

# Overview of CCP’s Suppression and Persecution of The Church of Almighty God (2016–2020)

## Table of Contents

<b>1. Overview of CCP’s Persecution of CAG</b>	1
<b>2. Summary of CCP’s Persecution of CAG</b>	3
2.1 The CCP carries out comprehensive investigations and uses advanced technology to hunt and arrest CAG Christians	3
2.2 The CCP launches special crackdown campaigns to carry out unified mass arrest operations throughout the country	4
2.3 CCP subjects arrested CAG Christians to cruel torture and forced indoctrination, compelling them to renounce their belief	6
2.4 Persecution remained severe between 2016 and 2019, with at least 76 CAG Christians persecuted to death	7
2.5 CCP gives arrested CAG Christians hefty sentences and forces them to unpaid slave labor	8
2.6 CCP continues its mad suppression and persecution of CAG during the coronavirus period in 2020	9
2.7 The CCP implements “Extradition Project” and expands investigations and crackdowns on the CAG abroad	10
<b>3. Conclusion</b>	11

## 1. Overview of CCP’s Persecution of CAG

The Church of Almighty God (CAG) is a new Christian movement established in 1991. Due to its rapid growth and refusing to be controlled by the CCP, the CAG is placed on the CCP’s list of “*xie jiao*” and subjected to brutal suppression and persecution. According to incomplete statistics, at least 400,000 CAG Christians have been arrested since 2011 alone, and it is well documented that 166 CAG Christians have been persecuted to death since the church’s establishment, among whom many died from torture, and some had their organs forcibly harvested.<sup>[1]</sup>

Between 2016 and 2020, the CCP government continues intensifying its persecution of the CAG. On January 14, 2017, at the national symposium for Presidents of the High People’s Courts, Zhou Qiang, president of the Supreme People’s Court of China, asked to increase punishment against the CAG.<sup>[2]</sup> In early 2018, the CCP government issued red-headed official documents on

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<sup>1</sup> <https://bitterwinter.org/book-denounces-organ-harvesting/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://web.archive.org/web/20170223083302/http://m.news.cctv.com/2017/01/14/ARTIWqum00Madjv43F96Mqgh170114.shtml>

suppression and elimination of the CAG in all provinces, demanding to take the CAG as the main target of investigation and focus on the arrests of church leaders and seizure of church money, to ensure the achievement of the goal to “destroy its domestic foundation and cripple its influence abroad.”<sup>[3]</sup> In 2019, the CCP government issued the “No. 1 Central Committee Document,” demanding ongoing severe crackdowns on the CAG and other house churches. Subsequently, the CCP continued to carry out special campaigns to suppress and persecute the CAG. According to incomplete statistics, between 2016 and 2019, at least 75,490 CAG Christians were arrested or harassed merely for believing in Almighty God and participating in normal religious activities such as gatherings and evangelism, of whom 24,722 were arrested, 5,113 subjected to various cruel tortures or forced indoctrination, and 2,738 given sentences, of whom 1,152 were sentenced to 3 years or more, 145 sentenced to 7 years or more; 76 were persecuted to death, as documented. The figures above only represent a portion of the CAG Christians victimized by the CCP. The majority of the data cannot be recorded, as the CCP usually secretly arrests CAG Christians and tries to block information.

The situation of the CAG’s persecution has drawn attention from the international community. The CAG’s persecution is mentioned in the US State Department’s International Religious Freedom Report for 2018,<sup>[4]</sup> the US Congressional-Executive Commission on China 2018 annual report,<sup>[5]</sup> and the US Commission on International Religious Freedom 2019 report.<sup>[6]</sup> In November 2018, during the United Nations’ Universal Periodic Review of China, the report by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights noted, “During 2014-2018, the Chinese Communist Party’s monitoring, arrest, and persecution had caused at least 500,000 Church of Almighty God (CAG) Christians to flee their home, and several hundred thousand families had been torn apart.” In January 2020, Professor Massimo Introvigne, Italian sociologist and director of the Center for Studies on New Religions (CESNUR), emphasized in his book “Inside The Church of Almighty God,” published by Oxford University Press, that the CAG is currently the most persecuted religious movement in China.<sup>[7]</sup>

