

**Refugee Review Tribunal
AUSTRALIA**

RRT RESEARCH RESPONSE

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Questions

- 1. What are the consequences in China for someone who resigns from the Communist Party, including while in Australia?**
- 2. Please provide information on the role and functions of local Communist Party offices?**

RESPONSE

- 1. What are the consequences in China for someone who resigns from the Communist Party, including while in Australia?**

The Constitution of the Chinese Communist Party states that party members are permitted to withdraw from the party. Article 9 of the Constitution states that:

Party members are free to withdraw from the Party. When a Party member asks to withdraw, the Party branch concerned shall, after discussion by its general membership meeting, remove his name from the Party rolls, make the removal public and report it to the next higher Party organization for the record (*Party Constitution* (Amended & Adopted 14 November 2002), News of the Communist Party of China website <http://english.cpc.people.com.cn/65732/4446148.html> – Accessed 19 May 2009 – Attachment 1).

An article by Dr. Thomas Weyrauch in the report of the 10th European Country of Origin Information Seminar on China provides information on the repercussions in China for withdrawing from the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). The report states that individuals who withdraw their membership from the CCP in China “will at least be watched closely by the secret service” and that individuals who “engage in propaganda in public for quitting the Party” may be detained. The report dated December 2005 provides the following information on the CCP:

Most of the nearly 70 million members of the Party do not want to quit the party as long as the Party exists because they have privileges. But the Party itself has a constitution that stipulates that you have the right to quit. In theory, this should not be harmful to you. So it is comparable to democratic parties in our countries. But if you quit the CCP in China you will at least be watched closely by the secret service. If you engage in propaganda in public for quitting the Party, it is very likely that you will be persecuted (that you will be detained in Reeducation Through Labor Centres, for instance). This is still a great risk (Weyrauch, T. 2006, 'Important Aspects on Human Rights in the People's Republic of China' in 10th European Country of Origin Seminar 1-2 December 2005, *Budapest Report*, European Country of Origin Information Network website, 17 March, Section 2.1, p. 7 www.ecoi.net/pub/bp269_COI-SE-Budapest200512-China-Report-Final.pdf- Accessed 27 May 2009 – Attachment 2).

The report also contains information on the Epoch Times' 2004 publication, *The Nine Commentaries on the CCP* and the subsequent creation of the Falun Gong "Quit the Party" movement. The report states that a website has been created "where people can declare they want to quit" the CCP. According to the article Falun Gong sources report that 5 million individuals have quit the Communist Party as part of this movement. Dr. Weyrauch states that if a person quits the CCP in public or in "an organised way, then it is very sure that there will be a persecution". The report also states that possession of the *Nine Commentaries on the CCP* is viewed by authorities as possession of Falun Gong literature. The report states that:

In November 2004, the Falun Gong newspaper "Epoch Times" had a report on the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), on its history and on its aims, in nine sections. The so-called 'Nine Commentaries on the CCP' (see <http://ninecommentaries.com/>). A few months after this was published, it was reported that many Communist Party leaders read those Nine Commentaries and felt ashamed of their own party, which is not only corrupt, it is a party of a dictatorship, a very brutal party, the party is lying all the time, is forcing the people and so on. Every bad manner a party could have, could also be found in this party. And so they created a movement called "Quit the party" ("Tui dang"). There is a website where people can declare they want to quit. According to Falun Gong, there are over five million people who quit the party. It can not be proven whether this number is true or not, but certainly many did quit the party.

