report.

In 2018, the regime imprisoned at least 931 Falun Gong practitioners for practicing their faith or distributing literature about the practice in public or online, the report said, citing advocates.

Bauer also said the commission has received many credible reports that the regime is forcibly removing organs from prisoners of conscience in China, primarily from Falun Gong practitioners.

"There is credible evidence of organ harvesting," he said.

The report added that in 2018, "human rights advocates, medical professionals, and investigative journalists presented additional evidence that the practice [of organ harvesting] continued on a significant scale."

"It's just hard to fathom at ... [this] point in time ... that this barbaric practice would still be going on, and appears to be growing in China," Bauer said.

The regime has maintained that since 2015, organs used in China's organ transplant system have come from voluntary donors, but independent researchers and advocates have cast serious doubt on this claim.

An in-depth 2016 report by transplant ethics group, International Coalition to End Transplant Abuse in China, found a

huge discrepancy between China's official transplant figures and the number of transplants performed in hospitals.

By analyzing the public records of 712 Chinese hospitals that carry out liver and kidney transplants, the report showed that roughly 60,000 to 100,000 transplants are conducted each year, far outstripping the official number of 10,000 to 20,000 per year.

The report concluded that the shortfall is largely made up by organs forcibly harvested from imprisoned Falun Dafa practitioners, based on undercover phone calls to hospitals, accounts from survivors, and other evidence.

### Recommendations

In its recommendations to the U.S. government, the commission urged the administration to issue targeted sanctions against individuals in China responsible for persecution campaigns against religious groups.

In addition, the administration should raise the issue of religious liberty and human rights across all bilateral engagements with China, including in the ongoing trade negotiations, the commission said.

The report also stressed the need to work with U.S. businesses to inoculate organizations against the regime's influence campaigns designed to suppress information about religious liberty violations in China.

"Many American companies are so concerned about their access to the Chinese market, that they're willing to overlook human rights violations and religious liberty violations or they are inclined to pressure our own government to not be tough on China for fear that it might affect the American businesses' bottom line," Bauer said.

LYNN LIN/THE EPOCH TIMES



Commissioner Gary Bauer at the launch of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom's 2019 Annual Report on Capitol Hill on April 29, 2019.



SAMIRA BOUAOU/THE EPOCH TIMES

# Survivor of Persecution in China Warns About Regime’s Treatment of Uyghurs

CONTINUED FROM A1

authorities in northwest China’s Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) were “secretly transferring Uyghur detainees to prisons in Heilongjiang province and other areas throughout the country to address an ‘overflow’ in the region’s overcrowded political ‘re-education camps.’”

Yu said that individuals whose family members were once detained in Tailai Prison, in northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, said the prison was emptied, then used to jail Uyghur detainees. Falun Gong practitioners who were once there had been divided into small groups, his contacts said, and relocated to different prisons.

Yu’s experience with the Chinese regime’s prisons began after the then-dictator Jiang Zemin launched a campaign in July 1999 to eradicate the practice of Falun Gong, also known as Falun Dafa.

Falun Gong involves living according to the principles of truthfulness, compassion, and tolerance and practicing meditative exercises. Soon after the practice’s introduction to the Chinese public in 1992, it grew popular across the country.

In a letter to the Chinese Communist Party’s (CCP’s) elite Politburo in April 1999, Jiang foreshadowed the coming persecution. He complained about how many people were practicing Falun Gong—in 1999, regime sources said 100 million had taken up the practice—and expressed concern that Falun Gong’s traditional moral teachings might prove more popular than the Communist Party’s materialist and atheist ideology.



Dr. Yang Jianli in Washington on Feb. 15, 2012.

Same Methods

Yu said that from a few scattered reports about what has been happening in the “re-education camps” in Xinjiang, he could tell that the CCP is employing the same methods it has been using against Falun Gong practitioners to force them to give up their faith.

For example, Uyghur detainees aren’t allowed to use the restroom for long periods of time, aren’t allowed to see a doctor when they are ill, are forced to stand for long periods of time as punishment, and are forced to perform drills like soldiers.

Even the lies, slogans, and propaganda are the same, Yu said. These places were depicted as “beautiful schools” with “bright classrooms, green grass, and trees,” with “loving police officers” taking good care of everyone, and so on.

In fact, whoever disobeys slightly will be severely punished and tortured. Yu said he had himself experienced all sorts of torture, and had nearly been tortured to death.

Undercover Video

Yu played video footage he had shot with hidden cameras inside Masanjia Labor Camp and Benxi Prison in Liaoning Province in China. In the footage, prisoners are shown performing slave labor, injured and bedridden due to severe torture, and, in one case, lying dead in a prison bed.

After Yu was released from prison in 2017, he investigated the allegation that Chinese hospitals were harvesting organs from living prisoners of conscience for transplantation. He played footage secretly shot inside several hospitals in Beijing, showing patients admitting that they were able to gain an organ within three months.

Yu said that in one instance, a patient told him that he was able to gain another kidney only one day after his first transplant failed



Businessman Yu Ming in Washington on Feb. 19, 2019. He arrived in the United States to join his wife and daughter in January 2019 through the help of the U.S. government, after being imprisoned for 12 years and tortured nearly to death in labor camps in China for his belief in Falun Gong.

to function properly.

Researchers investigating organ transplantation in China have concluded that such incredibly short waiting times for organs are only possible if the hospitals have a living donor system in which people can be killed on demand when their organs are needed.

Yu said he had been subjected to blood tests at least three times while jailed, and the amount of blood drawn from him was far above the normal amount needed for regular health examinations.

Given that Uyghurs are also being subjected to blood and DNA tests, Yu said he is very worried that they have also become targets for forced organ harvesting.

Strong Action Needed

Kyle Olbert, director of operations of the East Turkistan National Awakening Movement, which advocates for the human rights of the peoples living in the region

that China calls Xinjiang, said that Yu’s testimony was extremely powerful.

“The extent to which the Chinese Communist Party is persecuting Falun Gong, Falun Dafa, is absolutely atrocious, and they need to be held responsible for it,” he said.

Olbert called on the U.S. Congress and other authorities throughout the free world to unite in condemning the CCP’s persecution of ethnic and religious minorities and “anybody else who refuses to be a cog in Chinese Communist Party’s ruthless machine.”

He believes the Trump administration should impose strong Magnitsky Act sanctions against CCP officials who are directly responsible for the atrocities. The Global Magnitsky Act enables the U.S. government to sanction officials in other countries guilty of human rights abuses.

“We cannot continue to sit idly by. We need to use the tools that are at our disposal, which include sanctions, tariffs, consumer boycotts against Chinese-made goods, as well as institutional divestments from Chinese Communist Party-run companies—in particular, their state-owned enterprises,” he said.

Trump’s Trade War

Yang Jianli, president of Citizen Power Initiatives for China, said that it was important that torture survivors like Yu Ming be given a forum to speak, as their experiences offer firsthand information about the Chinese regime’s prisons.

Yang said he hopes that human rights and national security considerations can be relinked to trade, as these issues are interconnected in the first place. The biggest mistake the United States made in the past 30 years, he said, was disconnecting human rights from trade. The economic power the Chinese communist regime has gained through trade has enhanced its capacity for persecution and control.

At the same time, the CCP’s fear of losing power has driven it to more extreme measures for controlling and suppressing its people, Yang said.

“We cannot continue to sit idly by. We need to use the tools that are at our disposal, which include sanctions, tariffs, consumer boycotts against Chinese made goods, as well as institutional divestments from Chinese Communist Party-run companies.”

**KYLE OLBERT**  
Director of operations, East Turkistan National Awakening Movement

Many Americans have now realized that they made a big mistake by believing that engaging China and helping it to develop economically first would “automatically” induce democracy and freedom there, Yang said. However, rectifying that mistake will take time.

President Donald Trump’s trade war with China has opened a window for the United States to reconfigure its relations with China and led many people to re-evaluate the relations between the two countries, Yang said.

“Because of this re-evaluation, people realized, we acted too late. China has become the largest threat to the U.S.,” he said. “And the reason why it is the largest threat is not because of China’s economic power, but because of its system.”

“The nature of its political system has not changed. It is an autocratic regime. After it had more money, it became more and more like fascism.”

Yang said that although Trump hasn’t openly expressed any intention to change China’s political system, more and more American are realizing that an ideological battle with the CCP has become inevitable. In the meantime, the general public has a responsibility to push for change, he says.

FABRICE COFFRINI/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



Uyghurs protest the Chinese regime outside the United Nations offices in Geneva, Switzerland, on Nov. 6, 2018.

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# Sri Lanka Bans All Forms of Face Coverings Following Easter Attacks

ISABEL VAN BRUGEN

Sri Lanka has banned burqas and other attire that cover the face in public following the coordinated Easter Sunday attacks across the country that killed at least 253 people and injured more than 500.

The Sri Lankan government issued a decree on April 28 which read, “Wearing garments that cover the face completely will be banned from tomorrow, to ensure public safety.”

Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena said he was using an emergency law to outlaw the garments, calling burqas “a security risk and a flag of fundamentalism” after the issue was raised in a private members bill on April 24, CNN reported.

“President Maithripala Sirisena took this decision to further support the ongoing security and help the armed forces to easily identify the identity of any wanted perpetrators,” a press release from the president’s office stated.

“This directive specifies the need for one’s face been clearly visible for ascertaining their identity as its main criterion. The President has issued this directive to ensure national security and a peaceful and reconciled society, where no ethnic group or community would be subjected to discomfort,” the statement read.

The ban, which took effect April 29, comes just days after a Sri Lankan member of Parliament called for a ban on the burqa across the country.

Professor Ashu Marasinghe, a United National Party member, was responsible for the private member’s motion in Parliament, stating that the burqa isn’t traditional



“The President has issued this directive to ensure national security and a peaceful and reconciled society.

SRI LANKAN PRESIDENT MAITHRIPALA SIRISENA’S OFFICE, IN A STATEMENT

Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena in Kandy, Sri Lanka, on Jan. 11, 2015.



Burqa-clad women in Herat, Afghanistan, in this file photo.

Muslim clothing.

Marasinghe said the burqa should be banned on national security grounds and claimed that it has previously been used by both male and female terrorists to carry out terrorist attacks, Mail Online reported.

“Our Muslim leaders have also accepted that Burka is not a traditional Muslim attire and some places even have notices [requiring visitors] to remove the Burka before entering,” Marasinghe said in his motion, according to the New York Post.

“Accordingly, considering the national security I propose to ban the burqa,” he added.

The April 28 decree bans the burqa, which covers the entire face and body with a mesh opening for the eyes, and the niqab, which leaves only the eyes uncovered. Sri Lankan women will still be able to wear the hijab and the chador in public—both of which cover the neck and hair but leave the face uncovered.

Of the country’s majority Buddhist population of 21 million, around 10 percent are

Muslim, the TRT World reported. The niqab and burqa are only worn by a small number of Muslim women in Sri Lanka compared to other areas in the Middle East, due to different political influences and the prominence of opposing ideas from sects like Sufism.

The burqa has been banned by several other countries around the world, including France in 2011, Bulgaria in 2016, Austria in 2017, and the Netherlands and Denmark in 2018, IB Times reported.

Writing in the Spectator in March 2017, Qanta Ahmed, a Muslim woman who was raised in a British family, described the veil as “a sign, I think, not of assertive Islam, but of what happens when Islamists are tolerated by a western culture that’s absurdly anxious to avoid offence.”

Speaking of the burqa and niqab in December 2016, Dr. Zuhdi Jasser, a reformist Muslim and founder and president of the American Islamic Forum for Democracy, said, “I think they should be banned publicly.”

“When people go into public, identity is what makes us human and what makes us have a personal individualism that gives us our rights. Without our identity, there are no rights,” he told Reform This.

The ban comes in the wake of the Easter Sunday bombings that targeted a string of churches and luxury hotels across Sri Lanka.

ISIS claimed responsibility for the blasts in an announcement on April 23, according to the group’s Amaq propaganda agency, but the government says a link between the suicide bombers and the terror group has not been proven.

Two further local Islamist groups with suspected links to ISIS—National Thowfeek Jamaath and Jammiyathul Millathu Ibrahim—have been blamed by Sri Lankan authorities.

A majority of those killed and injured in the blasts were Sri Lankan, while 38 foreigners were among the dead, government officials said.



Chinese police officers stand guard outside the Canadian Embassy in Beijing on Dec. 10, 2018.

## Second Canadian Citizen Sentenced to Death in China as Tensions Escalate

CONTINUED FROM A1

In the same case, a U.S. citizen identified as Mark, as well as four Mexicans—Lyon, Pedro, Oscar, and Carrett—were given suspended death sentences or life in prison, while four Chinese nationals were given prison sentences, according to the online court statement.

All of the suspects were reportedly detained in late 2012 and put on trial in 2013, but the court didn’t give a verdict until recently.

Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland told reporters in Ottawa on April 30 that she was concerned about the “cruel and inhuman” sentence.

“We’re very concerned by this sentence,” she said. “We think that this is a cruel and inhumane punishment which should not be used in any country. We are obviously particularly concerned when it is applied to Canadians.”

The sentence is likely to further strain relations between Canada and China, which has been in decline since Canada arrested Huawei CFO Meng Wanzhou on Dec. 1, 2018, at the request of the United States.

In a separate court case in China, Canadian Robert Schellenberg was sentenced to death in early January after an unexpected retrial of his drug-smuggling case. Schellenberg was given the death penalty after a one-day hearing.

Schellenberg was appealing a sentence given to him in November 2018—a sentence that took more than two and a half years for the court to determine—when the appeal court ordered a retrial, saying his sentence was, in fact, too lenient. He was originally convicted of smuggling about 222 kilograms (489 pounds) of methamphetamine from China to Aus-

tralia and sentenced to 15 years in prison.

His lawyer said that no new facts were presented at his appeal, which would be required to order a retrial, Global News reports.

Schellenberg’s death sentence, along with Beijing’s detention of Canadians Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor on Dec. 10, 2018, are thought to be part of the regime’s tactics to pressure the Canadian government to release Meng. Both Kovrig and Spavor were charged with stealing state secrets in early March, just days after Canada allowed the extradition hearings against Meng to proceed.

China has also reportedly asked regional governments to list business dealings they have with Canadian firms so that Beijing can have more options to target them as a way to pressure Canada, former Canadian ambassador to China Guy Saint-Jacques told CBC.

According to Saint-Jacques, the ongoing tensions between the two countries is one way for Beijing “to build up an inventory of possible targets for future measures directed at Canada.”

Outside the courts, Canadian companies are already facing greater obstacles in exporting their products to China.

Dwight Gerling, president of Canadian soybean exporter DG Global, told CBC that since January, routine soybean inspections in Chinese ports now require three weeks when they used to only take a few days. He said that this has led Chinese buyers to avoid Canadian products.

“They’re basically sending out the signal, ‘You buy from Canada, we’re going to make your life difficult,’” Gerling said.

Some Canadian pork shipments to China also faced delays over the use of outdated forms, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency said on April 22.

“We’re very concerned by this sentence.

CHRYSTIA FREELAND, CANADIAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER

## Beluga Whale Found With Russian Harness Alarms Norwegian Military

JACK PHILLIPS

A beluga whale was discovered with a harness around its body that apparently was Russian-made, sparking alarm from Norwegian officials that the animal escaped a military facility in Russia, according to reports on April 29.

Joergen Ree Wiig, a marine biologist from the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries, said that “Equipment St. Petersburg” was written on the harness, ABC News reported. The harness featured a mount for a camera.

