

Continuing Religious Repression In China

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Explore the alarming continuation of religious repression across China, where various faith groups face severe state control and systematic persecution. This ongoing violation of human rights impacts communities ranging from Uyghur Muslims and Tibetan Buddhists to house church Christians, drawing international condemnation and highlighting a profound lack of religious freedom within the nation.

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Continuing Religious Repression in China

2. Central government policy

God and Caesar in China

In the late 1970s when Mao's Cultural Revolution ushered in China's reform era, religion played a small role in the changes the country was undergoing. There were few symbols of religious observance, and the practice of religion seemed a forgotten art. Yet by the new millennium, China's government reported that more than 200 million religious believers worshiped in 85,000 authorized venues, and estimates by outside observers continue to rise. The numbers tell the story: Buddhists, as in the past, are most numerous, with more than 100 million adherents. Muslims number 18 million with the majority concentrated in the northwest region of Xinjiang. By 2000 China's Catholic population had swelled from 3 million in 1949 to more than 12 million, surpassing the number of Catholics in Ireland. Protestantism in China has grown at an even faster pace during the same period, multiplying from 1 million to at least 30 million followers. China now has the world's second-largest evangelical Christian population—behind only the United States. In addition, a host of religious and quasi-spiritual groups and sects has also sprouted up in virtually every corner of Chinese society. Religion's dramatic revival in post-Mao China has generated tensions between the ruling Communist Party state and China's increasingly diverse population of religious adherents. Such tensions are rooted in centuries-old governing practices and reflect the pressures of rapid modernization. The state's response has been a mixture of accommodation and repression, with the aim of preserving monopoly control over religious organization. Its inability to do so effectively has led to cycles of persecution of religious groups that resist the party's efforts. American concern over official acts of religious persecution has become a leading issue in U.S. policy toward China. The passage of the 1998 International Religious Freedom Act, which institutionalized concern over religious freedom abroad in U.S. foreign policy, cemented this issue as an item on the agenda of U.S.-China relations. God and Caesar in China examines

China's religion policy, the history and growth of Catholic and Protestant churches in China, and the implications of church-state friction for relations between the United States and China, concluding with recommendations for U.S. policy. Contributors include Jason Kindopp (George Washington University), Daniel H. Bays (Calvin College), Mickey Spiegel (Human Rights Watch), Chan Kim-kwong (Hong Kong Christian Council), Jean-Paul Wiest (Chinese University of Hong Kong), Richard Madsen (University of California, San Diego), Xu Yihua (Fudan University), Liu Peng (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), and Carol Lee Hamrin (George Mason University).

China

- Suppression of cults

Sectarianism and Religious Persecution in China

V. Arrests and Trials

Sectarianism and Religious Persecution in China

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Freedom of Religion in China

This study is the first comprehensive analysis of its kind. It examines the Communist Party's evolving religious controls and citizens' responses to them, focusing on seven religious groups that account for 350 million believers: Chinese Buddhism, Taoism, Catholicism, Protestantism, Islam, Tibetan Buddhism, and Falun Gong.

Sectarianism and Religious Persecution in China

Background -- National law and policy on Religion -- A repressive framework: regulation of religion in Xinjiang -- Implementation: restrictions on freedom of religion in practice -- Controlling religion in the education system -- Anti-crime campaigns and religious repression -- Religious "offenders" in detention -- Freedom of religion and China's responsibility under international law -- Recommendations -- Appendices.

Sectarianism and Religious Persecution in China

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The Battle for China's Spirit

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Roundtable on Religious Freedom in China

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Devastating Blows

This study is the first comprehensive analysis of its kind. It examines the Communist Party's evolving religious controls and citizens' responses to them, focusing on seven religious groups that account for 350 million believers: Chinese Buddhism, Taoism, Catholicism, Protestantism, Islam, Tibetan Buddhism, and Falun Gong.

Sectarianism and Religious Persecution in China

China Aid Association, which was founded in 2002 to draw international attention to China's gross human rights violations against house church Christians, monitors and reports on religious freedom violations in China. Drawing on a wide network of sources throughout the country, ChinaAid issues frequent news releases on cases of religious persecution in China. The Midland, Texas-based organization also assists victims of religious persecution to assert their rights and works to promote the rule of law in China. ChinaAid has earned an international reputation as a reliable source of the most up-to-date information about religious persecution and the overall human rights situation in China. ChinaAid founder and president Pastor Bob Fu has testified before many government and international organizations, including various U.S. congressional committees, the European Parliament and the U.N. Commission on Human Rights.

Sectarianism and Religious Persecution in China

Branded as 'the new Falun Gong' by local authorities, The Church of Almighty God is today the most persecuted religious movement in China. Renowned scholar of religion Massimo Introvigne interviewed several hundred members of this once secretive movement, as well as the Chinese police officers who hunt them. The Church's belief that God has returned to earth in the shape of a Chinese woman makes its theology unique. The story of its continuing persecution in China, and of the accusations of crimes it vehemently denies having committed, reads as one of the most dramatic tales of our time.

