DEATHS OF MANY INNOCENTS CAUSED BY BEIJING

Notes for Hon. David Kilgour, J.D. for International Coalition to end Organ Pillaging in China

(www.endorganpillaging.org; www.david-kilgour.com)

Public Protest at Chinese embassy, St. Patrick Street, Ottawa

July 19, 2017

Protesters at Chinese embassy at noon today.

We are here to protest 18 years of the party-state’s ongoing persecution of Falun Dafa, a large and peaceful exercise/meditation community. When, President Xi, will this crime against humanity cease?

We also call for the release of Canadian citizen, Ms. Qian Sun, 51, detained in China since February; eleven other imprisoned Canadian citizens, including Huixia Chen, mother of Ottawa resident Hongyan Lu; and Xiaobo Li, whom Amnesty International is attempting to free.
Alex Nieve of Amnesty International, Honggyan Lu and David in front of Chinese embassy in Ottawa today.

**ENDING HUMAN ORGAN PILLAGING/TRAFFICKING**

Prisoners of conscience often convicted of nothing are the primary source of pillaged organs. They include Uyghurs, Tibetans and Christians, but are overwhelmingly Falun Gong practitioners long dehumanized in party-state media throughout China.

Ethan Gutmann, David Matas and I released an Update on our two books (*Bloody Harvest and The Slaughter*) in mid-2016 in Washington, Ottawa and Brussels (accessible from the International Coalition to end Organ Pillaging in China at endorganpillaging.org or from www.david-kilgour.com):

- It provides an examination of the transplant programs of hundreds of hospitals across China, drawing on medical journals, hospital websites, and deleted websites found in archives. It analyzes hospital revenues, bed counts and utilization rates, surgical personnel, training programs, state funding and other factors.

- We conclude that 60,000-100,000 transplants per year are being done across China, not the approximately 10,000 its government claims. Even at 60,000, that works out arithmetically to 164 persons daily now being killed for their organs.
• We provide much evidence of an industrial scale, state-directed organ transplantation network, controlled through national policies and funding, and implicating both the military and civilian healthcare systems.

Our Update draws three additional conclusions:

• “No nation should allow its citizens to go to China for organs until China has allowed a full investigation into organ harvesting of prisoners of conscience, both past and present.”

• Organ pillaging in China is a crime in which the Communist Party, state institutions, the health system, hospitals and the transplant professions are all complicit;

• The global transplant community should connect and collaborate with the Chinese transplant community only if and when ethical criteria are met;

**Explaining Party-state Persecution of Falun Gong**

Recently, my co-author David Matas provided ten reasons for the CCP’s vile commerce in the vital organs of Falun Gong at an international academic forum in Brighton in the UK (http://www.david-kilgour.com/2017/DMATAS_Communism_and_FalunGong_July5,2017.pdf). Agreeing fully with him, I’ll summarize some of the ten here:

• Chinese Communists are atheists. Religion for them is a drug to make the oppressed forget their pain. Communism is supposed to remove economic oppression so the existence of religion in a Communist society becomes an admission that Communism has failed. Party propaganda against Falun Gong includes invective against their teacher Li Hongzhi. Falun Gong practitioners understandably take offense at this invective.
• The Party has a history of mass killing of innocents. Before Falun Gong, that there was Mao's mass starvation, the Cultural Revolution and the Tiananmen Square massacre. Mao's famine of 1959 to 1961 was based on his policy of industrialization and the decision to create an agricultural surplus to feed industrial workers. Farmers had to produce more than they consumed to create a surplus. Party propaganda called the effort the “Great Leap Forward”. The farm economy was not producing a surplus in the amounts that Communist policy dictated were needed, so food was seized from farmers to create an artificial surplus, even though it meant starving subsistence farmers to death. The number of famine victims has been estimated to be between 20 and 43 million.

• The Cultural Revolution of 1966 to 1971 involved mass killings of five kinds: 1) victims were humiliated and then killed by mobs or forced to commit suicide on public places; 2) unarmed civilians were killed by armed forces; 3) local security officers, militias and mobs ran pogroms against those seen as class enemies; 4) suspects of alleged conspiracies were tortured to death during investigations; 5) captives from factional armed conflicts were summarily executed. In their biography of Mao Zedong, Jung Chang and Jon Halliday wrote: "at least 3 million people died violent deaths and post-Mao leaders acknowledged that 100 million people, one-ninth of the entire population, suffered in one way or another."

• More recently was the Tiananmen Square massacre of 1989. The military shot without warning randomly at a gathered crowd of more than a million people, who had occupied the Square. The crowd were demonstrating for democracy. Among those killed were medical personnel attempting to
help the injured. The estimated deaths range to more than 2,000. Killing innocents for their organs is cruel, but no more cruel than starving farmers to death, or humiliating, torturing and then killing arbitrarily defined class enemies or massacring students protesting for democracy. Cruelty desensitizes the perpetrators. Cruelty is easy for the Communist Party because it is so used to it.