Now the question is: Is it possible to quit the CCP, is it allowed to quit the party? We should have a look at the constitution of the CCP first. If you want to be a member of the party, first you must have an application, you should have another person who wants to have you in the party, there must be a reason. If you have an application, you can become a candidate. In the time of being a candidate, you must be a very good Communist to become a member. After becoming a member you are also allowed, according to the constitution of the party, to quit the party. According to the party's rules, if you do not pay your fees, for instance, or if you don't agree with the party, you may quit. **But note: in such a dictatorship, ruled by the party, where the party is more than the state, is more than courts, etc., how can you quit easily without any problems? So it is very sure that the people have to face cautious eyes by the secret services, by the police for instance. They will be asked some questions, this is the minimum. But if they do this in public, in an organized way, then it is very sure that there will be a persecution. Furthermore, the possession of the (banned) book "Nine Commentaries" will, in the eyes of the authorities, definitely be viewed as possession of Falun Gong literature** (Weyrauch, T. 2006, 'Important Aspects on Human Rights in the People's Republic of China' in 10th European Country of Origin Seminar 1-2 December 2005, *Budapest Report*, European Country of Origin Information Network website, 17 March, Section 3.6.3, pp. 22-23 www.ecoi.net/pub/bp269_coi-se-budapest200512-china-report-final.pdf- Accessed 27 May 2009 – Attachment 2).

A 2005 article in the Human Rights in China's publication *China Rights Forum* also provides information on the Epoch Times campaign to encourage individuals to quit the CCP and their publication of *The Nine Commentaries on the Chinese Communist Party*. The report states that "a recent arrest indicates that possession of "The Nine Commentaries" now constitutes a crime in China, and can result in arrest and imprisonment". The report states that:

One notable recent overseas Internet campaign is "The Nine Commentaries on the Chinese Communist Party" published late last year on the Web site of *The Epoch Times*, an independent overseas Chinese newspaper. These nine articles, which detail the Communist Party's acts of oppression and deception, have found their way into China via the Internet and email. The newspaper also initiated a campaign urging Communist Party members to resign from the Party, with organizers claiming four million declared resignations to date. Among those reportedly renouncing their CCP memberships were 46 senior officials, such as Meng Weizai, former director of the Art and Literature Bureau under the Central Propaganda Department. The CCP subsequently launched a campaign of its own called "Maintaining the Advantages of the CCP" on January 24 this year, requiring all Party members to study Communist theory for at least 40 hours within the next year and a half. According to a report released by Harvard Law School's Berkman Centre for Internet and Society, "The Nine Commentaries" top the list of Web pages banned inside China. A recent arrest indicates that possession of "The Nine Commentaries" now constitutes a crime in China, and can result in arrest and imprisonment (Human Rights in China 2005, 'Beijing's Cyber War', *China Rights Forum*, no. 3, p.101 http://hrichina.org/public/pdfs/crf.3.2005/crf-2005-3_gc_cyber.pdf – Accessed 19 May 2009 – Attachment 3).

The following reports from Falun Gong sources provide further information on the Quit the CCP campaign. The articles also report on the treatment of individuals who have withdrawn from the CCP or have been found to be in possession of *The Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party*:

- A 2009 report from the *Epoch Times*, a Falun Gong source, states that 50 million people have renounced their CCP membership as part of the Quit the CCP movement. The report does not state that individuals have been arrested or punished for quitting the CCP but does state that people have been arrested in China for possession of the publication, *The Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party*. The report also states that Chinese consulate officials and Chinese government spies have undertaken a campaign against a New York Quit the CCP office. The report provides the following information:

IN Berlin, it came crashing down overnight under the glare of the world's spotlight. In China, it is being quietly and slowly dismantled, piece by piece, under the very noses of those who still guard it. **For the last four years, the bricks in the wall of communism in China have been crumbling tens of thousands a day, as the Chinese people renounce their Communist Party membership in a growing movement that allows them to register their withdrawals in safety.**

Last week, the gaping hole reached **50 million**.

Membership of the Communist Party itself was thought to be around 70 million before the Quit the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) movement began back in November 2004. However the Quitting the CCP movement includes withdrawing not only from the Communist Party itself, but also its affiliated organisations, such as the Communist Youth League.

“The CCP is so scared of people quitting the Party,” said Dr Ma Youzhi, a representative at the Northern California Quitting the CCP Service Centre.

“A recent event illustrates their fear perfectly. One Party member’s house was destroyed to make way for new construction. He asked local authorities for appropriate compensation and to arrange proper resettlement according to the relevant provisions of the State and the municipality, but his request was ignored. Then he declared his withdrawal statement from the CCP on The Epoch Times Tuidang (Quit the CCP) website. In fear of such a withdrawal announced publicly and the wide spread of the Quit the Party movement, the authorities had to pay this former Party member and another victim six million yuan (£604,000) in compensation for their demolished houses,” said Ma.

