

## FREEDOM OF RELIGION

*International Standards*

During the Commission's 2014 reporting year, the Chinese government continued to restrict Chinese citizens' freedom of religion. China's Constitution guarantees freedom of religious beliefs but limits protection only to "normal religious activities."<sup>1</sup> This narrow protection contravenes international human rights standards. Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) recognize not only an individual's right to adopt a religion or belief, but also the freedom to manifest one's religion in "worship, observance, practice and teaching."<sup>2</sup> The Chinese government continued to recognize only five religions—Buddhism, Catholicism, Islam, Protestantism, and Taoism. Groups wishing to practice these religions were required to register with the government and were subject to ongoing government controls.<sup>3</sup> Both registered and unregistered religious groups deemed to run afoul of state-set parameters continued to face harassment, detention, imprisonment, and other abuses, and the government continued to outlaw some religious and spiritual communities, including Falun Gong.

*Regulatory and Policy Framework*

During this reporting year, Chinese leaders continued to view religion as an instrument to support government and Communist Party overall policy goals. In the 2014 government work report presented during the 12th National People's Congress, Premier Li Keqiang said that the government will "fully implement the Party's basic policies for religious work to promote harmonious religious relations, and religious people and adherents will play an active role in the promotion of economic and social development."<sup>4</sup> Wang Zuo'an, Director of the State Administration for Religious Affairs (SARA), wrote in a November 2013 article that, "[o]ur Party has consistently emphasized that religious work is a key component of the Party's united-front work, and religious people are important targets of united-front work and a key component of the Party's patriotic United Front."<sup>5</sup> Wang stressed that ideological work must be carried out by using "guidance, enlightenment, and persuasion," and religious adherents are to work with non-religious people to achieve the "Chinese dream—the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation."<sup>6</sup> SARA's 2014 work plan also noted that in 2014, religious work should reflect the "resolute implementation of the Communist Party Central Committee and the State Council's strategic decisions."<sup>7</sup>

The Chinese government continued to use laws, regulations, and policy measures to control religious practices in China, rather than protect the religious freedom of all Chinese citizens. During this reporting year, SARA issued or amended a number of legal and policy measures to implement the 2005 Regulations on Religious Affairs (RRA).<sup>8</sup> These measures have added more clarity to ambiguous provisions in the RRA, but also articulated more enhanced state control over religious activities. The SARA Measures on Administrative Licensing clarified RRA provisions concerning proce-

dures for issuing various administrative licenses to religious groups.<sup>9</sup> The SARA Measures on Administrative Punishment provided detailed procedures for imposing administrative punishments on religious groups and government employees that violate relevant laws and regulations governing religious activities in China.<sup>10</sup> SARA also issued a guideline stipulating that government personnel will be held accountable for misconduct committed during administrative enforcement.<sup>11</sup> While such a guideline potentially denotes a positive development, it remains to be seen whether authorities will enforce it in practice.

#### *Buddhism (Non-Tibetan)*

This past year, the Chinese government and Communist Party continued to ensure that Buddhist doctrine and practice conformed to government and Party objectives in the non-Tibetan areas of China. [For information on Tibetan Buddhists, see Section V—Tibet.] In a speech delivered at the opening ceremony of a Chinese Buddhism scripture-reading seminar held in October 2013, Jiang Jianyong, the Deputy Director of State Administration for Religious Affairs (SARA), reiterated the expectation that Chinese Buddhists “raise the banner of loving the nation and loving religion, and walk in the path of adapting to socialist society”; and that the Chinese Buddhist community must “promote correct beliefs and correct conduct, further strengthen the building of faith, [and] oppose [religious] fanaticism and various heresies . . . .”<sup>12</sup>

SARA’s 2014 work plan called for “intensified implementation” of the 2012 joint opinion, issued by 10 central government agencies, that regulates the management of Buddhist monasteries and Taoist temples.<sup>13</sup> The 2012 joint opinion, in conjunction with the 2005 RRA, prohibits unregistered organizations and religious sites from conducting religious activities.<sup>14</sup> For example, in February 2014, local authorities in the Xiang’an district of Xiamen city, Fujian province, amassed over 100 urban management officers (*chengguan*) to demolish an “illegally constructed” Buddhist temple, resulting in a violent clash between local residents and *chengguan*.<sup>15</sup> In addition, on July 29, 2014, public security authorities in Zhuhai city, Guangdong province, reportedly raided Buddhist group “Huazang Famen”<sup>16</sup> and criminally detained 15 people, including its founder Wu Zeheng, for “using a cult to undermine implementation of the law, to commit fraud, rape, and other criminal activities.”<sup>17</sup> According to a letter to the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture sent on behalf of Wu, the crackdown on “Huazang Famen” appears to be an “extension of China’s clampdown on so-called ‘evil cults.’”<sup>18</sup>

#### *Catholicism*

During the Commission’s 2014 reporting year, the Chinese government and Communist Party continued to interfere with the religious activities of China’s estimated 12 million Catholics, who are split more or less evenly between the state-controlled church and an underground Catholic community.<sup>19</sup> The state-controlled church continued to deny Catholics in China the freedom to accept the authority of the Holy See to select bishops, and authorities continued

to harass Catholics who practice their faith outside of state-approved parameters.<sup>20</sup>

#### HARASSMENT AND DETENTION OF CLERGY

This past year, two prominent members of the underground Catholic clergy who had endured decades of government harassment passed away. In October 2013, Bishop Peter Liu Guandong—the retired head of the Yixian diocese in Hebei province and the key figure in setting up a conference of Catholic bishops loyal to the Holy See—died at the age of 94.<sup>21</sup> Bishop Liu spent years in prison for his opposition to the state-controlled Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association (CPA) and had been living in hiding since 1997.<sup>22</sup> Liu reportedly was buried at an unknown location.<sup>23</sup> In March 2014, Bishop Joseph Fan Zhongliang, the head of the underground conference of Catholic bishops who was appointed the bishop of the Shanghai diocese by Pope John Paul II in 2000, died at the age of 95.<sup>24</sup> Bishop Fan spent more than two decades in prison and labor camps, and his final years reportedly under “house arrest.”<sup>25</sup> Government officials turned down a request to hold a funeral for Fan at the city’s main cathedral, and allowed only a small service at a funeral home.<sup>26</sup> Over 5,000 mourners and 61 priests reportedly came to bid farewell to Fan, but authorities denied some CPA bishops access to the funeral home.<sup>27</sup>

Bishop Fan’s presumed successor, Bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin, continued to be confined at the Sheshan seminary,<sup>28</sup> following his public resignation from the state-run CPA in July 2012.<sup>29</sup> Authorities reportedly subjected Ma to political indoctrination three times a week for an unknown period of time.<sup>30</sup> Overseas and underground Chinese Catholics requested that authorities allow Ma to preside over Bishop Fan’s funeral, but Bishop Ma was not present at the service.<sup>31</sup> In addition, in early October 2013, two underground priests, Tian Dalong and an unknown priest, reportedly were detained for organizing adult catechism classes in Qinyuan county, Baoding municipality, Hebei province.<sup>32</sup> Four lay adherents who helped the priests with their pastoral activities were fined 4,000 yuan (US\$640) each.<sup>33</sup> On May 30, 2014, authorities in Linchuan district, Fuzhou city, Jiangxi province detained underground priest John Peng Weizhao at an unknown location; Peng was appointed administrator of the Yujiang diocese by the Holy See in 2012.<sup>34</sup>

#### CHINA-HOLY SEE RELATIONS

The Chinese government does not maintain diplomatic relations with the Holy See, and relations between the two sides have been strained since 2011 due to papal rejection of unilateral bishop appointments made by the CPA.<sup>35</sup> Despite the lack of formal ties, Pope Francis acknowledged in an interview that “relations exist” between China and the Holy See, and that he exchanged letters with President Xi Jinping.<sup>36</sup> In August 2014, China permitted Pope Francis to fly over China for his visit to South Korea, marking the first time a pope has been allowed to do so since 1951.<sup>37</sup> During flights to and from South Korea, Pope Francis sent two goodwill messages to President Xi Jinping upon entering China’s airspace.<sup>38</sup> The Pope also openly expressed his desire to visit China soon, but

he insisted on one condition, that the Catholic Church be allowed to operate freely.<sup>39</sup> In response to Pope Francis' comments, Hua Chunying, a spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, indicated that China is willing to have a "constructive dialogue" with the Holy See and improve bilateral ties.<sup>40</sup> CPA Vice President Liu Yuanlong, however, warned that "China will always safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity and it never allows foreign forces to interfere with religion. The Vatican should respect China in terms of the personnel of a diocese."<sup>41</sup> In addition, Chinese authorities reportedly blocked Chinese Catholics from traveling to South Korea,<sup>42</sup> and threatened those who were already in South Korea not to participate in events during the papal visit.<sup>43</sup>

### *Falun Gong*

This past year, the Chinese government and Communist Party continued to carry out a campaign—initiated in 1999—of extensive, systematic, and in some cases violent efforts to pressure Falun Gong practitioners to renounce their belief in and practice of Falun Gong.<sup>44</sup> The government and Party refer to this process as "transformation through reeducation," or simply "transformation."<sup>45</sup> Starting in 2013, the government and Party launched a three-year "decisive-battle" campaign aimed at reducing Falun Gong activities and "transforming" Falun Gong practitioners.<sup>46</sup> The campaign has been carried out at all levels of government, and authorities have set specific "transformation" quotas to meet local goals.<sup>47</sup> Words such as "battle," "attack," and "resist" appeared on official government Web sites, indicating the aggressive nature of the campaign and the government and Party's continued emphasis on the suppression of Falun Gong.<sup>48</sup> Authorities labeled Falun Gong practitioners as "stubborn" and "obsessive," needing to be "educated, saved, and transformed" for the creation of a "harmonious and stable social environment."<sup>49</sup> Furthermore, the China Anti-Cult Association, an organization affiliated with the government and Party,<sup>50</sup> specifically named Falun Gong as the first of "20 cults" that "endanger social stability and public safety."<sup>51</sup>

