

# The List of China's Banned Religious Groups

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- I would like to spend the next 25 minutes or so discussing China's official lists of banned religious groups. These lists have been consolidated and published erratically. However they appear to be an important aspect of the contemporary religious scene in China. I wish to investigate these two questions:
- What is their significance?
- What can we learn from them?

Preliminary version. Please do not reproduce or quote without the consent of the author



# Overview

Let me start by saying I am focused on the published documents and what they indicate. I am not going to argue for or against the government's position, or whether or not this group or that deserves to be singled out. I am going to suggest that the material in the lists is of special interest to scholars of new religions.

The first group to be singled out was a group referred to as the Shouters, in a circular of 1982. Other groups were singled out over the years. Consolidated lists were published in 1995, 2000, and again in 2014. These three are the "lists" proper. They constitute important documents reflecting religious policy. I will discuss the circulars as well as the consolidated lists, since many of them were published in list form, and they provided content subsequently compiled into lists.

A range of agencies are involved in these circulars, but the major lists are published by Public Safety, the State Council, both government agencies, and the General Office of the Central Committee, a department of the party.

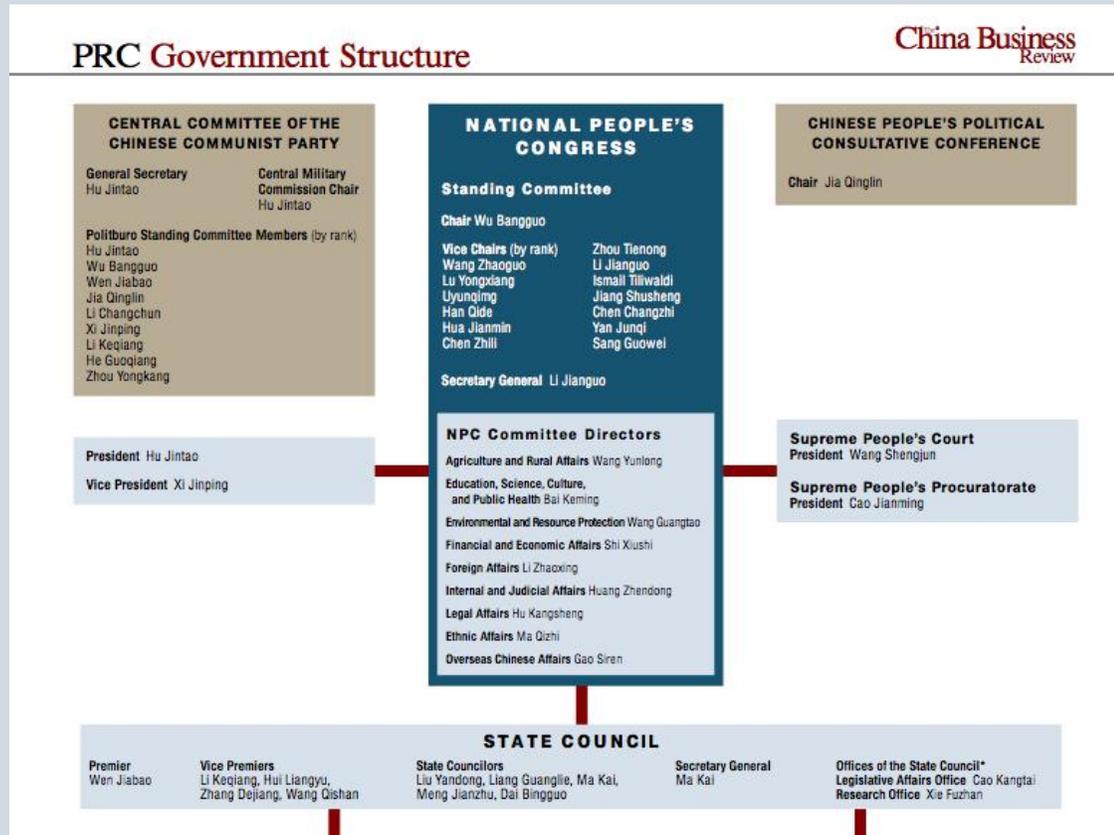
First proscription published in 1983

Consolidated Lists 1995, 2000, Mar. 25, 2014

Agencies Involved:

- Various Public Safety Bureaus 公安局
- General Office of the State Council 国务院办公厅
- General Office of the Central Committee 中共中央办公厅

# Background: Chinese Government Structure



# Organs Under the State Council

## 国务院直属机构

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**Public Security公安部：** Ministry under State Council