High level defectors from China, such as Chen Yonglin in Australia have verified the impact the withdrawals are having, and the fear generated within the party leadership.

Central to the movement to quit the CCP is a book that details the history and nature of the CCP – the Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party – first published by the Chinese edition of this newspaper back in November 2004. Those involved in the Quit the CCP movement and those registering their withdrawals often mention that the spread of the Nine Commentaries throughout China is inseparable from the tide of withdrawals from the Communist Party.

Despite the risks – there are reported cases of people being killed and of many being arrested for possession of the Nine Commentaries – they spread very quickly through China. One reason the Nine Commentaries has been able to spread, according to supporters of the movement, is that the authorities do not dare to make a public campaign against the Nine Commentaries, for fear of encouraging more people to read it, and subsequently quit the party. Similarly, the movement to quit the CCP is not publicly mentioned by the regime.

Outside of China, the Communist Party’s opposition to the Quit the CCP movement has been more apparent, notably in the Chinese quarter of New York, Flushing. Last spring, a violent campaign of hate was launched against those manning a Quit the CCP centre on the streets of Flushing.

Evidence later emerged that the local consulate officials and a network of Chinese government spies were responsible for the ongoing campaign that mobilised local supporters of the Chinese Communist Party and incited hatred and violence through tactics more commonly seen in China.

More recently, The Global Service Centre for Quitting the CCP announced a new service of issuing certificates to people who quit the party and its affiliated organisations.

The certificate has legal effect, and has been recognised by United States immigration officers, appropriate authorities, and lawyers (Simmons, P.2009, ‘50 million quit the Chinese Communist Party’, *The Epoch Times: UK edition*, 25 February, no. 00197 http://epoch-archive.com/a1/en/uk/nnn/2009/02-feb/25/001_front.pdf – Accessed 20 May 2009 – Attachment 4).

- A March 2007 report by *The Epoch Times* reports that there are “service centers for Quitting the Chinese Communist Party in many cities around the globe”. The report states that the CCP withdrawals began due to the publication of *The Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party*. According to the report individuals have used a variety of means to resign the CCP including through the *Epoch Times* website, Service Centres for Quitting the Chinese Communist Party and the Sound of Hope Network. The report states that

individuals are allowed to use an alias to withdraw their membership. The article contains the following relevant information:

The Service Centers for Quitting the Chinese Communist Party in many cities around the globe will be celebrating the 20 million withdrawals from the Chinese Communist Party and its related organizations this Saturday, March 24. This is an event that is shaking the world, but even more so, the higher ranks of the Chinese Communist Party.

This tidal wave of withdrawals from the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) was initiated by the publication of The Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party by The Epoch Times on Nov. 18, 2004. These nine editorials expose the true history and nature of the Chinese Communist Party in a comprehensive historical analysis. The Nine Commentaries have opened the hearts and minds of Chinese people and Westerners alike, beginning the process of freeing them from the oppression and falsehoods the CCP has depended on for so long.

The wave of resignations around China started a little over two years ago and has proven that the Chinese people now dare to envision a new China. This eagerness to resign from the Party has led many Chinese people to successfully break through the CCP's information blockade and formally quit the Party on official websites such as The Epoch Times (declaration.epochtimes.com), the Service Centre for Quitting the Chinese Communist Party, and Sound of Hope Network. They also send their withdrawals via telephone, fax, and emails, while many have gone so far as placing their resignations on bulletin boards, license plates, telephone poles, and advertisement columns throughout China.

...Ma also explained the system by which they track the number of people resigning from the party stating that, "to protect the lives of the people who want to resign from the CCP in China, we allow them to use an alias. They are provided with an ID number to identify themselves and they can write their declaration resigning from the CCP on the official websites. Quitting the CCP is a big thing now in China and many people are talking about it. Some people don't believe that the large number could be accurate, but after verifying the efficiency of the system and that it is true, they become very pleased" (Daly, M. 2007, '20 Million Brave Souls Quit the CCP', *The Epoch Times*, 23 March <http://www.theepochtimes.com/news/7-3-23/53263.html> – Accessed 19 May 2009 – Attachment 5).

