

## **A Submission to The Parliamentary Enquiry in to Live Organ Harvesting.**

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Your Federal Parliamentary Enquiry is in to the Live Organ Harvesting of Human Organs and this is a practice in a small number of countries, but consistently and primarily in the People's Republic of China, where it was begun as an initiative of the then leader of China, Jiang Zemin. Jiang Zemin was then the leader, i.e. the general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, and the leader, i.e. the President, of the People's Republic of China government.

Three extremely well researched and accurate books have been written on this absolutely atrocious and extremely serious abuse of Human Rights. The first of these, titled "Bloody Harvest: Organ Harvesting of Falun Gong Practitioners in China" was authored by David Matas and David Kilgour, two internationally acclaimed Canadian Human Rights Lawyers, and was published in 2009. David Kilgour was also a Cabinet Minister and the Minister of State for South East Asia in the Canadian Dominion Parliament, the Canadian equivalent of our Federal Parliament. David Matas is not only a distinguished Canadian Human Rights lawyer, with an international reputation but has been the President of B'nai B'rith, the Jewish international Human Rights organisation. Thus, they are both well credentialed, and have extremely good international recognition and respect.

This was followed by the second book, titled "State Organs: Transplant Abuse in China" and this was authored by David Matas and published in 2012, after a great deal of very careful and well carried out further research.

Both these books followed extremely extensive, focused, and well planned, professional, and thorough research by both David Matas and David Kilgour, supported by a very well-disciplined and focused team of professional researchers.

The third book, titled "The Slaughter: Mass Killing, Organ Harvesting, and China's Secret Solution to Its Dissident Problem" was written by a long term American China observer and watcher, and author, Ethan Gutmann, and was published in 2014.

Here, I have no hesitation in strongly recommending that every member of this Committee should buy and read these three books, as well as the updated evidence and reports of "The

Two Davids”, as David Matas and David Kilgour have become affectionately known. Both David Kilgour and David Matas are known to me, and I greatly respect both. I have spoken alongside them at rallies here in Australia, against Live Organ Harvesting, and the persecution and prosecution of Falun Dafa or Falun Gong practitioners.

In China, working in harmony and partnership, the Chinese Communist Party, or CCP, and the Chinese Communist regime, have prosecuted, and persecuted, and targeted a range of groups, including practitioners of Falun Dafa, also known as Falun Gong, as well as Uighur Muslims, House Christians, and Tibetans. One common factor across these four populations and peoples is a very strong practiced belief in what can and should be called “Spirituality”. In the case of the Uighur Muslims, the House Christians, and the Tibetans (who practice a form of Buddhism), it is that their practice of Spirituality is founded on their membership and practice, or practices of a formal religion. With Falun Dafa, or Falun Gong, both terms are inter-changeable, their situation is a little different. Here let me use my primary learning and training in Theology to define Falun Dafa.

Falun Dafa, or Falun Gong, is a multifaceted contemplative and meditative deliberate and slow exercise program, with a deep sense of Spirituality, and a profound sense of ethics. This deep sense of Spirituality is based on ancient Buddhism, with a significant input from Daoism (or Taoism), and with an input from Confucianism. Falun Dafa, or Falun Gong, is a form of Qigong, and Qigong could be called an holistic system of co-ordinated body posture and movement, (deliberate and slow movement), controlled breathing, and meditation for health, martial arts training, and Spirituality.

Many Falun Dafa practitioners commence practicing Falun Dafa primarily or only for health reasons. After a few to several months, their health has considerably improved and this improvement has grown. In preparing my submission I heard from a Falun Dafa practitioner whom I know well that her commitment to Falun Dafa deepened considerably, that some of her health and medical conditions from which she suffered, some for more than ten years, had disappeared, and her interest in and commitment to Falun Dafa broadened to personal self development, and to her own spiritual development.