- Constitutionally, China is a dictatorship and dictatorship is the legal system. In democratic states, those in government rule; in China, it is the Party that rules. Up and down the government political and legal structure, for every state officer, there is a Party official. The state is a facade behind which the Party operates. At the pinnacle, the two systems merge: the President of China is also the head of the Communist Party. Everywhere else the two systems separate, with a Party official instructing a state official. Because the Party controls the legal system, the laws are not enforced against the Party. The Party does not impose the laws on itself. Party policies and actions may violate the laws. There is an absence of the rule of law in China. Or, to put it the way the Chinese Communists would put it, the rule of law in China means control by the Party. Falun Gong, which is not hierarchical and has no priests or bishops, cannot be absorbed the way Beijing has attempted to usurp Christianity, Islam or Buddhism.

- The Party’s ideological foundations were laid by the German Karl Marx and the Russians Vladimir Lenin and Leon Trotsky. In another irony, the Party rails against foreign interference in China to justify its own rule, but imposes on Chinese nationals a foreign ideological construct. Falun Gong, in contrast, is traditional, local and authentically
Chinese. It is a blend of ancient spiritual and exercise traditions.

- Under paramount leader Deng Xiaoping, much changed. Deng's embrace of capitalism spread to the military, allowing the People's Liberation Army (PLA) to earn money to make up the shortfall in declining budgets. China's military went from public financing to being a conglomerate today. This is not corruption, a deviation from state policy. It is state-sanctioned means of raising money for military activities. The health system, even in many capitalist countries, is geared to equality of care of all who need it. In China, today, money governs. The health system, like the rest of China, is now a wealth-generating business.

- The lead profit maker is transplantation. Since 1980, government spending dropped from 36% of all health care expenditure to 17%, while patients' out of pocket spending soared from 20% to 59%. Many of the transplant centres and general hospitals in China are military institutions, financed by organ transplant recipients, which operate independently from the Ministry of Health. The funds they earn from organ transplants do more than pay the costs of these facilities. The money is used to finance the overall military budget.

- For a profit-based health system, sourcing organs from Falun Gong practitioners became an inexhaustible source of funds. They were defenceless and unorganized. They were held in arbitrary detention in the hundreds of thousands. They were depersonalized through vilification. They refused to identify themselves to the authorities when arrested to protect their families, neighbours, friends and employers back home, making them easy prey. Their organs were healthy because of their exercises and healthy life-styles. The
military, including military hospitals, have easy access to the prison population.

- The Government of China is one of the most secretive governments in the world. Secrecy is so deeply rooted in the Party consciousness that it would be virtually impossible to dislodge it and is evident in the organ transplant file. For instance, the Ministry of Health at one point accepted that organs for transplants were coming almost entirely from prisoners. The Ministry claimed that these prisoners were criminals sentenced to death and not prisoners of conscience. How many people in China were sentenced to death? The Government of China would not say, claiming that the information was a state secret.

LIU XIAOBO AND LIU XIA

Liu Xiaobo’s recent death at 61 is a fresh reminder of the real nature of the regime in Beijing. He saved a number of student and other lives at Tiananmen in 1989. When Liu was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2010, the regime responded by keeping him locked up. He had earlier been nick-named “China’s Mandela.”

Canada’s Globe and Mail newspaper editorialized about Lui since his passing, which was doubtless accelerated by the party-state’s inhuman treatment of him while gravely ill:

“...let his death at age 61, in a Chinese hospital with guards at the doors, stand as a reminder of exactly who runs things in Beijing, and what kind of a regime the Trudeau government is so eager to
be friends with. The Communist Party of China has joined ignominious company; the only other Nobel Peace Prize laureate to die in custody was imprisoned by Nazi Germany...Immediately after his death, the regime... had his body cremated and his ashes scattered at sea, depriving him of even a final resting place. It is a sign of the communist authorities’ fear of Mr. Liu. They are desperately trying to inoculate their continued hold on power against his words, his ideas and his hope”.

In the leader to its cover story on Liu this week, The Economist adds quite correctly in closing: “The West should speak up for Mr. Liu. He represents the best kind of dissent in China. The blueprint for democracy, known as Charter 08, which landed him in prison, was clear in its demands: for an end to one-party democracy and for genuine freedoms. Mr Liu’s aim was not to trigger upheaval, but to encourage peaceful discussion. He briefly succeeded. Hundreds of people, including prominent intellectuals, had signed the charter by the time Mr. Liu was hauled away to his cell. Since then, the Communist Party’s censors and goons have stifled debate. The West must stop doing their work for them”

Who can disagree?