- On 13 April 2009, *The Epoch Times* reported on a Chinese academic who renounced his membership of the Chinese Communist Party in the United States through the Epoch Times. The report states that following this renunciation of membership the family members of the Chinese academic in Mongolia were harrassed by local police and national security agents (Ming, F. 2009 'After Quitting the Chinese Communist Party, Family Harassed by National Security', *Epoch Times*, 13 April <http://www.theepochtimes.com/n2/content/view/15267/> – Accessed 20 May 2009 – Attachment 6).
- On 15 August 2008 The Sound of Hope Radio Network reported that Hua Guo-Feng, a former general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party requested to withdraw his membership from the party. The report states that subsequent to this Hua Guo-Feng was prohibited from travelling overseas (Wu, D. 2008 'Former Chairman Hua Guo-Feng Requests to Quit the Communist Party', Inside China Today, Sound of Hope website, 15 August <http://insidechinatoday.net/2008/08/15/former-chairman-hua-guo-feng-requests-to-quit-the-communist-party/#more-158> – Accessed 20 May 2009 – Attachment 7).

- On 14 October 2007 the Epoch Times reported on the treatment of 49 citizens in China who had been involved in petitioning the government and who had requested to withdraw from the CCP. The report states that members of the group were beaten and arrested. The report contains the following information:

Just before the 17th Chinese Communist Party National Congress (a major event that often decides the leadership and policy of the country), nearly 10 thousand petitioners sent a letter to lawmakers advocating a constitutional-style government as a way to clear up social injustice. On October 9, one Beijing resident who was one of the petitioners sent a list of 49 people who were ready to quit the CCP to The Epoch Times Global Service Centre for Quitting CCP.

...One female petitioner claimed that she sent out the group statement of withdrawal from the CCP with 49 names. She said that authorities monitored her phone conversations and later beat and arrested her and her friends.

Individuals who have already withdrawn from the Party are encouraging others to quit and have formed their own local Service Centers for doing so. When The Epoch Times Service Centre volunteers urged them to look out for their safety, one man replied that their lives are already in danger in mainland China.

“There is a place to register for quitting from the CCP in our town,” replied another petitioner contributing to the Party Withdrawal effort. “Nothing we do is safe now. It is unsafe to even sell stuff on the street. Who would choose to live such a life?” (Ling, L. 2007, ‘Group of 49 Petitioners withdraw from CCP’, *The Epoch Times*, 14 October – Attachment 8).

- An Epoch Times report states that in August 2006 a woman in Xinjiang province was detained for writing the slogan of the Quit the Chinese Communist Party on a banknote. The report states that:

Cao Aihua from Akesu City, Xinjiang province, was tortured to death within one week of being incarcerated in a labor camp for writing a slogan of quitting the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) on a Chinese bank note.

Cao was arrested in August 2006 by the communist regime because she wrote information related to the Nine Commentaries and the wave of withdrawals from the Party on bank notes. She was sent to Urumqi Women’s Labor and Re-Education Camp, and died there several days later (Cuthbertson, C. 2009, ‘Increasing Numbers Quitting Chinese Communist Party’, *Epoch Times*, 26 February <http://www.theepochtimes.com/n2/content/view/12755/> – Accessed 20 May 2009 – Attachment 9).

No reports were found in the sources consulted regarding the repercussions for resigning from the CCP while in Australia. However, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) have provided advice regarding the treatment of failed asylum seekers who have returned to China, including individuals considered to be political dissidents. On 22 March 2007 DFAT provided the following advice:

In terms of the possible treatment the person might receive on return to China, it is not particularly important how the person comes to the attention of Chinese authorities. As advised in reftel, it is not possible to comment definitively on how Chinese authorities would treat returnees to China who were failed asylum seekers. If Chinese authorities believed them to be a member of one of these groups (Falun Gong, underground church, **political dissidents**), it would be likely that authorities would interview them and might keep them under surveillance or detain them for a short period. Authorities may record the failed asylum

attempt in the person's dossier ("dang an"), which could impede the person's attempts to obtain employment (particularly government employment) or engage in further education. If the person was a high-profile activist in Australia (for example a prominent Falun Gong leader, or someone known for publicly criticising the Chinese leadership) it is likely that the authorities would treat them more severely (longer-term surveillance, administrative detention) than if the person was a low-profile member of one of these groups (DIAC Country Information Service 2007, *Country Information Report No. CHN8980 – CIS Request CHN8980: China: Publication of client details*, (sourced from DFAT advice of 20 March 2007), 22 March – Attachment 10).

On 15 September 2006 DFAT advised that:

It is not possible to comment definitively on how Chinese authorities would treat returnees to China who were failed asylum seekers. It would be very likely that Chinese authorities would interview them and might keep them under surveillance and detain them for a short period. Any further action would depend on the circumstances of the individual cases. Authorities maintain a dossier on every PRC citizen and we would expect authorities would record the person's failed asylum attempt in this file. This conceivably could impede the person's attempts to obtain employment (particularly government employment) or engage in further education (DIMIA Country Information Service 2006, *Country Information Report No. 06/53 – China: Return of failed asylum seekers*, (sourced from DFAT advice of 14 September 2006), 15 September – Attachment 11).

In February 2008 DFAT confirmed that the advice provided in the two reports above, dated 22 March 2007 and 15 September 2006 remain current (DIAC Country Information Service 2008, *Country Information Report No. 08/8 – Review of Information on Falun Gong*, (sourced from DFAT advice of 11 February 2008), 12 February – Attachment 12).

2. Please provide information on the role and functions of local Communist Party offices?

A 2003 publication titled *Local Government and Politics in China: Challenges from Below* by Professor Yang Zhong from the University of Tennessee contains comprehensive information on the structure and functions of county, township and village CCP offices. Professor Zhong provides the following information on village party branches:

According to the Constitution of the Chinese Communist Party, a Communist Party Branch (*dangzhibu*) should be established in any work unit or place where there are three or more full Party members. A Party branch – a smaller unit than a Party Committee – is the grassroots or primary Party organisation in China. Therefore, a Communist Party Branch exists in every Chinese village. A Party committee is set up in villages where there are significantly large numbers of Party members. The structure of the village Party branch is fairly simple. The branch is headed by a Party secretary and one or two deputy secretaries, officially elected by a general membership meeting and serving a three-year term. In reality, though, an overwhelming majority of village Party secretaries and deputy secretaries are selected by township/town Party authorities, and all Party secretaries and deputy secretaries have to be approved higher Party organizations. Other members or cadres of the village Party branch also include a person in charge of Party organization affairs (*zuzhi weiyuan*), a person in charge of propaganda, (*xuanchuan weiyuan*), and a person in charge of Party discipline (*jilu weiyuan*). Three auxiliary "mass" organizations (i.e., the Communist Youth League, the Women's Association, and the People's Military) are also under the leadership of the village Party branch.

The Chinese Communist Party Constitution defines the primary Party organizations as the “militant bastions of the Party in the basic units of society” and attaches eight functions to these organizations, including the most important function of “propagating and carrying out the Party’s line, principles, and policies, the decisions of the Central Committee of the Party and other higher Party organizations, and their own decisions.” The village Party branch serves an especially crucial function as the institutional control mechanism in the PRC since there is no formal governmental authority at the village level. The village Party branch, not the villagers’ committee (to be explained later), is the decision-making body in the village. The villagers’ committee primarily implements the decisions made by the village Party branch. All major decisions concerning village affairs have to be approved by the Party branch before formal adoption by the villagers’ committee. This is how higher Party and governmental authorities make sure that decisions made village administrations conform to the Party line and policies.

The village Party branch secretary is no doubt the most important and powerful village official (the “first hand”) in the village. He/she serves as the personification and chief representative of the Party the village level.

...All major decisions concerning village public affairs have to be approved first by the village Party Secretary. The villagers’ committee chairman usually serves literally as a lieutenant (deputy Party secretary) to the Party secretary. One of the crucial powers held by the Party secretary is control over personnel decisions and recruitment of new Party members in the village.