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3 <https://zh.bitterwinter.org/authorities-order-suppression-of-cag/>

4 <https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/CHINA-INCLUSIVE-2018-INTERNATIONAL-RELIGIOUS-FREEDOM-REPORT.pdf>

5 <https://www.cecc.gov/publications/annual-reports/2018-annual-report>

6 [https://www.uscirf.gov/sites/default/files/Tier1\\_CHINA\\_2019.pdf](https://www.uscirf.gov/sites/default/files/Tier1_CHINA_2019.pdf)

7 <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/inside-the-church-of-almighty-god-9780190089092?cc=us&lang=en&>

## 2. Summary of CCP's Persecution of CAG

### 2.1 The CCP carries out comprehensive investigations and uses advanced technology to hunt and arrest CAG Christians

In early 2017, the CCP issued a document<sup>[8]</sup> demanding to carry out a nationwide campaign to enter residents' homes to investigate them ("Door-Knocking Operation"), knocking from door to door to collect personal information targeting the members of the religious groups that are listed as "*xie jiao*." In 2018 and 2019, several other red-headed documents were issued in all China's provinces, explicitly demanding to ascertain the general situation of the CAG in the localities, and use big data technology and information technology tools to arrest more CAG Christians through special operations.<sup>[9]</sup>

The CCP appointed specific individuals (police officers, grid administrators, etc.) in every village and community to go door-to-door under the guise of checking utilities or conducting demographic surveys to investigate CAG Christians. The CCP also issued large numbers of reward notices in all regions and online, and established boxes for submitting reports, all in an effort to incite the people to report on CAG Christians. In addition, the CCP uses Skynet, the world's largest video surveillance system, and its Sharp Eyes project to carry out comprehensive surveillance in urban and rural areas, and uses facial recognition technology to search out and target CAG Christians. The CCP uses the "Golden Shield Project" to monitor telephones and internet usage nationwide and conduct analyses for sensitive words to screen for CAG Christians. The CCP compels the people to install apps in their cellphones in order to investigate CAG Christians and other religious dissidents, and mandatorily collects biological data (including DNA samples, voice patterns, iris scans, 3D images, etc.) from CAG Christians who are registered on file. The CCP also distributes to each police officer a Huawei Mate10 mobile phone that has a facial recognition function which allows the police officer to access one's identity information by scanning one's face directly with the Huawei mobile phone.<sup>[10]</sup> The CCP sends personnel to the home addresses of CAG Christians it has discovered to install eavesdropping equipment in their houses and tracking devices in their vehicles, and uses GPS and big data management systems for tracking in order to arrest even more CAG Christians.

The CCP's blanket searches and arrests along with its high-tech surveillance have driven many CAG Christians to go on the run. All CAG Christians are faced with the threat of arrest at any moment. The followings are some typical cases in which the CCP carried out unified massive arrest operations against CAG Christians using high-tech tools between 2018 and 2019.

In 2018, the Liaoning provincial government tracked CAG Christians by means of satellite

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8 <https://drive.google.com/file/d/12AZJu0PgNq8JheNJM6uQaBOneLlaY5CC/view>

9 <https://zh.bitterwinter.org/religious-suppressions-intensify-in-shandong/>

10 <https://kuaibao.qq.com/s/20181004B19W3200?refer=spider>

positioning, telephone monitoring and entering residents' homes to investigate them. On June 26, the CCP launched the "Thunder Operation" to arrest CAG Christians in nine prefecture level cities of Liaoning Province; during three days from June 26 to June 28, at least 700 CAG Christians were arrested, 3 of whom were persecuted to death.