**State Administration of Religious Affairs**  
**(SARA)**

国家宗教事务局



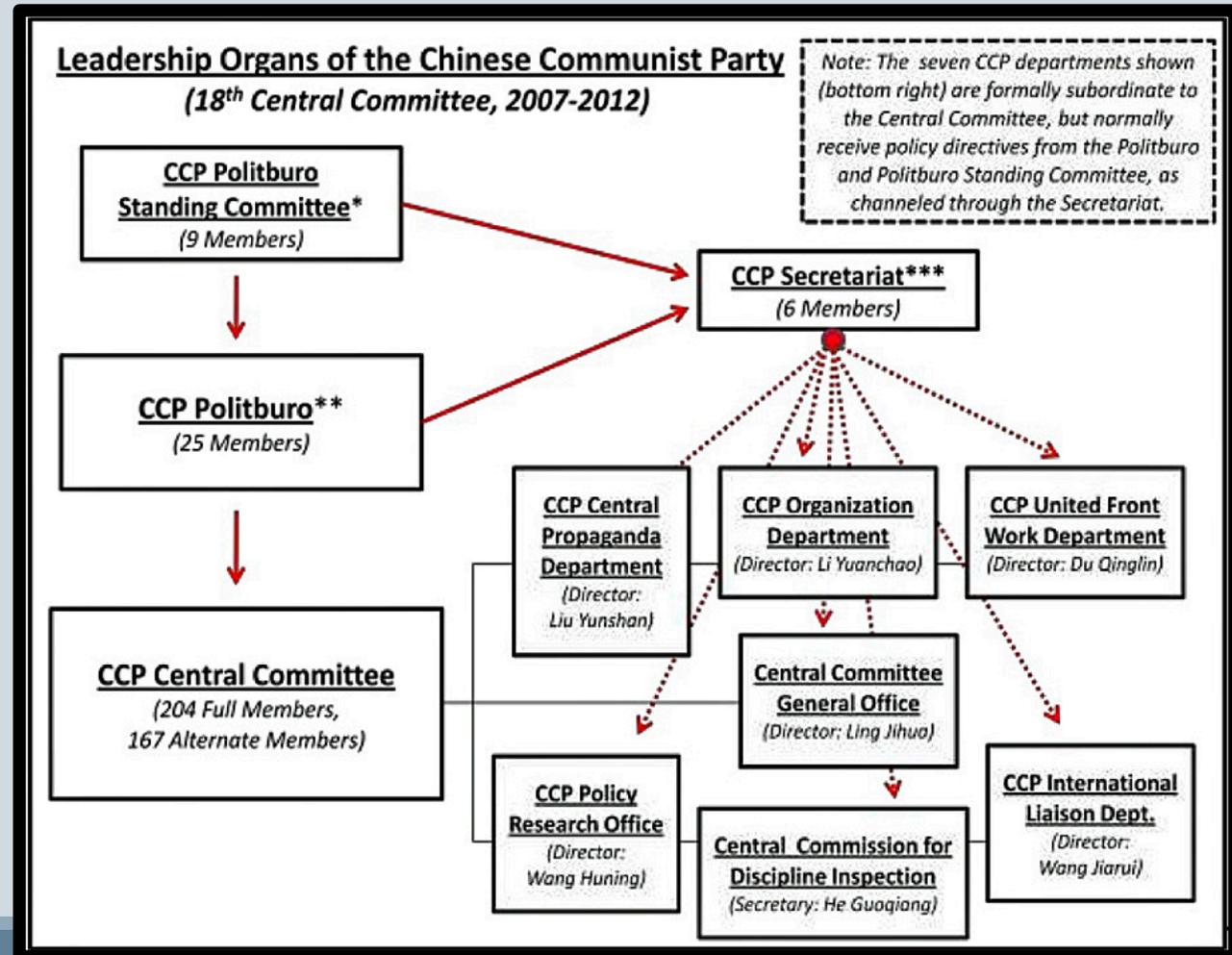
# Organs Under the Party

中共中央办公厅

General Office

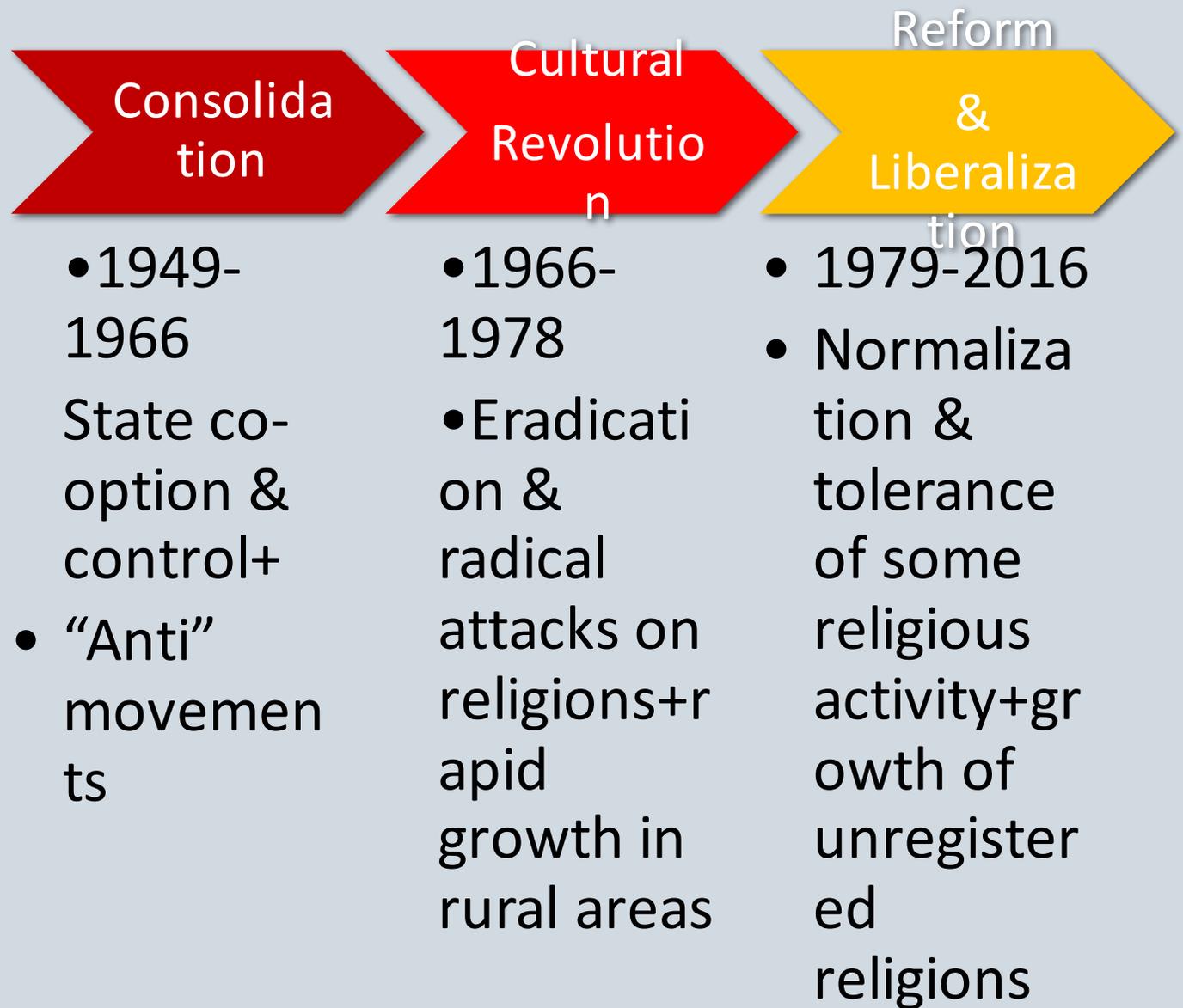
of the Central Committee

of the Communist Party of China



# Background: Historical Stages (a simplified view)

In the initial period of Communist rule there was a period of quiet as the party consolidated power and prepared for change. Many religious groups continued business as usual. Starting in 1950 this began to change. Religious institutions were brought under state management within the “five established religions” rhetoric. In 1953 a series of Movements, the Five-Antis, which targeted specific religious groups, notable Yiguandao, Jesus Family, and Little Flock/Local Churches.



# The Period of Consolidation 1949-1966

This quote gives on scholar's view on the consolidation that took place in the 1950s. It was a time of wrenching change for religious practitioners, many of whom hoped the new regime would allow them to practice their religion as usual.

In my view, the most devastating blow to all Christians in the late 1950s was the anti-rightist movement, which punished arbitrarily hundreds of thousands, shut down dissent or even dialogue with the state, and nearly criminalized religious belief itself, despite the state constitution.

Then came the Great Leap Forward in 1958, which occasioned...the closing of over 90 percent of the churches which were still open...

Daniel Bays

A New History of Christianity in China, 2012

# The Cultural Revolution 1966-1978

The Cultural Revolution is often depicted as a catastrophe for religion. But recent opinion is coming around to the view that with the state bodies busy with political struggle, it was a time of hiatus. True, places of worship were damaged. But much religious activity simply went underground.

“...religions disappeared only from the public scene. Not only did many people maintain their faith in secret, but persevering believers also gathered for worship at home or in the wilderness. Religion simply went underground.”

Fenggang Yang  
Religion in China: Survival and Revival Under Communist Rule,  
2012, p. 73.

# Documents Issued: Types

The form of the documents can be Public Security Notifications or Central Committee Notifications. They are usually written in this form: "Notification concerning XX Proscription." They are given year and sequence numbers, such as "1995-50."