Sectarianism And Religious Persecution In China: A Page In The History Of Religions; Volume 1

The author probes the soul of China starting with the formation of the Communist Party in Shanghai in 1921. She distinguishes clearly between the legacy of Chinese tradition and the innovations of Marxism. Outlines the power struggles under Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping, the causes and effects of the Cultural Revolution, the nature of both dissent and its repression in China and the student protests, and the feasibility of Chinese democracy.

Sectarianism and Religious Persecution in China: A Page in the History of Religions;

In no society on Earth was there such a ferocious attempt to eradicate all trace of religion as in modern China. But now, following a century of violent antireligious campaigns, China is awash with new temples,

churches, and mosques - as well as cults, sects, and politicians trying to harness religion for their own ends. Driving this explosion of faith is uncertainty - over what it means to be Chinese, and how to live an ethical life in a country that discarded traditional morality and is still searching for new guideposts. The Souls of China is the result of some fifteen years of studying and travelling around China. The message of Ian Johnson's extraordinary book is that China is now experiencing a 'Great Awakening' on a vast scale. Everywhere long-suppressed religions are rebuilding, often in new forms, and reshaping the values and behaviours of entire communities. Ian Johnson is as happy explaining the wonders of the lunar calendar as talking to the yinyang man who ensures proper burials. He visits meditation masters and the charismatic head of a Chengdu church. The result is a rich and funny work that challenges conventional wisdom about China. Xi Jinping, China's current leader, has put a return to morality and Chinese tradition at the heart of his ideas for his country - but, Johnson asks, at what point will the rapid spread of belief form an unmanageable challenge to the Party's monopoly on power?

The Battle for China's Spirit

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Sectarianism and Religious Persecution in China

"Extraordinarily timely and useful. As China emerges as an economic and political world power that seems to have done away with religion, in fact it is witnessing a religious revival. The thoughtful essays in this book show both the historical conflicts between state authorities and religious movements and the contemporary encounters that are shaping China's future. I am aware of no other book that covers so much ground and can be used so well as an introduction to this important field." —Peter van der Veer, University of Utrecht

Sectarianism and Religious Persecution in China

This volume focuses on the intersection of religion and media in China, bringing interdisciplinary approaches to bear on the role of religion in the lives of individuals and greater shifts within Chinese society in an increasingly media-saturated environment. With case studies focusing on Mainland China (including Tibet), Hong Kong and Taiwan, as well as diasporic Chinese communities outside Asia, contributors consider topics including the historical and ideological roots of media representations of religion, expressions of religious faith online and in social media, state intervention (through both censorship and propaganda), religious institutions' and communities' use of various forms of media, and the role of the media in relations between online/offline and local/diaspora communities. Chapters engage with the major religious traditions practiced in contemporary China, namely Buddhism, Daoism, Confucianism, Christianity, Islam, and new religious movements. Religion and the Media in China serves as a critical survey of case studies and suggests theoretical and methodological tools for a thorough and systematic study of religion in modern China. Contributors to the volume include historians of religion, sinologists, sociologists, political scientists, anthropologists, and media and communication scholars. The critical theories that contributors develop around key concepts in religion—such as authority, community, church, ethics, pilgrimage, ritual, text, and practice—contribute to advancing the emerging field of religion and media studies.

Communist Entrenchment and Religious Persecution in China and Vietnam

Branded as "the new Falun Gong" by local authorities, The Church of Almighty God is the most persecuted religious movement in China today. Thousands of police officers are deployed full time to identify and arrest its members. Hundreds of thousands of its devotees are in jail. Authorities claim, perhaps hyperbolically, that it has some four million members and accuse the group of serious crimes. Yet, the movement continues to grow. In this ground-breaking study, Massimo Introvigne offers an inside

look at this once-elusive movement, sharing interviews with hundreds of members and the Chinese police officers who hunt them down. The story of The Church of Almighty God is one of rapid growth, dramatic persecution, and the struggle of believers to seek asylum in countries around the world. In his telling of the story, Introvigne reconstructs the Church's idiosyncratic theology, centered in the belief that Jesus Christ has returned in our time in the shape of a Chinese woman, worshipped as Almighty God, to eradicate the sinful nature of humans, and that we have entered the third and final time period in the history of humanity: the Age of Kingdom. A major book from one of the world's leading scholars of new religious movements, *Inside The Church of Almighty God* is a critical addition to the scholarship of Chinese religion.