The Commission continued to observe reports of targeted abuse of Falun Gong practitioners by Chinese government authorities and the 610 Office—an extralegal, Party-run security apparatus created in June 1999 to implement the ban against Falun Gong.<sup>52</sup> According to Minghui (aka Clear Wisdom), a U.S.-based news organization affiliated with Falun Gong, in numerous cases authorities abducted Falun Gong practitioners from their homes<sup>53</sup> and detained them at various facilities, including public security bureau detention centers,<sup>54</sup> reeducation through labor centers,<sup>55</sup> prisons,<sup>56</sup> and "transformation through reeducation centers" (also known as "legal education centers" or "brainwashing centers").<sup>57</sup> Authorities took measures to "transform" detainees, subjecting them to sleep deprivation,<sup>58</sup> food deprivation,<sup>59</sup> forced feeding,<sup>60</sup> beatings,<sup>61</sup> electric shock,<sup>62</sup> mental abuse,<sup>63</sup> sexual abuse,<sup>64</sup> and other cruel treatment.<sup>65</sup> For example, the Commission observed a May 2014 report about a Falun Gong practitioner Yang Chunling, who passed away in April 2014 due to injuries she allegedly sustained during detention.<sup>66</sup> Prison authorities reportedly subjected her to sleep deprivation, suffocation with a plastic bag pulled over her head, repeated

beatings, and other forms of abuse that resulted in physical injuries.<sup>67</sup> Furthermore, international observers asserted that possible organ harvesting from Falun Gong practitioners continued in the past reporting year.<sup>68</sup> According to a July 2014 Minghui report, since July 20, 1999, Chinese authorities' persecution of Falun Gong practitioners has resulted in at least 3,769 deaths.<sup>69</sup>

Authorities also harassed and detained persons who attempted to assist Falun Gong practitioners, including lawyers who sought to provide legal assistance to their clients. In March 2014, lawyers Tang Jitian, Jiang Tianyong, Wang Cheng, and Zhang Junjie visited the Jiansanjiang "legal education center" in Heilongjiang province, attempting to secure the release of detained Falun Gong practitioners.<sup>70</sup> Local authorities reportedly abducted the four lawyers from their hotel,<sup>71</sup> detained them at a local public security bureau,<sup>72</sup> and accused them of "using cult activities to endanger society."<sup>73</sup> Authorities then subjected the lawyers to beatings during detention, resulting in physical injuries.<sup>74</sup> Local authorities reportedly forced the lawyers to sign a statement confessing that they "disturbed public order," and threatened Tang Jitian that he would be "buried alive."<sup>75</sup> Authorities also allegedly detained and tortured other lawyers and Chinese citizens who came to Jiansanjiang to support the detained lawyers.<sup>76</sup>

### *Islam*

This past year, the Chinese government and Communist Party maintained tight controls over the affairs of Muslim communities in China. The state-controlled Islamic Association of China (IAC) continued to regulate the confirmation of religious leaders, the content of sermons, and overseas pilgrimages to accord with government and Party objectives.<sup>77</sup> In January 2014, Zhu Weiqun, Director of the Ethnic and Religious Affairs Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, and Zhang Yijiong, Deputy Head of the Communist Party's United Front Work Department (UFWD), visited the IAC on two separate occasions.<sup>78</sup> During their visits, Zhu and Zhang stressed their expectation that the IAC will "implement the spirit of the 18th Party Congress and its Third Plenum, to further assist the government in implementing the Party's policy of religious freedom, maintain social stability, and guide Islam to adapt to socialist society."<sup>79</sup> IAC Director Chen Guangyuan also said in November 2013 that the IAC will "actively serve as a bridge to unite and mobilize Muslim masses of every ethnicity . . . actively promote the basic Islamic spirit of peace, moderateness, and tolerance . . . to create a united, stable and harmonious social environment . . . rally closely around the Party Central Committee with Xi Jinping as the general secretary . . . work hard in order to achieve the Chinese dream—the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation."<sup>80</sup>

Chinese authorities continued to regulate the confirmation of religious leaders and overseas pilgrimages. Under the 2006 Measures for Accrediting Islamic Clergy, the first requirement listed for government recognition of imams is that they must "love the motherland, support the socialist system and the leadership of the Communist Party of China, comply with national laws, [and] safeguard national unity, ethnic unity, and social stability."<sup>81</sup> Chinese au-

thorities continued to guide the training of imams at 10 state-run Islamic colleges.<sup>82</sup> Provincial and local UFWD agencies, religious bureaus, and Islamic associations regularly conduct training classes for clerics and mosque managers.<sup>83</sup> The 2005 Regulations on Religious Affairs (RRA) stipulated that overseas pilgrimages must be organized by a national Islamic organization.<sup>84</sup> In April 2014, Zhang Lebin, Deputy Director of the State Administration for Religious Affairs (SARA) said at the “2014 Hajj Pilgrimage Work Meeting” in Qinghai province, that in accordance with “the directives of the central government leaders, a comprehensive mechanism must be established for the work of Hajj pilgrimage . . . [that is] standardized and normalized.”<sup>85</sup> The IAC reported that in November 2013, 11,800 people completed the 2013 Hajj pilgrimage organized by the IAC.<sup>86</sup> In February 2014, the government sent an official delegation from SARA and the IAC to Saudi Arabia to discuss matters related to the Hajj pilgrimage with their Saudi counterparts.<sup>87</sup>

Authorities continued to control the content of sermons and interpretation of Islamic scripture. In a speech given at the China Islamic Affairs Steering Committee meeting in December 2013, SARA Deputy Director Zhang Lebin stressed the importance of “correct interpretation, correct knowledge, [and] correct faith” for achieving government objectives.<sup>88</sup> Authorities also carried out control of scripture interpretation at the provincial and local levels. For example, in December 2013, SARA, IAC, the Guizhou provincial religious bureau, and the Guizhou Islamic Association jointly organized a scripture interpretation training class for more than 80 people, including 56 imams and 12 mosque managers.<sup>89</sup>

This past year, authorities in locations throughout the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) banned Uyghur Muslim students,<sup>90</sup> civil servants,<sup>91</sup> and hospital employees<sup>92</sup> from observing Ramadan. In contrast, Chinese authorities reportedly afforded Hui Muslims<sup>93</sup> greater freedom of religion, allowing them to observe Ramadan<sup>94</sup> and to make overseas pilgrimages in growing numbers.<sup>95</sup> [For information on state controls over Islam in the XUAR, see Section IV—Xinjiang.]

### *Protestantism*

During the Commission’s 2014 reporting year, the Chinese government and Communist Party continued to restrict the freedom of religion for Protestants in China. The Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China (TSPM) and the China Christian Council (CCC)—commonly known together as the “Two Associations”—are state-controlled organizations that manage registered Protestants.<sup>96</sup> The Party continued to emphasize the role of the Two Associations in carrying out Party and state objectives. During his visit to the Two Associations on December 23, 2013, Zhang Yijiong, Deputy Head of the United Front Work Department, stressed that the Two Associations must “continue to guide believers on the path of loving the nation and loving religion, effectively assisting in the implementation of Party and state policies . . . to contribute to the building of a socialist nation with Chinese characteristics.”<sup>97</sup> Protestants who choose not to affiliate with the TSPM worship with unregistered “house churches,” which are often

subject to interference, harassment, and abuse during peaceful religious activities.

GOVERNMENT AND PARTY CONTROL OF PROTESTANT DOCTRINE AND PRACTICE

The government and Party continued to control and influence the interpretation of Protestant doctrine and theology in an effort to conform the Christian faith to Party goals and ideology. The government and Party refer to this process as “theological reconstruction,” initiated in 1998 by former TSPM Chairman and CCC Director Ding Guangxun.<sup>98</sup> On August 5, 2014, speaking at an event in Shanghai municipality celebrating the 60th anniversary of the TSPM National Committee, Wang Zuo’an, Director of the State Administration for Religious Affairs (SARA), emphasized that “[t]he construction of [Christian] theology with Chinese characteristics . . . should also adapt to China’s national condition and integrate with Chinese culture.”<sup>99</sup>

HARASSMENT, DETENTION, AND INTERFERENCE WITH PLACES OF WORSHIP

Chinese authorities continued to harass, detain, imprison, and interfere with the religious activities of members of both registered and unregistered Protestant communities who ran afoul of government or Party policy. Authorities throughout China interrupted house church gatherings and proselytizing activities, took participants into custody, and blocked access to sites of worship.<sup>100</sup> This past year, the Commission also observed a trend of increasing government harassment against officially sanctioned TSPM churches. In particular, the Zhejiang provincial government launched a three-year (2013–2015) “Three Rectifications and One Demolition” campaign to “rectify” and demolish “illegal structures.”<sup>101</sup> While the campaign’s stated aim was to address “illegal structures,”<sup>102</sup> official rhetoric at meetings and in government work plans appeared to demonstrate a negative view of the growth of Christianity in Zhejiang and an intention to target religious sites, especially Christian sites, for demolition.<sup>103</sup> According to a May 2014 New York Times report, an internal Zhejiang government document named Christianity and crosses as the intended targets of its campaign against “excessive religious sites” and “overly popular religious activities.”<sup>104</sup> The U.S.-based non-governmental organization ChinaAid reported that, as of August 7, 2014, the campaign has affected at least 231 churches in Zhejiang province.<sup>105</sup> Examples of official persecution of Protestant churches include:

- On April 3, 2014, authorities in Yongjia county, Wenzhou municipality, Zhejiang, reportedly notified the Sanjiang TSPM Church that its new church building was deemed an “illegal structure” with “safety hazards” and needed to be demolished.<sup>106</sup> Over the next few days, nearly 5,000 Christians reportedly stood guard in and around the church.<sup>107</sup> On April 7, Sanjiang Church members reached a compromise with local authorities, in which authorities agreed not to demolish the church or remove the cross atop the building, and the church agreed to remove parts of the church-owned nursing home.<sup>108</sup>

On April 21, however, authorities arrived with demolition machinery, and deployed paramilitary and riot police to block access to the church.<sup>109</sup> From April 22 to April 26, thousands of Christians stood guard at the church.<sup>110</sup> Authorities began expelling Christians from the church on April 26,<sup>111</sup> and demolished it on April 28.<sup>112</sup>

- On November 16, 2013, public security officials in Nanle county, Henan province detained Nanle county TSPM Christian Church pastor Zhang Shaojie and over 20 church members, after they petitioned in Beijing municipality over a land dispute with the local government.<sup>113</sup> Authorities charged Zhang with “fraud” and “gathering a crowd to disturb social order.”<sup>114</sup> Authorities repeatedly denied lawyers’ requests to meet with Zhang, and “unidentified people” reportedly assaulted the lawyers and foreign journalists at the county prosecutor’s office.<sup>115</sup> In November and December 2013, Nanle authorities harassed and threatened church members, blocked access to the church, and forbade Christians from attending regular worship services.<sup>116</sup> After two months in detention, authorities permitted Zhang to meet with his lawyer Liu Weiguo for the first time on January 15, 2014.<sup>117</sup> The Nanle County People’s Court also repeatedly changed Zhang’s trial dates, and at one point had the trial date “indefinitely postponed.”<sup>118</sup> The court tried Zhang in April 2014,<sup>119</sup> and sentenced him to 12 years in prison on July 4.<sup>120</sup>