In 2019, after utilizing high-definition cameras to surveil, track, and home in on CAG Christians, the Shandong provincial government initiated nearly one hundred arrest operations across the entire province that resulted in the arrest of 924 believers, making up 64.3% of the (1,438) arrests of CAG Christians that year in the province.

On July 15, 2019, during the US State Department's second Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom, at a side event called "Silicon Valley and China: The Rise of Religious Oppression Through Technology," Zou Demei, a middle level leader of the CAG who had been on the run for 14 years to escape the CCP's hunting, gave an account of her story of being hunted by the CCP with its high-tech tools. She said, "In 2009, the CCP cracked down on The Church of Almighty God, mostly using mobile phone monitoring and geotracking, primarily to arrest top church leaders. One leader, Brother He Zhexun was sentenced to 15 years and is still in prison to this day. His successor, Sister Ma Suoping, was then arrested and persecuted to death in just five days. Very early one August morning, over 200 police officers suddenly surrounded my residence—I wasn't at home that day, but the three other sisters I lived with were all arrested and brutally tortured. I later discovered that my mobile phone had been under surveillance for a long time. I fled to Sichuan Province in 2012. Once, the police discovered another sister through mobile phone surveillance who had the same pseudonym as me, Lu Yao, and arrested her, thinking she was me. They later figured out that they had arrested the wrong person but still gave her a three-year sentence. In June of 2018 the CCP police found where my parents were hiding out through satellite positioning and they were arrested. In just five days' time my mother was tortured so severely that she died."

Due to the nationwide networking of the CCP's database, many pursued CAG Christians are now absolutely unable to lead ordinary lives, not even able to travel, work, seek medical attention, or get documentation normally, as the moment they show their ID cards they will face arrest. Some of the CAG Christians who have been wanted and pursued by the CCP for a number of years have become seriously ill but are unable to seek treatment; they are forced to tolerate the torment of their ailments, even at the cost of death.

## **2.2 The CCP launches special crackdown campaigns to carry out unified mass arrest operations throughout the country**

Between 2016 and 2019, the CCP had launched thousands of arrest operations against CAG Christians in provinces, cities, or counties all over the country after knowing the situation of some CAG Christians through investigating, high-tech positioning and tracing. According to incomplete

statistics, at least 4,161 CAG Christians were arrested in 2016, at least 2,930 arrested in 2017, at least 11,499 in 2018, and at least 6,132 in 2019. The followings are about some arrest operations. In August 2016, Anhui provincial authorities arrested 36 CAG Christians during an arrest operation.

From July 2 to 10, 2017, Zhejiang provincial authorities arrested at least 583 CAG Christians during a mass arrest operation against the CAG.

On June 26, the CCP launched the “Operation Thunder” in Liaoning Province; during three days from June 26 to 28, at least 700 CAG Christians were arrested, 3 of whom were persecuted to death.

From July 24 to 31, 2018, the CCP launched the mass arrest operation codenamed “Fox” throughout the entire country, and within a week, at least 200 CAG Christians had been arrested in the city of Linfen, Shanxi Province, alone.

On September 9 and 10, 2019, a coordinated arrest operation was carried out in the Shanxi Province’s cities of Yuncheng and Linfen, resulting in the arrests of at least 226 people and the looting of RMB 2,011,961 (over USD 293,000) of church and personal property.

In October and November 2019, Qingdao City in Shandong Province assembled a thousand special forces police officers to crack down on the CAG, ostensibly in a campaign to “clean up gang crime and eliminate evil.” At least 108 CAG Christians were arrested and, within the course of one day in Pingdu City, 24 gathering places were raided.