“I have been in contact with some Russian researchers and they can confirm that there is nothing they are doing,” Audun Rikardsen of Norwegian Arctic University said, according to New Scientist. He said the beluga is “most likely” from the “Russian Navy in Murmansk.”

The whale was approaching boats and trying to rub off the straps, according to the publication. A fisherman then went into the water and took off the harness.

Wiig said the whale exhibited behavior that suggested it had been in captivity for a while.

“It was very used to people, so I do not know if it will manage alone,” Wiig said, according to New Scientist.

The United States, the Soviet Union, and other countries have used beluga whales or dolphins for military purposes. Moscow used dolphins during the Cold War to plant bombs and detect abandoned ships. The U.S. Navy said it has trained “bottlenose dolphins and California sea lions to detect, locate, mark and recover objects in harbors, coastal areas, and at depth in the open sea.”

Rikardsen said the beluga “is a tame animal that is used to get food served so

that is why it has made contacts with the fishermen,” The Associated Press reported.

“The question is now whether it can survive by finding food by itself. We have seen cases where other whales that have been in Russian captivity doing fine,” he said.

According to BBC, Rikardsen added that the harness “was attached really tightly around its head, in front of its pectoral fins and it had clips,” saying that a GoPro could be attached there.

Col. Viktor Baranets, a Russian reserve colonel, said that it could have escaped from the Russian navy.

“We have military dolphins for combat roles, we don’t cover that up,” he told the BBC. “In Sevastopol (in Crimea) we have a center for military dolphins, trained to solve various tasks, from analyzing the seabed to protecting a stretch of water, killing foreign divers, attaching mines to the hulls of foreign ships.”

The Soviet Union used a base in Sevastopol on the Crimean peninsula during the Cold War to train the mammals for military purposes such as searching for mines or other objects and planting explosives. The facility in Crimea was closed following the collapse of the Soviet Union, though unnamed reports shortly after the Russian annexation of Crimea indicated that it had reopened.

The Russian Defense Ministry published a public tender in 2016 to purchase five dolphins for a training program. The tender did not explain what tasks the dolphins were supposed to perform but indicated they were supposed to have good teeth. It was taken offline shortly after publication.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.



A beluga whale swims next to a fishing boat before Norwegian fishermen removed the tight harness, off the northern Norwegian coast on April 26, 2019.



# Dutch Publishing House Brill Terminates Agreement With Chinese Publisher After Censorship Episode

FRANK FANG

Netherlands-based publishing house Brill recently ended its distribution agreement with a Chinese state-run publisher, after the latter was found to have censored out a paper submitted to one of its journals.

In a statement published on its website on April 25, Brill announced it would no longer partner with China's Higher Education Press to distribute four of its journals to customers outside China, effective in 2020.

The Dutch publishing house didn't provide an explanation for its decision.

Brill, founded in 1683, is currently one of the largest academic journal publishers in the world, with more than 300 titles in subjects such as Asian studies, history, social sciences, human rights, and biology.

The agreement between Brill and Higher Education Press was signed in September 2011, according to a web post by China Education Publishing and Media Holding Corporation, another state-run publishing house.

Academic Censorship

Jacob Edmond, an associate professor in the department of English and linguistics at the University of Otago in New Zealand, was one of the academics who exposed an incident of censorship involving one of the Chinese publisher's journals, "Frontiers of Literary Studies in China" (FLSC).

In an April 29 interview with U.S. education news website Inside Higher Ed, Edmond said he welcomed Brill's decision and called it a "small win in what is an ongoing battle against censorship creep."

"I feel saddened that we should have had to speak out publicly before Brill chose to take this step," Edmond added.

He and his colleague Lorraine Wong, assistant professor at the university's Chinese studies department, recounted in writing how they witnessed Chinese censorship for a planned special issue of FLSC that they were invited to co-edit.

The account, along with the censored article, was published in April, in volume 40 of the U.S.-based journal "Chinese Literature: Essays, Articles, Reviews."

Edmond and Wong wrote that while overseeing the peer-review process for

the special issue, they accepted four essays. The issue was slated to be published in the first half of 2018. However, when they received proofs for the issue, shortly before the publication date, one of the essays, written by Liu Jin, associate professor of Chinese language and culture at the Georgia Institute of Technology, was missing.

Liu's essay focused on the works of Chinese comic artist Li Xiaoguai, known for his caricatures and invented Chinese characters that satirize the Chinese Communist Party.

In addition, Edmond and Wong said that their introduction essay was "crudely edited to remove all mention of Liu's article."

They then wrote to the FLSC editor-in-chief, Zhang Xudong, who is currently a professor of comparative literature and East Asia studies at New York University.

Zhang told them "that the removal of Liu's essay should come as no surprise, since FLSC has its editorial office in Beijing and so must abide by normal Chinese censorship," Edmond and Wong wrote.

"However, Zhang went further. He went on to say that Liu's essay should never have been accepted and that he was now using his editorial prerogative to reject it," they continued.

Inside Higher Ed, in a separate article published April 19, reported that it reviewed email correspondence they had with Zhang, which verifies their account.

State-Run Publisher

Higher Education Press, founded in May 1954, is directly under the leadership of China's Ministry of Education, according to its website. It is currently headed by Su Yuehong, the publisher's president and Party secretary.

Higher Education Press has clearly stated its desire to toe the Party line. In September 2018, it called a meeting for the publisher's top leaders and Party committee members, according to its website. The meeting concluded that it "must follow the educational and publishing policies of the [Chinese Communist] Party," as well as agree with "the leading role of Marxism."

Edmond and Wong wrote in their ac-



People study at a national library in Beijing on May 30, 2013.

Liu's censored essay focused on the works of Chinese comic artist Li Xiaoguai, known for satirising the Chinese Communist Party.

count that since their special issue was to be published outside China, they believed it would not be subject to censorship. "We were perhaps naive to assume that the association with Brill and the international editorial board indicated that the journal operated according to the normal standards for non-Mainland publications and would not be subject to censorship."

**Past Examples**

This is not the first time that an international scholarly journal was subject to Beijing's censorship. In August 2017, Cambridge University Press initially agreed to a Beijing demand to block online access to 315 articles of the journal "China

Quarterly" in the Chinese market. After public criticism, the publisher reversed its decision.

The blocked articles included topics such as the spiritual practice persecuted by the Chinese regime Falun Gong; the Tiananmen Square Massacre; Tibet, another site of Chinese suppression; and the Cultural Revolution, a brutal political campaign—all considered taboo subjects by Beijing.

Another publishing giant Springer Nature, which is headquartered in the UK but is owned by a German publishing group, agreed to pull access to a number of articles in China to comply with Chinese regulations in November 2017, according to Reuters.

## PepsiCo Offers to Settle With Indian Farmers After Suing Them for Growing Patented Potato

ISABEL VAN BRUGEN

PepsiCo has offered to settle a lawsuit against a group of Indian farmers who the company alleges grew a patented variety of potato used in its Lay's chips without permission.

The U.S. food, snacks, and beverage company initially demanded \$143,000 in damages from each of the four farmers. PepsiCo said the farmers illegally sourced and sold the FL-2027 strain of potato, which it says it has owned the exclusive rights to since 2016.

However, when farmers groups and activists expressed outrage after the case went to court in the western Indian city of Ahmedabad on April 26, PepsiCo said it will try to settle the dispute "amicably" with those involved.

"PepsiCo India has proposed to amicably settle with people who were unlawfully using seeds of its registered variety," a PepsiCo India spokesman told Business Insider. "The company was compelled to take the judicial recourse as a last resort to safeguard the larger interest of thousands of farmers that are engaged with its collaborative potato farming program."

Activists and farmers groups are concerned the multi-billion dollar conglomerate is interfering with India's food supply using its power, the Guardian reported.

One of the farmers sued by PepsiCo, Bipin Patel, told Reuters, "We have been growing potatoes for a long time and we didn't face this problem ever, as we've mostly been using the seeds saved from one harvest to plant the next year's crop."

Defending the four farmers, activist Kapil Shah told the publication, "It's a question of India's seed sovereignty, food sovereignty, and country sovereignty."

"It's spreading panic among the farmers."

PepsiCo has a collaborative potato farming program that allows farmers who take part to receive supplies of the potato variety, as long as they then sell the produce back to the company at a fixed price.

The company has argued that the four farmers growing the FL-2027 strain are infringing PepsiCo's rights under Section 64 of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act 2001.

However, farmers' groups have cited Section 39 of the same act which states that a farmer can "save, use, sow, resow, exchange, share, or sell his farm produce including seed of a variety protected under



An Indian farmer harvests potatoes at a field at Nadol village in Dehgam Taluka, India, in this file photo.

this Act," if he or she does not sell "branded seed," The Hindu reported.

In a joint letter to the Indian Ministry of Agriculture, more than 190 activists lashed out at the move to sue the farmers, calling PepsiCo's lawsuit "false and untenable," reported India Today.

Farmers groups also sent a letter to the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority, asking it to fund legal expenses through the National Gene Fund and make a submission on their behalf in court, according to The Hindu.

"These farmers are small, holding around 3-4 acres on an average, and had grown a potato crop from farm-saved seed after they accessed the potato seed locally in 2018," part of the letter read.

PepsiCo, which owns Pepsi, as well as other brands such as Lay's, Gatorade, and Quaker Oats, offered to drop the lawsuit if the farmers become part of its collaborative potato farming program.

The farmers would have to purchase the potato seeds from PepsiCo and subsequently sell the produce back at predetermined prices, the company said.

"In case they do not wish to join this program, they can simply sign an agreement and grow other available varieties of potatoes," PepsiCo said, according to USA Today.

The farmers' lawyer said they will take time to consider the company's offer, and the next hearing has been set for June 12.

"We will fight it out, no matter how big the company," Shah told CNN. "Pepsi has made a huge mistake."

PepsiCo offered to drop the lawsuit if the farmers become part of its collaborative potato farming program.

BOWEN XIAO

Pope Francis has sent half a million dollars in funds from the "Peter's Pence collections" to 27 Mexico-based projects to assist migrant communities, the Vatican said on April 27.

It comes as President Donald Trump warned days ago of a new migrant caravan attempting to get on U.S. soil.

The funds are to be sent to 16 Mexican dioceses and religious congregations that requested assistance in basic aid for the migrants stranded at the border. The Vatican noted that more than 75,000 migrants arrived in Mexico last year in six different migrant caravans. The migrants mainly come from Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala.

"The Catholic Church hosts thousands of them in hotels within the dioceses or religious congregations, providing basic necessities, from housing to clothing," the Vatican said.

Trump has urged Mexico to stop the influx of migrants attempting to enter the United States illegally. The president has repeatedly floated the idea of closing certain parts of the southern border in order to stem what he described previously as an "attempted invasion of illegals."

U.S. officials said they arrested or denied entry to more than 103,000 people along the border with Mexico in March, more than twice as many as the same period in 2018.

"A very big Caravan of over 20,000 people started up through Mexico," Trump said in an April 24 Twitter post. "It has been reduced in size by Mexico but is still coming. Mexico must apprehend the remainder or we will be forced to close that section of the Border & call up the Military. The Coyotes & Cartels have weapons!"

Peter's Pence, which are donations or payments made directly to the Holy See, must be evaluated for transparency, the Vatican said.

In a statement, the church insisted that "a regulated and transparent use of the resources, which must be accounted for, is required before the aid is assigned." It also noted that 13 projects of the 27 have already been approved, with another 14 currently being evaluated.

The Pentagon said on April 26 that it expects to send about 300 additional troops to the U.S.-Mexico border. The move is a sign of a growing military support role, as the Trump administration seeks to

“A very big Caravan of over 20,000 people started up through Mexico. It has been reduced in size by Mexico but is still coming.

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP, ON TWITTER

add assistance to an overwhelmed Border Patrol dealing with what Customs and Border Protection chief Kevin McAleenan has called "unprecedented humanitarian and border security crisis all along our Southwest border."

Trump, who has made tackling illegal immigration a signature issue of his presidency, praised the Border Patrol for their recent efforts and noted the record numbers of illegal's apprehended.

"Can anyone comprehend what a GREAT job Border Patrol and Law Enforcement is doing on our Southern Border. So far this year they have APPREHENDED 418,000 plus illegal immigrants, way up from last year," he said April 24 on Twitter.

"Mexico is doing very little for us. DEMS IN CONGRESS MUST ACT NOW!"



Pope Francis waves to pilgrims upon his arrival on stage for his weekly general audience at St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on April 24, 2019.



# A Sustainable China Policy

The Australian public is misinformed about the Chinese Communist Party, and that’s bad policy

MICHAEL SHOEBRIDGE

Australia’s policy on China is one that cannot speak its name. Decisions driven by an underlying policy are announced, but that underlying policy is unspoken and even denied. Two examples are the 5G decision that banned Huawei and ZTE, and the Manus Island naval base joint initiative with PNG and the U.S. Each one hinged on Chinese state actions and policy, and, in each case, ministers avoided saying the C word.

This is fooling no one—certainly not Beijing—but it’s leaving the Australian public misinformed about one of the key areas of government policy for their lifetimes. That’s bad policy and bad politics.

Too much weight is put on ‘managing the relationship,’ at the expense of understanding and managing the real balances of interest in the relationship—and how those balances are changing.

Beijing uses the lack of policy clarity and Australian jitters about the tone and ‘vibe’ of the relationship as leverage to put pressure on each looming decision. It—along with media that love a controversy—portrays each one as a ‘test’ of the relationship, an opportunity to do the ‘right thing’ this time, and so ‘reset’ the relationship. The next government will face this in spades after the election.

In one big way the Australia–China relationship is a photo negative of the Australia–U.S. relationship. Our China relationship has been almost wholly economic, while the policy world in Canberra talks as if the U.S. relationship—‘the alliance’—is entirely about strategy and security. Both need a rebalance.

Polymakers need to remember that the U.S. is much the largest single source of investment into Australia, followed by the UK and Belgium—but also not be complacent about the large fixed stock of U.S. investment. China (including Hong Kong) ranks fifth, after Japan, although particular investments and bids from China have been in sectors with strong strategic implications, such as communications and energy distribution.

With the Chinese state’s growing willingness to use its power aggressively and openly, as well as coercively and covertly, the relationship requires strategic issues and interests to be understood and managed in combination with the economic ones.

Honesty about the difficulties in dealing with the authoritarian Chinese Communist Party (CCP) under President Xi and what it means for how Chinese companies and the state work is needed both within policy circles and in Australia’s public discourse.

Most of the big decisions Australian Governments will make in coming years will need to integrate the economic elements with the strategic ones. Beijing does so now, to its benefit, and this is exactly what the new U.S. China policy is starting to do.

At present, national security issues bubble up through our national security agencies to ministers and economic ones bubble up through the economic portfolios, and the two seem to meet mainly on the Treasurer’s desk when it comes to foreign investment and in cabinet and the National Security Committee in other cases. It’s not good enough for the integration of strategic and economic advice to happen just in ministers’ heads or in the cabinet room.

Australia’s economic relationship with China is mainly a supplier–customer one. We sell China world-class resources and services (iron ore, coal, gas, education and tourism) at globally competitive prices, and we buy manufactured goods at equally competitive prices.

Beijing needs our resources and services and knows it, and until we diversify our economy



This is fooling no one—certainly not Beijing—but it’s leaving the Australian public misinformed about one of the key areas of government policy for their lifetimes.