- Authorities continued to interfere with worship gatherings of the Beijing Shouwang Church which has persisted in meeting outdoors in public spaces in Beijing municipality for more than three years.<sup>121</sup> Beijing authorities continued to hold Shouwang pastor Jin Tianming under “soft detention” (*ruanjin*) and prohibit some members of the church from leaving their homes for worship.<sup>122</sup> Starting in May 2014, authorities regularly detained members of the Shouwang Church during worship services, including holding some members in administrative detention for “disrupting public order.”<sup>123</sup> According to ChinaAid, these administrative detentions were the first of their kind during the church’s three-year history of worshipping outdoors, which signal an escalation of persecution against the Shouwang Church.<sup>124</sup>

#### BANNED PROTESTANT GROUPS AND DESIGNATION OF GROUPS AS “CULTS”

The Chinese government and Party continued to designate and criminalize some Protestant groups as “cult organizations” (*xiejiao zuzhi*). On June 3, 2014, several Chinese news media organizations republished a list of “14 cults”—previously identified by the General Office of the Chinese Communist Party, General Office of the State Council, and the Ministry of Public Security—after Chinese state media reported that six members of the “Church of Almighty God” (*quannengshen*)—also known as “Eastern Lightning”—killed a woman at a McDonald’s in Zhaoyuan city, Shandong province on May 28.<sup>125</sup> Also on June 3, the China Anti-Cult Association (CACA), an organization affiliated with the Chinese government and Party,<sup>126</sup> published a list of “20 cults” that “endanger social

stability and public safety.” The list included Protestant groups such as the South China Church, the Full Scope Church (*quan fanwei jiaohui*), and the Local Church, which CACA placed under the name of “the Shouters” in its list.<sup>127</sup> Local Church groups consequently protested against the CACA designation of equating the Local Church to “the Shouters,” emphasizing that the Local Church is not a cult but a group belonging to the orthodox Christian faith.<sup>128</sup> Authorities also appeared to target mainstream underground Protestant groups in the anti-cult effort. In June 2014, a commentator at the state-controlled *Global Times* wrote that, “underground churches and cults are spreading extremely fast . . . the situation is very serious . . . [local authorities] should try their best to suppress the underground churches and cults.”<sup>129</sup> From June 2014 to August 2014, *ChinaAid* reported that authorities in Guangdong, Guizhou, Hunan, Shandong, and Sichuan provinces harassed and in some cases detained members of several house churches over alleged “cult” activities.<sup>130</sup>

#### *Taoism*

The Chinese government and Communist Party continued to exercise control over Taoist doctrine, clergy appointments, sites of worship, and religious activities during the Commission’s 2014 reporting year. The Chinese Taoist Association (CTA) continued to work with the Chinese government to ensure that Taoist religious groups “uphold the leadership of the Communist Party and the socialist system,” “play an active role in the building of a harmonious society and in the promotion of economic and social development,” and “contribute to the protection of religious harmony, ethnic unity, social harmony, unity of the motherland, and world peace.”<sup>131</sup> In a speech delivered at a CTA conference held in March 2014, SARA official Tang Aihua called for “intensified implementation” of the 2012 joint opinion issued by 10 central government and Party agencies, which regulates the management of Buddhist monasteries and Taoist temples.<sup>132</sup> In preparation for the Third International Taoist Forum to be held in Jiangxi province in October–November 2014,<sup>133</sup> SARA Deputy Director Jiang Jianyong said that SARA will “seriously implement the spirit of President Xi Jinping’s important talks on the promotion of traditional Chinese culture,” and “push forward the healthy development of Chinese Taoism,” in order to “contribute to the realization of the Chinese dream—the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.”<sup>134</sup>

#### *Other Religious Communities*

The Chinese government continued to maintain the framework of recognizing only five official religions for limited government protection, and did not recognize additional groups during this reporting year. Legal regulations allowed foreign religious communities, including communities not recognized as domestic religions by the government, to hold religious services for expatriates, but forbade Chinese citizens from participating.<sup>135</sup> Despite lacking formal central government recognition, some religious communities have been able to operate inside China.<sup>136</sup> For example, there are reportedly approximately 15,000 Orthodox Christians in China, and the Chi-

nese government has allowed four churches to be used for Orthodox religious services.<sup>137</sup> The Russian Orthodox Church has expressed its desire for the Chinese government to grant recognition to the Chinese Orthodox Church, but it is not clear whether the government will do so in the near future.<sup>138</sup> The Chinese government continued to refuse to grant official recognition to Judaism, Seventh-Day Adventism, Mormonism, the Baha'i faith, and folk religions, among others.<sup>139</sup>

#### Notes to Section II—Freedom of Religion

<sup>1</sup> PRC Constitution, issued 4 December 82, amended 12 April 88, 29 March 83, 15 March 99, 14 March 04, art. 36.

<sup>2</sup> Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted and proclaimed by UN General Assembly resolution 217A (III) on 10 December 48, art. 18; International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, adopted by UN General Assembly resolution 2200A (XXI) on 16 December 66, entry into force 23 March 76, art. 18.

<sup>3</sup> State Administration for Religious Affairs, Regulations on Religious Affairs [Zongjiao shiwu tiaoli], issued 30 November 04, effective 1 March 05, arts. 6, 12.

<sup>4</sup> Buddhist Association of China, “NPC Delegate Shi Yongxin: Issue of Most Concern Is Society’s Smooth and Sustainable Development” [Quanguo daibiao shi yongxin: zui guanzhu shehui pingwen chixu fazhan wenti], 12 March 14.

<sup>5</sup> “Wang Zuo’an: Religious Work Is in Essence Mass Work” [Wang zuo’an: zongjiao gongzuo benzhi shang shi qunzhong gongzuo], People’s Daily, 26 November 13.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>7</sup> State Administration for Religious Affairs, “State Administration for Religious Affairs 2014 Work Plan Key Points” [Guojia zongjiao shiwuju 2014 nian gongzuo yaodian], 2 January 14.

<sup>8</sup> State Administration for Religious Affairs, Implementation Measures on Administrative Licensing [Guojia zongjiao shiwuju xingzheng xuke shishi banfa], issued 31 December 13, effective 8 January 14; State Administration for Religious Affairs, Implementation Measures on Administrative Punishment [Guojia zongjiao shiwuju xingzheng chufa shishi banfa], issued 31 December 13, effective 8 January 14; State Administration for Religious Affairs, Administrative Enforcement Misconduct Accountability System [Guojia zongjiao shiwuju xingzheng zhifa guocuo zeren zhuijiu zhidu], issued 31 December 13, effective 8 January 14.

<sup>9</sup> The Regulations on Religious Affairs (RRA) provide that religious matters requiring administrative licenses include: the establishment of religious academic institutions (arts. 8–9); the establishment and registration of sites for religious activities (arts. 13–16); large-scale religious activities held in multiple provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities (art. 22); the building of large outdoor religious statues (art. 24); and the succession of “living Buddhas” in Tibetan Buddhism (art. 27). The RRA, however, does not provide specific procedures for obtaining the required administrative licenses. See State Administration for Religious Affairs (SARA), Regulations on Religious Affairs [Zongjiao shiwu tiaoli], issued 30 November 04, effective 1 March 05, arts. 8–9, 13–16, 22, 24, 27. The new SARA measure on administrative licensing provides details specifying SARA’s Operations Division shall be in charge of handling applications for administrative licenses (art. 5); the circumstances under which an application can be rejected or when supplemental materials are required for further processing (art. 6); SARA’s Politics and Law Division shall be in charge of examining the application and the SARA leadership shall approve the application (art. 8); and approval or rejection of an application shall be communicated to the applicant via written notification, and in the case of rejection, the applicant shall be notified of the right to administrative reconsideration (art. 9). State Administration for Religious Affairs, Implementation Measures on Administrative Licensing [Guojia zongjiao shiwuju xingzheng xuke shishi banfa], issued 31 December 13, effective 8 January 14, arts. 5–6, 8–9.

<sup>10</sup> The Regulations on Religious Affairs (RRA) provide conditions under which religious groups and government employees can be punished. The RRA, however, does not provide procedures for imposing administrative punishments. State Administration for Religious Affairs, Regulations on Religious Affairs (RRA) [Zongjiao shiwu tiaoli], issued 30 November 04, effective 1 March 05, arts. 38–46. The new SARA measure on administrative punishments provides details specifying that SARA’s Operations Division shall be in charge of implementing administrative punishments (arts. 5–6); SARA’s Operations Division offers suggestions for administrative punishments based on different circumstances (art. 7); SARA’s Politics and Law Division should examine the suggestion and report to SARA’s leadership for approval, and the Division should review appeals (art. 8); the party involved is entitled to a hearing in the event a suggestion for administrative punishment has been made (art. 9); a written decision containing relevant details shall be given to the party involved (arts. 10–11); SARA personnel who violate relevant laws and regulations during the process of implementing administrative punishment shall be disciplined or punished by the SARA Disciplinary Committee and Human Resources Division, and when circumstances are serious enough to constitute a crime, SARA personnel shall be transferred to judicial authorities (art. 14). State Administration for Religious Affairs, Implementation Measures on Administrative Punishment [Guojia zongjiao shiwuju xingzheng chufa shishi banfa], issued 31 December 13, effective 8 January 14, arts. 5–11, 14.

<sup>11</sup> State Administration for Religious Affairs, Administrative Enforcement Misconduct Accountability System [Guojia zongjiao shiwuju xingzheng zhifa guocuo zeren zhuijiu zhidu], issued 31 December 13, effective 8 January 14.

<sup>12</sup> Buddhist Association of China, “Bureau Deputy Director Jiang Jianyong Speaks at Opening Ceremony” [Jiang jianyong fu juzhang zai kaimushi shang jianghua], 27 October 13.

