

The victims of tainted milk products in China are not allowed to weep or commemorate their losses whilst the communists in China are preparing to celebrate the 60th anniversary of communist control over Chinese people.

According to a human rights activist, Chinese police were stopping parents of children sickened in the country's tainted milk powder scandal from going to Beijing to mark the first anniversary of the tragedy with a vigil. The actions by police go against China's constitution.

It is one year since Sept. 11, 2008 when a Chinese dairy recalled hundreds of tons of baby formula in one of the country's worst food safety scandals. Melamine-contaminated milk powder, an industrial chemical used in the plastics industry, killed at least six babies and sickened almost 300,000 others with potentially lethal kidney ailments, many of them in the form of painful kidney stones.

According to the father of one of the sick children, eleven parents had planned to hold a small commemoration in Beijing with a dinner, lighting of candles and prayers for the children. The father has rallied other families online.

Police detained one parent on Wednesday while on a train to Beijing and warned another not to attend the event according to Mr. Zhao who added that two other parents can no longer be contacted via cell phone.

The parents' commemoration comes at a time when Chinese authorities try to curb demonstrations in the lead-up to the 60th anniversary of the Communist Party's rule on Oct. 1.

The milk scandal sickened people beyond China's borders, and a long list of countries—including Canada, the U.S., the European Union and Russia, banned imports of baby food containing Chinese milk.

In January, a Chinese court sentenced two former executives of the Sanlu Group, the first company being exposed as being involved in the poisoned milk scandal, to death. A woman, the chief executive was sentenced to life in prison.

Many people feel that those prosecuted were made scapegoats, because the news had been withheld by the Communist Party until after the Olympics, an action that resulted in unknown numbers of deaths and sickness that may have been preventable if warnings and recalls had been made before the Olympics.