Peng Liyuan (R) wife of China's President Xi Jinping, sits with pupils during their lessons in Mandarin, calligraphy, paper-cutting and embroidery at Ravenswood School for Girls in Sydney on Nov. 19, 2014. Ravenswood hosts a Confucius Classroom that intelligence agencies warn are used as part of the Chinese regime's apparatus to gain influence abroad.

further away from the ‘all in’ bet we’ve taken in recent decades on the China market, we also need China to buy those resources and services in high volumes. The challenge here is to stop talking (and thinking) as if this means we’re dependent on Beijing and so must do what Beijing wants whenever we can so that they don’t stop buying from us.

### Quick Wins

A very quick win is one of realisation. On our trade, we can simply recognise a central fact: Beijing isn’t doing us favours by buying resources and services from us. This is a case of Australia being interdependent with Beijing, rather than being dependent on it.

That’s great news, because we have more decision-taking room than we tell ourselves, and it’s less likely than advisers have told us that Beijing will act punitively when Australia takes sensible decisions in our national interest.

We can also realise that there’s no escape from the fact that Beijing pursues strategic interests and goals through economic means. So national security must be a major factor in what many might prefer to be wholly economic decisions.

A defining quick win can be made early in the term of the next government. The Prime Minister and Foreign Minister can release a declaratory policy on China that gets ahead of the commentariat and avoids the ‘reset the relationship’ playbook Beijing uses. Its foundation would look like this:

- Overall, we seek a mature, respectful relationship between our nations, in ways that enhance the prosperity and security of our region and the world. Clarity on where our interests work together—and where they don’t—is an important step in building this relationship.
- We want to continue our close and growing economic relationship because it’s to both countries’ benefit. Beijing gets high-quality resources and education and tourist services at competitive prices. We get revenue and economic activity that’s important to our society.
- Our economic and trade relationship can continue to benefit both countries’ people, while being informed by our strategic interests as well as our economic ones.
- We’ll gradually diversify our economy to reduce the business and strategic risks from relying too heavily on a single country. That will make us a more resilient economic partner.
- We welcome debate and exchanges of views as part of our politics and national decision-making. However, we won’t tolerate foreign influence activities that are in any way covert, coercive or corrupt, and we will counter cyber exploitation activities, as we will from any state or non-state actor.
- We don’t see the Chinese state’s use of aggressive military and coercive power in the South China Sea or in other parts of the world as contributing to peace and stability. This is a clear example of different strategic interests, and this difference will inform our policy and actions.
- As is the case in Beijing, there are some limits to our engagement. We don’t seek to advance the capabilities of the People’s Liberation Army, and this will constrain some defence, industrial and research interaction between us.
- We have reached ‘peak foreign direct investment’ when it comes to Chinese investment into Australian critical infrastructure—physical and digital—so foreign investment decisions will take this into account.
- We want to work with the leadership in Beijing to manage our bilateral relationship effectively, guided by our policy framework and on a basis of mutual respect.

Coal operations at the Port of Newcastle, Australia, on Nov. 18, 2015.

WILLIAM WEST/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



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**The Hard Yards**

Implementing this policy framework involves some hard yards across the bureaucracy. Portfolios that aren't natural partners, such as Defence and Treasury, or Foreign Affairs, Education and Defence, will need to work much more closely together to provide integrated policy advice to ministers.

They'll need to look beyond individual decisions and set out an agenda that provides opportunities from big decisions like the recent one on 5G.

Where was the package that took advantage of this decision and set out a positive agenda for how Australian technology firms were going to work with the U.S. and other partners in the new 5G and future internet environment created by this decision?

Ministers will need to be more demanding of their departments on this to drive this deeper cooperation. As with the banks, after Commissioner Kenneth Hayne, the incentive structures for senior bureaucrats probably need to change.

And a decision like Treasurer Frydenberg's that—for very good reasons—vetoed a Chinese firm's takeover of east coast gas distribution should no longer be able to be made without an accompanying set of policy incentives and measures that encourage investment in this type of asset from such places as Canada, Japan, the U.S. and the EU (all wealthy investor states or organisations whose strategic interests and relationships with companies pose no security problems through such investment).

National security must be a foundational element in major economic decisions—and most decisions involving the Chinese state—not just a risk item to be ticked off to get to 'yes' on particular deals and investments.

Beijing operates in this way and is adept at making linkages between issues. Australia must lift its game as a result.

**Breaking the Rules**

On China, diplomacy needs to return to its proper role as a part of the policy implementation machinery and not lead the debate. This will recognise that relationship management is a supporting element of our China policy, not its heart.

Unfortunately, much current policy and knowledge within key departments is an extrapolation of past decades and isn't proving up to the task of dealing with the Chinese state under President Xi, let alone the combination of Xi's China and Trump's America.

Another rule ready to be broken is the one that has seen senior officials speak less and less publicly and openly, using tightly scripted talking points that ensure nothing is said even when they do speak. Engaging maturely with the Chinese state and bringing the public and the corporate world along will be much easier if more policy voices are in this conversation—and senior officials from multiple departments can step up here to everyone's benefit.

Federal ministers and officials also could do a

No doubt the relationship managers in various parts of the bureaucracy will counsel against making open statements about truths that guide decisions but that might upset Beijing if said out loud. That counsel, while no doubt well-meaning and certainly consistent with the practice in recent decades, is wrong.

Ministers can gain valuable political space by saying publicly what's until now been an emerging and implicit framework on China.

Beijing already knows that the de facto policy settings in Canberra look a lot like this policy framework—and has probably been surprised that recent governments have turned themselves inside out to not say most of this.

Public policy statements not only set the ground with Beijing, but have a critical domestic function of building Australian public and business community support and understanding of policy. This is key to sustaining Australia's China policy over coming years.

great service to other levels of government and the national interest by lifting their engagement with state and local government counterparts on China policy. A joined-up policy approach across all levels of government is needed to understand and deal with the broad activities of the Chinese state and its linked companies. Having a truly national approach to major Chinese initiatives such as the Belt and Road Initiative and the Smart Cities program is both necessary and urgent—and must be led from Canberra.

Really breaking the rules on Australia's engagement with China might need some rather powerful external push, rather than looking to the formal arms of government.

If the next government were to want to rethink our relationship with China across the political, economic and strategic waterfront in light of the way President Xi's authoritarian CCP is running it, then maybe the banks have a lesson for us. The forensic mind of a royal commissioner like Hayne might be just what's needed to really reset things, as Justice Hope did as royal commissioner into the Australian intelligence community in the 1970s.

*Michael Shoebridge is the Director of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute's Defence and Strategy Program.*

*Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.*

ANTHONY WALLACE/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



China's sole aircraft carrier, the Liaoning (R), arrives in Hong Kong waters on July 7, 2017, less than a week after a high-profile visit by president Xi Jinping. China's national defence ministry had said the Liaoning was part of a flotilla on a "routine training mission" and would make a port of call in the former British colony.

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SPECIAL SERIES

# How the Specter of Communism Is Ruling Our World

## Mass Killing in the East

The Epoch Times here serializes a translation from the Chinese of a new book, “How the Specter of Communism Is Ruling Our World,” by the editorial team of the “Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party.”

Chapter Three

It has been a century since the Communist Party seized power in the Soviet Union. According to records compiled by the U.S. Congress, communist regimes were responsible for the deaths of at least 100 million people.<sup>1</sup> “The Black Book of Communism” details this history of murder.<sup>11</sup>

From documents declassified by the governments of nations in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, as well as official records on the victims of communist political campaigns in China and North Korea, the public has gained a good picture of the Communist Party’s addiction to killing.

**The Communist Party uses killing as an instrument to plant the seeds of terror in the minds of the people, forcing them to accept its evil ideology.**

Communist totalitarianism is often compared to that of the Nazis. While there are many parallels to be found, there is one crucial distinction that is often overlooked: The Nazis aimed to eliminate the Jewish people, but the goal of communism goes beyond physical slaughter.

People of faith do not consider physical demise to be one’s true death, since the soul goes to heaven or is born again in the cycle of reincarnation. The Communist Party uses killing as an instrument to plant the seeds of terror in the minds of the people, forcing them to accept its evil ideology. Through the destruction of morality, people’s souls are fated to damnation. The Communist Party aims not just to destroy man’s physical body, but also to destroy his soul.

An additional characteristic of the Communist Party is the intensity with which it carries out internal purges and selects for the cruelest of leaders.

It is difficult for many to understand the rationale behind the barbarity inflicted by the Communist Party upon its own ranks, including those who became victims simply for deviating from the Party on specific issues, while otherwise being wholly loyal to the Party and its leadership.

One reason is that the Communist Party, in its rebellion against gods and humankind, possesses an instinctual fear that its doom is always around the corner. To reinforce itself, the Party needs to recruit individuals with no regard for moral right and wrong. These individuals are distinguished in the process of mass killing, and their elevation to positions of leadership enables the specter of communism to ensure the perpetuation of its earthly tyranny.

In 1989, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) cadres who refused to participate in the June 4th Tiananmen

Square massacre were purged. Jiang Zemin, who demonstrated his cruelty during the events, was promoted to become leader of the CCP. After Jiang began the persecution of Falun Gong in 1999, he promoted officials such as Luo Gan and Zhou Yongkang to high positions, as they had demonstrated their ability to commit the most brutal crimes in the persecution.

Another motive for killing is to recruit participants from general society, as was done during the Cultural Revolution. By committing murder and other crimes, the masses implicated themselves as accomplices to the CCP’s savagery, and the most brutal perpetrators became the staunchest followers of the Party. Even today, many former Red Guards who committed assault and murder during the Cultural Revolution express no remorse for their crimes, saying that they have no regrets about the events of their youth.

Furthermore, by killing its victims openly and deliberately, the Communist Party cows the general population into obedience.

All this allows us to expound on a general principle: Throughout history, killing has occurred under tyrannical governments or during times of war because there was an enemy to be defeated. It is the characteristic of the Communist Party that it must have an enemy, and if there are no enemies, it must invent them so that it can continue to kill.

In a country like China, with its long history and rich culture, the Communist Party could not achieve its aims without continuous killing. Traditionally, the Chinese people believed in and revered the divine. Steeped in a cultural heritage of 5,000 years, the Chinese people would not otherwise tolerate the existence of the barbaric and blasphemous Communist Party. The CCP’s sole means of maintaining its rule, as learned from the Soviet trial run, is the use of mass murder.

**The Communist Party aims not just to destroy man’s physical body, but also to destroy his soul.**

**1. The Violent Foundations of Communist Rule**

Being the embodiment of an evil specter, communism’s starting point could not be anything other than dishonorable. After Karl Marx proclaimed that “a specter is haunting Europe—the specter of communism,” bandits and ruffians established the Paris Commune, laying waste to the French capital and its unparalleled works of art and culture. In Russia and China, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) and the CCP seized power through despicable acts of conspiracy and bloodshed.

**a. Rise of the Soviet Communists**

In February 1917, food shortages and deteriorating working conditions drove Russian industrial workers to go on strike. As the turmoil spread across the country, Czar Nicholas II abdicated, and the Russian Provisional Government was established. Learning of these events, Vladimir Lenin immediately returned to Russia from exile in Switzerland.

At the time, World War I was raging. The countries between Russia and Switzerland were all belligerents. In late 2007, the German magazine Spiegel revealed a 90-year-old secret: King Wilhelm II, who regarded Russia as a grave threat, realized that Lenin could bring disaster to Germany, so he allowed Lenin to travel through Germany to Sweden, then Finland, and eventually back to Russia. Wilhelm II also provided money and munitions to Lenin. By the end of 1917, Lenin had received 2,600 million marks from Germany.<sup>111</sup>

**To reinforce itself, the Party needs to recruit individuals with no regard for moral right and wrong.**

Winston Churchill had this to say about Germany’s role in Lenin’s return: “They used the most lethal weapon in Russia. They shipped Lenin back in a tightly sealed truck as if shipping a type of plague virus to Russia.”<sup>IV</sup>

Lenin carried out a coup on Nov. 7, 1917, or Oct. 25 by the traditional Julian calendar. With the October Revolution, Lenin overthrew the provisional government and established the world’s first communist regime.

But in the democratic election for the Russian Constituent Assembly on January 5, 1918, the Party of Socialist Revolutionaries (SRs) won a plurality of national votes over Lenin’s Bolshevik Party, which controlled the government administration. Out of an electorate of 44.4 million people, 40 percent voted for the SRs, with the Bolsheviks losing by a 20 percent margin.

After this setback, Lenin trampled on his promises and declared the Constituent Assembly an “enemy of the people.” Having prepared in advance to enact martial law on the day of the Assembly’s meeting in the Russian capital of Petrograd, the Bolsheviks mobilized troops and disbanded the Constituent Assembly by force, destroying the democratic process in Russia.

The October Revolution and subsequent Leninist takeover was the origin of all violent communist movements throughout the world in the 20th century. It triggered the international rise of communism and the countless catastrophes that followed.

**b. The Chinese Communist Party Seizes Power**

After 1917, when the Soviet Union was just established, it exported revolution to China by making use of the fact that the Republic of China had joined the Third Communist International, or Comintern.

The Bolsheviks dispatched Grigori Voitinsky to China to establish a local communist organization. Then it sent Mikhail Borodin to engineer an alliance between the Chinese Nationalist Party (Kuomintang) and the Soviet Union. Under this arrangement, the nascent Chinese Communist Party was given opportunities for rapid growth by subverting the Kuomintang.

During World War II, in the eight years that the Kuomintang waged all-out war against the invading Japanese army, the CCP used the conflict as cover while it expanded its forces. When the Japanese invaded China, the Red Army was on the verge of defeat, but at the time of China’s victory, the communist forces boasted 1.32 million regular troops and a 2.6 million-strong militia force. Following Japan’s surrender, the CCP used the cover of peace talks with the Kuomintang to covertly expand its forces further.

Meanwhile, the CCP’s diplomatic efforts led the United States and the Soviet Union to abandon their policies that supported the Nationalists. In 1949, the CCP finally defeated the Kuomintang government forces, founding the most evil totalitarian communist regime on earth.

At this high point in the history of the world communist movement, it controlled one-third of humanity and the world’s land area, as it comprised Russia and China, the world’s largest nations by size and population. Communist governments extended across large swaths of Europe and Asia, and many countries in Africa, South America, and Southeast Asia became clients or allies of the CPSU or CCP.

Countless people gave their lives on the battlefields of World War II, yet the unexpected result was the meteoric expansion of totalitarian communism.

See next week’s edition for the next installment.

- I. “Remembering the Victims of Communism.” Remarks by Rep. Christopher Smith before the House of Representatives on Nov. 13, 2017.
- II. “The Black Book of Communism: Crimes, Terror, Repression.” Edited by Stéphane Courtois, translated by Jonathan Murphy. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1999.
- III. Der Spiegel, “Revolutionär Seiner Majestät” (“Revolutionary of His Majesty”), Dec. 10, 2007.
- IV. Winston S. Churchill, “The World Crisis, Vol. 5.” 1931.

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We endeavor to educate readers about today’s most important topics, seeking to broaden and uplift minds. We believe that rational, balanced debate is key for fostering a healthy democracy and a compassionate society.

As an independent media outlet, we use our freedom to investigate issues overlooked—or avoided—by other media outlets. We seek to highlight solutions and what’s good in society rather than what divides us.

We report respectfully, compassionately, and rigorously.

We stand against the destruction wrought by communism, including the harm done to cultures around the world.