Province, cities and counties also issue notifications. Some of these make their way into the consolidated lists of 1995, 2000, and 2014.

- **Individual Public Security Section Public Notifications:** *"Public Security Section Public Notification #39" 2000.*
- **State Bureau Notifications:** *"Notification on Situation and Working Opinion Regarding Public Security Proscription of Shouters and other Evil Cult Organizations 中央办公厅、国务院办公厅下发《关于转发〈公安部关于查禁取缔"呼喊派"等邪教组织的情况及工作意见〉的通知》(厅字[1995]50号)*
- **Province and Cities** may issue other notifications
- **"Consolidated List" Notifications:** 1995-50, 2000-39.

# Setting the Stage: Publications

The pronouncements do not spring from a vacuum. They are often preceded by articles or commentary in the press, official publications, or, today, on line commentary. One important example was the publication in 1982 of an article “Concerning the basic perspective and policy toward the religious question during the period of socialism.” This was publication 19 in 1982 from the Central Publication Bureau of the Communist Party. This article hinted at the need to control unregistered groups claiming to be religious.

1982 中共中央印發〔1982〕19号文件  
關於我國社會主義時期宗教問題的基本觀點和基本政策

Party Central Publishing Document 1982-19: “Regarding Basic Viewpoint and Fundamental Policies Toward the Religious Problem During the Period of Socialism”

# The Consolidated Lists

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I begin with the second list. 14 groups are listed, included 6 copied from the preceding, 1995 summary document. A useful definition of xiejiao is given. This list is widely available on the internet. Note the official Public Security chop, dated 2000.

A xiejiao is defined as any illegal organizations that:

- a. establishes an illegal organization in the name of religion, Qigong, etc;
- b. deifies their leaders;<sup>[8]</sup>
- c. initiates and spreads superstitions and heterodox beliefs 迷信邪說
- d. utilizes various means to fabricate and spread superstitions and heterodox [or cultic] beliefs to excite doubts and deceive the people, recruit and control its members by means.
- e. engages in disturbing social order in an organized manner that brings injury to the lives and properties of the citizens. 危害公民生命財產安全等活動。

The term xiejiao is here used as “cult.” In fact this term has a long history. It was borrowed in the 1990s as a convenient, well-known term for translating a foreign word that had its own complex background.