<sup>13</sup>State Administration for Religious Affairs, “State Administration for Religious Affairs 2014 Work Plan Key Points” [Guojia zongjiao shiwuju 2014 nian gongzuo yaodian], 2 January 14; State Administration for Religious Affairs, United Front Work Department, National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Culture, State Administration for Industry and Commerce, China National Tourism Administration, China Security Regulatory Commission, State Administration of Cultural Heritage, Opinion Regarding Issues Related to the Management of Buddhist Monasteries and Taoist Temples [Guanyu chuli sheji fojiao simiao, daojiao gongguan guanli youguan wenti de yijian], issued 8 October 12.

<sup>14</sup>Ibid.

<sup>15</sup>ChinaAid, “Fujian: Chengguan Forcibly Demolished Newly-Built Temple in the Village, Clashed With Villagers” [Fujian: chengguan qiangchai cunzhong xinjian simiao yu cunmin bao chongtu], 27 February 14.

<sup>16</sup>Zhuhai Buddhist Organization ‘Huazang Famen’ Raided by Police, Founder and Followers Detained” [Zhuhai fojiao zuzhi “huazang famen” zao jingfang chaocha chuangan ren ji duoming dizi beibu], Radio Free Asia, 6 August 14.

<sup>17</sup>Zhang Ningdan, “Zhuhai Police Investigate and Deal With Illegal Organization ‘Huazang Famen,’ 15 People Criminally Detained” [Zhuhai jingfang chachu “huazang famen” feifa zuzhi 15 ren bei xingju], Legal Daily, reprinted in Xinhua, 6 August 14; “Zhuhai Buddhist Organization ‘Huazang Famen’ Raided by Police, Founder and Followers Arrested” [Zhuhai fojiao zuzhi “huazang famen” zao jingfang chaocha chuangan ren ji duoming dizi beibu], Radio Free Asia, 6 August 14. For more information on Wu Zeheng’s case, see the Commission’s Political Prisoner Database record 2011-00482.

<sup>18</sup>Letter from Jared Genser, Perseus Strategies, to Juan E. Mendez, Special Rapporteur on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, and Degrading Treatment, UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 19 August 14.

<sup>19</sup>“Thousands Bid Farewell to ‘Underground’ Catholic Bishop Joseph Fan,” Agence France-Presse, reprinted in Gulf News, 22 March 14.

<sup>20</sup>Zhang Yiwei and Bai Tiantian, “Catholic Patriotic Association Warns Vatican Not To Interfere,” Global Times, 19 March 14; “Chinese Bishop Who Led ‘Underground’ Church Dies at 94,” Catholic World News, reprinted in Catholic Culture, 5 November 13; Austin Ramzy, “Catholic Bishop Who Spent Decades in Prison Dies in Shanghai,” New York Times, Sinosphere (blog), 17 March 14; John Sudworth, “China’s Detained Bishop Ma ‘Given Political Lessons,’” BBC, 24 December 13; Bernardo Cervellera, “Two Priests From Underground Church in Prison. Doubts About Xi Jinping’s ‘Unprecedented’ Reforms,” Asia News, 19 November 13; “China Detains Underground Catholic Administrator,” UCA News, 9 June 14.

<sup>21</sup>“Chinese Bishop Who Led ‘Underground’ Church Dies at 94,” Catholic World News, reprinted in Catholic Culture, 5 November 13; Bernardo Cervellera, “Remembering Mgr Peter Liu Guangdong, ‘Standard-Bearer’ of the Underground Church,” Asia News, 8 November 13.

<sup>22</sup>Ibid.

<sup>23</sup>Rui Di, “Chinese Underground Church Bishop Liu Guangdong” [Zhongguo dixia jiaohui zhujiao liu guangdong], Radio France Internationale, 7 November 13; Bernardo Cervellera, “Remembering Mgr Peter Liu Guangdong, ‘Standard-Bearer’ of the Underground Church,” Asia News, 8 November 13.

<sup>24</sup>Austin Ramzy, “Catholic Bishop Who Spent Decades in Prison Dies in Shanghai,” New York Times, Sinosphere (blog), 17 March 14; Ellen Teague and Abigail Frymann, “Chinese Officials Refuse Cathedral Funeral Request for Bishop,” Tablet, 19 March 14.

<sup>25</sup>Austin Ramzy, “Catholic Bishop Who Spent Decades in Prison Dies in Shanghai,” New York Times, Sinosphere (blog), 17 March 14.

<sup>26</sup>Ellen Teague and Abigail Frymann, “Chinese Officials Refuse Cathedral Funeral Request for Bishop,” Tablet, 19 March 14; “Thousands Bid Farewell to ‘Underground’ Catholic Bishop Joseph Fan,” Agence-France Presse, reprinted in Gulf News, 22 March 14.

<sup>27</sup>“Five Thousand Catholics Bid Farewell to Bishop Fan Zhongliang, Memorial Service Held for the Bishop in Shanghai” [Wuqian jiaoyou songbie fan zhongliang shanghai juxing zhujiao zhuisihui], Radio Free Asia, 22 March 14.

<sup>28</sup>Katie Nelson, “Shanghai’s Bishop Ma Will Remain in Detainment, Insiders Say,” Shanghaiist (blog), 19 June 14; Austin Ramzy, “Catholic Bishop Who Spent Decades in Prison Dies in Shanghai,” New York Times, Sinosphere (blog), 17 March 14; John Sudworth, “China’s Detained Bishop Ma ‘Given Political Lessons,’” BBC, 24 December 13.

<sup>29</sup>John Sudworth, “China’s Detained Bishop Ma ‘Given Political Lessons,’” BBC, 24 December 13. For more information on Thaddeus Ma Daqin’s case, see the Commission’s Political Prisoner Database record 2013-00336.

<sup>30</sup>Ibid.

<sup>31</sup>“Thousands Bid Farewell to ‘Underground’ Catholic Bishop Joseph Fan,” Agence France-Presse, reprinted in Gulf News, 22 March 14; “Five Thousand Catholics Bid Farewell to Bishop Fan Zhongliang, Memorial Service Held for the Bishop in Shanghai” [Wuqian jiaoyou songbie fan zhongliang shanghai juxing zhujiao zhuisi hui], Radio Free Asia, 22 March 14.

<sup>32</sup>Bernardo Cervellera, “Two Priests From Underground Church in Prison. Doubts About Xi Jinping’s ‘Unprecedented’ Reforms,” Asia News, 19 November 13. For more information on Tian Datong’s case, see the Commission’s Political Prisoner Database record 2014-00069.

<sup>33</sup>Ibid.

<sup>34</sup>“China Detains Underground Catholic Administrator: Father John Peng Weizhao Missing Since May 30,” UCA News, 9 June 14.

<sup>35</sup>“Pope May Visit China This Summer, Says China and the Vatican Are ‘Close,’” Catholic Online, 7 March 14; “Pope Francis Hints at Warming Ties With Beijing,” Want China Times, 21 March 14; CECC, 2013 Annual Report, 10 October 13, 89.

<sup>36</sup>“Pope May Visit China This Summer, Says China and the Vatican Are ‘Close,’” Catholic Online, 7 March 14; Zhang Yiwei and Bai Tiantian, “Catholic Patriotic Association Warns Vatican Not To Interfere,” Global Times, 19 March 14.

<sup>37</sup>“Pope Wants China Dialogue, Freedom for Church,” Associated Press, reprinted in Washington Post, 19 August 14; “Pope Wants China Visit, Seeks Church Freedom,” Agence France-Presse and Associated Press, reprinted in China Post, 20 August 14; Calum MacLeod, “From 30,000 Feet, Pope Francis Reaches Out to Beijing,” USA Today, 13 August 14.

<sup>38</sup>“Pope Francis Message to China Leader Lost in Space,” Agence France-Presse and Associated Press, reprinted in Inquirer, 20 August 14; “Pope Wants China Dialogue, Freedom for Church,” Associated Press, reprinted in Washington Post, 19 August 14; Calum MacLeod, “From 30,000 Feet, Pope Francis Reaches Out to Beijing,” USA Today, 13 August 14.

<sup>39</sup>Chang Meng, “China Willing To Have Dialogue With Vatican: FM,” Global Times, 20 August 14; “Can He Break Christian Persecution? Pope Francis Says He’s Ready To Try in China,” Catholic Online, 19 August 14; Josephine McKenna, “China to Pope Francis: Don’t ‘Interfere’ With Religion,” Religion News Service, reprinted in Washington Post, 20 August 14; “Pope Wants China Dialogue, Freedom for Church,” Associated Press, reprinted in Washington Post, 19 August 14; “Pope Francis Message to China Leader Lost in Space,” Agence France-Presse and Associated Press, reprinted in Inquirer, 20 August 14; “Pope Wants China Visit, Seeks Church Freedom,” Agence France-Presse and Associated Press, reprinted in China Post, 20 August 14.

<sup>40</sup>Chang Meng, “China Willing To Have Dialogue With Vatican: FM,” Global Times, 20 August 14; Harry W.S. Lee, “China and the Papal Pivot to Asia,” World Policy (blog), 26 August 14; Christopher Bodeen, “Papal Visit to South Korea Brings China Opportunity,” Associated Press, reprinted in Yahoo! News, 14 August 14.

<sup>41</sup>Josephine McKenna, “China to Pope Francis: Don’t ‘Interfere’ With Religion,” Religion News Service, reprinted in Washington Post, 20 August 14.

<sup>42</sup>Christopher Bodeen, “Who Stopped China Catholics Going to South Korea,” Associated Press, reprinted in Taiwan News, 16 August 14; Harry W.S. Lee, “China and the Papal Pivot to Asia,” World Policy (blog), 26 August 14.

<sup>43</sup>Ibid.; Des Cambaliza, “Chinese Catholics Cheer Pope’s Visit Despite News Blackout,” China Topix, 18 August 14.

<sup>44</sup>Yangliuxue Township Communist Party Committee, “Yangliuxue Township 2013–2015 Transformation Decisive Battle Plan” [Yangliuxue zhen 2013–2015 nian jiaoyu zhuanhua juezhān fāng’ān], reprinted in Bingzhou City Yangguang Rural Credit Union Net, 10 September 13; Xiyangjiang Township Cult Problem Prevention and Management Team, “Xiyangjiang Township 2013–2015 Transformation Decisive Implementation Plan” [Xiyangjiang zhen 2013–2015 nian jiaoyu zhuanhua juezhān shishi fāng’ān], 20 June 13; Falun Dafa Information Center, “Overview of Persecution,” 4 May 08; CECC, 2013 Annual Report, 10 October 13, 89; CECC, 2012 Annual Report, 10 October 12, 81.