We are inspired in this by our own experience. The Epoch Times was founded in 2000 to bring honest and uncensored news to people oppressed by the lies and violence in communist China.

We still believe journalism is a noble vocation, but only when it genuinely seeks to serve its communities and help them to flourish. In all that we do, we will hold ourselves to the highest standards of integrity. This is our promise to you.

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OPINION

# Does Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Deserve Its Official ‘Terrorist’ Designation?

TREVOR LOUDON



Only weeks after the U.S. State Department officially designated Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) as a terrorist organization, a new, extremely militant commander has been appointed to lead the elite organization.

Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei demoted longtime Revolutionary Guards leader Maj. Gen. Mohammed Ali Jafari on April 21 and replaced him with his deputy Brig. Gen. Hossein Salami.

According to the Times of Israel: “Salami has frequently vowed to destroy Israel and ‘break America.’ Iran was ‘planning to break America, Israel, and their partners and allies. Our ground forces should cleanse the planet from the filth of their existence,’ Salami said in February. The previous month, he vowed to wipe Israel off the ‘global political map,’ and to unleash an ‘inferno’ on the Jewish state.

“Any new war, he said, ‘will result in Israel’s defeat within three days, in a way that they will not find enough graves to bury their dead.’”

During a July 2016 speech in Tehran, Salami stated, “Today, more than ever, there is fertile ground—with the grace of God—for the annihilation, the wiping out, and the collapse of the Zionist regime.”

Salami continued: “Only in Lebanon, more than 100,000 Qaem missiles are ready for launch ... so that any time the Zionist regime seeks to repeat its previous mistakes with miscalculations, these missiles would ... come down on the heart of the Zionist regime and be the prelude for a big collapse in the modern era. ... They are just waiting for the command, so that when the trigger is pulled, the accursed black dot will be wiped off the geopolitical map of the world, once and for all.”

The appointment of the openly hardline Salami seems to signal that with the U.S.–Iranian nuclear deal now dead, Iran has little to lose and is comfortable (or desperate) enough to remove the mask and take off the gloves.

This is the first time the State Department has ever blacklisted a state entity. All previous listings have been of non-state actors, such as the Communist Party of the Philippines/ New People’s Army, Peru’s Sendero Luminoso communist guerrillas, the Soviet-sponsored Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and Hamas, Al Qaeda, and Hezbollah.

Almost all of the groups on the State Department’s official terror list are either directly sponsored by foreign states or are part of networks that receive covert state backing—Iran being a major player.

Russia Link

The IRGC is not a conventional military force. It was formed in 1979 to protect Iran’s Islamic leadership and to spread its influence across the globe. It functioned similarly to the former Soviet KGB as the “sword and shield of the Party,” which was tasked with defending the Communist Party of the Soviet Union at home and projecting the Party’s interests by covert means abroad.

With the American–Iranian nuclear deal now dead, Iran has little to lose and is comfortable (or desperate) enough to remove the mask and take off the gloves.

The IRGC also was designed to protect Iran’s Islamic leadership from a possible military coup—just as the KGB was used to protect the Communist Party leadership from a Red Army rebellion or a popular uprising.

Today, the Revolutionary Guard mirrors the modern Russian intelligence services, which have become a state within a state—or, perhaps, the state itself.



Members of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps during a military parade in Tehran, Iran, on Sept. 22, 2018.

The Revolutionary Guard also controls Iran’s ballistic missile arsenal and “irregular warfare” operations through its Quds Force and subsidiary groups, such as the Lebanon-based terror group Hezbollah.

Like modern Russian intelligence, the Revolutionary Guard also oversees several major strategic industries, commercial services, and criminal enterprises. The IRGC also supplies many senior Iranian officials, giving it political influence way beyond that of Iran’s conventional military forces.

The Russian parallels are no accident, as Iran’s leadership has been sponsored by Moscow since before the Iranian Revolution.

In 2016, a former jailed Iranian dissident and president of the Iranian Freedom Institute in Washington, Amir Abbas Fakhraivar, published the explosive book “Comrade Ayatollah: The KGB’s Role in the Islamic Revolution and The Rise of Khamenei To Power in Iran.”

In the book, Fakhraivar reveals that the Iranian Revolution that ultimately produced the most militant Islamic regime in the world was organized from Moscow through Iran’s communist Tudeh Party and bona fide Soviet agents among the Iranian elite.

Unfortunately, so far only published in Farsi, Fakhraivar’s book exposes—with original documents—the “extensive Soviet Security Council’s plan to use Shi’a clerics to confront the United States and Israel, plan for the Islamic Revolution, and create widespread chaos and sabotage in Iran to clarify the fire of the revolution and the overthrow of the Shah’s regime.”

In the fifth and sixth chapters of his book, Fakhraivar shows the role of Soviet intelligence and its agents, such as Seyyed Ali Khamenei and Seyyed Mohammad Mousavi Khoyini, in the occupation of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, and crucially in the establishment of the Revolutionary Guards.

After the revolution, the Islamist government wiped out much of the Tudeh, leading many Western observers to believe that Iran’s new leadership was anti-communist.

A better explanation might be that Moscow wanted to use Iran as a proxy in the Muslim world and as a deniable front for terrorist activities.

Clare Lopez, a former CIA officer and an expert in Iranian affairs, wrote, “The Iranians have used classic clandestine tradecraft that their services learned directly from the KGB.”

Lopez also claimed that many of Iran’s current elite, including Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, were trained in Moscow’s Patrice Lumumba University. Lopez stated that her CIA colleagues used to refer to the school as “KGB Tech.”

Iran is much more useful to Moscow as an Islamic state than as an openly communist one.

Terrorist Activities

According to the U.S. State Department, the IRGC’s Quds Force has supported terrorist activities and armed pro-Iranian militant groups in Lebanon, the Palestinian territories, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Gulf states.

Both the United States and the European Union have accused the Quds Force of providing weapons and support to help pro-Moscow President Bashar al-Assad suppress uprisings in Syria.

The Quds Force have also reportedly sponsored attacks against U.S.–led coalition forces in Iraq.

On May 30, 2013, Iranian American dual citizen Manssor Arbabsiar was sentenced in New York City federal court to 25 years in prison for participating in a plot to

murder the Saudi Arabian ambassador to the United States.

Arbabsiar told arresting agents that his cousin, whom he had “long understood to be a senior member of the Quds Force,” had approached him in the early spring of 2011 about recruiting narco-traffickers to kidnap the ambassador.

According to the Justice Department: “He told agents that he then met with CS-1 [confidential source] in Mexico and discussed assassinating the ambassador. Arbabsiar said that afterwards, he met several times in Iran with Gholam Shakuri, ... a co-conspirator and Iran-based member of the Quds Force, and another senior Qods Force official, where Arbabsiar explained that the plan was to blow up a restaurant in the U.S. frequented by the ambassador and that numerous bystanders would be killed. According to Arbabsiar, the plan was approved by these officials.”

The current Iranian regime is

certainly a very close ally, if not a completely owned proxy, of Moscow. The Revolutionary Guards, the “scimitar and shield” of the ruling regime, is heavily involved in terrorism across the Middle East and wherever Moscow and Tehran’s interests may take it.

The IRGC is indeed a terrorist organization. However, its activities shouldn’t be viewed in isolation but as part of a wider revolutionary axis encompassing Russia and its allies China, North Korea, Cuba, and Venezuela.

Trevor Loudon is an author, filmmaker, and public speaker from New Zealand. For more than 30 years, he has researched radical left, Marxist, and terrorist movements and their covert influence on mainstream politics.

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.

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## OPINION

# Postmodernism: How Nihilism Consumed the Left

CID LAZAROU

We live in an era of pessimism and nihilism, when hope and purpose have been stripped from existence. From Marcel DuChamp's sculpture "Fountain," to the anarchistic rage of the movie "Fight Club," what remains is an ugly husk of self-hatred that consumes society from within.

While it can be difficult to explain this destructive phenomenon, one word sums it up: postmodernism.

Cultural Marxism—the use of critical and literary theory to deconstruct the West—is part of that. All our social norms and customs are put through a filter of Marxian class consciousness, turning everything about Western culture and identity into oppression and bigotry.

Gone is any Western exceptionalism—individual rights, the scientific method, religious liberty, separation of church and state, to name a few. Instead, we are told that the West is imperialistic, intolerant, and repressive. Thus, any sense of Western pride is blamed on false consciousness and xenophobia.

This gradualist version of Marxism, emerging out of direct competition with the revolutionary kind, doesn't fully explain the postmodern era we are living in. Undoubtedly, the critical and literary theory of the Frankfurt School played a pivotal role in its development, but this isn't the full story. To explain this, we need to go back to the 18th century.

## The Age of Reason

It is widely accepted that the 18th century is when the heart of the Enlightenment era took place. When and where certain eras in history start and end are invariably debated, but historians generally accept that the Enlightenment, which bore fruit in the 18th century, began in the prior century with thinkers such as John Locke and Francis Bacon. By the end of the 18th century, the reaction against the Enlightenment slowly gained momentum until it culminated in the French Revolution.

This marked a turning point in a rather short-lived period of about 150 years. An anti-Enlightenment movement laid the groundwork for the French Revolution, with Jean-Jacques Rousseau being its most prominent civic thinker. Whereas Locke advocated for individual “natural rights” of life and property, Rousseau argued for a col-



Crowds are being held in control as a tumbril takes prisoners to be executed during the French Revolution, circa 1790.

***All our social norms and customs are put through a filter of Marxian class consciousness, turning everything about Western culture and identity into oppression and bigotry.***

lective “general will,” and citizens being “forced to be free.” No surprise, then, that the French Revolution was so bloody, considering its foundation was built on such a tyrannical pretext.

The French Revolution led to the rise of Napoleon, a pattern of strongman out of the chaos that would repeat itself many times thereafter. When the Germans were trampled underfoot by Napoleon's forces, they falsely blamed that on the effects of the Enlightenment, particularly because the French had cleared away the traditions of church and monarchy so violently.

However, the Germans were as vehemently opposed to the Enlightenment as the French, although this grew in the 19th century as Germans adapted the collectivism found in France.

The anti-Enlightenment sentiment of the Germans truly began with Immanuel Kant, who attacked the progress of reason with all his might. He argued that a noumenal world existed beyond the human senses, and, therefore, there would always be elements unexplainable by reason.

Kant, being a religious man, wasn't motivated by the secular ideals of Frenchmen such as Voltaire, but rather, the preservation of God in an age of reason.

## Anti-Reason

Whether or not you believe Kant was motivated by religious apologetics, it was his reactionary efforts against reason that shaped what was to come. If we were going to name a single thinker who was the father of anti-individualism, it would be Rousseau. Likewise, Kant was the father of anti-reason.

German Idealism stemmed from both positions, and this is where postmodernism is truly rooted. Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, Martin Heidegger, and a host of other German thinkers built on not only the anti-reason of Kant, but the anti-individualism of Rousseau.

As the modern era emerged at the end of the 19th century, the progress of the Enlightenment was being swallowed by a cacophony of reactionary voices, leading to another movement known as existentialism. It combined elements of both French and German thought, leading to thinkers like Friedrich Nietzsche in Germany, and later, Jean-Paul Sartre in France.

Presented as a highly individualistic response to the decline of Christianity in the West, existentialism was really nothing more than pseudo-philosophical narcissism, constrained only by arbitrary limits based on power and will.

Also around the end of the 19th century,

socialism and communism were growing in popularity. While they couldn't be more different from existentialism, a crisis of the left would lead to both schools of thought merging by the mid-20th century. How this took place is a fascinating, yet disturbing, insight into the human psyche.

## Merging With Communism

When communism took control of a third of the planet after World War II, the left rejoiced at the prospects of a utopian future. It wasn't too long, however, before this optimism disappeared.

Despite repeated reports and warnings about the inhumanity of communist regimes, even from the very beginning of the Bolshevik revolution, the denouncement of Stalin in 1956 by Nikita Khrushchev is a critical juncture for the left. No longer could the left deny that in the media and academia, covering up the tens of millions murdered by this brutal ideology.

We find ourselves today with a nihilistic left that wants the world to burn because they didn't get what they hoped for. Like a child having a tantrum, they'd rather ruin the game than gracefully accept defeat.

How does the left do this? By proclaiming that there is no objective truth, all meaning is subjective, and that morality is purely a product of the “haves and have-nots”—a power struggle between two forces fighting for domination. Yet they do this under the guise of equality and tolerance, when it is anything but.

All the post-structuralism, deconstructionism, and critical and literary theory in the world can't change the fact that postmodernism is nothing more than the sadistic rage of narcissists who can't bear to accept that they can never have the utopia they want.

And, thus, we end up with feminists such as Luce Irigaray proclaiming that  $E=mc^2$  is a “sexed equation” because “it privileges the speed of light over other speeds that are vitally necessary to us,” and Sandra Harding calling Isaac Newton’s “*Principia Mathematica*” a “rape manual.”

When all that remains is endless class struggle, repackaged from one form to the next, is it any surprise that Western culture has been consumed by resentment and despair?

*Cid Lazarou is a blogger, writer, and freelance journalist from the UK.*

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.



An elderly woman walks past members of far-left group ANTIFA on May 28, 2016 in Melbourne, Australia during an anti-racism protest.

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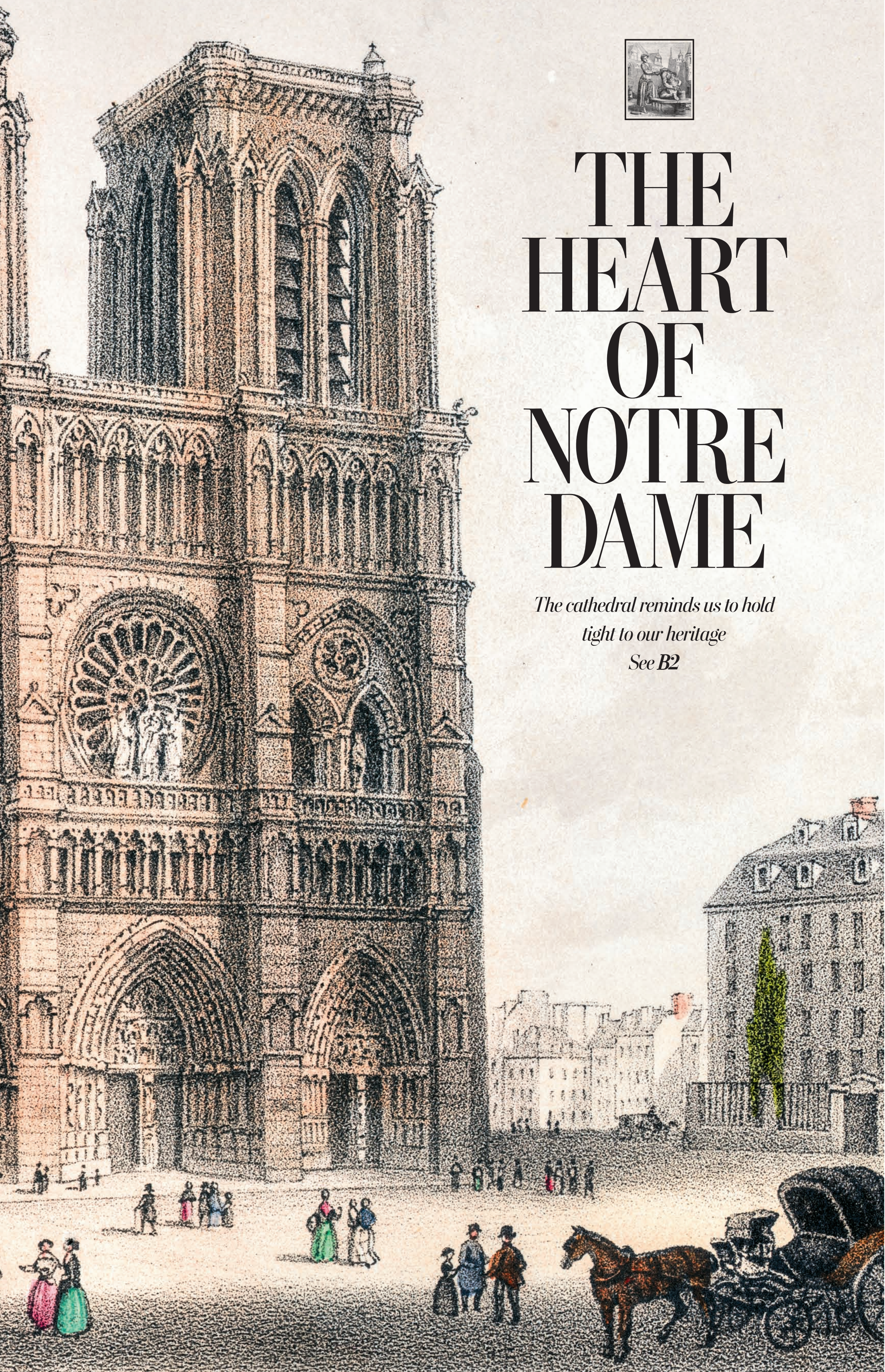
# THE EPOCH TIMES

TRUTH AND TRADITION



## THE HEART OF NOTRE DAME

*The cathedral reminds us to hold  
tight to our heritage  
See B2*





# THE HEART OF NOTRE DAME

*The cathedral reminds us to hold tight to our heritage*

CHANNALY PHILIPP

I was born about a 30-minute walk from the Notre Dame cathedral in Paris. To me, the cathedral, sitting serenely on the banks of the Seine, had always seemed as solid and enduring as the stone it was built from.