# Consolidated List 2: 2000-39

Notification on Situation and Working Opinion Regarding Public Security Proscription of Shouters and other Evil Cult Organizations 中央办公厅、国务院办公厅下发《关于转发〈公安部关于查禁取缔"呼喊派"等邪教组织的情况及工作意见〉的通知》（厅字[1995]50号）

## ➤ Total 14 Groups

➤ Listed the six proscribed groups in Document 1995-50 and one more (no document) verified as *xiejiao* by the National CCP Central Committee and the State Council

➤ Listed an additional 7 certified as *xiejiao* 邪教 in Public Security announcements between 1995 and 1999

## ➤ Defines an evil cult:

- Illegal organizations established in the name of religion, qigong, etc.
- that deify their leaders;
- that initiate and spread superstitions and heterodox beliefs 迷信邪說;
- that utilize various means to fabricate and spread superstitions and heterodox [or cultic] beliefs to excite doubts and deceive the people, recruit and control its members by means;
- that engage in disturbing social order in an organized manner that brings injury to the lives and properties of the citizens 危害公民生命財產安全等活動。



## Consolidated List 1: 1995-50

And now, the first chronological list, from 1995. I place this second because of a problem I have in the research: I cannot find a hard copy. Kim Chan and I have looked hard. For some reason this document not easily available. Very different from #2000-39. But it exists--its contents make up the core of #2000-39.

There are 6 groups referred to in @1995-50.

➤ 1995年11月，中央辦公廳、國務院辦公廳下發了《關於轉發〈公安部關於查禁取締「呼喊派」等邪教組織的情況及工作意見〉的通知》（廳字[1995]50號）

➤ Central Office, National Congress General Office Circulated “Regarding the Circulation of Public Security Department Notification on the Circumstances and Opinions Regarding the Proscription on the Shouters and other Cult organizations” (1995-50)

➤ **Total Six Proscribed groups**

?!  
..

# Consolidated List 3

And now to the third list, from May, 2014. You can see that this one is not issued by a government agency at all. It is a widely disseminated list from the China Anti-Cult Agency, published June 4, 2014, in response to the McDonalds Eastern Lightning incident. None of the groups on this list are new--they all appeared on list #2.

# Consolidated List 3: May, 2014; After the McDonalds Incident...it's all done through the media

## — 当前危害中国社会安定和民众安全的邪教有哪些? —

- 法轮功**  
二十世纪九十年代初发展起来 头目李洪志  
李洪志通过编造歪理邪说,对“法轮功”练习者实施极端的精神控制,在中国进行大量的违法犯罪活动。
- 全能神**  
二十世纪九十年代初从“呼喊派”分化演变而来 教主赵维山 原系“呼喊派”骨干成员  
“全能神”邪教也具有极强的暴力倾向,组织内部有一套非常严密的戒律,如要求信徒们要绝对服从所谓的“女基督”和“大祭司”。
- 呼喊派**  
美国华人李常受于1962年在美国创立  
逐渐发展成为以美国“水流职事处”为中心,以台湾“福音书报”、香港“圣经研习中心”为据点,以泰国、马来西亚等东南亚国家的教会为辅助基地,向世界各地发展蔓延,重点向中国大陆渗透的邪教组织。
- 门徒会**  
陕西省耀县农民李三原(原名李忠杰)于1989年建立  
其歪理邪说一是宣扬“得治病”,使成员拒绝服药而死亡;二是大搞“狂鬼治病”,以暴力侵害致人死亡;三是实施精神控制,致人精神失常,家破人亡;四是散布邪说,制造社会恐慌,破坏群众的生产生活。
- 统一教**  
韩国文鲜明(1920-2012)于1954年在韩国蔚山创立  
“统一教”在教义上严格控制信徒并以建立所谓“理想家庭”为名,随意对教内男女信徒指定婚配,以达到对教徒人身控制的目的。
- 观音法门**  
释清海于1988年在台湾成立  
以“中华民国神定协会”名义注册成立。释清海,俗名张兰君,女,1950年5月出生于越南,英籍华人。目前“观音法门”邪教组织境外净透活动加剧,境内外勾联活动突出,境内邪教骨干传播邪教物品、借教敛财活动猖獗。
- 血水圣灵**  
全称“耶稣基督血水圣灵全备福音布道团”,总部在台湾 头目左坤,男,1930年10月生  
近年来,该教也积极向境内渗透,发展组织,并疯狂向国内信徒敛财,左坤本人则搜“财”、“色”俱好的人物。
- 全范围教会**  
徐永泽(2000年4月逃往美国)于1984年在美国建立  
该组织大肆散布歪理邪说,将命定论解释为“大、广、深”,意即包括地球上的所有重生得救的人们。
- 三班仆人派**  
徐文库于1986年创立  
又称“真理教会”。徐文库打着基督教“真理教会”的旗号,自称“神的仆人”、“基督的肉身”,到东北传教,创建组织。为达到发展组织、控制成员、聚敛钱财的目的,“三班仆人派”先后在全国十几个省市制造杀人案件17起,共杀害21人,伤4人,社会危害极大。
- 灵仙真佛宗**  
美国华人卢胜彦于1979年在台湾创立  
又称“灵山真命总盟”,总部设在美国西雅图雷蒙寺。卢胜彦(台湾嘉义人,1982年定居美国旧金山)打着宗教的旗号,自称“天帝”、“佛主”,该组织以“法天、法地、法人”的原则,杂以明清以来民间“会道门”的“灵机神算”等术取世惑众,蒙骗群众。
- 中华大陆行政执事站**  
王永民(原“呼喊派”人员)于1994年创立  
主自任“独一执事”,并组成了以他为首的5人领导核心,建立了该组织。王永民宣称“中华大陆行政执事

