

LA MARTINIÈRE MODEL UNITED NATIONS, 2023



THE DECENNIAL EDITION

THE 610 OFFICE OF THE
COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA

BACKGROUND GUIDE

PRINTABLE FORMAT

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Letter from the Executive Board

Comrades,

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to the 610 Office of the Communist Party of China, 1999 being simulated at the Decennial Edition of the La Martiniere Model United Nations, 2023.

This background guide has been meticulously crafted to aid in your research efforts and serves as an initial reference for your preparations. The information mentioned in this guide is only the starting point of your research and mentions the important aspects of the agenda at hand and how the research should be done to understand the ideologies and subsequent plannings of the CCP during the second half of the 1900s.

Throughout the conference, we expect comrades to demonstrate creativity, diplomacy, and courtesy. Your contributions should be supported by well-founded logic and comprehensive research. Any attempt to evade the reality of the late 90s will not be considered and will attract consequences of an equal magnitude.

It is imperative to highlight that the background guide may not be cited or employed as substantial proof during forum sessions. As comrades, you are entrusted with the task of conducting rigorous research to corroborate your positions and conclusions during debates. This guide serves as an invaluable starting point but should not be construed as exhaustive. An important guideline would be to understand the structure and workings of your specific department before delving into other departments.



The Freeze Date of the committee shall be 5th August, 1999.

In case of any issues or confusions that need to be clarified by the Executive Board, please don't hesitate to contact us.

With Warm Regards,
The Executive Board.

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About the Committee

The 610 Office of the Communist Party of China was a security agency in the People Republic of China. It was established on June 10th, 1999 (hence its name) and dissolved on March 21st, 2018 when its functions were transferred to the Central Political and Legal Affairs Commission and the Ministry of Public Security.

The 610 Office was established for the purpose of coordinating and implementing the persecution of Falun Gong in the late 90s and early 00s. The 610 Office operated under the Central Leading Group on Dealing with Heretical Religions.

An astonishing fact about the 610 Office is that it was an office with no formal legal mandate, due to which it is described as an extralegal organisation.

The 610 Office comprises top echelon leaders of the Communist Party of China and the Central Leading Group on Dealing with the Falun Gong (CLGDF). Only top-ranked Party officials were appointed to run the CLGDF and 610 Office so that they could outrank other departmental officials.

The 610 Office was involved in surveillance and intelligence collection, spreading propaganda, reeducation and detention of practitioners of Falun Gong, sometimes by interfering in the legal system of China.



Historical Background

Establishment of the People's Republic of China

On January 1, 1912, The Republic of China was established by the Kuomintang (KMT), ending about 5000 years of monarchy in China. In the late 1920s, the KMT under Chiang Kai-shek, was able to unify the country with a series of military and political maneuverings, famously known as the Northern Expedition. The KMT was faced with the task of neutralising the Communist-led People's Liberation Army (PLA). These two entities were engaged in the Chinese Civil War since 1927 which was paused due to the Japanese aggression on China in 1937.

The Second Sino-Japanese War, a theater of World War II, forced the Kuomintang and the Communists to form an uneasy alliance. After the World War II ended with the surrender of Japan, China emerged victorious but war-ravaged and financially drained. The Chinese Civil War resumed due to the continued distrust between the two parties. The Chinese Civil War ended in 1949 with the Communists defeating the Kuomintang.

The CCP took control of the mainland China, while the KMT retreated offshore to Taiwan. On October 1st, 1949, CCP Chairman Mao Zedong formally proclaimed the establishment of the People's Republic of China.



Maoism

Maoism, officially called the Mao Zedong Thought by the Chinese Communist Party, is a variety of Marxism- Leninism that Mao Zedong developed to revolutionise the agricultural, pre-industrial society of the People's Republic of China. From the 1950s to the death of Mao Zedong, Maoism was the political and military ideology of the Chinese Communist Party and Maoist revolutionary movements worldwide.

Maoism and Marxism differ in the definition of the proletariat and the conditions required to start a communist revolution. Marxism defines the proletariat as the urban working class, which was determined in the revolution by which the bourgeoisie overthrew feudalism. For Mao, the revolutionary class was the peasants whom he referred to as the popular masses. Similarly, Marx believed that the proletarian revolution was internally fuelled by the capitalist mode of production, in which the political tension between the workers and the owners would result in the proletarian revolution someday. However, Mao's goal was to unify and realise progressive change for China, for which a revolution was needed at once.