...The Party secretary also has the final authority over village public financial and budgetary matters. Usually all major village expenditures have to be approved by the village Party secretary. The power of the Party secretary over financial matters is especially significant in well-to-do villages where there are a significant number of village-owned enterprises. After the dissolution of communes, many villages formed economic entities called Economic Cooperatives (*jingji hezuo she*) or Agricultural, Industrial, and Commercial Corporations (*nonggongshang gongsi*) to continue running the village-owned enterprises that were already in existence during the commune era. These economic organizations, which represented the collective rural economy, were greatly expanded during the 1980s and 1990s in many rural areas (such as southern Jiangsu Province) and provided many of the funds for the villages’ expenses for public projects and welfare. The village Party secretary usually serves as chairperson of these economic organisations. As a result, he/she controls major economic activities in the village. The village Party secretary is one of the few fully compensated officials in Chinese villages.

In recent years, the influence of the village Party branch in many rural areas has declined. A 1994 Chinese Communist Party Central Committee document admitted that about 75 per cent of rural primary Party organizations were in a state of paralysis (not functioning). It is becoming increasingly difficult to gather enough Party members for a general meeting in many villages.

...Dwindling Party membership and functional decline of village Party branches have seriously undermined the CCP’s institutional control in China’s rural areas (Zhong, Y. 2003, *Local Government and Politics in China: Challenges from Below*, M. E. Sharpe Inc, New York, pp.159–162 – Attachment 13).

Professor Yang Zhong’s publication, *Local Government and Politics in China: Challenges from Below* also contains detailed information on the structure and operation of county and township CCP organisations. Attachment 11 contains extracts from the publication on these levels of party governance, pages 57 to 62 provide information on county party organisations,

and pages 75 to 79 provide information on township party organisations (Zhong, Y. 2003, *Local Government and Politics in China: Challenges from Below*, M.E.Sharpe Inc, New York, pp. 47 – 63 & pp.70- 79 – Attachment 14).

The *People Daily Online* website provides the following description of the local organisation of the Chinese Communist Party; including local party congresses and the operation of local party committees. The report states that local party committees “carry out directions of the Party organisations at the next higher level and the resolutions of Party congresses at the same level, lead the work of the locality, and report work regularly to the higher Party committee”:

Local Party congresses at various levels are called by Party committees at the same level. Under special conditions, they may be held ahead of time or postponed with approval from the committee at the next higher level.

The number of delegates of local Party congresses at various levels and the method of election are decided by the Party committees at the same level and reported to the Party committee at the next higher level for approval.

The functions and powers of local Party congresses at various levels are:

- 1) To hear and examine the report of the committee at the same level;
- 2) To hear and examine the report of the discipline inspection commission at the same level;
- 3) To discuss major issues within the scope of the region and pass resolutions; and
- 4) To elect Party committees and party discipline inspection commissions at the same level.

When congresses are not in session, local Party committees at various levels carry out directions of the Party organizations at the next higher level and the resolutions of Party congresses at the same level, lead the work of the locality, and report work regularly to the higher Party committee.

Party committees of various provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities under the Central Government, cities divided into districts and autonomous prefectures are elected for a term of five years. Members and alternate members of these committees must have a Party standing of at least five years.

Party committees of counties (banners), autonomous counties, cities without districts and districts under the jurisdiction of a city are elected for a term of five years. Members and alternate members of these committees must have a Party standing of at least three years. If local Party congresses at various levels are held ahead of time or postponed, the term of office of the committees they elect shall be changed accordingly.

The number of members and alternate members of the local Party committees at various levels shall be decided respectively by the committee at the next higher level. Vacancies of the posts for members of local Party committees at various levels shall be filled in proper order by alternate members in accordance with the number of votes gained.

Plenary sessions of local Party committees at various levels shall be held at least twice a year. The plenary sessions of local Party committees at various levels elect their standing committees, secretaries and deputy secretaries, and report the results to the Party committee at the next higher level for approval.