20 Groups...  
**NONE NEW**



中国反邪教协会提醒群众,特别要增强法律意识和防范意识,发现邪教人员在从事非法传教、聚众闹事和散发非法宣传品等行为时,要立即报告有关部门或拨打110报警。

### 邪教为什么屡禁不止?

邪教在中国有2000多年的历史  
从东汉时期就有了



像细菌和病毒一样  
它自身也产生了一些免疫力  
越来越难知识战胜自己



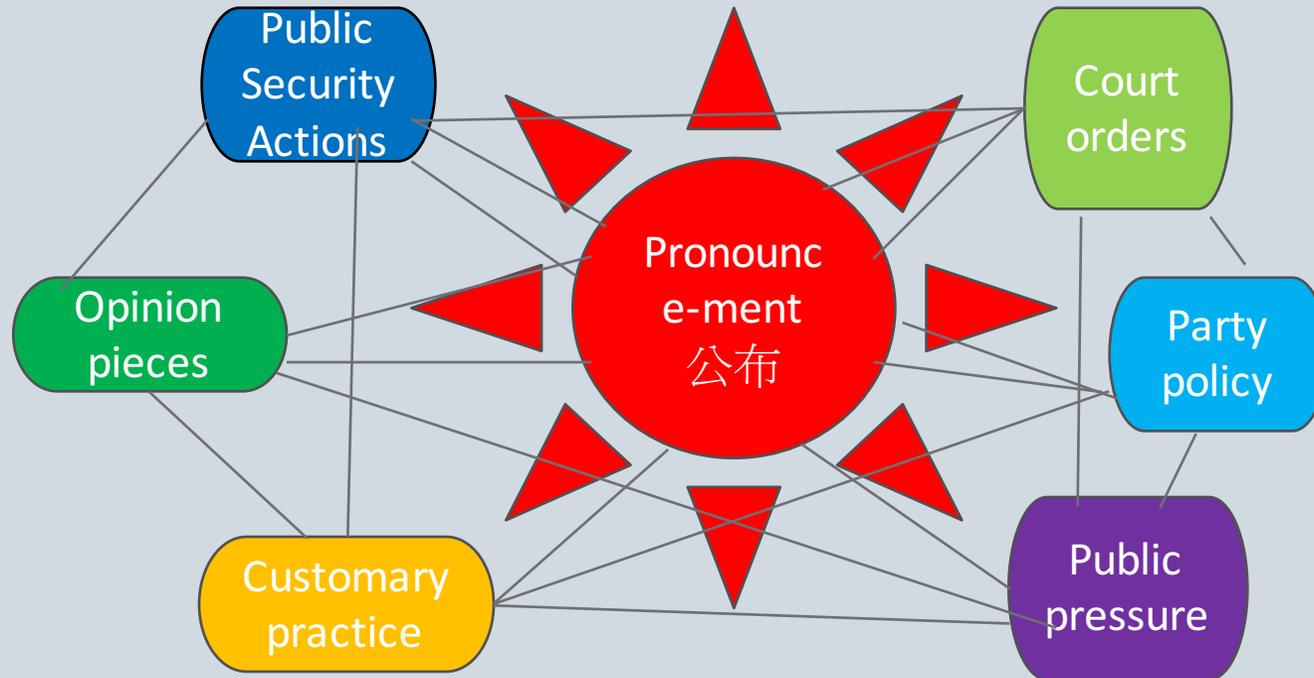
一些邪教宣扬真善忍  
利用一些传统道德  
假以慈悲地来欺瞒世人



# Sidebar: A Suggestion

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Each pronouncement is the public face/expression of a network of interlaced factors: public security actions, court orders, opinion pieces, and customary practises.



# The Individual Groups

Now I turn to individual  
groups, batched together for  
convenience.

# Pre-1995 4 Groups

Few circulars were issued before 1995.

The Shouters 呼喊派 /  
Teachings of Chángshòu  
常受教: recognized in  
Chinese official sources  
as descending from the  
Living Stream Ministry  
founded in 1965 by Lǐ  
Chángshòu 李常受 in  
the US (1983)

Full Scope Church 全范  
围教会: founded in  
Hénán in 1984 by Xú  
Yǒngzé 徐永泽 (1988)

The Disciple Society 门  
徒会: started by Lǐ  
Sānbǎo 季三保 in  
Shǎnxī 陕西 (1989)

The Lingling Sect 灵  
灵教: founded in 1986 in  
Jiāngsū 江苏 by Húa  
Xǔhé 华雪和 (1991)

# 1995 7 Groups

A ton of groups came into view in 1995, as reflected in #1995-50 consolidated list #2. Clearly the increased religious activity, especially in the countryside, had created concern in the government.

At this time a new police agency was created:

Anointed King 被立王  
established 1992 in Ānhuì 安徽 by Wú Yángmín 吴杨明 (1995)

Church of Almighty God 全能神教会 / Eastern Lightning 东方闪电 / True God 实际神 / New Master of Power 新能力主: founded 1989 in Henan 河南 by Zhào Wéishān 赵维山 (1995)

Guanyin Method 观音法门, founded 1988 by Ching Hai 青海 in Taiwan (1995)

Mainland China Administrative Deacon Station 中国大陆行政执事站: founded 1994 in Henan by Wáng Yǒngmín 王永民 (1995)

Children of God 天父的儿女; alternatively, The Family International (家庭国际): founded in 1968 in California by David Berg (1995)

Dami Mission 达米宣教会: founded in the early 1990s in South Korea by Lee Jang Rim (1995)

True Buddha School 灵仙真佛: founded 1979 in Taiwan by Lü Shèngyán 卢胜彦 (1995)

# Public Security Anti-Cult 公安部反邪教組

1999年6月10日

610辦公室

“610 Office”

The anti-cult department  
under Public Security.  
The insignia used is that of the police.



编号：172224 红动中国 (www.redocn.com) 喧器

# 1995-1999 8 Groups

The late 1990s saw more circulars. Consolidated List # 2, 2000-39, included Falungong, which had exploded on the scene in 2000. (Many qigong groups were declared illegal at the same time, but not included on this cult list.)