At more than 850 years old, the cathedral has been not only the heart of Paris but of France itself. It has been witness to the coronation of an emperor and the making of saints. The years ushered in the Hundred Years' War, the French Revolution, the Paris Commune, and recent terrorist attacks, and yet still it stands.

And after the fire of April 15, it stands now, even if charred and spireless.

As firefighters battled and the flames quieted and died, bystanders gathered, and the soft sound of their songs and prayers resounded through the night.

From all around the world came expressions of support.

What was it about the fire at Notre Dame that touched us so much?

Transcendent beauty, the symbol of a nation, and connection with the divine—to many, Notre Dame represents all of these.

“It is more than the soul of Paris that has been touched, it’s the soul of France,” said Marion Sigaut, a French historian based in Paris. “The kings of France came to pray at Notre Dame. They were crowned at Saint-Denis but they came to pray at Notre Dame. ... This is where they sang ‘Te deum,’ where they came to give thanks to God.”

For anyone who has had the chance to visit the cathedral, the news of the fire brought back vivid memories.

Skye Sherman, a travel writer based in West Palm Beach, Florida, took in the wonder of the cathedral during her first trip abroad with her husband. “I remember shuffling through the dark, magnificent building when, suddenly and unexpectedly, the bells rang, reverberating through the building and adding to the hauntingly beautiful environment,” she said in an email.

“It was the first time I can remember my husband and I looking at each other in utter awe and amazement at what we were witnessing, with total wonder in both of our eyes as we took in the experience. The music filled the cathedral, and you could feel it all the way through to your heart. It is one of the most visceral memories I have from all of my travels.”

Miami-based architect Kobi Karp visited Notre Dame as a student in 1986.

Buildings are not just buildings, he said. The cathedral was also “the home of the community—a place where people go in a time of celebration, a time of mourning, a time of war, a time of concern.”

He reflected on how Notre Dame survived through the ages and, just in the last century, through two world wars. “You can argue the French gave up Paris so it wouldn’t get bombed,” he said.

“It’s a marvel of engineering, [designed] to make you come down to your knees, literally, to put God in your heart, soul, and mind. So if you didn’t fear God before, guess what? You would have a reconsideration when you walked into this space.

“The sound of it—it’s disengaged from the city outside. It’s quiet, peaceful, intimate. It offers the opportunity for meditation, thoughtfulness, away from what you do on a daily basis.”

## The Novel That Saved the Cathedral

As enduring as the cathedral seems, at almost 900 years old, it has met with damage and the need for renovation many times. Just as it does today, it has always needed champions.

Novelist Victor Hugo was one of them. He praised the Gothic style, which was deemed old-fashioned at the time. “The Hunchback of Notre Dame,” which was published in 1831, devotes more than 3,000 words to the description of the cathedral, recalling its beauty and detailing its decay at the hands of time and man.

Book Three, Chapter I, starts thus: “The church of Notre Dame de Paris is still no doubt, a majestic and sublime edifice. But, beautiful as it has been preserved in growing old, it is difficult not to sigh, not



A photo of Notre Dame cathedral taken on Sept. 5, 1986.

PIERRE VERDY/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

to wax indignant, before the numberless degradations and mutilations which time and men have both caused the venerable monument to suffer, without respect for Charlemagne, who laid its first stone, or for Philip Augustus, who laid the last.”

The novel’s main character, the bell-ringer Quasimodo, disdained and physically deformed, was a metaphor for the cathedral itself, and Hugo was able to elicit the public’s sympathy for both:

“His cathedral was sufficient for him. It was peopled with marble figures—kings, saints, bishops—who at least did not burst out laughing in his face, and who gazed upon him only with tranquillity and kindness. The other statues, those of the monsters and demons, cherished no hatred for him, Quasimodo. He resembled them too much for that. They seemed rather, to be scoffing at other men. The saints were his friends, and blessed him; the monsters were his friends and guarded him. So he held long communion with them. He sometimes passed whole hours crouching before one of these statues, in solitary conversation with it. If any one came, he fled like a lover surprised in his serenade.”

The novel’s popularity was a huge boost for Notre Dame; and in 1844, King Louis Philippe ordered its restoration, which included the 750-ton spire that burned and collapsed during the fire this month.

## A Human Chain

Thanks to firefighters who formed a human chain, artifacts of inestimable worth were saved, including the tunic of the beloved King Louis IX and the crown of thorns, which was believed to have been worn by Jesus.

Some say it was a miracle that these items were saved. And only days before the fire, 16 copper statues representing the 12 apostles and the four evangelists were removed from the top of the spire and sent to the southwest of France for restoration.

The cathedral’s altar and a sculpture of the Pietà by Nicolas Coustou, which was commissioned by King Louis XIV, also were spared.

Perhaps another miracle, in light of the unrest and pessimism that has dogged France in recent times, is how the hearts of men and women were, in unity, moved to action and reflection.

And yet, the damage to Notre Dame, in a sense, is not just about Notre Dame. As Karp pointed out, it reminds us that there are buildings worth preserving all over the world.

They are a repository of history and meaning. Without care, some decay with time. Others crumble under the weight of war.

A friend of mine, Navy veteran and Epoch Times contributor Amanda Burrill, was once deployed to the Persian Gulf. With the screaming sounds of Tomahawk missiles overhead, she said, “my thoughts were, of course, on the people in harm’s way, but also on the museums and antiquities being destroyed. Those thoughts brought me to tears.”

Years later, she lived in the Marais, down the street from Notre Dame. When the fire blazed on April 15, the sight of firefighters

carrying out the precious artifacts brought her untold relief, she said.

In every generation, we have to decide for ourselves if works of transcendent beauty and divine meaning—whether a building or objects—are worth saving.

Just like a human chain, their preservation asks for nothing less than a transmission, made from person to person, of a shared reverence for our heritage—be it for the sacred and religious, or national and historical, significance.

In a suburb about five miles north of the center of Paris, the magnificent Basilica of St. Denis, recently made the news for being vandalized. The incident is symptomatic of a larger phenomenon that is often downplayed. In March, an exclusive from French newspaper Le Figaro mentioned a statistic from the French national police: 877 French churches were vandalized in 2018. Will the renewed interest in Notre Dame add a measure of protection for other churches?

And will other buildings around the world, rich in heritage and history, be looked at differently?

## Rebuilding Notre Dame

Martin Soler, a resident of Paris, found hope in how spontaneously French citizens responded to fund the cathedral’s restoration.

“In less than 48 hours, over 1 billion euros has been pledged to the restoration. ... That so many people will put the beauty and survival of our worldwide cultural heritage before their own profit or even necessities goes to show that how much people care for making the world a little bit more beautiful,” he said.

To rebuild the cathedral, Karp said, will not be a complicated matter. It will, however, be time-consuming, due to the conversations and debates that will ensue to decide in what manner it should be rebuilt.

French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe has announced a design competition to rebuild “a new spire that is adapted to the techniques and the challenges of our era.”

Karp sees an opportunity to incorporate fire safety standards, but he believes “a historic structure should be rebuilt and brought back to life the way they were before the fire, not repurposed in shape or form.”

“We are smart enough, we have the photographic, digital records of the structure to let us do that,” though there will have to be some “compromise in some shape or form,” he said.

“Notre Dame will never be the same 100 percent, but then again it was never the same. Buildings change, as do people.”

Notre Dame, though partly burned, lives on. And having reawakened the hearts of the people of France, and the world, she will continue to endure.

Sigaut, the historian, said, “Ever since France was France, her heart beat at Notre Dame.”

Channaly Philipp is a senior editor at The Epoch Times.

Epoch Times reporter David Vives in France contributed to this report.

“It’s a marvel of engineering [designed] to make you come down to your knees, literally, to put God in your heart, soul, and mind.”

Kobi Karp, founder and principal, Kobi Karp Architecture and Interior Design

In every generation, we have to decide for ourselves if these works of transcendent beauty and divine meaning—whether a building or objects—are worth saving.



# How Paris and Notre Dame Endured the RAVAGES OF SOCIALISM

JOSHUA PHILIPP

The world watched together on April 15, as the Notre Dame cathedral burned. It all happened very slowly, starting with a spark that seemed easy to extinguish, yet grew until the blaze engulfed the whole roof, until its spire fell.

While the damage wasn't as devastating as it could have been, and people came together to finance its repairs, that moment when a symbol of Western civilization burned before the world's eyes is something that many won't soon forget.

Notre Dame is the heart of Paris. A series of temples and churches was built on its site starting in the 4th century, during the Roman Empire. The cathedral, in its current form, was completed in 1260 after more than 100 years of construction.

It's a relic of history—a place that has witnessed the development of Western civilization as we know it.

And Notre Dame also is a place that has endured all the fury of the new movements that have looked to wipe out history, religion, and traditional culture, including the French Revolution, various socialist uprisings, and the Paris Commune of 1871, when communism first took power.

## The War on Faith

A shift took place in Europe during the French Revolution that began in 1789. People, believing in the new age of "enlightenment," believed that they could throw out all the things of the old world and that, in the reason of the modern age, men could form something better.

That movement of "reason" launched the Reign of Terror, which saw the guillotine as a new and reasonable way to end the lives of between 18,000 and 40,000 people, after the king and queen were beheaded.

A frenzy took over the hearts of men, driving a desire to not just abandon the past, but to destroy it in spirit and in form. The leaders of the French Revolution set up their new "Cult of Reason," deemed the first state religion of atheism.

Notre Dame was among their targets for destruction. They took 28 stone statues of the Kings of Judah from the cathedral and beheaded them. They dressed farm animals in the clothes of priests and placed prostitutes at the heads of churches to represent the "Goddess of Reason." The cathedral itself was turned from a place of worship to a place of debauchery.

When Napoleon Bonaparte brought an end to the French Revolution, and banned the atheist Cult of Reason, he brought life to the cathedral again with his coronation in 1804. Yet Notre Dame would witness more terrible things still.

## A Specter in Europe

The new age of the "Cult of Reason" soon gave rise to the new ideologies of socialism and communism—terms that were, until Vladimir Lenin's Bolshevik Revolution in 1917, used mostly interchangeably.

The idea of destroying tradition in the name of socialist revolution was carried out by François-Noël "Gracchus" Babeuf, whom Karl Marx called the first revolutionary communist. This outlook was brought into the new ideas of "communism" by Filippo Buonarroti in 1828, which would lead to the League of Outlaws in



PUBLIC DOMAIN

The Rue de Rivoli after the fights and the fires of the Paris Commune in May 1871.

1834, which became the League of the Just in 1847. This would later merge with the German Worker's Club, from which Marx would send his terror onto the world.

France, at the time, was still reeling from the aftermath of the French Revolution when, as Marx put it, the "specter" of communism had begun "haunting Europe."

The French socialists had launched additional uprisings in 1789, 1830, and 1848 before Napoleon III launched his own movement with a coup d'état in December 1851, which sought to end the chaos that had enveloped France and seeped through Europe. His law included a ban of organizations such as the Cult of Reason, and restrictions on bodies the socialists were using, including unions and news outlets.

Yet, in 1863, Napoleon III lightened these restrictions, and according to "The Terrible Year: The Paris Commune, 1871" by Alistair Horne, French unions sent their representatives to join the first meeting of the Communist International in 1863, which was being promoted by Marx.

This was followed by Marx's Second International in 1867, along with his publication of "Das Kapital," and the staging of a new revolt in Paris by Marx's followers.

## Terror in France

When Napoleon III again lightened restrictions, the socialists took full advantage. Their newspapers began pushing a new slogan that "moderation is death," according to Horne, "and passions seemed to be mounting towards an explosion comparable to that of 1848."

And explode these passions did, with the creation of the Paris Commune of 1871. Spurred by Marx's ideas that united the socialist factions across Europe, groups including the Jacobins and the Blanquists took control of Paris, and launched a new

terror that would in just over two months—between March 18 and May 28—kill innocents, desecrate temples, and destroy a large portion of the art and architecture that Paris was known for.

Regarding their persecutions of priests and their destruction of temples, the Commune leaders issued a notice at the church of St. Pierre that stated, "Priests are thieves, and churches are haunts where the masses have been morally assassinated," according to "The Proletarian Revolt" by G.B. Benham.

What again began as a movement to replace traditions and belief with modernism and atheism, quickly led to the Commune leaders acting out the same terrors they claimed to oppose. And as it became obvious that their hold on power was coming to a rapid end, they acted against Paris with brazen acts of terror.

## When Paris Burned

Amid their talk of confiscating all private property in true socialist fashion, they censored all rival newspapers and began arresting anyone suspected of opposing their aims. Then, they moved to destroy what they saw as symbols of the old world.

The destruction started with the tearing down of the 840-foot Vendôme Column. Benham notes the Commune's proclamation, which called the column "a monument of barbarism, a symbol of brute force and false glory."

Yet the destruction would not end there. On May 23, as government forces moved in to stop them, the Commune leaders would set fire to as much of Paris as they could reach.

Dozens of historic buildings were destroyed by them, with fires spreading along the Rue Saint-Florentin, Rue de Rivoli, Rue de Bac, and Rue de Lille, and burning the famed Tuileries Palace. When they gutted the Tuileries Palace, according to "The Paris Commune 1871" by Robert Tombs, a Commune leader named Bergeret declared: "The last vestiges of royalty have just disappeared. I wish that the same will happen to all the monuments of Paris."

The Palais de Justice, the Prefecture de Police, the theaters of Châtelet and Porte-Saint-Martin would soon join the Tuileries in ruins. The Church of Saint-Eustache would be damaged, but would survive.