Regretfully, the Chinese Communist regime and the Chinese Communist Party are very quite deliberately atheistic, and hate, (please note, "hate", it's not too strong a description), and hate and reject any form of religion or Spirituality, in all, or any, of its forms. In China a broad range of religions are practiced and the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese Communist regime sets out to control all of these, as well as to use them. An excellent example of this is that the

Chinese Communist regime does not and will not recognise the Bishops that the Vatican appoints to the Catholic Church in China, as it does in other countries, including Australia, and instead appoints the Bishops that it, the Chinese Communist regime, wants so appointed.

Since 1999, at the then initiative of Jiang Zemin, the authorities in China have seriously persecuted and prosecuted the Uighur Muslims, the House Christians, and the Tibetans, though they had persecuted and prosecuted these groups before then, back to the time of Mao Zedong in the case of the three formal religions. In 1999 the authorities began also to persecute and prosecute the practitioners of Falun Dafa, or Falun Gong, which, in its current form, was started in 1992 by Li Hongzhi, who had based his Falun Dafa on very long established and practiced exercises and practices. What needs to be noted here is that from 1992 to 1999 many very senior members of the Chinese Communist Party and the politburo practiced Falun Dafa quite openly, along side many ordinary citizens, until Jiang Zemin declared that he wished to totally destroy Falun Dafa.

The 27th July, 1999, saw the start of a consistent, and continuous propaganda campaign that allowed the Chinese regime and State to declare that Falun Dafa was the complete antithesis and / or opposite of both science and communism. Also in 1999 an extra constitutional body, by which I mean an organisation that was not authorised in the Chinese constitution, was effectively outside the law, and was named the "6-10 Office", actually a very secret police force, began arresting and gaoling Falun Dafa practitioners, and these people were put to work with hard labour. Each prisoner was put through a complete set of medical tests where their fitness was assessed, as were their organs, their blood, a whole series of tests including details about their organs that could be used to assess whether their organs were compatible to the organs of other people, both in China, and overseas from China.

Organ harvesting, but not live organ harvesting, began in China no later than the 1960's. As in Australia, people could donate an organ to another person, say a kidney, or could leave their organs to benefit others, if a person died and did so in such a manner that their organs were still of benefit. I am a registered member of the Organ Donation Register that is kept by the Health Commission in Hobart, and I have been for many years. But nobody tries to get me to give up my organs, or seeks to harvest my organs, pre-maturely, and certainly not in a way that would lead to my death.

Jiang Zemin hated Falun Dafa, established the "6-10 Office", a force of secret police that is effectively outside the control of the law, and so began a carefully planned persecution and prosecution of Falun Dafa practitioners, which was a clear and unsuccessful attempt to rid

China of Falun Dafa, and its many practitioners. At this time, the Chinese Communist Party membership was contracting, and was probably about sixty to sixty-five million members, though it is very hard to know. It might have been less. By way of contrast, the number of Falun Dafa practitioners had grown to more than seventy million people, conservatively estimated, and was growing. One of Jiang Zemin's fears was that the Falun Dafa people would turn against the Chinese Communist Party, and seek to eradicate this, but this simply shows a significant lack of knowledge and understanding of Falun Dafa, a movement that has, or rather had, very little interest in politics until the Chinese authorities began to persecute and prosecute Falun Dafa practitioners and gaol them and torture them, and then began to live harvest their organs, including, at times, doing so without giving the victim the benefit of an anaesthetic, and imagine how agonisingly tortuous this would be. Of recent times ninety percent (90%) plus of the people from whom their organs have been harvested have been Falun Dafa practitioners. I know many Falun Dafa practitioners and they are well defined by the motto of Falun Dafa, a motto that is lived in a very focused and disciplined manner, this motto is "Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance".

