

ORGAN PILLAGING IN CHINA
Submission by Hon. David Kilgour, J.D.,
To
China Tribunal headed by Sir Geoffrey Nice,
London, United Kingdom

9 Jan 2019

Honourable members of the China Tribunal,

Organ pillaging/trafficking/tourism has targeted and victimized innocent people for almost twenty years across China.

In mid-2006, the Coalition to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong in China (CIPFG) asked David Matas and me as volunteers to investigate claims of organ trafficking from Falun Gong practitioners. We released two reports and a book, *Bloody Harvest*, and have continued to investigate (Our revised report is available in 18 languages from www.david-kilgour.com). We concluded that for 41,500 transplants done in the years 2000-2005 in China, the sourcing beyond any doubt was Falun Gong prisoners of conscience.

EVIDENCE

Here are two of the 18 kinds of evidence that led to our finding:

- Investigators made many calls to hospitals, detention centres and other facilities across China claiming to be relatives of patients needing transplants and asking if they had organs of Falun Gong for sale. We obtained on tape and then transcribed and translated admissions that approximately 15 such facilities across the country were then trafficking in Falun Gong organs.
- Falun Gong prisoners, who later got out of China, indicated that they were systematically blood-tested and organ-examined while in forced-labour camps across the country. Since they were tortured, this could not have been for their health, but was necessary for successful organ transplants and for building a bank of live “donors”.

THE SLAUGHTER

Ethan Gutmann

Nobel Peace Prize nominee and co-founder of the International Coalition to end Organ Abuse in China Ethan Gutmann's 2014 book, *The Slaughter*, places the persecution of the Falun Gong, Tibetan, Uyghur, and Eastern Lightning Christian communities in context. He explains how he arrived at his "best estimate" that organs of 65,000 Falun Gong and "two to four thousand" Uyghurs, Tibetans and Christians were "harvested" in the 2000- 2008 period

The closing words of *Slaughter* are addressed to responsible governments, organizations and persons: "No Western entity possesses the moral authority to allow the (P)arty to impede the excavation of a crime against humanity in exchange for promises of medical reform. As a survival mechanism of our species, we must contextualize, evaluate, and ultimately learn from every human descent into mass murder ... The critical thing is that there is a history. And only the victims' families can absolve the (P)arty from its weight."

MID-2016 UPDATE

Matas, Gutmann and I released an *Update* on our two books in June 2016 in Washington, Ottawa and Brussels (accessible from the International Coalition to End Transplant Abuse in China www.endtransplantabuse.org).

- It provides a thorough examination of the transplant programs of hundreds of hospitals across China, drawing on medical journals, hospital websites, and deleted websites found in archives. It analyzes hospital revenues, bed counts and utilization rates, surgical personnel, state funding and other factors.
- We conclude cautiously that a minimum of 60,000 transplants per year are being done across China as of mid-2016, not the approximately 10,000 the government claims. There is a very small pool of 'volunteer donors' plus a few thousand convicted prisoners. This means that about 150 persons daily are killed for their organs.
- We provide much evidence of a state-directed organ transplantation network, controlled through national policies and funding, and implicating both the military and civilian healthcare systems.

The party-state's current narrative asserts that all transplantation organs since Jan 2015 are voluntarily provided through the semantical trick of reclassifying prisoner organs as "voluntary donations".

Professionals who should know better, including the World Health Organization, the Transplantation Society (TTS) and the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, have accepted the party line, skipping over, as Louisa Greve of the International Coalition to End Transplant Abuse in China puts it (www.endtransplantabuse.org), “the admission that China’s billion-dollar transplant industry was built on prisoners’ organs”.