Below is a table of (incomplete) statistics showing numbers of CAG Christians who have been harassed, arrested, sentenced, subjected to torture or mandatory indoctrination between 2016 and 2019:

category/ year	deaths	arrests	detentions	harassments	subjected to torture or mandatory indoctrination	sentences	3 years or more	7 years or more
2016	13	4,161	1,868	6,660	545	358	204	18
2017	14	2,930	1,425	4,969	59	244	112	13
2018	26	11,499	6,757	12,456	685	636	279	44
2019	23	6,132	4,161	26,683	3,824	1,468	541	68
2020(From Jan. to April.)	3	581	210	3,133	342	59	23	12

### **2.3 CCP subjects arrested CAG Christians to cruel torture and forced indoctrination, compelling them to renounce their belief**

In order to compel the arrested CAG Christians to give up information on the church and the church money and give up their faith, the CCP has always resorted to cruel torture against them. The CCP adopts a slogan of “beating them to death is nothing. If they die, it counts as suicide,” and implements a policy of “physical destruction and psychological sabotage,” wantonly trampling on and stripping the CAG Christians of their freedom of belief, their right to life, and other basic human rights. According to incomplete statistics, at least 5,083 arrested CAG Christians were subjected to the CCP’s cruel torture or forced indoctrination from 2016 to 2019, among whom 545 in 2016, 59 in 2017, 685 in 2018, and 3,824 in 2019.

On July 23 of 2018, at the opening side event of the US State Department’s first Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom, CAG Christian Jiang Guimei recounted her story that she was cruelly tortured by the CCP for her belief and subjected to re-education through labor. She said, “I was subjected to the CCP’s torture for a month and a half. The CCP police forced me to ‘fly the plane,’ that is, forced me to keep my knees bent halfway with my arms stretched straight out. They hit me on the head with the wooden handle of a mop, until I eventually passed out from the beating. The next morning, I touched the top of my head and felt there was some accumulated fluid in my skull, and almost every inch of my body was dark purple. Later, they took me to a small two-story building deep in the mountains, where they tied my handcuffs to a high-up heating pipe with coarse cloth strips. I was kept in that hanging position for three hours. As a result, two bloody cuts were made on my wrists. After that, they forced my mouth open and poured a bottle of mustard oil into my mouth, and also used a high voltage electric baton to shock me. In September 2008, I was sentenced to two years in a labor camp on the charge of ‘disturbing social order.’ In the labor camp, I was forced to do hard labor for more than ten hours a day. After I was released from prison, the police demanded that I present myself to the local police station on a regular basis.”

The CCP’s cruel torture damages CAG Christians’ physical bodies, while its forced indoctrination damages their mind and spirit. In 2018, many red-headed official documents issued by the CCP clearly demanded the existence of a working mechanism in accordance with the “integration of transformation through education and precise strikes,” and that “combined strikes and transformation, using strikes to promote transformation, using transformation to promote interrogation, and precise strikes” be implemented against the arrested Christians from the CAG. In 2019, the CCP issued a number of documents, insisting that great efforts in forced indoctrination and transformation be “fortified,” and that “transformation rate indicators”<sup>[1]</sup> be implemented at all levels. Within the transformation through indoctrination centers, CAG Christians are typically monitored 24 hours a day and forced to watch educational films

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11 <http://zwgk.cqnc.gov.cn/html/content/19/04/008682034-2019-02352.shtml>

propagandizing atheism, Communism, and nationalism and videos slandering and defaming the CAG. The CCP also forces them to write statement of repentance, statement of breaking off ties and statement of guarantee etc., promising to abandon their faith and hand over all information on their church. Because many CAG Christians staunchly adhere to their faith and refuse to accept transformation through indoctrination, they are subjected to highly intense interrogation and cruel torture, and are even sentenced to prison terms, or subjected to extrajudicial killings.

In 2019, Cheng Fei, an officer with Public Security Department of Shanxi Province and exposed human rights abuser, identified himself as the backbone of the team indoctrinating CAG Christians, saying he had set up a large number of the courses and had personally carried out forced indoctrination and transformation on over a thousand CAG Christians. Cheng Fei's modus operandi includes tactics such as inundating "students" with fake news about the CAG, depriving them of sleep and food for long periods of time, beating them, electrocuting them, spraying tear gas at them, meting out corporal punishment, and degrading them, all in an effort to coerce them to give up their faith. He has in the past burned a male CAG Christian's nipples and private parts with cigarettes, and scalded him on the front of his chest and lower body with four pots of boiling water. In September 2019, 226 CAG Christians in Linfen City, Shanxi Province were arrested, of whom at least 105 were locked up in Linfen Legal Reeducation Base to undergo forced indoctrination and transformation by Cheng Fei.