Their destruction also included the torching of the Richelieu library of the Louvre; the Louvre itself would have been lost were it not for the government soldiers who saved it. Among other buildings that would have been lost, but were saved by people who extinguished the flames, were the Palais-Royal and Notre Dame.

## Remembering the Past

The Commune leaders then destroyed their own headquarters on May 24 with

They dressed farm animals in the clothes of priests, placed prostitutes at the heads of churches to represent the 'Goddess of Reason.' The cathedral itself was turned from a place of worship to a place of debauchery.

the torching of the historic Hotel de Ville, before their reign of terror was finally brought to a brutal end by incoming forces.

Yet the terror and goals of the movement they began were far from over.

Marx used the Paris Commune of 1871 to further spread communism, and inspired by the Commune's destruction, he laid a curse on France in his 1871 pamphlet "The Civil War in France," saying there could be "neither peace nor truce" between the new factions in France, and "the battle must break out again and again in ever-growing dimensions."

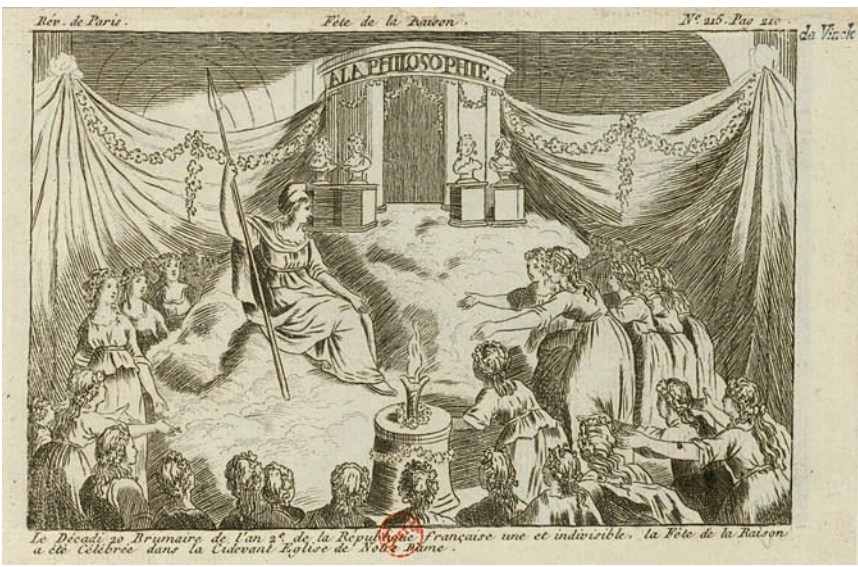
Communism's desire to destroy history would continue under all its systems that would follow—including under the Soviet Union and the Chinese Communist Party. Its a system, as Marx envisioned, to not only destroy belief, culture, and traditions, but even the memory of such things.

And now, Notre Dame has burned again, in an age when socialism has again enchanted many young people, and when calls are again being heard for the destruction of statues and monuments, using much of the same language as in the 19th century.

Yes, we watched as the flames slowly engulfed the roof of Notre Dame. But we also witnessed how people, moved by this disaster, joined—as mourners for a piece of their heritage that was nearly lost—to sing hymns.

And while Notre Dame again burned, its most important relics, left unharmed by the flames in its past, also survived the flames of today.

Joshua Philipp is a senior investigative reporter at The Epoch Times.



PUBLIC DOMAIN

A sketch from 1793 shows the "Goddess of Reason" under the Cult of Reason during the French Revolution.



# NOTRE-DAME DE PARIS THROUGH THE YEARS

1. Gargoyles watch over Paris.

2. Notre Dame and St. Michael bridge, circa 1890-1900.

3. A firefighter attempts to douse flames at the cathedral on April 15.

4. The interior of the cathedral, circa 1800.

5. A Paris student takes one of his charges for a walk along the Seine River, with Notre Dame in the background, circa 1955.
6. Worshippers arrive to take part in a mass on June 26, 2018.

7. The prized Crown of Thorns relic was saved from the fire.

8. People watch the fire from the banks of the Seine river on April 15.

9. Firefighters battle the blaze on April 15.

10. People offer prayers and look on as the fire burns on April 15.

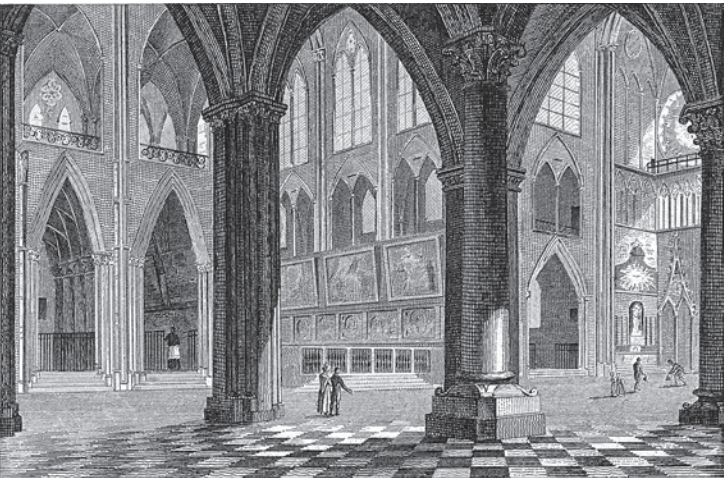
11. The altar surrounded by charred debris on April 16.



1.



2.



4.



5.



6.



3.



7.



8.



9.

## The Cathedral, From 1160 to Present



**1160** The Basilica of Saint Etienne is razed to make way for the cathedral of Notre Dame.

**1345** Construction of the building is completed.

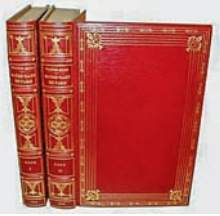
### 1643-1774

Alterations are made to the cathedral, such as rearranging the sanctuary, rebuilding the choir, and replacing the stained glass windows with white glass windows to allow in more light.

**1801** Napoleon Bonaparte returns the cathedral to the Roman Catholic Church.



**1814** The House of Bourbon returns to the French throne, and King Louis XVIII goes directly to the cathedral to hear the “Te deum” hymn.



**1163** Pope Alexander III lays the cornerstone.



**1431** Henry VI, the king of England, is crowned the king of France.



**1790s** During the French Revolution, the cathedral is desecrated, some of its treasures are looted or destroyed, and it is rededicated—first to the Cult of Reason, which is an atheistic religion, and then to its rival, the Cult of the Supreme Being.



**1804** Napoleon crowns himself emperor.



**1831** Victor Hugo’s “The Hunchback of Notre-Dame” is published.



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10.

11.



**1844** King Louis Philippe orders that the cathedral be restored. The process takes 25 years.

**World War II** The 13th-century rose windows are removed due to fear of the Nazi invasion.

**1945** A memorial service is held in honor of President Franklin D. Roosevelt for U.S. troops stationed in Paris.

**1977** The heads from statues that were beheaded during the French Revolution are found in an excavation nearby.

DAVID RAMOS/GETTY IMAGES



**2015** A special service for the families of the victims and survivors of the Paris terror attacks is held at the cathedral as France observes three days of national mourning.



**1909** Joan of Arc is beatified by Pope Pius X.

**1944** A special mass is held at the cathedral to celebrate the liberation of Paris from German occupation, with Gen. Charles de Gaulle in attendance.



**1963** The cathedral's exterior is cleaned, revealing again its original off-white color, ahead of its 800th anniversary.

**2014** The cathedral is updated with LED lighting.

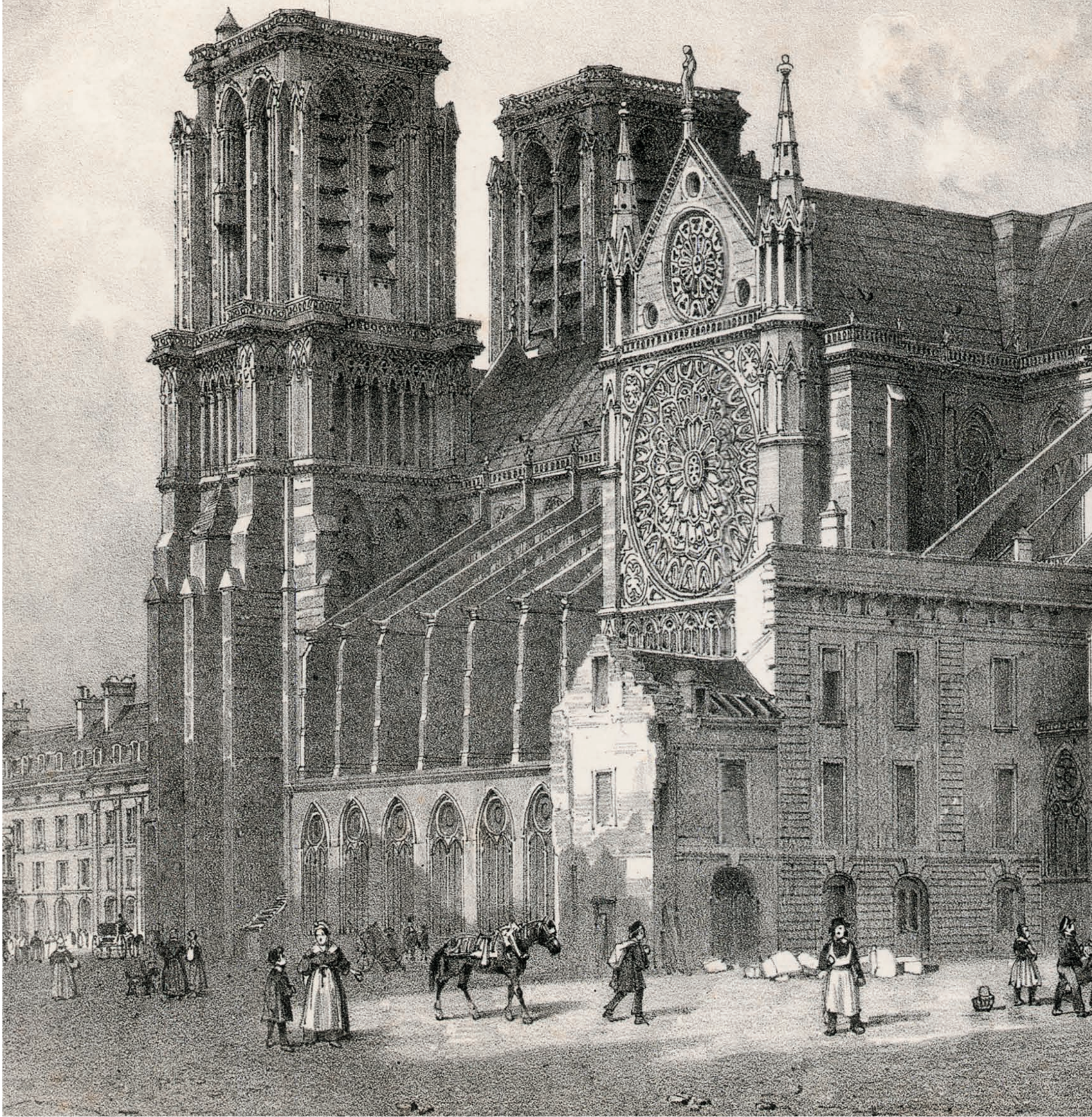
**2019** On April 15, a fire rips through the cathedral, destroying the spire and roof.

FRANCOIS GUILLOT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES





# A LONG HISTORY OF DAMAGE AND



CATHERINE YANG

Of all the French Gothic buildings, it is perhaps the Notre Dame cathedral of Paris, with the aid of Victor Hugo's written word, that has most captured our collective imaginations. This eight-century-old monument is one of the most famous examples of the Gothic cathedral, and demonstrates the invention of the flying buttress.

One of the first examples of French Gothic architecture, the style that turned stone buildings into worlds of light, color, and soaring heights, was the Basilica of Saint-Denis. It was Abbot Suger, one of the most prominent patrons of Gothic architecture, who directed the design and construction of the basilica in the 12th century. Cathedrals in Reims, Amiens, and Chartres followed suit. And with feats of engineering, they made use of pointed arches and flying buttresses to give parishioners a glimpse into eternity. At the Heart of Paris

Some believe the cathedral sits on hallowed ground. Before Notre Dame, before Christianity, the site was home to a temple for Jupiter, as an ancient pillar discovered on the grounds suggests. Over the next several centuries, several sacred buildings took its place, one after the other. Today, a small bronze star on the ground in front of the cathedral marks "Paris Point Zero," supposedly the center of the city, from which all distances to other French cities are calculated.

In 1160, Maurice de Sully was appointed bishop of Paris. The Romanesque structure standing at the time was far too small for the growing population of the city, and Sully had the basilica demolished to build a cathedral dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

**"I believe that this church offers the carefully discerning such cause for admiration that its inspection can scarcely sate the soul."**

*John of Jandun,  
French theologian, 1323*

Three years later, Pope Alexander III laid the first stone in the presence of King Louis VII, but it would be nearly two centuries before Notre Dame cathedral was completed in 1345.

The church was to be built in the Gothic style, following in the footsteps of Suger. Pointed arches reaching upward and flying buttresses that spread out like lacework allowed these buildings to soar higher, creating a sense of openness. The support system of these structures allowed the heavy stone to be set thinner, and in slivers, allowing for more glass and more light.

The construction of Notre Dame began with the choir and ambulatories (the backmost area of the church), and by the end of the century, the western facades were nearly built. In 1225, the first rose window, on the west facade, was completed. It is the smallest of the rose windows, some of the most famous features of Notre Dame.

By the middle of the 13th century, the invention of the flying buttress allowed for the north and south rose windows to be much larger in size. The south rose, gifted by King Louis IX, stretches more than 14 yards in diameter, with additional detailing around it measuring more than 20 yards.

In 1323, French theologian John of Jandun wrote, "In fact, I believe that this church offers the carefully discerning such cause for admiration that its inspection can scarcely sate the soul."

### Modifications and Renovations

Over the next several centuries, as with many great churches, the building was modified to better fit the style of the times, and it also suffered wear and tear

that went unrepaired.

Then during the French Revolution in 1793, Notre Dame suffered severe damage when revolutionaries melted down the great bells to make canons, replaced a statue of the Virgin Mary with one of their icon, Liberty, and beheaded the figures of biblical kings, mistaking them for figures of the French monarchy.

When Napoleon Bonaparte took power, he gave the cathedral back to the Catholic Church. In 1804, he crowned himself emperor of France there, with Pope Pius VII officiating.

By this time, the cathedral was still in use but in a very poor state. In 1831, Victor Hugo published his novel "Notre-Dame de Paris" ("The Hunchback of Notre Dame"), and its enormous success shone a light on the battered monument.

"Beside each wrinkle on the face of this old queen of our cathedrals, you will find a scar," wrote Hugo. The people called for the renovation of the cathedral, and the city arranged a commission to select which architects would work on the project. Hugo eventually sat on the commission that chose architects Jean-Baptiste-Antoine Lassus and Eugène Viollet-le-Duc to do the job.

The architects worked to restore the statues that had been left smashed after the French Revolution. They rebuilt the original medieval spire and replaced the bells, designed new stained glass windows, and updated many other details. It was this 25-year renovation that added the famous gargoyles of Notre Dame, along with other mythical beasts, as symbols to ward off evil as well as to serve as spigots to divert rainwater in small streams off the building.

