

Concerts to Celebrate Criminal Mao Cancelled in Australia

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So-called "Tribute Concerts for Chairman Mao" to be held in Sydney and Melbourne this weekend have been cancelled due to unprecedented protests from Chinese-Australians and ordinary Australians who were appalled that the life of the greatest mass-murderer in history would be 'celebrated' in a democratic country such as Australia.

The proposed tribute to Mao Zedong, marking the 40th anniversary of his death, touched a raw nerve among many Chinese-Australians, whose families suffered under the former Communist Party's brutal legacy, with the Cultural Revolution and Great Leap Forward contributing directly to the deaths of tens of millions.

A petition signed by thousands was sent to Sydney City Council:

We are Australian Citizens deeply concerned about a concert in tribute to Mao Zedong (Mao Tse-tung), to be held at the Sydney Town Hall on 6 September 2016, with another in Melbourne 3 days later. Mao was the head of the Chinese Communist Party.

His regime and legacy is controversial among the Chinese people. This sentiment is also reflected in the Australian-Chinese community. More and more people see him as one of the most cold blooded dictators in human history, surpassing the cruelty of

Hitler in Germany, Stalin in Russia and Pol Pot in Cambodia. In actual fact, large amounts of historical evidence show that Mao was personally responsible for massive tortures and persecutions resulting in the unnatural deaths of over 70 million Chinese

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people. He destroyed Chinese people's traditional culture; he persecuted all religious believers; he tore down temples and monasteries; he banned all forms of democracy and social freedom.

Maoism has also been the base of many violent revolutionary movements around the world. The core tenets of Maoism are: political power grows out of the gun barrel (anti-democracy); rebellion is justified (disrespect for law and order); eliminate private

*ownership; annihilate bourgeoisie and instigate violence and hate against Western society. **The worship of Maoism through this concert is not only dividing Australian communities but also creating a dangerous breeding ground for terrorism and violence.***

Mao and his crimes against humanity contravenes everything that Australian Values stand for.

*Australia is **NOT** the place for publicising or glorifying Mao. As tax-payers of this great country, we cannot tolerate tributes to a violent dictator at a Council venue - the Sydney Town Hall. Sydney City Council should not be associated with a tyrant who most*

people consider as the biggest mass murderer in history.

Despite Australia being a multicultural country with respect for freedom of speech, this freedom must be exercised under our Australian Values.

We call upon the Sydney City Council to:

1. Immediately terminate the agreement for the concert to be held at Sydney Town Hall on 6 September 2016.

2. Ensure no concerts glorifying Mao are held at any Council venues within the Sydney City Council.

Soft power

The concert organisers, the International Cultural Exchange Association Australia (ICEAA), was also behind a high-profile commemorative event last year marking the 70th anniversary of China's war against Japan.

Protesters point out that these concerts are part of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) ["soft power"](#) strategy to influence western countries and to stifle criticism of the CCP's crimes. Further instances of soft power are the [Confucious Institutes](#) funded by

the CCP in many universities in Australia and worldwide to rewrite history in the communist way, and the funding by the embassy and consulates in Australia of Chinese students in Australia to disrupt protests by Tibetans and Falun Gong and to present the

CCP as having great support in Australia from Chinese people. The organisers cancelled the

concerts due to "safety concerns" if protesters clash with pro-CCP groups.

A City of Sydney spokesperson said: *"The International Cultural Exchange Association's booking at Sydney Town Hall on 6 September is not going ahead due to concerns over public and patron safety. After consultation with the NSW Police Force the City has a number of concerns*

regarding the potential for civil disturbance, patron to patron conflict and staff to patron conflict. The organiser's own risk assessment for the event identified it as being at high risk of disruption and elevated risk to personal safety. The organiser's plans for ticketing are also of

concern to the City, with many tickets already having been distributed for free through community networks, with no standard controls such as numbering, bar coding and or counterfeit prevention and no specified conditions of entry. The City is concerned that the organiser's

insufficient planning, particularly in regards to control over ticketing and entry to the event, have made these risks unacceptable."