The standing committees of local Party committees at various levels exercise the functions and powers of the committees when the plenums of the committees are not in session.

They continue to be in charge of the day-to-day work while the next congress is in session, until the new standing committees are elected.

Regional Party committees and organizations equivalent to regional committees are Party agencies of provinces and autonomous regions within the scope of several counties, autonomous counties and cities. Authorized by provincial and autonomous regional committees, they lead the work of the areas ('The Communist Party of China (CPC)' (undated), *People Daily Online* <http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/data/organs/cpc.html> – Accessed 26 May 2009 – Attachment 15).

Additional Information

The following article from the Falun Dafa Clear wisdom website reports on a rally held on 8 April 2006 organised by various groups including Falun Gong organisations and the Global Service Centre for Quitting CCP:

On the afternoon of April 8, 2006, Australia Friends of Falun Gong, Global Service Centre for Quitting CCP, Free China, The Epoch Times, World Organization to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong, Global Coalition for the Public Trial of Jiang Zemin, Australia Hunger Strike Backing Group, and Free Man Culture Association gathered in downtown Sydney and held a rally to support ten million Chinese people quitting the CCP and its related organizations and condemn the CCP's atrocities of harvesting the organs and killing Falun Gong practitioners in the Sujiatun Concentration Camp, labor camps and prisons. The Vietnamese community, Tibet group and Taiwan community also dispatched representatives to support the activity. Nearly 400 people from all circles in Australia participated in the event. The participants called for an end to the killing and persecution and for the urgent rescue of Falun Gong practitioners being persecuted in China. They called on all Chinese people to awaken and renounce the evil CCP.

After the rally, a march from Belmore Park to Chinatown was conducted with police vehicles running in front. The reenactment of the CCP's organ removal from living Falun Gong practitioners was conducted on a float and shocked spectators. At the destination of the march, a reenactment of organ removal was performed and many people watched and accepted handouts to learn the facts.

...After the rally, the participants held a march. The march was composed of five processions, including anti-persecution group, waist drum team, Nine-Commentaries group, Quitting CCP and the Epoch Times. The march started from Bellmore Park, passed through downtown Sydney and ended in Chinatown. Numerous banners, flags, drums and messages spread the news of ten million people quitting CCP (Yu, X. 2006, 'Sydney, Australia: People from All Walks of Life Support Ten Million Quitting the CCP, Concentration Camp Atrocities Shock the Local People (Photos)', Falun Dafa Clear Wisdom website, 15 April <http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/articles/2006/4/16/72019.html> – Accessed 27 May 2009 – Attachment 16).

List of Sources Consulted

Internet Sources:

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UK Home Office <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk>

US Department of State <http://www.state.gov/>

US Department of State website <http://www.state.gov>

United Nations (UN)

UNHCR <http://www.unhcr.ch/>

Non-Government Organisations

Amnesty International website <http://www.amnesty.org/>

European Country of Origin Information Network website <http://www.ecoi.net/>

Freedom House <http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=1>

Human Rights Watch <http://www.hrw.org/>

International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights <http://www.ihf-hr.org/welcome.php>

Human Rights Internet (HRI) website <http://www.hri.ca>

International News & Politics

BBC News website <http://news.bbc.co.uk/>

Region Specific Links

Falun Dafa Clear Wisdom website <http://www.clearwisdom.net/emh/>

Human Rights in China <http://hrichina.org/public/>

Inside China Today, Sound of Hope website <http://insidechinatoday.net/>

Quit the Chinese Communist Party <http://tuidang.epochtimes.com/>

News of the Communist Party of China website <http://english.cpc.people.com.cn/index.html>

People Daily Online <http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/>

The Epoch Times <http://www.theepochtimes.com/>

The Epoch Times Print Archive <http://epoch-archive.com/a1/en/>

Search Engines

Google search engine <http://www.google.com.au/>

Databases:

FACTIVA (news database)

BACIS (DIAC Country Information database)

REFINFO (IRBDC (Canada) Country Information database)

ISYS (RRT Research & Information database, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, US Department of State Reports)

RRT Library Catalogue

List of Attachments

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