Mao launched the five year plans in 1953, which emphasised rapid industrial development. Iron and steel, electric power, coal, heavy engineering, building materials, and basic chemicals were prioritised with the aim of constructing large and highly capital-intensive plants. Agriculture, industry and trade was organised on a collective basis.

Mao's policy of the Great Leap Forward was a tragedy for the vast majority of the Chinese. This policy resulted in the Great Chinese Famine, which led to the death of millions. This period also saw the split of the Sino-Soviet relations. Struggle against Soviet revisionism and U.S. imperialism was an important aspect of Mao's attempt to direct the revolution in the right direction.



Reforms of Deng Xiaoping

After Mao's death in 1976, Deng Xiaoping initiated socialist market reforms, thereby beginning the radical change in Mao's ideology in the PRC. Xiaoping separated Mao from Maoism, making it clear that the truth of Maoism comes from observing social consequences rather than by using Mao's quotations as the holy writ.

Deng Xiaoping launched a variety of economic reforms, known as 'Chinese Economic Reform' or domestically as 'Reform and Opening-up'.

Reforms began in agriculture by decollectivizing agriculture and emphasizing the household responsibility system. A dual price system was introduced in the urban industry to increase productivity. The adoption of Industrial Responsibility System promoted the development of state-owned enterprise. The Open Door Policy was introduced to allow foreign businesses to set up their offices in China, thereby opening the country to foreign investment.

Due to the shift of the policy of the Party towards liberalization, corruption and increased inflation increased discontent, contributing to the 1989 Tiananmen Square incident and putting a conservative backlash which ousted several key reformers and threatened to reverse many of Deng's reforms. The Shanghai Stock Exchange was reopened in 1990 and the Shenzhen Stock Exchange was also founded in the same year.

In 1993, the National People's Congress adopted the landmark Corporation Law. It provides that in state owned enterprises, the state is no more than an investor and controller of stock and assets. Deng Xiaoping died in 1997, leaving his reforms in the capable hands of Jiang Zemin and Zhu Rongji.



Qigong Fever

Qigong is a system of coordinated body-posture and movements, breathing and meditation used for the purposes of health, spirituality and martial arts training. Qigong is traditionally viewed by the Chinese as a practice to cultivate and balance qi (pronounced as chee- synonymous with the fictional Marvel character Iron Fist), translated as ‘life energy’.

The theories of ancient Chinese qigong include the yin and yang and Five Phases Theory, Essence-qi-Spirit Theory, Zang-Xiang Theory, and Meridians and qi-Blood Theory.

Qigong fever, also known as the qigong boom, was a social phenomenon in which mass practice of qigong became popular in the People’s Republic of China during the 80s and 90s, with millions of practitioners and thousands of qigong organisations mass practising qigong daily.



Falun Gong

Falun Gong is a religious movement which combines meditation and qigong exercises with a moral philosophy. The practice emphasizes morality and the cultivation of virtue, and identifies as a practice of the Buddhist school, though its teachings also incorporate elements drawn from Taoist traditions.

Falun Gong aspires to enable the practitioner to ascend spirituality through moral rectitude and the practice of a set of exercises and meditation. The three stated tenets of the belief are truthfulness, compassion, and forbearance.

It was founded by Li Hongzhi in China in the early 90s and emerged towards the end of China's qigong fever. The main body of teachings is articulated in the book *Zhuan Falun*, published in Chinese in 1995.

In 1993, the Beijing-based Falun Dafa Research Society was accepted as a branch of the state-run China Qigong Research Society, which oversaw the administration of the country's various qigong schools, and sponsored activities and seminars. Falun Gong was embraced by the government as an effective means of lowering health care costs, promoting Chinese culture, and improving public morality.

Falun Gong's departure from the state-run CQRS corresponded to a wider shift in the government's attitude towards qigong practices. As qigong's detractors in government grew more influential, authorities began attempting to rein in the growth and influence of these groups, some of which had amassed tens of millions of followers.



Tensions between Falun Gong and the Chinese Communist Party

In 1995, Chinese authorities began looking to Falun Gong to solidify its organisational structure and ties to the party-state. Li was approached by the Chinese National Sports Committee, Ministry of Public Health, and China Qigong Science Research Association (CQRS) to jointly establish a Falun Gong association. Li declined the offer. Similarly, the CQRS issued a new regulation mandating that all qigong denominations establish a Communist Party branch. Li refused once again. The CQRS asked Li to hike his tuition, but Li emphasised the need for the teachings to be free of charge.