But sometime between 1999 and 2001, the Chinese authorities saw a "business opportunity" here, though I can neither give you a date when a decision to live harvest organs was made, nor a date when the process began. I have read reports of doctors being taken to the side of a hill and told to wait, then hearing gun shots, between ten and twenty, and then being taken around the hill and being confronted with bodies, still with pulses, but obviously dying, and being told to operate and remove organs very quickly. Some of these doctors now live in countries other than China, and some have renounced their Chinese citizenship and become citizens of other countries. I do not blame them. I believe there are some living in Australia, and I know there are victims of the gaoling and torture of Falun Gong practitioners, living in Australia, though they were not the victims of the live organ harvesting. Other members of their families could well have been.

An accurate history of organ harvesting in China, and, more recently, of live harvesting of organs in China, is extremely difficult to obtain. China is not readily open and transparent about many of its activities, and this is one area where their authorities are especially secretive and sensitive. The people from whom live organs are harvested are victims, and it is estimated that this number of victims now exceeds two million people. When people have their organs live harvested, they die, and they are left to die. Let me give you some idea of just how sensitive the Chinese authorities can be. I personally know two members of the Liberal Party who both have daughters who live and work in Hong Kong. I will not identify them. When a motion about this issue was tabled and put on the agenda for a branch meeting they both indicated that they would not be supporting it, because they had been "strongly advised" not to by the Chinese.

Last year a member of the Greens in the New South Wales Upper House, The Hon. David Shoebridge, called a meeting at Parliament House in Sydney to introduce his intention to table in the Upper House a Bill for an Act that would make it illegal either to go to China to receive an organ, or an organ from China here in New South Wales. Every single member of both the Upper and Lower house of the New South Wales Parliament received what can only be called a threatening letter from the Chinese Consulate General in Sydney, indicating amongst other items that trade with China would be under threat, even if all the members did was to attend the meeting and listen to David Shoebridge. I am not a member of Parliament, but I went to that meeting, as some members of the public were also invited. This illustrates how closed and secretive the Chinese members of their regime are about this activity, as these are hardly the actions of an open and transparent nation.

Remember please that the number of victims that have had their organs live harvested is now estimated to exceed two million people. More than two million people now have lost their lives. The effect does not end here. Assume that three quarters of these people, it is probably higher than this, had spouses, and another three quarters of these people had one child. In each of these two cases this equates to one and an half million people, from the loss of their spouse or their parent. This is a total of a further three million people, three million innocent people, who have been directly effected by China's live organ harvesting program. With the victims this brings the number of people who are victims in the broad sense to four and an half million people. All the victims of live organ harvesting had parents. The two million victims who had their organs live harvested and were executed by this process had parents, though some may have, or did predecease the victims. Allowing for three quarters of the parents to still be alive, we have three million parents to be added in to the four and an half million people effected, making it a total of seven and an half million people directly effected by the execution by live organ harvesting. This is one and an half million more people effected than were killed in the German holocaust in the last world war. To my mind, this makes what has gone on in China from 1999 to today another holocaust. Why is it that every generation has to experience an holocaust? In the 21st century, have we learned nothing: nothing at all?

Very recently, I have heard from some of my colleagues in this fight against the serious injustice and extreme abuse of basic Human Rights that is represented by the live organ harvesting, that China has stopped this practice. I hear conflicting reports here. I ask myself, can we trust China when it says this? China's record of saying one statement, and doing the opposite, is long and detailed. We know how horrific their practice has been since 1999 to the current day. I am very doubtful and continue to be quite disbelieving and skeptical of what China says. My view is that we, meaning at least some of the western countries, led by the United Nations, needs to send a very independent force of very capable Human Rights people, and I think this group should include David Matas, David Kilgour, and Ethan Gutmann, with quite a few others, with the

need to visit China and visit all, and I mean ALL, the hospitals and prisons and all and any other places associated with live organ harvesting, to see if this devastating and dreadful complete abuse of Human Rights has stopped, or is simply being more successfully hidden today.

If this Federal Parliamentary Committee wishes me to, I am very willing to meet with them, and / or to make a further presentation to them, be this in Canberra, or Melbourne, or Sydney.