#### **2.4 Persecution remained severe between 2016 and 2019, with at least 76 CAG Christians persecuted to death**

Between 2016 and 2019, at least 76 CAG Christians were persecuted to death due to the CCP authorities' mad hunting, arrests, and persecution of CAG Christians. Some of them died from the brutal torture or forced indoctrination; some developed serious illnesses but were still held, and eventually lost their lives when their conditions worsened after being subjected to long-term maltreatment and forced labor; some took their own lives after being driven to utter desperation by the endless harassment and pursuit by the CCP or by the CCP instigating the masses and their own family to oppress them. The list goes on. Two cases among them are presented as follows.

CAG Christian Ms. Ren Cuifang, born in 1988, native of Xinjiang's Karamay City, was arrested by CCP in Xinjiang on January 3, 2019 and tortured to death 12 days later. Her family members noticed in the funeral home that her body was covered with bruises and wounds. The skin around her eyes was blue and purple, there was a dark purple and black mark on the left side of her chest, and there was a large burn scar on her thigh. There were lacerations with blood marks on her wrists and heels, and the toenail on her left big toe had come off.

On April 8, 2017, Lin Hua, who suffered from severe diabetes, was forcibly arrested by the CCP police for his belief in Almighty God. The police took turns to interrogate Lin Hua for four days and four nights, striking his head with fists, and hitting his ribs with heavy objects, causing Lin's

head to bleed and his ribs to be covered with blood marks. During this period, the police refused to accept the medication sent by Lin's family, and also refused to give Lin Hua medication. On April 13, Lin's condition deteriorated sharply, and on the early next morning he passed away in pain.

## **2.5 CCP gives arrested CAG Christians hefty sentences and forces them to unpaid slave labor**

According to incomplete statistics, from 2016 to 2019, at least 2,738 CAG Christians were sentenced on the charge of "using a *xie jiao* organization to undermine the law enforcement" for participating in normal religious activities such as gatherings and evangelism, of whom 1,152 were sentenced to 3 years or more in prison, 145 to 7 years or more, 30 to 10 years or more. Among them, at least 364 were sentenced in 2016, at least 244 sentenced in 2017, at least 639 in 2018, and at least 1,491 in 2019.

CAG Christians Xiang Caihua and Cui Jing from Ili Kazakh Autonomous Prefecture in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region were sentenced to 12 years in prison, and Ouyang Qiuping in the same region was arrested twice for believing in Almighty God and sentenced to 15 and a half years in prison in total. The European human rights organizations, Human Rights Without Frontiers (HRWF) and the Association for the Defense of Human Rights and Religious Freedom (ADHRRF) have published the information of 4,169 CAG members detained in the year 2019: 39 were given sentences of ten years or more; 936 had already been held for a year or longer, and what their sentences may be is still unknown. On January 28, 2019, US Congress Lantos Commission adopted CAG Christian Mo Xiufeng as a prisoner of conscience, who was sentenced to 9 years in prison for her belief.

Regarding the CCP's suing and sentencing CAG Christians according to Article 300 of the Chinese Criminal Code, José Elías Esteve Moltó, Professor of Public International Law and International Relations at the University of Valencia in Spain, commented, "The CCP's manipulation and use of Article 300 of the Chinese Criminal Code is a violation of the Chinese Constitution and the international human rights law." In 2019, James T. Richardson, Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Judicial Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno, Massimo Introvigne, founder of the Center for Studies on New Religions (CESNUR), and Rosita Šoryté, president of the International Observatory of Religious Liberty of Refugees (ORLIR), released a joint report stating that they had reached a conclusion from their research into the verdicts of 200 CAG Christians: CAG Christians are convicted and sentenced under Article 300 of China's Criminal Law for nothing more than peacefully exercising their rights to freedom of belief and freedom of expression. Article 300 of the Criminal Law is the CCP's secret weapon for its persecution of religious beliefs.