Another new organizational development in this period:

New Testament Church 新约教会: founded by Kong Duen Yee (江端仪 Jīang Dūanyǐ) in Hong Kong in 1963 (1995)

Bloody Holy Spirit 血水圣灵 (xǔeshuǐ shènglín g): founded 1988 in Taiwan by Zǔo Kūn (左坤) (deemed part of NTC) (1995)

World Elijah Gospel Mission Society 世界以利亚福音宣教会, also known as the World Mission Society: started in Korea in 1964 by Ahn Sahng-hong (1996)

the Unification Church 统一教: founded 1954 by Mun Son-myong in South Korea (1997)

Lord God Sect 主神教: established 1993 by Líu Jiāguó (刘家国) in Húnán (1998)

Three Grades of Servants 三班仆人派: founded in 1988 in Hénán by Xú Wénkù (徐文库) (1999)

Fǎlúng 法轮功: founded in 1992 in Jilin by Lǐ Hóngzhì (李洪志) (suppressed from 1999)

Yúandùnfǎmén (Perfect and Sudden Dharma Gate) 圆顿法门: founded by Xǔ Chéngjiāng (许成江) in Hēilóngjiāng in 1998 (suppressed as a branch of Ching Hai from 1999)

# China Anti-Cult Association (CACCA) 中国反邪教协会

Est. Nov. 2000

“voluntary,” non-profit organization

Media treats announces as official notices: June 4, 2014 Front Page

Logo



The China Anti-Cult Association was established in 2000. Note this was set up as a pseudo-NGO, not an agency of the police or the Party. Yet the media treated its announcements as official circulars.



## Post-1999 4 Groups

Four more groups were declared illegal in the 2000s.

Zhōnggōng  
g中功:

establishe  
d in the  
1987 as a  
*qìgōng*  
group by  
Zhāng  
Hóngbbǎo  
张宏堡  
(2000)

South  
China  
Church华  
南教会:  
founded  
1990 in  
Húběi by  
Gǒng  
Shèngliàng  
龚圣亮  
(2001)

Pure Land  
Learning  
Associatio  
n净宗学  
会:  
founded  
by  
Buddhist  
Master  
Chin Kung  
净空 in  
Taiwan in  
1984  
(deemed  
illegal  
2011)

Alcor Life  
Extension  
Associatio  
n生命研  
究基金会:  
a non-  
profit first  
founded in  
California  
by Fred  
and Linda  
Chamberla  
in in 1972  
(deemed  
illegal  
2011)

**图揭 境内活跃 邪教组织 真面目**

新华网多媒体产品中心 出品

**110** 中国反邪教协会提醒群众，特别要增强法律意识和防范意识，发现邪教人员在从事非法传教、聚众闹事和散发非法宣传品等行为时，要立即报告有关部门或拨打110报警。

**邪教为什么屡禁不止？**

**汉** 邪教在中国有2000多年的历史 从东汉时期就有了

**道德**

像细菌和病毒一样 它自身也产生了一些免疫力 越来越知道隐藏自己

一些邪教宣扬真善忍 利用一些传统道德 似是而非地来欺骗群众

反邪教斗争是长期的、复杂的、尖锐的，而且邪教具有多发性和隐蔽性的特点，有时候暗流汹涌，有时候可能是激流澎湃，变化多端，这也是邪教屡禁不止的原因。

**我国邪教组织有哪些共性？**

我国近20年来出现的邪教 有两点是相同的

散布歪理邪说、教主崇拜 搞精神控制、洗脑等 让信徒们丧失正常的思维

打着合法宗教或 中国传统文化的旗号

Consolidated List #3: A quick reminder, the list from 2014, Consolidate List #3, contains 20 groups, none of them new. Only Zhonggong, the qigong group, is not listed.

1. Falungong 法轮功
2. Church of Almighty God 全能神
3. Shouters 呼唤派
4. Disciple Society 门徒会
5. Unification Church 统一教
6. Guanyin Method 观音法门
7. Bloody Holy Spirit 血水圣灵
8. Full Scope Church 全范围教会
9. Three Grades of Servant 三班仆人派
10. True Buddha School 灵仙真佛宗
11. Mainland China Administrative Deacon Station 中华大陆行政执事站
12. 灵灵教
13. South China Church 华南教会
14. Anointed King 被立王
15. Lord God Sect 主神教
16. World Gospel Mission Society 世界以利亚福音宣教会
17. Perfect and Sudden Dharma Gate 圆顿法门
18. New Testament Church 新约教会
19. Dami Mission 达米宣教会
20. Children of God 天父的儿女

And now, on to a **consolidated** list.

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Not officially published.

# The Consolidated List: 23 Groups

- The Shouters 呼喊派 (*hūhǎnpài*) / Teachings of Chángshòu 常受教 (*chángshoujiào*): recognized in Chinese official sources as descending from the Living Stream Ministry founded in 1965 by Lǐ Chángshòu 李常受 in the US (1983)