<sup>45</sup>Falun Dafa Information Center, “Overview of Persecution,” 4 May 08; CECC, 2012 Annual Report, 10 October 12, 81.

<sup>46</sup>Yangliuxue Township Communist Party Committee, “Yangliuxue Township 2013–2015 Transformation Decisive Battle Plan” [Yangliuxue zhen 2013–2015 nian jiaoyu zhuanhua juezhān fāng’ān], reprinted in Bingzhou City Yangguang Rural Credit Union Net, 10 September 13; Xiyangjiang Township Cult Problem Prevention and Management Team, “Xiyangjiang Township 2013–2015 Transformation Decisive Implementation Plan” [Xiyangjiang zhen 2013–2015 nian jiaoyu zhuanhua juezhān shishi fāng’ān], 20 June 13; Jinhe Township government, “2013–2015 Transformation Decisive Battle Implementation Plan” [2013–2015 nian jiaoyu zhuanhua juezhān shishi fāng’ān], 13 August 13; Tongshan Middle School, “Tongshan Middle School 2013–2015 Anti-Cult Transformation Decisive Battle Implementation Plan” [Tongshan zhongxue 2013–2015 nian fan xiejiao jiaoyu zhuanhua juezhān shishi fāng’ān], 13 May 13; Fanxingji Township Communist Party Committee, “Linquan County 2013–2015 Transformation Decisive Battle Implementation Plan” [Linquan xian 2013–2015 nian jiaoyu zhuanhua juezhān shishi fāng’ān], 9 October 13; Xingzipu Township Government, “Xingzipu Township 2013 Transformation Decisive Battle and Consolidation Implementation Work Plan” [Xingzipu zhen 2013 nian jiaoyu zhuanhua juezhān yu gonggu shishi gongzuo fāng’ān], 11 September 13; China Anti-Cult Association, “2013 Gansu Province Anti-Cult Theoretical Research and Practical Experience Seminar Convened in Cheng County, Longnan Municipality” [2013 nian gansu sheng fan xiejiao lilun yanjiu yu shijian jingyan yantaohui zai longnan chengxian zhaokai], reprinted in Gansu Association for Science and Technology, 26 September 13.

<sup>47</sup>Yangliuxue Township Communist Party Committee, “Yangliuxue Township 2013–2015 Transformation Decisive Battle Plan” [Yangliuxue zhen 2013–2015 nian jiaoyu zhuanhua juezhān fāng’ān], reprinted in Bingzhou City Yangguang Rural Credit Union Net, 10 September 13; Tongshan Middle School, “Tongshan Middle School 2013–2015 Anti-Cult Transformation Decisive Battle Implementation Plan” [Tongshan zhongxue 2013–2015 nian fan xiejiao jiaoyu zhuanhua juezhān shishi fāng’ān], 13 May 13; Fanxingji Township Communist Party Committee, “Linquan County 2013–2015 Transformation Decisive Battle Implementation Plan” [Linquan xian 2013–2015 nian jiaoyu zhuanhua juezhān shishi fāng’ān], 9 October 13; Xingzipu Township Government, “Xingzipu Township 2013 Transformation Decisive Battle and Consolidation Implementation Work Plan” [Xingzipu zhen 2013 nian jiaoyu zhuanhua juezhān yu gonggu shishi gongzuo fāng’ān], 11 September 13.

<sup>48</sup>Yangliuxue Township Communist Party Committee, “Yangliuxue Township 2013–2015 Transformation Decisive Battle Plan” [Yangliuxue zhen 2013–2015 nian jiaoyu zhuanhua juezhān fāng’ān], reprinted in Bingzhou City Yangguang Rural Credit Union Net, 10 September 13; Xiyangjiang Township Cult Problem Prevention and Management Team, “Xiyangjiang Township 2013–2015 Transformation Decisive Implementation Plan” [Xiyangjiang zhen 2013–2015 nian jiaoyu zhuanhua juezhān shishi fāng’ān], 20 June 13; Jinhe Township Government, “2013–2015 Transformation Decisive Battle Implementation Plan” [2013–2015 nian jiaoyu zhuanhua

juezhān shìshì fāng'ān], 13 August 13; Fānxīngjī Tóuwānshì Cómúníst Párty Cómmittee, “Línquān Cómty 2013–2015 Trānsfórmātion Decisive Bāttle Impleméntātion Plān” [Línquān xiān 2013–2015 nián jiāoyù zhūānhuā juézhan shìshì fāng'ān], 9 Octóber 13; Xīngzìpǔ Tóuwānshì Góvernment, “Xīngzìpǔ Tóuwānshì 2013 Trānsfórmātion Decisive Bāttle ānd Cónsólidātion Impleméntātion Wórk Plān” [Xīngzìpǔ zhēn 2013 nián jiāoyù zhūānhuā juézhan yú gōnggǔ shìshì gōngzúo fāng'ān], 11 Septémber 13.

<sup>49</sup>Ibid.

<sup>50</sup>World Organization To Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong, “Investigative Report (17) Regarding the Participation of the ‘China Anti-Cult Association’ in the Persecution of Falun Gong” [Zhūichā guóji bāogāo (shìqì): guānyú “zhōngguó fān xiéjiāo xiéhuì” cānyù pòhāi fālun gōng de diāochā bāogāo], réprintéd in Epoch Times, 26 Mārch 04.

<sup>51</sup>China Anti-Cult Association, “China Anti-Cult Association: Be Highly Vigilant About Various Cults That Harm the Public” [Zhōngguó fān xiéjiāo xiéhuì: yāo gāodu jīngtǐ wēihāi gōngzhōng de gézhōng xiéjiāo], 3 Jūne 14.

<sup>52</sup>Lu Chen, “Ministerial Official Dismissed for Corruption, Chinese Authorities Say,” Epoch Times, 17 April 14; Sarah Cook and Leeshai Lemish, Jamestown Foundation, “The 610 Office: Policing the Chinese Spirit,” China Brief, Vol. 11, No. 17, 16 Septémber 11; CECC, 2012 Annual Report, 10 Octóber 12, 82.

<sup>53</sup>“Over Ten Fujian Falun Gong Practitioners Abducted During the Past Two Weeks” [Fújiān shìjī míng fālun gōng xuéyuān jìn bānyuè zāo bāngjiā], Clear Wisdom, 10 Mārch 14; “Ms. Wu Shuyuan of Guanyun County, Jiangsu Province Tortured in Detention Center” [Jiāngsū guānyún xiān wú shuyuān nùshì zāi kànshòusuo zāo kùxíng zhémò], Clear Wisdom, 24 Mārch 14.

<sup>54</sup>“Over Ten Fujian Falun Gong Practitioners Abducted During the Past Two Weeks” [Fújiān shìjī míng fālun gōng xuéyuān jìn bānyuè zāo bāngjiā], Clear Wisdom, 30 April 14.

<sup>55</sup>Falun Dafa Information Center, “Overview of Persecution,” 4 Māy 08.

<sup>56</sup>“What Exactly Did the Gansu Women’s Prison Do to Them?” [Gānsū nùzì jiānyù jiūjīng duì tāmen zuò le shēnmè], Clear Wisdom, 24 Mārch 14; “Liang Bo Released From Prison, Says She Was Sexually Assaulted and Mentally Abused in Prison” [Liāng bō chūyù sùshuò zāi yúzhōng bēi xīngqīn jì jīngshēn nuédài], Radio Free Asia, 6 Nóvember 13.

<sup>57</sup>Lu Chen, “Lawyers Expose Torture After Attempt To Rescue Falun Gong,” Epoch Times, 7 April 14; Falun Dafa Information Center, “Overview of Persecution,” 4 Māy 08; ChinaAid, “Joint Statement of Four Detained Lawyers in Jiansanjiang After [Their] Release” [Jiānsānjiāng bēi jū sī lùshì huòshì hòu de liánhē shēngmíng], 13 April 14.

<sup>58</sup>“Ms. Wu Shuyuan of Guanyun County, Jiangsu Province Tortured in Detention Center” [Jiāngsū guānyún xiān wú shuyuān nùshì zāi kànshòusuo zāo kùxíng zhémò], Clear Wisdom, 24 Mārch 14; “What Exactly Did the Gansu Women’s Prison Do to Them?” [Gānsū nùzì jiānyù jiūjīng duì tāmen zuò le shēnmè?], Clear Wisdom, 24 Mārch 14.

<sup>59</sup>“Ms. Wu Shuyuan of Guanyun County, Jiangsu Province Tortured in Detention Center” [Jiāngsū guānyún xiān wú shuyuān nùshì zāi kànshòusuo zāo kùxíng zhémò], Clear Wisdom, 24 Mārch 14.

<sup>60</sup>Arleen Richards and Gisela Sommer, “Smuggled Toilet Paper Diary Discloses Brutal Torture in Chinese Detention Center,” Epoch Times, 29 April 14.

<sup>61</sup>“What Exactly Did the Gansu Women’s Prison Do to Them?” [Gānsū nùzì jiānyù jiūjīng duì tāmen zuò le shēnmè?], Clear Wisdom, 24 Mārch 14.

<sup>62</sup>“Ms. Wu Shuyuan of Guanyun County, Jiangsu Province Tortured in Detention Center” [Jiāngsū guānyún xiān wú shuyuān nùshì zāi kànshòusuo zāo kùxíng zhémò], Clear Wisdom, 24 Mārch 14.

<sup>63</sup>“Liang Bo Released From Prison, Says She Was Sexually Assaulted and Mentally Abused in Prison” [Liāng bō chūyù sùshuò zāi yúzhōng bēi xīngqīn jì jīngshēn nuédài], Radio Free Asia, 6 Nóvember 13.

<sup>64</sup>Ibid.

<sup>65</sup>“Deaths Due to Persecution of Falun Gong Practitioners, Details of Cases Need Further Confirmation” [Yīn xuéguó fālun gōng èr bēi pòhāi zhìsì zhè hé xiāngqīng xuyāo jìxù quèrēn ānlì], Clear Wisdom, last visited 14 July 14.

<sup>66</sup>Gisela Sommer, “Falun Gong Practitioner in China Pays Ultimate Price for Tapping Into TV Network,” Epoch Times, 28 Māy 14.

<sup>67</sup>Ibid.