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Imprisoned CAG Christians are generally forced to perform 12 to 20 hours per day of unpaid, back-breaking slave labor or even carry out work that is clearly hazardous to the human body with no protection whatsoever (such as extremely chemically polluting or high temperature environment). Such work causes them to suffer serious illness and even die through overwork.

While serving her sentence in a women's prison in Yunnan Province, CAG Christian Xiao Yun was forced to work at least 13 hours every day in a workshop sewing sweaters; the air was full of dust and dark smoke as well as a noxious odor of fabric dye. She was abused and beaten by prison guards over a long period of time in an effort to get her to sign the "three statements" of renouncing her faith. Two years later, Xiao Yun developed pulmonary disease, and after four years it worsened and developed into tuberculosis, yet the prison staff continued to force her to carry out hard slave labor. In 2019 when Xiao Yun was released, she had already sustained damage to her left lung, which had essentially lost its capacity to breathe; she was no longer able to perform any physical work.

CAG Christian Wang Hongli was forced to engage in high intensity sewing work every day while serving her sentence in a women's prison in Yunnan Province. Her weight dropped from 55 kg to 32 kg two years later. In August 2017, Wang Hongli suffered from a continuous high fever. Even though she didn't have the strength to take scissors while working, she was forced to continue working until she fell with illness. A medical examination revealed that Wang suffered from severe myocardial ischemia and cerebral infarction, with lung infection. She died on the evening of October 1, as her condition could not be cured. Wang's family said that prior to her arrest, Wang Hongli had been in good health and had no history of myocardial ischemia or cerebral infarction.

## **2.6 CCP continues its mad suppression and persecution of CAG during the coronavirus period in 2020**

On February 1, 2020, the Public Security Bureau of Liulin county, Lüliang city, Shanxi Province issued a notice, launching a special campaign to crack down on the CAG, and encouraging residents to report CAG Christians to police. On February 14, 2020, the CCP Political and Legal Affairs Commission of Yan'an city in Shaanxi Province issued a confidential document, demanding to intensify crackdown and precaution against the CAG and other religious groups during the epidemic prevention and control period.

During the epidemic period, in name of epidemic prevention, the governments in Sichuan, Shandong, Fujian, Gansu, Shaanxi and other provinces carried out a door-to-door registration of identity information of the residents. They strictly investigated out-of-town persons who lived in the local communities, thereby hunting and arresting CAG Christians. From January to April in

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<sup>12</sup> [https://cesnur.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/tjoc\\_3\\_5\\_1\\_introvigne.pdf](https://cesnur.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/tjoc_3_5_1_introvigne.pdf)

2020, at least nearly 581 CAG Christians were arrested by the CCP across the country. In February alone, at least 98 CAG Christians were arrested in Sichuan Province, and at least 650,000 RMB (about 90,000 USD) of church and personal property was confiscated.

CAG Christian Chen Feng (alias) was arrested after he was reported to the police by the community epidemic prevention workers who inspected his rental house in a community in Hebei Province. They thus confiscated the church items worth 45,000 RMB (about 6,400 USD) in the rental house. During the interrogation, the police gave Chen Feng hard slaps across the face, and shocked him with electric batons. They poked his ribs with an iron rod, struck his lower legs, and covered his head with a plastic bag and covered his mouth to prevent him from making a sound. Another CAG Christian who lived with Chen Feng was also arrested and beaten by the police.

On March 1, five CAG Christians in Shaanxi Province were reported to police by the epidemic prevention station workers who inspected their ID cards. The local Religious Affairs Bureau and National Security Brigade dispatched at least 25 police officers and special police officers. They broke into their rented house for a barbaric search, and even forced the CAG Christians to strip all their clothes for a body search. A great amount of church property including several computers were confiscated.