Last fall, after a screening of the Peabody award-winning film *Human Harvest* at a theatre in Boston’s Harvard Square, I stressed points made earlier by my colleague David Matas (<http://endtransplantabuse.org/party-profession-organ-transplant-abuse-china/>):

- Mental health professionals globally faced the abuse of psychiatry in the Soviet Union and acted strongly against it. Today, international transplant professionals face the abuse of transplant surgery in China, but their response differs.
- The global transplantation profession today can be broken into three groups.
 - The aware who have read the research and realize that what is going on in China with transplantations is mass killing of innocents and cover up. They react accordingly, distancing themselves from the Chinese transplant profession and encouraging others to do likewise.
 - The naive do not consider the research and argue that doing so falls outside their area of responsibility. They hear research conclusions on the one hand and party-state propaganda on the other and draw no conclusions.
 - The foolish buy Chinese party-state propaganda. They parrot its line that the research demonstrating mass killing of innocents is based on rumour. They echo the Party line that the research is unverifiable, though it is both verifiable and verified. They repeat its claim that abuses are in the past, when they are not.
- The global transplant leadership does not have the time to read research into transplant abuse in China, or the grace to invite researchers to the events they help organize, but they might at least listen to what they themselves are saying.
- People in China, especially state officials, who deviate from the Party line get arrested. That is pervasive across all areas of policy, and not just something which happens in the transplantation field. They are released only if they undertake, after release, to conform to the Party line. There is no other basis for release, except for extreme illness. For foreign transplant leaders to take at face value what a released official says, without investigation or verification, means that they too are adopting the Party line.
- Outside China, organ sources are either dead (at least brain dead) before the sourcing or alive both before and afterwards. China is the only country where sources are killed by organ extraction, and where sources are alive before and dead afterwards.

There is an equation here of Chinese law and policy with practice, showing a lack of awareness that the law in China cannot be enforced against the Party, since it controls all aspects of the enforcement of the legal system... The four organizations (World Health Organization (WHO), the Vatican's Pontifical Academy of Sciences (PAS), The Transplantation Society (TTS) and the Declaration of Istanbul Custodian Group (DICG)) are pleased that the Party says what they want to hear.

Beijing has no credible answers to the work of independent researchers who have demonstrated the mass killings of innocents. Given the scale of the transplantation industry in China, it is impossible to deny this research in any credible manner. Party propaganda, denying official data, pretending what is there is not there, can persuade only the gullible or the wilfully blind. One can only hope that a willingness to confront the truth about China will prevail generally in the transplantation profession before many more innocents are killed for their organs.

FORCED LABOUR CAMPS

David Matas and I visited a dozen countries to interview Falun Gong practitioners who had managed to leave both the camps and China. These prisoners of conscience have been the major source of organs since 2001 across China. They told us of working in appalling conditions for up to sixteen hours daily in these camps with no pay and little food, crowded sleeping conditions and torture. Inmates make a range of export consumer products as subcontractors to multinational companies. This constitutes gross corporate irresponsibility and a violation of WTO rules, calling for an effective response by all trading partners of China.

THE HONOURABLE DAVID KILGOUR, J.D.

www.david-kilgour.com

David Kilgour is the former Secretary of State for Latin America and Africa (1997-2002) and Asia-Pacific (2002-2003) in the cabinet of Prime Minister Jean Chretien. He represented south-east Edmonton in the House of Commons from 1979 to 2006 during eight Parliaments. He was born in 1941 in Winnipeg. Graduating from high school with the Governor General's medal, he studied economics at the University of Manitoba and graduated from the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. He later did doctoral studies in constitutional law at the Faculty of Law at the Sorbonne in Paris.

Mr. Kilgour's passion for multi-party democracy, human rights and justice for all began in community service. He stepped down as a Member of Parliament in 2006 to become an advocate for human dignity and good governance internationally. He and David Matas were nominated in 2010 for the Nobel Peace Prize for their book, *Bloody Harvest*, and campaign to end party-state-run organ abuse across China.

He is a volunteer at the Ottawa Mission for homeless men and a member of its Foundation. He is co-chair of the NGO Canadian Friends of a Democratic Iran, a Senior Fellow of both the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights and the Macdonald Laurier Institute. He also sits on the boards of the Helsinki-based First Step Forum, Ethiopiaid Canada, the Educational Foundation of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians, and the session of Westminster Church.

He is married to Laura Scott Kilgour. They have three daughters and a son and live in Ottawa.