Sectarianism and Religious Persecution in China

Religion and Nationalism in Chinese Societies explores the interaction between religion and nationalism in the Chinese societies of mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. On the one hand, state policies toward religions in these societies are deciphered and their implications for religious freedom and regional stability are evaluated. On the other hand, Chinese Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhism, Daoism, Christianity, Islam and folk religions are respectively analyzed in terms of their theological, organizational and political responses to the nationalist modernity projects of these states. What is new in this book on Religion and Nationalism in Chinese Societies is that the Chinese state has strengthened its control over religion to an unprecedented level. In particular, the Chinese state has almost completed its construction of a state religion called Chinese Patriotism. But at the same time, what is also new is the emergence of democratic civil religions in these Chinese societies, which directly challenge the Chinese state religion and may significantly transform their religion-state relations for better or for worse.

Sectarianism and Religious Persecution in China

With fresh statistics and two new chapters, author Mike Falkenstine is proud to present the second edition of his book, *The Chinese Puzzle*. Falkenstine has felt a direct leading to help you understand China and her Church. There is much confusion. Does persecution exist? Can Christians in China worship freely? As a Westerner, how may I most effectively pray for and engage in China? Many people are confused by these questions and issues. China is like a huge puzzle, with many pieces and moving parts; it's hard to identify all that is happening today in China. China is experiencing some monumental, head-spinning changes, and even the most discerning China analyst may find it daunting to keep up. Information flows from multiple sources, and much of it seems contradictory; this doesn't facilitate our understanding of China and her church. There are also some in the West who pose as "China Experts," even though they haven't been to China in many years, they don't speak the Chinese language, and they are therefore functioning with old paradigms which foster old stereotypes of China. In writing this book, Falkenstine hopes to give you many more pieces to the puzzle that may deepen your understanding of China and thereby Christianity in China. With many more pieces to the puzzle, he believes you will be able to pray more effectively for China, engage with what God is doing there, and see China from a much more balanced perspective. As we finish the first decade of the 21st century, the situation in China is ripe for increased Western engagement based on mutual understanding, and he hopes this book serves as a catalyst to strengthen and deepen that understanding. Chapter one presents a history of Christianity in China and the missionary past. We can learn many valuable lessons as we look at the missionary effort in 19th century China. In 1905, novelist George Santayana wrote, "Those who cannot remember the past are doomed to repeat it." The history of Chinese ministry has great relevance as we engage in China today. This chapter is virtually unchanged from the first edition, since events in the 19th century aren't going to change much! Chapter two looks at the current trends that are changing China, from the inside out. These changes and developments are important for our understanding of China. This may be a surprising chapter, as you learn some of the groundbreaking efforts taking place, including the rapidly emerging Christian book publishing efforts that he details for the first time in the second edition. As you may know, the Chinese people have different social and moral standards than we have in the West. In Chapter three, we will examine these differences. If we want to understand China, we need to recognize their relational differences and social standards. Chapter three also investigates the Chinese view on legality and the Rule of Law. Chapter four examines what he calls the "Persecution Myth": the false belief that Christians in China continue to suffer massive persecution for their faith in Christ. Persecution does not happen as much as we may think, and we must change our paradigm. Westerners who live in China and work with the Chinese church know that persecution is no longer the headlining story. We will look at the reasons the myth continues to persist and the

organizations who don't want the myth to die. Chapter five was born out of the intense coverage some Western ministries and Christian media have been giving to one of Beijing's over 3000 unregistered "house" churches. In travelling regularly to Beijing, he was hearing that most of Beijing's Unregistered Churches were operating without interference with the Beijing government officials. What I found will quite possibly change your opinion of not only Beijing's Unregistered Churches, but also Unregistered Churches nationwide. For anyone who wants to become actively involved in God's work in China, Chapter six can become your guidebook for involvement. You can read about new opportunities to work transparently, a new "industry standard" of engagement, and a practical guide for getting started in China. Chapter seven will educate you on China's Ethnic Minorities. What he found out what not only fascinating, but also has broadened my understanding of the overall work that God is doing in China and the obstacles that lie before us as we desire to impact China for Christ. One of the other keys to our understanding of modern-day China is being able to see China and life through the eyes of the Chinese themselves. Through his work with the China Resource Center, he talks to many Americans about China. Through these countless conversations, he can see the inaccuracies in people's thoughts and perceptions about the lives of today's Chinese. By painting with broad strokes, Chapter eight will clarify the overall picture of how the Chinese view their government, life and democracy. In Chapter nine, Falkenstine uses his twenty years of China service to give an overview of his work in China and an introduction to the work of the China Resource Center, including a great new project that they've engaged in since the first edition of this book. In Appendix A, you'll find the complete text of the Ethical Foundations for China Service, created by a number of China ministry leaders at Fuller Seminary in June 2006. This document provides a standard of best practices in China, both for China-interested organizations and individuals. We hope that you may take the Foundations into your own organization, and use it as a discussion starter and a point of dialogue about most effective practices in China. It has proved to be an invaluable tool for many organizations and he'd recommend it to anyone or any organization just starting out in China.

Religious Suppression in Mainland China

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Inside the Church of Almighty God