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## **CHINA: Special bimonthly FORB Newsletter (16-30.11.2021)**

### **Special bimonthly FoRB newsletter (16-30.11.2021)**

#### **General**

**16.11.2021 – China: Religion expelled from the “Secret Room”**

Offline games, which also include “Script Killing,” are immensely popular among Chinese youth. A new regulation will

forbid references to religion.

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## **Protestants**

**30.11.2021 – Christian pastor suffers two years in prison without trial**

Pastor Hao Zhiwei of Egangqiao Church has been in custody for two years and four months since her arrest in July 2019. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) charged her with “fraud” for collecting tithes and offerings. Her attorney, Si Weijiang, claimed that this might be the first case in China where a house church pastor was accused of fraud for preaching the gospel.

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**24.11.2021 – Christians face arrests, jail terms for church meetings and printing religious texts**

A Christian couple in China have each been sentenced to seven years in prison and a fine of RMB 250,000 (approximately £29,240) for “illegal business operations,” after their appeals were rejected.

According to the Chinese human rights site Weiquanwang, Chang Yuchun and Li Chenhui, from Shaanxi province, lost their appeal on 15 November. The report says that the couple’s registered printing company produced a large number of Christian books before being seized by the local authorities on 21 July 2020.

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### **18.11.2021 – Elder and co-workers of Early Rain Qingcaodi Church arrested**

Yesterday, Christians from Early Rain Qingcaodi Church were arrested by Deyang police on baseless “fraud” charges. Police arrested Elder Wu Jiannan and his wife; co-workers Liu Wuyi, Liu Yongbo, and Lan Enguang; and retired pastor Hao Mingchang and his wife Yang Yufeng. Elder Wu Jiannan and his wife were released in the evening. The others remain in detention at the time of this article.

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## **Buddhists**

**30.11.2021 – Chinese officials restrict what Tibetan children are taught about the Dalai Lama**

Authorities in northwestern China's Qinghai province have ramped up efforts to vilify the Dalai Lama, now questioning Tibetan children to discover what their parents have told them about the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader, sources in the region say.

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## **Uyghur Muslims**

**19.11.2021 – Uyghur Tribunal to release verdict**

The Uyghur Tribunal will release its verdict on December 9 in London. Afterward, there will be a press conference to discuss the verdict. Viewers can watch the verdict and press conference on the Uyghur Tribunal website.

The Tribunal met twice in 2021 to gather evidence and witness testimonies of China's genocide and crimes against humanity of Uyghurs, Kazakhs, and Turks in the Xinjiang region. Being a quasi-judicial body, the Tribunal cannot "convict" China of international crimes, but their results can be used by the international community to condemn China's actions and inform their China policies.

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**17.11.2021 – Explosive report exposes Uyghur forced labour connections in global retail brands' supply chains**

Research shows Target, Walmart, Lululemon, Kohl's, Anthropologie, C&A, and Uniqlo could be at risk of violating U.S. bans on cotton from Uyghur Region

Coalition of advocates demand corporations exit the Uyghur Region, urge all governments to introduce strong laws against Uyghur forced labour

WORLDWIDE – Following publication of a groundbreaking study by Sheffield Hallam University's Helena Kennedy Centre for International Justice, detailing global apparel brands' risk of ties to cotton produced with Uyghur forced labour, the Coalition to End Forced Labour in the Uyghur Region demanded corporations and governments take immediate action to ensure supply chains are free of cotton from the

Uyghur Region.

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## **Falun Gong**

### **30.11.2021 – Retired Teacher Gets 3.5 Years for Sharing the Health Benefits of Falun Gong**

A Fushun City, Liaoning Province resident was recently sentenced to 3.5 years for her faith in Falun Gong, a spiritual discipline that has been persecuted by the Chinese communist regime since 1999.

Ms. Wang Jiemei, a 60-year-old retired teacher, used to suffer severe cholecystitis and insomnia. As her husband also struggled with poor health, most of the house chores fell on her shoulders, leaving her constantly in a bad temper and easily irritated.

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Further reading about FORB in China on HRWF website

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