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- Full Scope Church 全范围教会 (*quánfānwéijìahuì*): founded in Hénán in 1984 by Xú Yǒngzé 徐永泽 (1988)
- The Disciple Society 门徒会 (*méntúhuì*): started by Lǐ Sānbǎo 季三保 in Shǎnxī 陕西 (1989)
- The Lingling Sect 灵灵教 (*línglíngjiào*): founded in 1986 in Jiāngsū 江苏 by Húa Xǔehé 华雪和 (1991)
- Anointed King 被立王 (*bèilíwáng*) established 1992 in Ānhuì 安徽 by Wú Yángmíng 吴杨明 (1995)
- Church of Almighty God 全能神教会 (*quánnéngshén jiàohuì*) / Eastern Lightning 东方闪电 (*dōngfāng shǎndiàn*) / True God 实际神 (*shíjìshén*) / New Master of Power 新能力主 (*xīnnénglìzhǔ*): founded 1989 in Henan 河南 by Zhào Wéishān 赵维山 (1995)
- Guanyin Method 观音法门 (*guānyīn fǎmén*), founded 1988 by Ching Hai 青海 (*qīnghǎi*) in Taiwan (1995)
- Mainland China Administrative Deacon Station 中华大陆行政执事站 (*zhōnghuá dàlù xíngzhèng ahìshì zhàn*): founded 1994 in Henan by Wáng Yǒngmín 王永民 (1995)
- Children of God 天父的儿女 (*tiānfù de érnǚ*); alternatively, The Family International (家庭国际 (*jiātíng gúoji*): founded in 1968 in California by David Berg (1995)
- Dami Mission 达米宣教会 (*dámǐ xuānjiàohuì*): founded in the early 1990s in South Korea by Lee Jang Rim (1995)
- True Buddha School 灵仙真佛宗 (*língxiān zhēnfó zōng*): founded 1979 in Taiwan by Lü Shèngyán 卢胜彦 (1995)

# Consolidated List (cont.): 23 Groups

- New Testament Church 新约教会 (*xīnyuējiàohuì*): founded by Kong Duen Yee (江端仪 Jiāng Dūanyǐ) in Hong Kong in 1963 (1995)
- World Elijah Gospel Mission Society 世界以利亚福音宣教会 (*shìjièyǐliyǎ fúyīn xuānjìàohuì*), also known as the World Mission Society: started in Korea in 1964 by Ahn Sahng-hong (1996)

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- the Unification Church 统一教 (*tǒngyījiào*): founded 1954 by Mun Son-myong in South Korea (1997)
- Lord God Sect 主神教 (*zhǔshénjiào*): established 1993 by Líu Jiāguó 刘家国 in Húnán (1998)
- Three Grades of Servants 三班仆人派 (*sānbānpǔrénpài*): founded in 1988 in Hénán by Xú Wénkù 徐文库 (1999)
- Zhōnggōng 中功: established in the 1987 as a *qìgōng* group by Zhāng Hóngbbǎo 张宏堡 (2000)
- Fǎlúngōng 法轮功: founded in 1992 in Jilin by Lǐ Hóngzhì 李洪志 (suppressed from 1999)
- Yúandùnfǎmén 圆顿法门: founded by Xǔ Chéngjiāng 许成江 in Hēilóngjiāng in 1998 (suppressed as a branch of Ching Hai from 1999)
- Bloody Holy Spirit 血水圣灵 (*xǔeshuǐshènglíng*): founded 1988 in Taiwan by Zǔo Kūn 左坤 (1995)
- South China Church 华南教会 (*húanánjiàohuì*): founded 1990 in Húběi by Gōng Shèngliang 龚圣亮 (2001)
- Pure Land Learning Association 净空学会 (*jìngzōng xúehuì*): founded by Buddhist Master Chin Kung 净空 (*jìngkōng*) in Taiwan in 1984 (deemed illegal 2011)
- Alcor Life Extension Association 生命研究基金会 (*shēngmìng yánjiū jījīnhuì*): a non-profit first founded in California by Fred and Linda Chamberlain in 1972 (deemed illegal 2011)

# Consolidated List:

## Noting 10 **Overseas** Groups

### Fully 43% are said to have overseas ties.

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1. The Shouters 呼喊派
2. Full Scope Church 全范围教会
3. The Disciple Society 门徒会
4. The Lingling Sect 灵灵教
5. Anointed King 被立王
6. Church of Almighty God全能神教会
7. **Guanyin Method 观音法门**
8. Mainland China Administrative Deacon Station 中国大陆行政执事站
9. **Children of God 天父的儿女**
10. **Dami Mission 达米宣教会**
11. **True Buddha School 灵仙真佛宗**
1. **New Testament 新约教会**
2. **World Elijah Gospel Mission Society 世界以利亚福音宣教会**
3. **the Unification Church 统一教**
4. Lord God Sect 主神教
5. Three Grades of Servants 三班仆人派
6. Zhōnggōng 中功
7. Fǎlúngōng 法轮功
8. Yúandùnfǎmén 圆顿法门
9. Bloody Holy Spirit 血水圣灵
10. **South China Church 华南教会**
11. **Pure Land Learning Association 净宗学会**
12. **Alcor Life Extension Association 生命研究基金会**

# Consolidated List: Noting 16 Christian-inspired Groups 70% are Christian-inspired

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1. The Shouters 呼喊派
2. Full Scope Church 全范围教会
3. The Disciple Society 门徒会
4. The Lingling Sect 灵灵教
5. Anointed King 被立王
6. Church of Almighty God 全能神教会
7. Guanyin Method 观音法门
8. Mainland China Administrative Deacon Station 中华大陆行政执事站
9. Children of God 天父的儿女
10. Dami Mission 达米宣教会
11. True Buddha School 灵仙真佛宗
1. New Testament 新约教会
2. World Elijah Gospel Mission Society 世界以利亚福音宣教会
3. the Unification Church 统一教
4. Lord God Sect 主神教
5. Three Grades of Servants 三班仆人派
6. Zhōnggōng 中功
7. Fǎlúngōng 法轮功
8. Yúandùnfǎmén 圆顿法门
9. Bloody Holy Spirit 血水圣灵
10. South China Church 华南教会
11. Pure Land Learning Association [净宗学会](#)
12. Alcor Life Extension Association 生命研究基金会

