



WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT CHINA?



THE GENOCIDE IN DARFUR

China continues to fund the Sudanese government. In the past five years, this government has killed between 300,000 and 400,000 innocent civilians, displaced 2.5 million, and systematically burned as many villages as possible. Millions of people are forced to live in refugee camps where they suffer from hunger and are still in grave risk of murder and rape. In addition to sending weapons to Sudan, China also has blocked legislation that would bring aid to the people of Darfur whenever the UN tries to do something.

Learn More at www.standnow.org, www.savedarfur.org, and education@standnow.org

THE MILITARY JUNTA IN BURMA

China continues to fund Burma's military regime, known as the junta (pronounced "hoonta"). For 20 years, the junta have silenced free thought and expression, kept people in poverty, and declared war against minority populations in Eastern Burma. They have destroyed more than 3,200 villages, causing 1.5 million people to lose their homes, and subjected them to horrific violence. After a cyclone recently devastated much of Burma, the military junta stole most of the aid and blocked out aid workers in order to make sure the outside world didn't find out what was going on in Burma. The death toll rose dramatically. China also continues to block UN legislation that would help Burma.

August 8 is the 20 year anniversary of a real "Battle of Hogwarts" in Burma, only in this case, the dictatorship won. Aung San Suu Kyi, a female version of Albus Dumbledore, was imprisoned, making her the only Nobel Peace Prize winner in the world to be jailed. *Learn More at www.uscampaignforburma.org*

OCCUPATION OF TIBET

Before 1949, Tibet was an independent nation. That's when the Chinese troops rolled in by force. Fearing rebellion from Tibetans, by 1959 the Chinese government turned the twenty-four year old Dalai Lama into their "Undesirable Number One," just as Harry was when he was on the run. When the Dalai Lama fled to India, mass protests occurred. Tens of thousands of Tibetans were then killed by Chinese forces.

The Tibetan people have since had their political, religious, culture, social and economic rights stripped from them in what many refer to as a "cultural genocide." Tibetan exiles live across the world, with Tibetans everywhere longing for independence from the brutal occupation by the Chinese government and for the day when the Dalai Lama can return from exile. *Learn More at www.freetibet.org/*

OPPRESSION OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE

Whether it's pro-democracy activists or people who just want to practice their own religious beliefs, the government of China has continued to act brutally toward its own people. The most infamous act was done in 1989 with the massacre of student activists in Tiananmen Square. This helped prompt such groups as "The Federation for a Democratic China." Still, the Chinese government continues to imprison and torture their own citizens. *Learn more at <http://www.amnesty.org/en/human-rights-china-beijing-olympics/activist-toolkit> and http://fdc64.de/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogsection&id=6&Itemid=31*

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