

CHINESE OFFICIALS' CHILDREN ORDERED TO SUPPORT RELAY

Ben Hurley

The Chinese regime ordered Communist Party officials with children studying in Australia to send them to Canberra to "guard the Olympic torch", according to a Chinese law professor.

The allegation, by well-known dissident Yuan Hongbing, was made at a weekend forum in Sydney. Chinese scholars, along with Chinese and Tibetans living in Australia, together vented their anger at the bad impression on China the "angry youths" had made.

"The protest [for the torch relay] was organised by the Chinese regime in China; it's an extension, a limb of the regime," said Professor Yuan, former head of the law school at Beijing University, who maintains extensive contacts within China. He was talking at the "Focussing on Tibet" forum held at Club Ashfield on Sunday May 4, organised by the Chinese language newspaper *Dajiyuan*.

He said he had learned of a communication by the central government to officials at all levels that whoever had children abroad should inform them to participate in the pro-China rallies and follow the local Chinese Embassy.

"Inside China, we call them angry youths," said Professor Yuan, referring to nationalistic students who claim they oppose CNN news.

"In China, how many tragedies are occurring every day," he said, citing recent examples of child slavery.

"Why don't they care about them? Because they don't have feelings of justice. They are standing by the Chinese regime and their actions will be rewarded by the Chinese regime.

"Their so-called anger and indignation, I don't care about this. Who would pay attention to this kind of cowardly behaviour?"

Yuan Tieming, previously a law lecturer at the Northwest University of Politics and Law in Xi'an said the protests were "silly".

"They went to protect the torch, but



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Chinese supporters heckle Tibetan protestors before the start of the Olympic Torch Relay at Reconciliation Place on April 24, 2008 in Canberra, Australia. Australian Chinese say they are embarrassed by the violent behaviour of Chinese supporters on the day.

that's not their duty - it's the duty of the Australian Federal Police," he said. "And some of them were even charged for their actions."

During question time, a Chinese man stood up to say that he loved Australia and its freedoms. The man said he had waved an Australian flag many times, but had never held the red flag since he came to Australia. He said he was very angry about the Canberra protests.

"Now, Australian Chinese have to bear the burden for the bad impression they have made," he said.

Tibet was another topic of the forum,

with many Tibetans also in attendance.

Yuan Tieming passed his regards to supporters of freedom for Tibet. "For the peacefulness they have displayed everywhere, I would like to give them my congratulations.

"The separatist attempts are not coming from Tibet," Mr Yuan said.

"The Dalai Lama has never said that Tibet should be independent, so it's just an excuse not to talk to him.

"The separatist attempts are made by the Chinese regime. They are using this to incite anger."

Dundub Lama, a Tibetan living in

Australia who fled from Tibet to India when he was young, said it was the Chinese regime that was creating hostility between Tibetans and Chinese for its own ends.

"The Chinese regime has come up with strategy to inject poison into the harmonious relationship between Chinese and Tibetan people," Mr Lama said.

"Before we would protest and then go to Chinatown for great Chinese food," he said.

"The Chinese regime are the separatists. The Dalai Lama has been working for genuine autonomy for a long time."

MT EVEREST - THE OPPRESSED MOUNTAIN

Reinhold Messner speaks about Tibet and Mt Everest. The Olympics are being used by China for propaganda, says first man who climbed the world's highest peak without oxygen.

Florian Godovits

The Epoch Times • Germany

The plan by the Chinese Communist Party to run the Olympic Torch Relay up Mt Everest - the highest peak in the world - is a "farce", says famous German alpinist Reinhold Messner.

Mr Messner said the torch would be unable to burn in such heights without extra oxygen and he believes TV footage of the event has already been shot.

"Mt Everest is being used for a propaganda campaign," he told *The Epoch Times*. "Even if we don't like to hear it, it was the same thing in 1936 with the Nazis. Back then, the Olympics were abused for a propaganda campaign as well."

May 8 will be the 30th anniversary of the first conquest of the highest mountain in the world without oxygen bottles. Mr Messner and his friend Peter Habeler were the first to succeed in doing so.

A former member of the European Parliament, Mr Messner is angry about the current actions in Tibet.

He raised a 60-metre square Tibetan flag in his museum in Sigmundskron in South Tyrol, Italy.

If China had granted Tibet more freedom, "The world would be at China's feet," he said, but the regime has missed the chance.

Mr Messner said that he could not understand why China had not realised this chance.

"Tibet's heritage belongs to the whole world. Its culture is rich and all of mankind should strive towards it," he said.

"Today's weapons are words. We should ask for more democracy," he said. "The Olympic Torch Relay should continue to be used for the concern of



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(File Photo) Italian alpinist Reinhold Messner.

the Tibetans.

Mr Messner said he believes China's present communist system could develop into a combination of rabid capitalism and fascism. "If that coincides, the devil isn't far," he warned.

When the Olympic Games were allocated, it was thought that the human rights situation in China would improve, but the opposite has happened, he said. In his opinion, the Olympics should be used as a platform to call attention to the human rights abuses.

Commenting on the upcoming 30th anniversary of his first oxygen-free conquest of Mt Everest, Mr Messner is critical of the commercialisation of the mountain and the lack of environmental awareness, saying: "We have put the mountain in chains and ropes."