# Consolidated List: Noting 7 **Syncretic** and **Buddhist**-inspired Groups (30%)

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1. The Shouters 呼喊派
2. Full Scope Church 全范围教会
3. The Disciple Society 门徒会
4. The Lingling Sect 灵灵教
5. Anointed King 被立王
6. Church of Almighty God 全能神教会
7. **Guanyin Method** 观音法门
8. Mainland China Administrative Deacon Station 中华大陆行政执事站
9. Children of God 天父的儿女
10. Dami Mission 达米宣教会
11. **True Buddha School** 灵仙真佛宗
1. New Testament (*xīnyuējiàohuì*)
2. World Elijah Gospel Mission Society 世界以利亚福音宣教会
3. the Unification Church 统一教
4. Lord God Sect 主神教
5. Three Grades of Servants 三班仆人派
6. **Zhōnggōng** 中功
7. **Fǎlúngōng** 法轮功
8. **Yúandùnfǎmén** 圆顿法门
9. Bloody Holy Spirit 血水圣灵
10. South China Church 华南教会
11. **Pure Land Learning Association** 净宗学会
12. **Alcor Life Extension Association** 生命研究基金会

# Minor Groups

This consolidated list still leaves off many minor or local groups. Some examples...

- **Kindness Sect 恩惠教**
- Declared heretical Nov. 1999 in circular from Urumuqi Public Security
- Founded 1997 by Pan Wei 潘卫
- 30 house-church groups in Xinjiang
  
- **China Gospel Fellowship 中华福音团契**
- Tanghe County, Henan

Duihua Research July 10, 2014

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# The Latest Additions: 2011

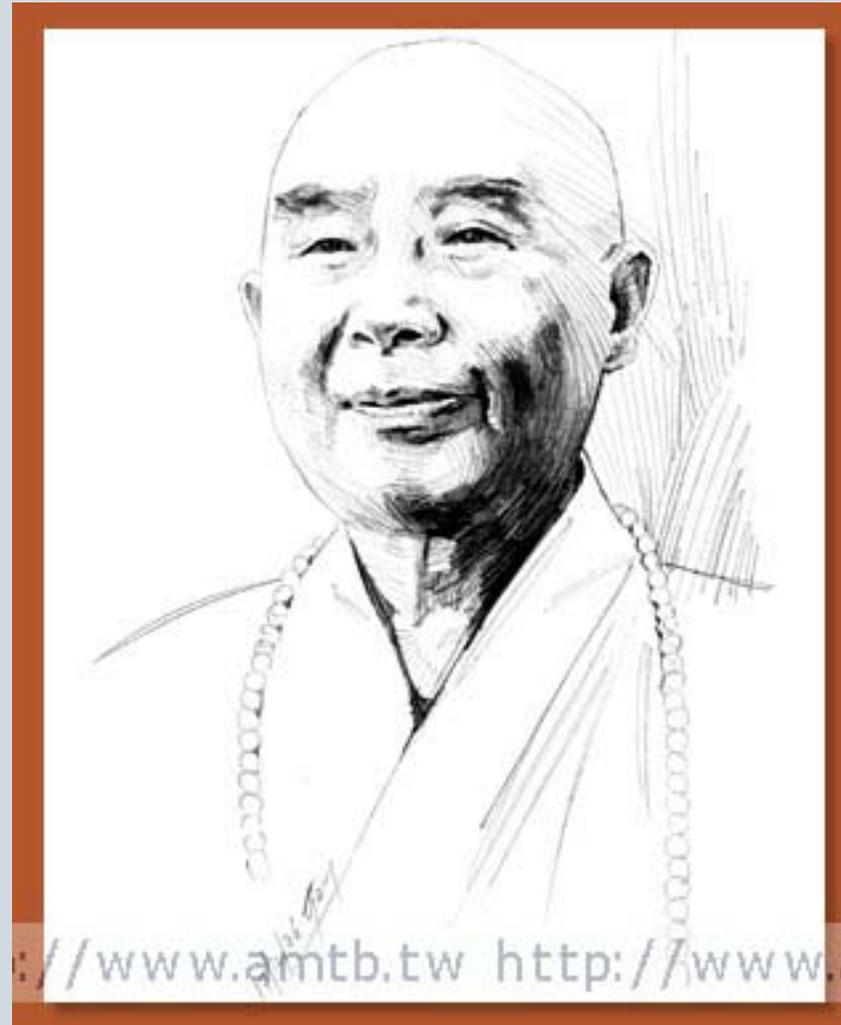
## A

Finally, let me focus on the last two additions. I include these for a reason. The Pure Land Learning Association was growing very quickly in southern China throughout the 2000s. I personally saw many traditional temples in Gaungzhou were actually used as workshops to pack CDs and handouts of Master Chin Kung. He seemed utterly conventional. So when this group was made illegal it surprised me. One possibility is that it became too popular.

Pure Land Learning Association 净宗学会:

founded by Buddhist Master Chin Kung  
净空

in Taiwan in 1984 (deemed illegal 2011)



# The Latest Additions: 2011

## B

The second group, Alcor Life Extension, is not a religious group at all. It's included here because it was included in the same circular as the Pure Land Learning Association. It suggests a level of concern. And for us, a new direction of research. Perhaps in this case the Party is ahead of us???

Alcor Life Extension Association 生命研究基金会:

a non-profit first founded in California

by Fred and Linda Chamberlain in 1972

(deemed illegal 2011)

*"The world's leading cryonics organization."*



# Conclusion

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- Official pronouncements continue to be considered useful for social control
- The pronouncements partially reflect state policy and concerns, plus ambiguities
- Pronouncements may be dated--not reflecting current thinking
- Inclusion on the list--illegal status--is a major barrier to dialog and activity
- The List does reflect only a portion of activity on the ground
- The list is nevertheless useful to scholars
- A major distinction exists between cults 邪教 and religions 宗教 (new or established)
- Post-2000 the government switched to indirect means besides Public Security Circulars...reflects the influence of the internet and a more nuanced media policy?

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*Thank you!*

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