



The Epoch Times

Passers-by reading CCP withdraw statements posted on a bulletin board outside the city court house.

China's People Power

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renunciation is also signed by his wife, a government worker for the office in charge of promoting Communist thinking among the citizenry.

Over the last 10 months since the Epoch Times' Nine Commentaries was published on the Chinese-language newspaper's website, nearly 4 million Chinese people have publicly renounced their membership in the CCP, often writing statements on an Epoch Times website set up for this purpose, or posting them in public areas of Chinese cities and townships.

Why quit the Party? For most Chinese people, like Baorong, it's a matter of conscience. Many of the people who have withdrawn from the Party have written that they or their family and friends had been victims of the horrible atrocities committed by the CCP.

Brothers Jin Yu and Jin Chun, in a joint renunciation posted in May 2005, recalled the many state murders they had witnessed personally in their local area over the years, from landlords who were murdered and then publicly dismembered to group executions where the bodies were obliterated with grenades afterward. After reviewing the CCP's history through reading the Nine Commentaries the brothers wrote, "these past memories come back to [us] and send a chill down [our] spine."

Others who quit the Party have

felt that the CCP was the primary culprit behind the rampant corruption and gang activity ubiquitous in China

today. Official efforts in China to curb corruption, they feel, are like relying on Al Capone to craft and enforce measures for reducing crime in 1920's Chicago.

None have had any avenue to voice their dissatisfaction with the Party, let alone take steps to remove the Party from power...until now.

Writing a statement renouncing Party membership gives these people the opportunity to free their consciences by disassociating themselves from the Party and the atrocities it has committed. But it is also much more than that. It gives a voice to the millions of Chinese who have, for the first time under CCP rule, a way to rally together, and peacefully yet effectively oppose the oppression that the CCP has imposed on China for the past half-century.

But in a nation as tightly controlled as China, how do people quit? The majority of Chinese people have quit the Party through posting statements on the Epoch Times website. Circumventing the Chinese Internet filters is a major component of this process. Dynamic Internet Technologies, a company that employs a Web filter circumvention system called DynaWeb that people in China often use to get around government filters, says that as of May 31, 2005, over 300,000 people in China had used DynaWeb to read the Nine Commentaries articles on the Epoch Times website. And as of October 1, 2005, over 4.6 million people have posted statements of withdrawal from the Party on the Epoch Times' special website. The persons writing these statements are spread across 29 of the

31 different provinces in China (see chart, opposite page).

Those less technically capable often resort to posting statements in public places. Throughout China people have been posting large posters with Party withdrawal statements on CCP billboards, trees, public buildings and walls – basically anywhere that the statement can have a large public impact.

In order to protect their safety, many people posting statements both in public and on the web use aliases. The CCP has launched large-scale manhunts for individuals believed to be distributing the Nine Commentaries in China, going so far as to impose martial-law like conditions in some regions.

Famous Chinese writers and activists that have written statements have been repeatedly harassed, and some arrested, for quitting the Party or simply for having the Nine Commentaries in their possession. The CCP has even considered trying to revive a proposed but highly controversial security law, Article 23, in Hong Kong to stifle the spread of the Nine Commentaries.

On one of its government websites the CCP calls the Party-quitting movement "the most serious challenge the Chinese government has ever faced in [the CCP's] history."

In countries like Poland, Germany, and the Philippines, the power of the people was able to effect major changes in or even topple authoritarian governments. Today, the winds of change are blowing in China, and with gale-force strength.



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On June 15, 2005, a statement announcing a local's resignation from the CCP appeared on a cement utility pole on a street in Qiezihe District, Qitaihe City