The spire is the one that was recently damaged by





The great cathedral of Notre Dame on the Île de la Cité, Paris, in 1800. The spire was not added until the 19th century.

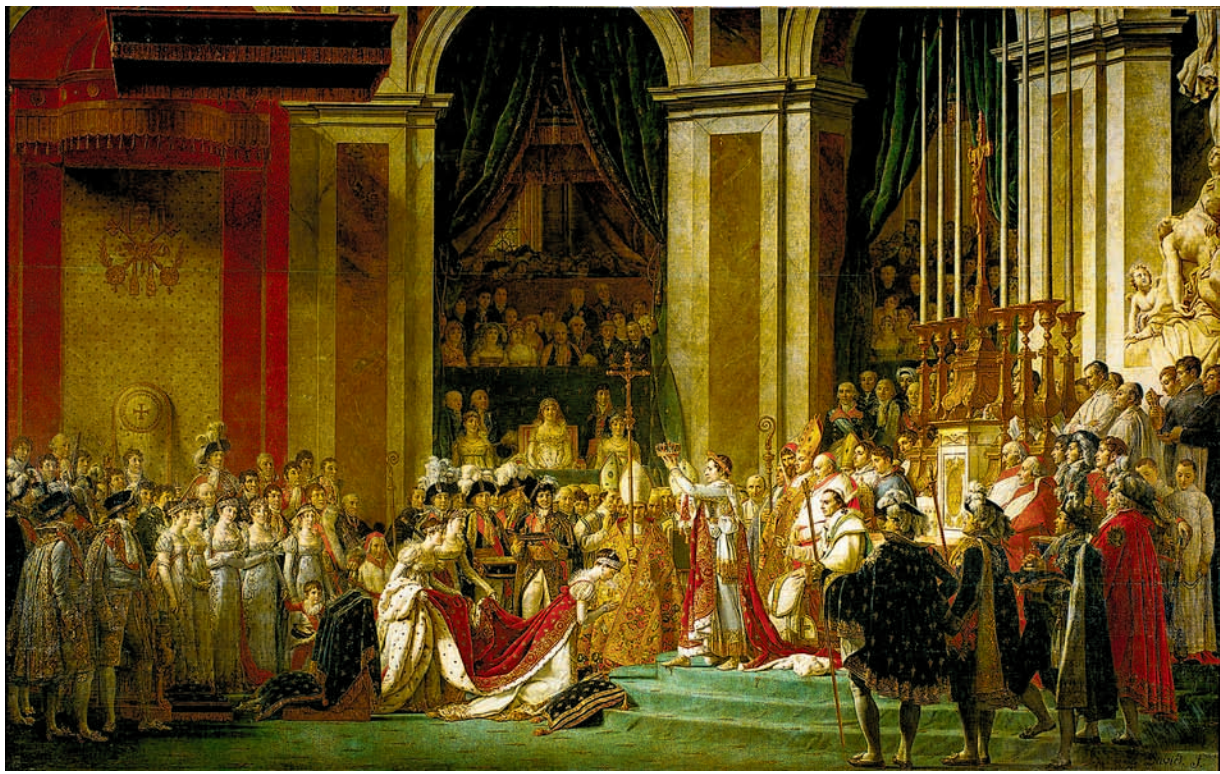
fire. The original had been removed in 1786 because it could not withstand the wind, and Viollet-le-Duc created a new one that was taller—300 feet tall—stronger, and decorated with statues of the apostles.

In More Recent Times

New renovation projects have been sorely needed since the mid-19th century. Air pollution covered the cathedral in soot and grime, decorative features were falling off, and stained glass windows were once again damaged. Some medieval windows were broken in the 1944 liberation of the city during World War II and subsequently replaced with modern designs. In 1963, the facade was finally cleaned, in time for the cathedral’s 800th anniversary. For its 850th anniversary in 2013, four of its bells were melted and recast to sound like the original bells. The latest renovation was a languorous project in search of funding. The government, which owns the property, had budgeted 2 million euros (\$2.2 million) annually for its upkeep. But the Catholic Archdiocese of Paris, which uses the cathedral, found that this sum covered only basic repairs and that additional funds were needed to fix greater structural issues. As of 2017, the goal was to raise more than 100 million euros (\$114 million) over the following 5 to 10 years. However, in the aftermath of the fire this month, individuals and organizations have together pledged about \$1 billion. Beyond maintenance, though, there is talk of a redesign. The fire resulted in the collapse of the cathedral’s

The support system of these structures allowed the heavy stone to be set thinner, and in slivers, allowing for more glass and more light.

“The Coronation of Napoleon” by Jacques-Louis David.



PUBLIC DOMAIN

300-foot spire. Two days later, French officials announced an international architectural competition for the design of a new spire. French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe said in a tweet that this would allow the examination of whether the spire should be rebuilt or adapted for the times.

President Emmanuel Macron told the press, “We will rebuild Notre Dame even more beautifully, and I want it to be completed in five years.”

Catherine Yang is an arts and culture reporter at The Epoch Times.



# Join in Restoring Virtue and Values to Society

## For Our Children and Grandchildren’s Sake...

At The Epoch Times, we’re building a media supported by readers instead of corporate advertisers, ensuring it’s free from outside influences—forever. Please help to strengthen this vision.

### A REAL DANGER Our Civilisation Faces Serious Treats at This Moment in History

1. Our nation is in trouble. According to a 2018 survey, 58 percent of young Australian voters say they would prefer to live in a socialist society.\*
2. If this trend continues, within the next decade, Australia could become a socialist country.
3. 85% of newspaper sales in Australia are controlled by two corporations. They’re not out to tell you the truth about what’s happening; they only tell you the picture of the world that they represent.
4. For decades, ideas stemming from communist ideology like socialism and cultural marxism have been moving Australia away from the preservation of rights enshrined in the Magna Carta.
5. These ideas create social turmoil, division, frustration, hatred, and violence; they break down the morality at the foundations of society. These same ideas now have found their way into the government, schools, and other key institutions across the nation.

\* POLICY PAPER ON MILLENIAL ATTITUDES TOWARD SOCIALISM CONDUCTED BY THE CULTURE, PROSPERITY CIVIL SOCIETY and THE CENTRE FOR INDEPENDENT STUDIES.

### THE BEST DEFENSE The Epoch Times Stands Firmly Against this Subversion

1. The Epoch Times has the wisdom to expose the evil nature of communism and its infiltration into our media, schools, government, churches, and society.
2. The Epoch Times has the courage to expose fake news, to safeguard the values this country was founded on, and to report important stories not covered by other news outlets.
3. Built on the values of Truth and Tradition, and based on the virtue of compassion, The Epoch Times promotes long-established universal values that represent the best of humankind.



**“After being lobbied and seduced by those puppets, politicians, journalists and leaders of all sorts of organisations across the country believe they are responding to the wishes of ‘Chinese-Australians’. They are in fact dancing to the tune of the Chinese Communist Party.”**

Clive Hamilton, Author of ‘Silent Invasion: China’s Influence in Australia’

### THE CHALLENGES We’ve Been Fighting a Long Battle

Since our founding in 2000, the Chinese Communist Party, with its multibillion-dollar lobbying and overseas propaganda budget, has tried relentlessly to stop The Epoch Times. It’s not easy to stand up to the world’s biggest dictatorship, with the world’s largest propaganda and fake news operations, but we have done it.

### These Are Some of the Many Challenges We Face:

1. The Chinese Communist Party has threatened and intimidated our advertisers and ad agencies.
2. The Chinese regime makes it clear to companies with business ties with China that working with us will cost them business.
3. The Chinese regime has had its agents steal our newspapers and distribution boxes, vandalise our offices, and spread misinformation about us abroad. Inside China, the regime has jailed and tortured our journalists.

### Violence We Faced



In 2006, Dr. Peter Li, chief technical officer of The Epoch Times, was beaten, tied up, blindfolded with duct tape, and robbed of two laptop computers by three Asian men who burst into his suburban Atlanta home, wielding a gun and a knife.



### This Did Not Stop Us

**You can help make the global communist community’s efforts meaningless—and help us to expand! To achieve this, we need your help!**

### The Epoch Times Contributes to Society

1. Truthful reporting on the issues that matter, including the Trump administration’s achievements in the United States and around the world.
2. Leading the reporting on the Chinese communist threat over the last 18 years (since 2000).
3. Exposing communist thought in our government, schools, universities, popular culture, and media.
4. Reporting on the persecution of Falun Gong, including the state-sponsored forced organ harvesting in China—one of the most underreported atrocities of our time.
5. Spreading the truth through Freegate secure anti-censorship software.
6. Providing an acclaimed Mind & Body section that that offers insights from traditional wisdom and holistic wellness.

### Rigorously Exposing Communism

The Epoch Times actively works to investigate and expose communist ideology, its history, theory, and true intentions. Our latest series, **“How the Spectre of Communism is Ruling Our World,”** exposes the nature of communism and the harm it has brought and continues to inflict on the world.

Since the book “Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party” was published by The Epoch Times in December 2004, 320 million Chinese people have renounced the Chinese Communist Party and its associated organisations.

The Epoch Times reports issues and events side-stepped by other media, but which are vital to exposing the harm communism poses to humanity. These include the persecution of Tibetans, underground Christians, practitioners of Falun Gong, Uyghurs, and other groups in China.



**Our infographics** have had a big impact on society, allowing people to understand the intricate connections between seemingly unrelated events, revealing what mainstream media is not telling you.

### Our Investigations

We have championed a new method of investigative journalism, bringing together the best of both traditional journalism and quality design to tell stories that expose corruption and subversion. Our work has included investigations about:

1. Illegal Spying on President Trump (February 9, 2018)
2. China’s Military Expansion Into Space (March 23, 2018)
3. The Secret Propaganda War on Our Minds (April 6, 2018)
4. Hillary Clinton and the Uranium One Deal (February 16, 2018)
5. Spygate: The True Story of Collusion (October 12, 2018)
6. Clinton Foundation ‘Pay to Play’ Model Under Investigation (December 5, 2018)







We are the “lucky country.” But our parliamentary democracy only works when the populace is well informed through an honest and transparent press. This is the role that The Epoch Times strives to fulfill.

What People Are Saying



“The Epoch Times is a distinctive newspaper and reports the news truthfully, decently and fairly. It’s a shame that only Chinese Epoch Times was available in the early days. Now, I look forward to the relaunch of the English edition. The Australian community needs to know what is happening in China and the suppression of human rights under the CCP. This will uphold Australian values and is also an opportunity for Australians to help improve the human rights situations in China.”

Qi Jiazhen, Writer



“I think as a media company The Epoch Times can be part of a positive force for the culture and a positive force within this economic machine of capitalism to help elevate cultural products and ideas that are going to help heal society as you preserve the family.”

Carrie Sheffield, founder, Bold



“‘The first duty of the press,’ the great London newspaper The Times declared as long ago in 1851, ‘is to obtain the earliest and most correct intelligence of the events of the time, and instantly, by disclosing them, to make them the common property of the nation.’ ‘There can be no doubt that in assessing the newspapers of the world, The Epoch Times deserves the encomium that it is a leader in observing, to the very highest degree, this timeless enunciation of the first duty of the press.’”

Emeritus Professor David Flint AM



“As a child, my father would eagerly look forward to reading The Epoch Times newspaper. Now I understand why, it’s 100% correct. A rare publication celebrating Chinese culture whilst speaking against the atrocities of communism. Australians take note.”

Asha Towers, NSW President of the National Civic Council



“The Epoch Times has done a great job in its quest for truth and its devotion to humanitarian concerns.”

Feng Chongyi, Associate Professor in China Studies at University of Technology Sydney

A Brief Introduction to The Epoch Times

Started in 2000 by Chinese-Americans who fled communism, The Epoch Times was founded in America to bring truthful and uncensored news to Chinese people worldwide—people oppressed by lies, violence, and propaganda. The English edition of Epoch Times was started in 2004, and has upheld the same values.

In December 2000, a few months after we began publishing, 10 of our staff members in China were jailed and tortured. They were sentenced to prison terms ranging from three to 10 years, forcing us to work largely underground in China. Later, Epoch Times contributors continued to be targeted: One died in a Chinese prison in 2017 after 12 years in jail; another was just released on Feb. 13, 2018 after over 10 years in jail.

Despite these challenges, we have been committed from the beginning to getting the truth out under difficult circumstances, and this is and will forever be part of The Epoch Times.

Having faced extreme challenges (financial, physical, and cyber) from

one of the most despotic regimes on the planet, The Epoch Times has never stopped delivering on its promise to readers: to use traditional, upright, and true journalism to keep the public informed.

We investigate issues overlooked—or avoided—by other media outlets. We don’t spin the news, push biased agendas, or create false narratives. We give the facts and context to allow readers to make up their own minds.

We report on a wide range of topics, from national politics, to holistic health, foreign affairs, traditional culture, immigration, and food & lifestyle.

We also hold that one of the most overlooked stories of the 21st century is the global cultural and moral destruction wrought by communism, and so we take special care to expose this deadly ideology and the harm it has caused to us all.

In all that we do, we make an earnest attempt to hold ourselves to the highest standards of integrity. This is our promise to you.

Make a Difference Today

The Power of Your Contribution

- 1. Help us publish truthful news.
- 2. Builds a nonpartisan, independent media that stands outside of any political interests.
- 3. Helps fund the research that exposes the true nature of communism and its impact on our media, our schools, our government, our religious institutions, and our society as a whole.
- 4. Helps us to report stories within Australia and abroad that are rarely reported by other media outlets.
- 5. Safeguards a forum for discussion of traditional values and the traditional vision of journalism.
- 6. Informs schools, universities and other public institutions with our content.

What Your Contribution Achieves

- \$50 – Help us get our message of ‘Truth and Tradition’ into local universities.
- \$500 – Help 250 households test drive The Epoch Times newspaper.
- \$5,000 – Help us create an ebook of “How the Spectre of Communism is Ruling our World” so that millions of people can enjoy reading it in book form.
- \$10,000 – Fund the research and production of a new investigative piece so that millions of people can benefit from it.
- \$20,000 – Help us reach an extra 1 million people with an Epoch Times investigative journalism video.