## **2.7 The CCP implements “Extradition Project” and expands investigations and crackdowns on the CAG abroad**

On February 24, 2016, the CCP issued a confidential document demanding to “maintain a steadfast posture of hard strike and high pressure, and squeeze, to the greatest extent, the breathing space of overseas activities of all religious groups.”<sup>[13]</sup> In 2019, the CCP issued a number of documents demanding the use of “overseas work resources,” combining Internet technology with traditional reconnaissance methods to gain an understanding of The Church of Almighty God’s overseas activities, enter information into their database on CAG’s overseas personnel, and then conduct analyses and develop a strategy for each individual.<sup>[14]</sup>

Since 2016, personnel from various government agencies such as the Ministry of State Security of China, the provincial Public Security Departments, and the municipal Public Security Bureaus continued to lure and coerce relatives of CAG Christians who have fled to South Korea to travel to Korea to participate in staged demonstrations and press conferences under the manipulation of Ms. O Myung-ok, a Communist sympathizer. They claimed that there was no persecution in China, and slandered CAG Christians as fake refugees. They asked the South Korean government to extradite CAG Christians to China. More than ten such fake demonstrations have been staged in South Korea, and they have all ended in failure. Afterward, as the CCP has expanded the scope of

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<sup>13</sup> <https://youtu.be/WYAqwyYeaA?t=3675>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.adhrf.org/news/religious-freedom/205952.html>

its extradition project to include Europe and other countries in Asia, some relatives of CAG Christians who had fled to Europe and Japan have been subjected to CCP harassment as well. According to reliable sources, in 2019, every a few months, the CCP government dispatched personnel to the South Korea government demanding the list of CAG applicants for asylum. The CCP government also expands “overseas united front” work. The “2017 Main Work Points of the Leading Group of the Henan Provincial Party Committee for Preventing and Handling the Xie Jiao Question” issued by the CCP on April 5, 2017 proposes taking full advantage of foreign channels friendly to the CCP overseas, and mobilizing quite influential experts, scholars, journalists and overseas Chinese leaders, etc. in Western countries to advocate their cause for persecuting the CAG.

In June and September 2017, the CCP held separate international anti-cult academic conferences in Henan and Hong Kong, inviting to the conferences several renowned European and American religious experts and scholars, including Professor Massimo Introvigne, founder of Italy’s Center for Studies on New Religions (CESNUR), and Gordon Melton, Distinguished Professor of American Baylor University, and utilizing rumors such as the May 28 McDonald’s Murder case to continue smearing the CAG. However, after the participating scholars independently researched all documents provided by the CCP, they discovered that the perpetrators were “members of a different, independent group” and not the CAG. The results of their research shattered the CCP’s defamatory rumors that the Zhaoyuan murder was an act of the CAG. <sup>[15]</sup>

### **3. Conclusion**

While giving an interview in early 2020, José Elías Esteve Moltó, Spanish professor of law, commented, “The CCP’s systemic and massive persecution of the CAG is a violation of the international law. The CCP is committing a crime against humankind.”<sup>[16]</sup> At present, the conditions for millions of CAG Christians in mainland China to exercise their rights to practice their faith and merely survive continue to worsen, and CAG Christians who have fled overseas are in the danger of being forced to return to China from their recipient countries. Here, we hope that the British Conservative Party Human Rights Commission will include the persecution of the CAG in their report on the human rights situation in China. We also hope that the British government will pay attention to the persecution of the CAG and condemn the CCP’s heinous acts of human rights violations.

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<sup>15</sup> [http://cesnur.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/tjoc\\_1\\_1\\_6\\_introvigne\\_ter.pdf](http://cesnur.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/tjoc_1_1_6_introvigne_ter.pdf)

Lü Yingchun –Zhang Fan Group:<https://wrludreels.org/2017/10/16/lu-yingchun-zhang-fan-group/>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.hidden-advent.org/news/church-news-104.html>