<sup>68</sup>Genevieve Belmaker, “Parallel Lives Meet in New York,” Epoch Times, 16 Māy 14; Tony Gosgnach, “China Still Targeting and Murdering Religious Minorities for Illegal Organ ‘Donations’: Expert,” LifeSiteNews, 30 Māy 14; Racheli Hibben, “Medical Professionals Condemn Organ Harvesting in China,” Epoch Times, 12 Jūne 14.

<sup>69</sup>“Deaths Due to Persecution of Falun Gong Practitioners, Details of Cases Need Further Confirmation” [Yīn xuéguó fālun gōng èr bēi pòhāi zhìsì zhè hé xiāngqīng xuyāo jìxù quèrēn ānlì], Clear Wisdom, last visited 14 July 14.

<sup>70</sup>Lu Chen, “Lawyers Expose Torture After Attempt To Rescue Falun Gong,” Epoch Times, 7 April 14.

<sup>71</sup>ChinaAid, “Joint Statement of Four Detained Lawyers in Jiansanjiang After [Their] Release” [Jiānsānjiāng bēi jū sī lùshì huòshì hòu de liánhē shēngmíng], 13 April 14.

<sup>72</sup>Ibid.

<sup>73</sup>Verna Yu, “Four Rights Lawyers Detained After Questioning Falun Gong Detention,” South China Morning Post, 24 Mārch 14. For more information on the four lawyers and their detentions, see the following records in the Commission’s Political Prisoner Database: 2011-00180 on Tang Jitian; 2011-00179 on Jiang Tianyong; 2014-00122 on Wang Cheng; and 2014-00139 on Zhang Junjie.

<sup>74</sup>Lu Chen, “Lawyers Expose Torture After Attempt To Rescue Falun Gong,” Epoch Times, 7 April 14; World Organization To Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong (WOIPFG), “WOIPFG Investigative Announcement on the Kidnapping of Rights Lawyers and Falun Gong

Practitioners in Jiansanjiang, Heilongjiang Province” [Zhuicha guoji dui heilongjiang jiansanjiang bangjia weiquan lushi he falun gong xueyuan de zhuicha baogao], 31 March 14; Didi Tang, “Chinese Lawyers Say They Were Tortured by Police,” Associated Press, 15 April 14; Rights Defense Network, “Statement of the Citizen Support Group for Jiansanjiang Human Rights Lawyers” [Jiansanjiang renquan lushi gongmin shengyuan tuan shengming], 10 April 14.

<sup>75</sup> Didi Kirsten Tatlow, “Lawyers Say They Were Tortured After Protesting ‘Black Jail,’” New York Times, Sinosphere (blog), 7 April 14.

<sup>76</sup> World Organization To Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong (WOIPFG), “WOIPFG Investigative Announcement on the Kidnapping of Rights Lawyers and Falun Gong Practitioners in Jiansanjiang, Heilongjiang Province” [Zhuicha guoji dui heilongjiang jiansanjiang bangjia weiquan lushi he falun gong xueyuan de zhuicha baogao], 31 March 14; ChinaAid, “Joint Statement of Four Detained Lawyers in Jiansanjiang After [Their] Release” [Jiansanjiang bei ju si lushi huoshi hou de lianhe shengming], 13 April 14; Rights Defense Network, “Statement of the Citizen Support Group for Jiansanjiang Human Rights Lawyers” [Jiansanjiang renquan lushi gongmin shengyuan tuan shengming], 10 April 14.

<sup>77</sup> Islamic Association of China, “Introduction to the Islamic Association of China” [Zhongguo yisilan jiao xiehui jianjie], last visited 9 April 14; Islamic Association of China, “Scripture Interpretation Work Office” [Jiejing gongzuo bangongshi], last visited 9 April 14.

<sup>78</sup> Islamic Association of China (IAC), “CPPCC Ethnic and Religious Affairs Committee Director Zhu Weiqun Visits the IAC” [Quanguo zhengxie minzong wei zhuren zhu weiqun yi xing dao zhongguo yixie zoufang weiwen], 9 January 14; Islamic Association of China, “United Front Work Department Deputy Director Zhang Yijiong Visits the IAC” [Zhongyang tongzhan bu changwu fu buzhang zhang yijiong yixing dao zhongguo yixie he jie], 21 January 14.

<sup>79</sup> Ibid.

<sup>80</sup> Islamic Association of China, “Deepen Reforms, Benefit the People” [Shenhua gaige zaofu yu min], 15 November 13.

<sup>81</sup> State Administration for Religious Affairs, Measures for Accrediting Islamic Clergy [Yisilan jiao jiaozhi ren yuan zige rending banfa], issued 12 May 06, effective 7 August 06.

<sup>82</sup> “Islamic Association of China Education Work Committee Established” [Zhongguo yisilan jiao xiehui jiaoyu gongzuo weiyuan hui chengli], China Ethnicity News, reprinted in United Front Work Department, 28 March 14.

<sup>83</sup> Shaanxi Ethnic and Religious Affairs Committee, “Our Province Launched ‘Shaanxi Province Young and Middle-Aged Islamic Cleric Training Class’ at Lanzhou Islamic Institute” [Wo sheng zai lanzhou yisilan jiao jingxue yuan kaiban “shaanxi sheng yisilan jiao zhong qingnian ahong jinxu ban”], 19 March 14; Kunming Islamic Institute, “2013 Yunnan Province Islamic Religious Personnel Training Class Held at Kunming Islamic Institute” [2013 nian yunnan yisilan jiao jiaozhi ren yuan peixun ban zai kunming jingxue yuan kaiban], 12 November 13; Wang Yaoyu, Yunnan Socialism College, “Province-Wide Islamic Religious Personnel Training Class Held in Kunming” [Quan sheng yisilan jiao jiaozhi ren yuan peixun ban zai kunming juban], 18 November 13; Li Zeqiong, Hunan Islamic Association, “Changde City Islamic Association Holds City-Wide Training Classes for Religious Personnel” [Changde shi yixie juban quanshi jiaozhi ren yuan peixun ban], 15 November 13; MuslimWWW, “Zhejiang Province Islamic Association Launches the Third Training Class for Religious Personnel” [Zhejiang sheng yixie juban disan qi jiaozhi ren yuan peixun ban], 30 December 13.

<sup>84</sup> State Administration for Religious Affairs, Regulations on Religious Affairs [Zongjiao shiwu tiaoli], issued 30 November 04, effective 1 March 05, arts. 11, 43.

<sup>85</sup> State Administration for Religious Affairs, “State Administration for Religious Affairs Convenes 2014 Hajj Pilgrimage Work Meeting in Xining City, Qinghai Province” [Guojia zongjiao ju zai qinghai sheng xining shi zhao kai 2014 nian chaojin gongzuo huiyi], 11 April 14.

<sup>86</sup> 2013 China Hajj Pilgrimage Working Group Secretariat Section, “Our Country’s Last Hajj Group Returns Home From Jeddah Airport” [Woguo zuihou yipi haji cong jida jichang qicheng huiguo], reprinted in Islamic Association of China, 7 November 13.

<sup>87</sup> Islamic Association of China, “Islamic Association of China Hajj Affairs Delegation Visits Saudi Arabia” [Zhongguo yixie chaojin shiwu daibiao tuan fangwen shate], 28 February 14.

<sup>88</sup> Islamic Association of China, “Second Meeting of Third Conference of China Islamic Affairs Steering Committee Held in Beijing” [Zhongguo yisilan jiao jiaowu zhidao weiyuan hui san jie er ci huiyi zai jing juxing], 13 December 13.

<sup>89</sup> Islamic Association of China, “Guizhou Province Islamic Scripture Interpretation Work Training Class Held in Guiyang” [Guizhou sheng yisilan jiao jie jing gongzuo peixun ban zai guiyang juxing], 7 January 14.

<sup>90</sup> Didi Tang, “China Bans Ramadan Fast in Muslim Northwest,” Associated Press, 3 July 14; Irene Chidinma Nwoye, “China Bans Ramadan Fast in Muslim Region,” Slate, 3 July 14; Ruoqiang County No. 3 Grade School, “Our School Holds Education Outreach Activity To Prohibit Teachers and Students From Fasting [During Ramadan]” [Wo xiao kaizhan jin zhi jiaoshi, xuesheng fengzhai gongzuo xuanchuan jiaoyu huodong], 30 June 14.

<sup>91</sup> Didi Tang, “China Bans Ramadan Fast in Muslim Northwest,” Associated Press, 3 July 14; Irene Chidinma Nwoye, “China Bans Ramadan Fast in Muslim Region,” Slate, 3 July 14.

<sup>92</sup> Didi Kirsten Tatlow, “Xinjiang Hospital Asks Staff Not To Fast During Ramadan,” New York Times, Sinosphere (blog), 5 June 14; “China Hospital Tells Muslim Staff Not To Fast in Ramadan,” World Bulletin, 5 June 14; Kabita Maharana, “Ramadan 2014: China Force Feeds Muslim Students To Break Fast During Holy Month,” International Business Times, 12 July 14.

<sup>93</sup> The Hui ethnic minority, who number more than 10 million people, are the predominately Muslim descendants of Persian, Central Asian, and Arab traders. Now largely ethnically and linguistically assimilated with the majority Han Chinese population, Hui are dispersed throughout China. For more information on the Hui ethnic group, see Hannah Beech, “If China Is Anti-Islam, Why Are These Chinese Muslims Enjoying a Faith Revival,” Time, 12 August 14.

<sup>94</sup>Hannah Gardner, “Ramadan Highlights Divisions in China’s Muslim Community,” National, 26 July 14; Islamic Human Rights Commission, “Press Release: China’s Uighurs Face New Ramadan Restrictions,” 7 July 14; Shannon Tiezzi, “China’s Not Anti-Religion, It’s Anti-Threat,” Diplomat, 12 August 14.

<sup>95</sup>Hannah Beech, “If China Is Anti-Islam, Why Are These Chinese Muslims Enjoying a Faith Revival,” Time, 12 August 14.

<sup>96</sup>China Christian Council and the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China, “Charter of the National Committee of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China” [Zhongguo jidu jiao sanzi aiguo yundong weiyuan hui zhangcheng], 10 September 14.

<sup>97</sup>China Christian Council (CCC) and the Three-Self Patriotic Movement (TSPM) of the Protestant Churches in China, “CCC & TSPM Two Associations Receive United Front Work Department Deputy Head Zhang Yijiong” [Jidu jiao quanguo lianghui jiedai zhonggong zhongyang tongzhan bu changwu fu buzhang zhang yijiong yixing diaoyan], 24 December 13.