THE EPOCH TIMES

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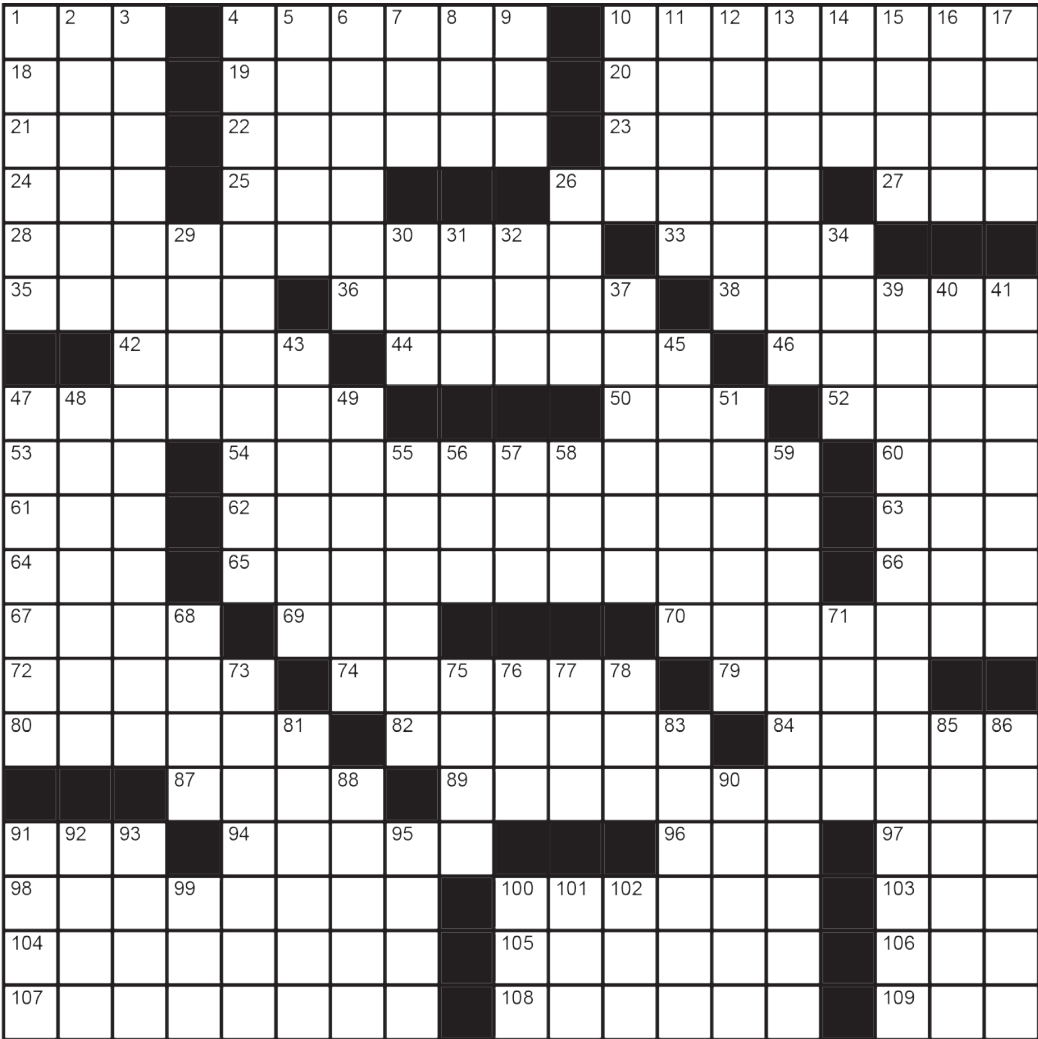
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CROSSWORD

CONSTRUCTED BY TOM HOUSTON  
EPOCH TIMES STAFF



Across

1. Faux \_\_\_\_
4. Egypt’s Lake \_\_\_\_
10. Facilities for boats
18. 9-to-5 grind
19. Last month
20. “Wrought” products
21. Big time
22. “Law & Order” role with no lines
23. Collected to the extreme
24. Top secret?
25. General in gray
26. Call
27. Grazing spot
28. Forever young
33. Jiffs
35. Pie cuts, essentially
36. Cruelty
38. Hardy’s pal
42. “Child of the Sun”
44. Bands of cerebral nerve fibers
46. One of yoga’s five vital forces
47. Bits of saber-rattling
50. “Dear” one
52. Go around in circles
53. \_\_\_\_ bit
54. Kept at bay
60. Pique
61. Tolkien cannibal
62. Rights endowed by their Creator
63. Loophole

64. Youngster
65. Major Tanzanian port
66. It’s a blast
67. “I’m working \_\_\_\_!”
69. 100 bani
70. Bishop’s bailiwick
72. Jagged, as a leaf’s edge
74. Dummy
79. Dove competitor
80. Go-getter
82. Played (around)
84. Refine, as metal
87. Cost of living?
89. Blue helmet wearer
91. Command to an at-tack dog
94. Where champagne comes from
96. Do go
97. Stable staple
98. By-product of de-composition
100. Making no value judgments
103. “Sail \_\_\_\_ Ship of State” (Churchill speech)
104. Spanish mayors
105. Almost cylindrical
106. “No” from France
107. Careless
108. Way out
109. Naval rank: Abbr.
1. From the 1930’s
2. Constellation between Perseus and Gemini
3. Instruction given to actor
4. Gene material
5. Lily family plants
6. Accentuate
7. Bit of a draft
8. Dash lengths
9. Lobster coral
10. Gossip, slangily
11. “Celebrate the Kid Inside” snacks
12. Actor Wilde
13. Patella
14. Barley bristle
15. “The Motorcycle Diaries” actor \_\_\_\_ Garcia Bernal
16. “Whiskey” source
17. “\_\_\_\_ a good example”
26. Attention-getter
29. What’s My \_\_\_\_?
30. “Sesame Street” song “Bert’s \_\_\_\_”
31. Nigerian language
32. “Ah \_\_\_\_” (Harte/Twain play)
34. “You betcha!”
37. Middle

39. Old-style wireless calling
40. Avoidance strategies
41. Baby shower gift, sometimes
43. Discordant
45. “Arabian Nights” sailor
47. Describing a sloth.
48. Aquatic nesting area
49. Gets game
51. Put down again, as in tracks
55. Tec
56. Old-fashioned contraction
57. \_\_\_\_ judicata
58. Carrier to Tokyo
59. Old World cranes
68. “A Life for the \_\_\_\_”
71. Showed
73. May birthstone
75. Lummoх’s exclamation
76. “-ide” compound, often
77. Govt. property org.
78. Common Market: Abbr.
81. “Bring life to the table” brand
83. Extent
85. Pressure, in a way
86. Fitting room activities
88. Points at the dinner table
90. “Hyperion” poet
91. Fitness centers
92. “\_\_\_\_ cost you!”
93. Chewed stimulant
95. Grid
99. “A \_\_\_\_ of the World” (1999)
100. Chowd down
101. Memory unit, for short
102. “Catch-22” pilot

4NUMBERS

CONSTRUCTED BY C. CHANG  
AT 4NUMS.COM

Use the four numbers in the corners, and the operands (+, - X, and ÷) to **build an equation** to get the solution in the middle. There may be more than one “unique” solution but, there may also be “equivalent” solutions. For example: 6 + (7X3) +1 =28 and 1+ (7X3) +6 =28

1731

15

326

+

−

×

÷

Hard 1 - 1 Solution

1336

18

317

+

−

×

÷

Hard 2 - 2 Solutions

610

51

37

+

−

×

÷

Easy 1 - 1 Solution

69

36

18

+

−

×

÷

Easy 2 - 1 Solution

WORDSEARCH

CONSTRUCTED BY TOM HOUSTON  
EPOCH TIMES STAFF

Help with Today’s Crossword Puzzle?

S S P A D E M O I S E L L E S  
I L R E L A I D K S T O O G E  
N A E I P R C O R N E L E T V  
B P W U O O O T H R E A T S Y  
A D A D T I N E S S M E L T A  
D A R D E H S T H W Y E C G V  
C S H K Y G T U E A R C I A C  
O H S E E N R P L S E R L Q P  
R R N A R E A E R T U D E O H  
P E A T O O I M E A I G A N S  
S I R S S R N R O B N M N E P  
E M E A E M E R A L D A O I H  
M S S R D T D O Y B Q L N D O  
P T O M A I N E S Q A P N A N  
L A U R E L I R O N W A R E E

AURIGA

CONSTRAINED

CORNEL

CORPSE

DEGREE

DEMOISELLES

DYNAMO

EMERALD

EROSE

HERONRY

IRONWARE

KEATS

KNEECAP

LAUREL

LAYETTE

LEAN ON

ONEIDA

OREOS

PHONE

PONTES

PRANA

PREWAR

PTOMAIN

RADII

REIMS

RELAI

SINBAD

SLAPDASH

SLEUTH

SMELT

SNARES

STOOG

TERETE

TINES

ALOES

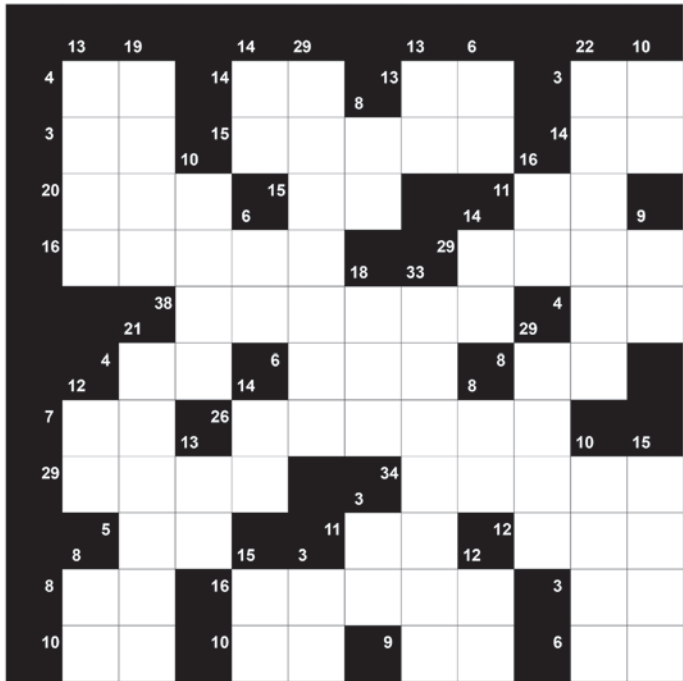
ULTIMO

KAKURO

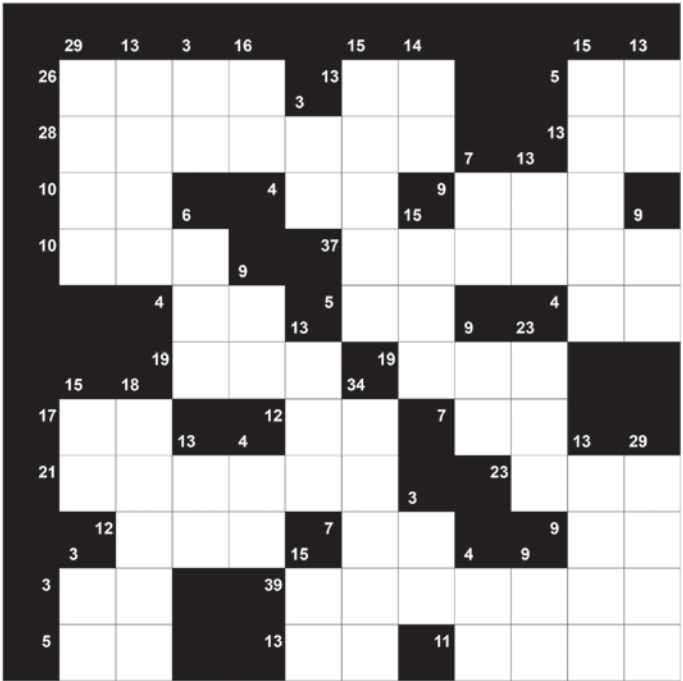
CONSTRUCTED BY EPOCH TIMES STAFF

Kakuro puzzles are like crosswords that use numbers instead of words. The goal is to fill the blank squares associated with a clue (called a “run”) with the numbers 1-9 so that the numbers add up to the corresponding clues. Like Sudoku, digits in a run cannot repeat. When the grid is filled, the puzzle is complete.

Large: Hard



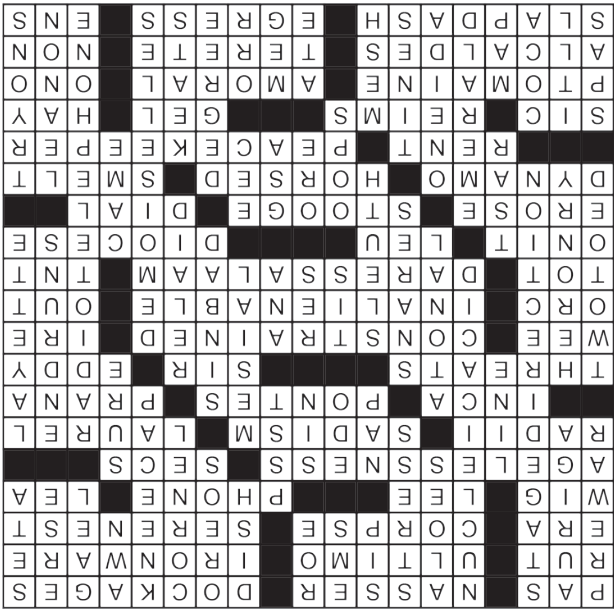
Large: Easy



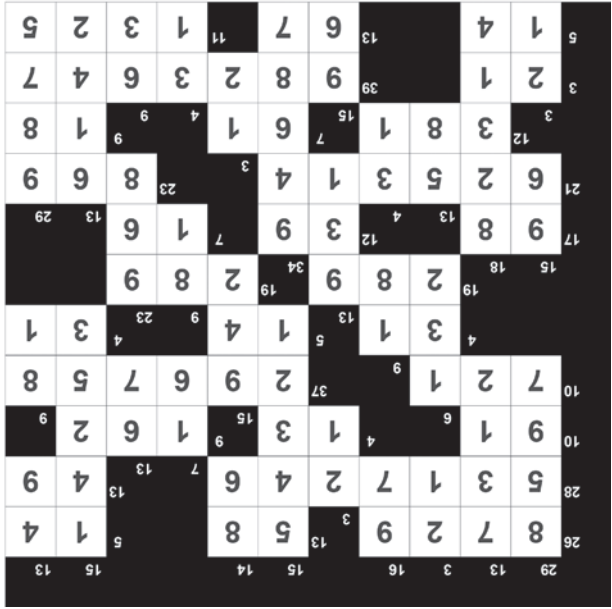
WORK SPACE

SOLUTIONS

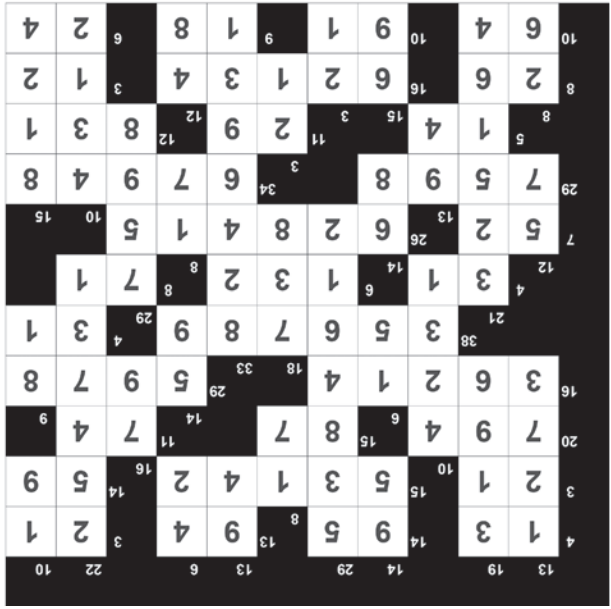
CROSSWORD



KAKURO LARGE: EASY



KAKURO LARGE: HARD



4 NUMBERS

- HARD 1**  
18 ÷ 3 + 17 + 1 = 26
- HARD 2**  
8 ÷ 3 + 13 + 17 + 1 = 36  
3 × 3 + 13 + 17 + 1 = 36
- EASY 1**  
(3 + 9) × (2 + 1) = 36
- EASY 2**  
(8 ÷ 9 + 1) ÷ 6 = 36







The Epoch Times is a nonprofit media dedicated to seeking the truth through insightful and independent journalism. We educate readers about today’s most critical issues, with the intention of broadening minds and uplifting society. We believe that a well-informed society is the cornerstone of a flourishing democracy.

The cathedral of Notre Dame, situated on the Île de la Cité in Paris, drawn and engraved by Deroy, circa 1850.