Tensions continued to mount between Li and the CQRS. In March 1996, Falun Gong withdrew from the CQRS in response to mounting disagreements, after which it operated outside the official sanction of the State. Falun Gong representatives attempted to register with other government entities, but were refused.

Falun Gong practitioners reported having phone lines tapped, homes ransacked and raided, and Falun Gong exercise sites disrupted by public security agents. The polemics against Falun Gong were part of a larger movement opposing qigong organisations in the state-run media.



Establishment of the 610 Office

On June 7th, 1999, Jiang Zemin convened a meeting of the Politburo to address the Falun Gong issue. In the meeting, Falun Gong was described as a grave threat to Communist party authority and ordered the creation of a special leading group to disintegrate Falun Gong.

On June 10th, 1999, the 610 Office was established to handle the day-to-day coordination of the anti-Falun Gong campaign. Luo Gan was selected to head the office. The office was created without any legislation and mandate.

On June 17th, 1999, the 610 office came under the newly created Central Leading Group for Dealing with Falun Gong, headed by Li Lanqing. The leaders of the 610 Office and the CLGDF were able to call on top government and party officials to work on the case and draw on their institutional resources.

Soon after the creation of the central 610 Office, parallel 610 Offices were established at each administrative level wherever populations of Falun Gong practitioners were present, including the provincial, district, municipal, and sometimes neighbourhood levels. 610 Offices were also established within large corporations and universities.



Present Situation

Just after midnight on July 20th, 1999, public security officers seized hundreds of Falun Gong practitioners from their homes in cities across China.

On July 22nd, 1999, the Ministry of Civil Affairs issued a circular proclaiming that the Falun Dafa Research Society was an unregistered, and therefore, illegal organisation.

On the same day, the Ministry of Public Security released a circular forbidding the practice of propagation of Falun Gong, as well as prohibiting any attempts to petition against the ban or oppose the government's decision.

The Ministry of Personnel issued a circular stating that all government employees were prohibited from practising Falun Gong, and instructed local authorities to deal with those civil servants who are practising Falun Gong.

On July 26th, 1999, the Ministry of Public Security called for the confiscation and destruction of all publications related to Falun Gong.

On July 29th, 1999, the Beijing Judicial Bureau issued a notice forbidding lawyers from defending Falun Gong practitioners. The Ministry of Justice also issued a notice at the same time that lawyers were not supposed to represent Falun Gong without permission.

Note - The committee meets on August 5th, 1999, to discuss how to complete the crackdown of Falun Gong. Any or all information present on the internet related to events before the freeze date is valid in the committee. However, any information or event that occurs after the freeze date cannot be mentioned in the committee under any circumstances. Only in the unmoderated caucuses or breaks will such information be allowed.



Portfolio Guide

The Executive Board feels that it is the comrades' duty to thoroughly research on their portfolios for the committee. However, for the sake of forming plans and understanding the composition of the committee better, the portfolios which will be present in the committee are being mentioned below. Kindly read about all the portfolios and their departments properly, so as to understand why a particular portfolio has been selected for this Office of extreme importance.

1. Chairman of the Central Military Commission
2. Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress
3. Director of the Central Commission for Guiding Cultural and Ethical Progress
4. Chairman of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions
5. Special Representative from the Public Security Bureau
6. Secretary of the Central Political and Legal Affairs Commission
7. Director of the Central Propaganda Department
8. Minister of the United Front Work Department
9. Secretary of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection
10. Procurator-General of the Supreme People's Procuratorate
11. Commander of the People's Armed Police Force
12. Director-General of the National Administration for the Protection of State Secrets
13. Director of the Central Commission for Financial and Economic Affairs
14. Chairman of the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps
15. Director of the State Administration for Religious Affairs
16. Director of the Central Leading Group for Rural Work
17. Director of the Local Stability Maintenance Offices
18. Chairman of the Central Committee on Nationalities Affairs
19. Director of Educational Institutions for Ideological Indoctrination



20. Director of the Detention Centers
21. Chief of the Psychological Department of the Academy of Medical Sciences
22. Correctional Facility Chief of the Central Prison
23. Director of the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film, and Television (SAPPRFT)
24. Director of Mortuary Services
25. Chairman of the Committee on Youth Affairs
26. Director of the State Security Department
27. Director of the Grievance Redressal Department
28. Director of the Central Guard Bureau
29. Chairman of the Central Committee for Overseas Chinese Affairs
30. Chairman of the Central Committee for Transport and Infrastructure





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