<sup>98</sup>China Christian Council and the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China, “The Reconstruction of Theological Thinking Is the New Light for the Chinese Church” [Shenxue sixiang jianshe shi zhongguo jiaohui xin de lianguang], Tianfeng Magazine, 11 November 08; State Administration for Religious Affairs, “Ten-Year Anniversary Commemoration of China’s Christian Reconstruction of Theological Thinking Grandly Convened” [Zhongguo jidu jiao shenxue sixiang jianshe shi zhounian jinian dahui longzhong zhaokai], 19 November 08.

<sup>99</sup>Jiang Hongbing, “People’s Daily: Chinese Christians Number Between 23 Million–40 Million” [Renmin ribao: zhongguo jidutu renshu zai 2300 wan–4000 wan], People’s Daily, 6 August 14; Peter Weber, “China Will Create Its Own Version of Christianity,” Week, 7 August 14; “Christianity Also Must Have Chinese Characteristics” [Jidu jiao ye yao you zhongguo tese], Agence France-Presse, reprinted in Deutsche Welle, 7 August 14.

<sup>100</sup>Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Guiyang Province Fengsheng Church Crosses Removed, Xinjiang Christians File Complaints That They Are Persecuted, They Are Accused of ‘Leaking State Secrets’” [Guiyang fengsheng jiaohui shizijia bei qiangchai, xinjiang xintu tousu zao bipo bei zhi “xiemi”], 26 May 14; ChinaAid, “Wenzhou Bodani House Church Persecuted and Seeking Help From Society” [Wenzhou bodani jiating jiaohui shou bipo xunqiu shehui bangzhu], 12 May 14; Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Pastor Zhang Mingxuan Banned From Preaching in Zhongzhuang, Jiangsu Province, Believers in Nanle, Henan Continue To Face Obstacles in Sunday Worship” [Zhang mingxuan mushi jiangsu zhongzhuang jiangdao bei jin, henan nanle xintu zhouri jingbai xu shouzu], 12 May 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church’s Report to Church Members” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui gao huizhong shu], 6 May 14; Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Urumqi Christian Gathering Dispersed by Police, Four Christians Detained, American Pastor Expelled” [Wulumuqi xintu juhui zao jing qusan si jidutu bei ju meiguo mushi zao zhu], 27 May 14.

<sup>101</sup>Zhejiang Provincial People’s Government, Zhejiang Provincial People’s Government Circular on the Province-Wide Launch of the Three-Year “Three Rectifications and One Demolition” Operation [Zhejiang sheng renmin zhengfu guanyu zai quansheng kaizhan “san gai yi chai” san nian xingdong de tongzhi], 13 March 13.

<sup>102</sup>Ibid.

<sup>103</sup>Ethnic and Religious Affairs Committee of Zhejiang Province, “Chairman Feng Zhili Mobilizes Our Province’s Christian Community To Participate In and Support the ‘Three Rectifications and One Demolition’ Campaign” [Feng zhili zhuren dongyuan wo sheng jidu jiao jie zhichi canyu “san gai yi chai” xingdong], 26 February 14; Yuhuan County People’s Government, “Implementation Plan for the Special Treatment Work on Illegally Constructed Sites of Religious and Folk Religion Activities in Shamen Township” [Shamen zhen zongjiao he minjian xinyang huodong changsuo weifa jianzhu zhuanxiang zhengzhi gongzuo shishi fang’an], reprinted in Pu Shi Institute for Social Science, 11 April 14; Shaoxing Municipality United Front Work Department, “Shangyu District Does a Solid Job Regarding Religious and Folk Religion Sites for the ‘Three Rectifications and One Demolition [Campaign]’” [Shangyu qu zhashi zuohao zongjiao he minjian xinyang huodong changsuo “san gai yi chai” gongzuo], 16 May 14; Xietang Township People’s Government, “Circular Regarding Effectively Doing Special Rectification Work on Religious Sites and Folk Religion Sites” [Guanyu qieshi zuohao zongjiao huodong changsuo he minjian xinyang changsuo zhuanxiang zhengzhi gongzuo de tongzhi], reprinted in Shangyu District People’s Government, 8 April 14; Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Wenzhou as Testing Ground, a Nationwide Persecution Has Started” [Yichang yi wenzhou wei shidian de quanguoxing bipo yijing kaishi], 9 April 14.

<sup>104</sup>Ian Johnson, “Church-State Clash in China Coalesces Around a Toppled Spire,” New York Times, 29 May 14.

<sup>105</sup>ChinaAid, “Updated: China Aid Receives Compilation of Persecuted Zhejiang Churches,” 7 August 14.

<sup>106</sup>Wu Yu, “Five Thousand Wenzhou Christians Resist Forced Church Demolition by Authorities” [Wenzhou wuqian jidutu dikang dangju qiangchai jiaotang], Deutsche Welle, 4 April 14; Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Over 1,000 Wenzhou Policemen Wait for Chance To Demolish Sanjiang Church Building, 5,000 Christians Take Turns Guarding [the Church]” [Wenzhou qian jing siji qiangchai sanjiang jiaotang wuqian jidutu lunliu shouhu], 3 April 14; Xu Yangjinging, “Why Chinese Christians Are Camping Out To Save Their Church and Cross From Demolition,” Washington Post, 4 April 14.

<sup>107</sup>Wu Yu, “Five Thousand Wenzhou Christians Resist Forced Church Demolition by Authorities” [Wenzhou wuqian jidutu dikang dangju qiangchai jiaotang], Deutsche Welle, 4 April 14; Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Over 1,000 Wenzhou Policemen Wait for Chance To Demolish Sanjiang Church Building, 5,000 Christians Take Turns Guarding [the Church]” [Wenzhou qian jing siji qiangchai sanjiang jiaotang wuqian jidutu lunliu shouhu], 3 April 14.

<sup>108</sup>Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Wenzhou Believers Struggled, Sanjiang Church Demolition Avoided, Signed Agreement With Provincial Government, Only Parts of Nursing Home To Be Demol-

ished” [Wenzhou xintu kangzheng sanjiang jiaotang mian chai yu shengfu qian xieyi jin chai shuceng jinglao yuan], 8 April 14; ChinaAid, “One TSPM Church in Zhejiang Finds Compromise, Others Still Face Forced Demolition,” 12 April 14.

<sup>109</sup> Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Wenzhou [Authorities] Dispatched Heavy Machinery Into the Area of Sanjiang Church, Cross Facing Demolition, Believers Went To Voice Support and Were Intercepted” [Wenzhou chudong zhongxing jiqi jinru sanjiang jiaotang fanwei shizijia mianlin qiangchai xintu wang shengyuan bei lanjie], 21 April 14.

<sup>110</sup> “Crosses Atop Christian Church Buildings in Several Locations in Zhejiang Removed, Several Ministers Taken Away” [Zhejiang duochu jidu jiao jiaotang dingbu shizijia bei chai, duoming chuandao yuan bei daizou], UCA News, 25 April 14; Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Over a Thousand People Expelled From Sanjiang Church on Saturday in Wenzhou, Daughter of Nanle Pastor Zhang Shaojie Kidnapped Before Zhang’s Trial” [Wenzhou zhouliu qingchang sanjiang jiaohui yu qianren bei zhu, nanle zhang shaojie mushi kaiting qian nu er bei bangjia], 28 April 14.

<sup>111</sup> Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Over a Thousand People Expelled From Sanjiang Church on Saturday in Wenzhou, Daughter of Nanle Pastor Zhang Shaojie Kidnapped Before Zhang’s Trial” [Wenzhou zhouliu qingchang sanjiang jiaohui yu qianren bei zhu, nanle zhang shaojie mushi kaiting qian nu er bei bangjia], 28 April 14.

<sup>112</sup> Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Over One Thousand Police in Wenzhou Forcibly Demolish Sanjiang Church, Believers’ Internet Comments Banned, Violators [Warned] Their Entire Families Could Be Implicated” [Wenzhou yu qian jingli qiangchai sanjiang jiaotang, xintu wangluo yanlu bei jin weizhe zhulian jiazou], 28 April 14.

<sup>113</sup> ChinaAid, “Henan, Puyang City, Nanle County: Arrested Pastor and Christians Still Not Released” [Henan puyang shi nanle xian jidu jiaohui bei zhua mushi he xintu zhijin wei shifang], 18 November 13; “More Members of the Nanle Church Detained, Dozens Gathered To Petition in Beijing” [Nanle jiaohui zai you xintu bei zhua, shu shi fangming beijing juhui shengyuan], Radio Free Asia, 21 December 13. For more information on Zhang Shaojie’s case, see the Commission’s Political Prisoner Database record 2014-00126.

<sup>114</sup> “Pastor Zhang Shaojie Met His Lawyer for the First Time Since His Detention Two Months Ago” [Zhang shaojie mushi bei kou liang yue shou wu lushi], Radio Free Asia, 16 January 14.

<sup>115</sup> “Lawyers for Detained China Church Leader Assaulted,” Associated Press, 13 December 13; “Pastor Zhang Shaojie Met His Lawyer for the First Time Since His Detention Two Months Ago” [Zhang shaojie mushi bei kou liang yue shou wu lushi], Radio Free Asia, 16 January 14; Rights Defense Network, “Urgent: Lawyers Beaten a Third Time in Nanle, Lawyer Liu Weiguo Hit in the Head With a Brick” [Jinji guanzhu: nanle lushi di san ci bei qun ou, liu weiguo lushi tou bei zhuantou za po], 13 December 13.

<sup>116</sup> ChinaAid, “Nanle County Christian Church Appeals for Help and Applied for Permit To Protest Government Infringement,” 20 November 13; ChinaAid, “Nanle Religion Case Continues To Escalate, Local Government Persecutes Christians and Rights Defenders” [Nanle jiao an buduan shengji, difang zhengfu fengkuang pohai jidutu ji weiquan renshi], 23 December 13.

<sup>117</sup> “Pastor Zhang Shaojie Met His Lawyer for the First Time Since His Detention Two Months Ago” [Zhang shaojie mushi bei kou liang yue shou wu lushi], Radio Free Asia, 16 January 14.

<sup>118</sup> Christian Solidarity Worldwide, “China: Henan Pastor’s Trial Date Postponed Indefinitely,” 25 February 14.

<sup>119</sup> Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “[The Court] Continued With Zhang Shaojie’s Trial, Denied Lawyers’ Request To Call Ten Witnesses To Testify” [Zhang shaojie an xu shen, lushi chuanzhao shi zhengren chuting bei jul], 29 April 14; Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Concern Over Nanle Religion Case: Zhang Shaojie’s Trial Concludes, Judge Scheduled To Announce Judgment” [Guanzhu nanle jiao an: zhang shaojie an shenjie, faguan zeqi xuanpan], 30 April 14.

<sup>120</sup> “Pastor Zhang Shaojie of Nanle Religion Case Given Heavy Sentence of 12 Years, He Said in Court He Would Appeal, Lawyers Said [Sentence] a Setback for Justice” [Nanle jiao an zhang shaojie mushi bei zhongpan 12 nian, dang ting cheng jiang shangsu lushi zhi sifa daotui], Radio Free Asia, 4 July 14.

<sup>121</sup> Beijing Shouwang Church Governing Committee, “Three-Year Outdoor Worship Anniversary: Beijing Shouwang Church’s Report to Congregation Members” [Huwai jingbai san zhounian zhi ji beijing shouwang jiaohui gao huizhong shu], 27 March 14.

<sup>122</sup> Chen Weizhen, “Witnessing the Current Condition of Shouwang Church and Other House Churches—Freedom of Religion and Rule of Law Seminar Speech Text” [Jianzheng shouwang jiaohui deng jiating jiaohui xianzhuang—zongjiao ziyou he fazhi yantao hui yanjiang gao], reprinted in ChinaAid, 28 January 14; Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Pastor Zhang Mingxuan Banned From Preaching in Zhongzhuang, Jiangsu, Nanle, Henan Believers Continued To Be Barred From Sunday Worship” [Zhang mingxuan mushi jiangsu zhongzhuang jiangdao bei jin henan nanle xintu zhouri jingbai xu shouzou], 12 May 14.

<sup>123</sup> Starting in May 2014, Beijing authorities disrupted Shouwang Church’s outdoor worship services and detained members of the church on a weekly basis. Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church May 4, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui 2014 nian 5 yue 4 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 5 May 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church May 11, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui 2014 nian 5 yue 11 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 13 May 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church May 18, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui 2014 nian 5 yue 18 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 18 May 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church May 25, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui 2014 nian 5 yue 25 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 26 May 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church June 1, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui 2014 nian 6 yue 1 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 2 June 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church June 8, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui 2014 nian 6 yue 8 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 9 June 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church June 15, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang

jiaohui 2014 nian 6 yue 15 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 16 June 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church June 22, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui 2014 nian 6 yue 22 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 23 June 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church June 29, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui 2014 nian 6 yue 29 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 30 June 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church July 6, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui 2014 nian 7 yue 6 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 7 July 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church July 13, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui 2014 nian 7 yue 13 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 14 July 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church July 20, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui 2014 nian 7 yue 20 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 21 July 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church July 27, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui 2014 nian 7 yue 27 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 28 July 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church August 3, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui 2014 nian 8 yue 3 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 4 August 14; Beijing Shouwang Church, “Beijing Shouwang Church August 10, 2014, Outdoor Worship Announcement” [Beijing shouwang jiaohui 2014 nian 8 yue 10 ri huwai jingbai tongbao], 11 August 14.

<sup>124</sup>ChinaAid, “Three Believers of Shouwang Church Detained, Few Attended Sunday Worship Service at Sanjiang Church” [Shouwang jiaohui 3 ming xintu bei juliu sanjiang tang zhuri juhui renshu xishao], 6 May 14. See also an overview of Shouwang Church’s three-year history of worshipping outdoors. Beijing Shouwang Church Governing Committee, “Three-Year Outdoor Worship Anniversary: Beijing Shouwang Church’s Report to Congregation Members” [Huwai jingbai san zhounian zhi ji beijing shouwang jiaohui gao huizhong shu], 27 March 14.

<sup>125</sup>Li Xiangping, “True Religion Is for People’s Good,” China Daily, 5 June 14; Guo Baosheng, ChinaAid, “Be Alert [Authorities] Use ‘Cult’ as Pretext To Persecute Christianity in Large Scale” [Jingti yi “xiejiao” mingyi da guimo pohai judu jiao], 9 June 14; “China Clearly Identified 14 Cult Organizations (List) Including the Shouters Sect” [Zhongguo yi mingque rending huhan pai deng 14 ge xiejiao zuzhi (mingdan)], Youth Times, reprinted in People’s Daily, 3 June 14.

<sup>126</sup>World Organization To Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong, “Investigative Report of the China Anti-Cult Association’s Role in the Persecution of Falun Gong,” 23 March 04; “China Anti-Cult Association Reporting Conference Held in Beijing, China Anti-Cult Net Launched Concurrently” [Zhongguo fan xiejiao xiehui baogaohui zai jing zhaokai zhongguo fan xiejiao wangzhan tongshi kaitong], Xinhua, reprinted in China Net, 24 December 00.

<sup>127</sup>China Anti-Cult Association, “China Anti-Cult Association: Be Highly Vigilant About Various Cults That Harm the Public” [Zhongguo fan xiejiao xiehui: yao gaodu jingti weihai gongzhong de gezhong xiejiao], reprinted in Kai Wind, 3 June 14.

<sup>128</sup>ChinaAid, “Taipei Local Church Vehemently Protests Against Being Mistaken for the Shouters Sect” [Taipei zhaohui yanzhong kangyi bei wudao wei huhan pai], 12 June 14; “Statement From Many Local Churches in the Fuzhou Area to the China Anti-Cult Association” [Fuzhou diqu zhong difang zhaohui zhi zhongguo fan xiejiao xiehui shengming], Wnee, 15 June 14.

<sup>129</sup>Lu Dewen, “Lu Dewen: Attacking Cults, a Matter of Great Urgency” [Lu dewen: daji xiejiao keburonghuan], Global Times, 3 June 14.

<sup>130</sup>ChinaAid, “Guangdong House Church Persecuted in Authorities’ Attempt To Suppress Eastern Lightning Following Shandong Attack,” 19 June 14; Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “A House Church in Shenzhen Newly Established by a College Student Dispersed by the Police During Gathering” [Shenzhen yi daxuesheng xin chengli jiating jiaohui juhui zao jingfang qusan], 11 July 14; Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Twelve Guizhou Christians Are Accused of Belonging to a Cult and Administratively Detained, Lawyer Files Lawsuit” [Guizhou 12 ming jidutu bei zhi xiejiao xingzheng juliu lushi tiqi susong], 24 June 14; Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Christians of Langzhong Church in Sichuan Detained for Evangelism, Christians of 80 Households Accused of Being Cult [Followers] Cannot Keep Social Insurance” [Sichuan langzhong jiaohui jidutu chuan fuyin bei ju bashi hu jidutu bei zhi xiejiao “di bao” bu bao], 25 July 14; ChinaAid, “‘Cao County Religion Case’ Reappears in Heze, Shandong, Lawyers Form Group To Rescue Detained Believers” [Shandong heze zai xian “cao xian jiao an,” lushi zu tuan qianwang yingjiu bei zhua xintu], 11 July 14; Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Twenty-Two Christians in Shandong Accused of Taking Part in a Cult, Dozens of Special Police Detain [Believers] and Trick [Them] Into Giving Confessions, Over Half [of Those Detained] Are Taken Into Custody” [Shandong 22 ming jidutu juhui bei zhi xiejiao shu shi tejing zhua ren ji she yougong yu banshu zao ju], 14 July 14; Qiao Nong, ChinaAid, “Public Security [Officials] in Shaoyang, Hunan, Criminally Detain More Than Ten Christians, House Churches in Four Counties and Cities in Shaoyang Declare Emergency” [Hunan shaoyang gongan xingju shi duo ming jidutu shaoyang si xian shi jiating jiaohui gaoji], 14 August 14.

<sup>131</sup>Chinese Taoist Association, “The Charter of the Chinese Taoist Association” [Zhongguo daojiao xiehui zhangcheng], last visited 2 April 14, art. 3.

<sup>132</sup>Chinese Taoist Association, “Chinese Taoist Association Eighth Conference Ninth Session Meeting Held in Beijing” [Zhongguo daojiao xiehui bajie jiuci huizhang huiyi zai jing zhaokai], 10 March 14; State Administration for Religious Affairs, United Front Work Department, National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Culture, State Administration for Industry and Commerce, China National Tourism Administration, China Security Regulatory Commission, State Administration of Cultural Heritage, Opinion Regarding Issues Related to the Management of Buddhist Monasteries and Taoist Temples [Guanyu chuli sheji fojiao simiao, daojiao gongguan guanli youguan wenti de yijian], issued 8 October 12.

<sup>133</sup>“Chinese Taoist Association’s ‘Third International Taoist Forum’” [Zhongguo daojiao xiehui “di san jie guoji daojiao luntan”], Chinese Daily USA, 1 March 14.

<sup>134</sup>State Administration for Religious Affairs, “Deputy Director Jiang Jianyong Went to Jiangxi To Inspect the Third International Taoist Forum Preparation Work” [Jiang jianyong fu juzhang fu jiangxi kaocha di san jie guoji daojiao luntan choubei gongzuo], 4 March 14.

<sup>135</sup>State Council, Provisions on the Management of the Religious Activities of Foreigners Within the PRC [Zhonghua renmin gongheguo jingnei waiguoren zongjiao huodong guanli guiding], issued and effective 31 January 94, art. 4; State Administration for Religious Affairs, Detailed Implementation of Rules for the Provisions on the Management of the Religious Activities of Foreigners Within the PRC [Zhonghua renmin gongheguo jingnei waiguoren zongjiao huodong guanli guiding shishi xize], issued and effective 26 September 00, arts. 7, 17(5).

<sup>136</sup>Magda Hornemann, “China: When Will Five-Fold State-Backed Religious Monopoly End?” Forum 18 News Service, 16 September 13.

<sup>137</sup>Ibid.

<sup>138</sup>Ibid.; The Russian Orthodox Church Department for External Church Relations, “Patriarch Kirill: The Dreams of the Chinese Orthodox Church’s Bright Future Begins [sic] To Come True,” 13 May 13.

<sup>139</sup>Magda Hornemann, “China: When Will Five-Fold State-Backed Religious Monopoly End?” Forum 18 News Service, 16 September 13; Fan Lizhu and Chen Na, “The Current State of China’s Folk Religions and Issues of Their Management” [Zhongguo minjian xinyang de xianzhuang jiqi guanli wenti], Religion Weekly, reprinted in China Ethnic News, 22 October 13.