

# AMERICAN CROSSROADS



Delegates make noise as they wait for Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton to address the 95th Representative Assembly of the National Education Association in Washington on July 5, 2016.

## HOW SOCIALISTS USED TEACHERS UNIONS LIKE NEA TO DESTROY EDUCATION

# How Socialists Used Teachers Unions Such as the NEA to Destroy Education

This is part 8 in a series of articles examining the origins of public education in the United States.

ALEX NEWMAN



Commentary

When examining the hydra that is the collectivist “education” establishment that dominates public schools in the United States, among the most important tentacles have been the teachers’ unions—especially the National Education Association (NEA).

Along with other leading unions, the NEA and its affiliates at the state and local level played a leading role in transforming American education into the dangerous disaster that it has become. The extremism has been getting progressively more extreme for over a century now. But it’s not new by any means.

The destructive role played by the NEA is so serious, and so widely understood, that in 2004, even then-U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige described the union as a “terrorist organization.” But in reality, the NEA has done far more damage to the United States than a simple terrorist organization ever could.

Consider that terrorists merely kill individuals, even if sometimes in large numbers. But the NEA and its allied unions have helped to practically kill a nation—the greatest, freest nation that ever existed. While terrorists destroy human bodies, the NEA has worked to destroy human minds and human freedoms.

For at least a century, the NEA, founded in 1857 as a professional association, has barely bothered to conceal its leadership’s affinity for communism, collectivism, socialism, humanism, globalism, and other dangerous “isms” that threaten individual liberty. Nor has the union shied away from vitriolic attacks on the United States, the free-market system, Christianity, the family, or educational freedom.

Perhaps the most important exposé ever written on the NEA was the 1984 book “NEA: Trojan Horse in American Education” by Dr. Samuel Blumenfeld. Packed with examples and references, Blumenfeld’s book proved that, contrary to popular mythology, which holds that the NEA’s extremism is a more recent phenomenon, the union’s leaders have been radicalizing teachers against America for a century or more.

Since being overtly taken over by progressives early in the 20th century, “the NEA has subjected its members to an unrelenting hatred of capitalism and an unceasing, uncritical benevolence toward socialism,” wrote Blumenfeld.

But even before that, it was bad. “From 1857 to the present, the NEA has worshiped two gods: Horace Mann, a statist, and John Dewey, a socialist,” Blumenfeld continued, referring to the two most important figures in the hostile takeover of “education” by government. This series on education has dealt with both of these subversives extensively.

By 1900, the NEA, which was lobbying for federal involvement in education, was largely insignificant. Even though

there were an estimated half a million public school teachers in the United States at that time, the NEA had well under 2,500 members. Once the “progressives” took firm control, though, it became a sort of “ministry of education” seeking to dictate and control education policy nationwide.

## Replacing Liberty With Collectivism

Once progressives were totally in control of the NEA leadership, a story detailed in Blumenfeld’s book, there was no longer any inhibitions in openly promoting the triumph of collectivism over liberty using the school system.

At the annual NEA meeting in 1934, Willard Givens, who would soon be appointed executive secretary over the union, laid out the agenda.

“Many drastic changes must be made,” Givens declared. “A dying ‘laissez-faire’ must be completely destroyed and all of us, including the ‘owners,’ must be subjected to a large degree of social control. ... The major function of the school is the social orientation of the individual. It must seek to give him understanding of the transition to a new social order.”

He also called for nationalization of all sorts of industries, to be operated for the benefit of “the people.”

Of course, socialist and humanist “education reformer” John Dewey had been advocating the emergence of a “new social order,” socialist in orientation, since at least the early years of the 20th century. And in 1932, Dewey, almost universally regarded as the founding father of America’s public education system, became the “honorary life president” of the NEA.

The very next year, Dewey and some of his cohorts would draft and sign the first Humanist Manifesto, a bizarre religious document brazenly rejecting God while shamelessly embracing collectivism and social-

The NEA is still trying to quash competition, seeking onerous restrictions on private schools and even waging a war on homeschooling families.

ism. This totalitarian religion would eventually be advanced throughout America in de-Christianized public schools.

Dewey, who visited the Soviet Union and wrote articles extolling the brutal tyranny’s supposed virtues, was interested in education primarily to promote his totalitarian “ideology” and his pseudo-theology. And even though he was adamant that Christianity must not be taught

with Russia. This Soviet dictatorship-created organization in the United States founded in 1927 was primarily involved in sending students, professors, and teachers to the Soviet Union for communist indoctrination, and bringing Soviet “experts” to the United States to train American educators.

Unsurprisingly, the NEA was always willing and eager to work with “unions” in slave

who was paying attention.

Responding to the formation of a formal U.S. government alliance with the ruthless Communist Party dictatorship enslaving the Soviet Union, NEA Journal chief J. Elmer Morgan wrote an editorial for the publication called “The United Peoples of the World.”

Among other demands, supposedly to “keep the peace and insure justice and opportunity,” Morgan said “we need certain world agencies of administration.” Those planetary governing agencies should include a global “police force” and a world “board of education,” Morgan opined.

To bring about that global “board of education,” the NEA set up the “War and Peace Fund” to collect donations in 1943. Similar schemes took place in Europe among the education establishment. Eventually, these efforts culminated in the creation of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1946, an organization that will be addressed in an upcoming article in this series.

In a 1946 editorial in the NEA Journal headlined “The Teacher and World Government,” Morgan was again shilling for global government, and again advocating that these subversive ideologies be forced on captive school children through indoctrination.

“In the struggle to establish an adequate world government, the teacher has many parts to play,” Morgan wrote, calling on teachers to “prepare the hearts and minds of children” for the looming global collectivist regime. “At the very top of all the agencies which will assure the coming of world government must stand the school, the teacher, and the organized profession.”

Later that same year, Morgan boasted of the “achievements” toward world government that the “organized teaching profession” had already made. And to this day, the NEA continues to play a key role in the ongoing globalization and internationalization of progressive indoctrination posing as an educational system.

## More Federal Power, War on Competition

Even before it was peddling the idea of a global education system to bring about global government, the NEA led the battle to get the federal government involved in education—and then to constantly expand that power under whatever pretext might be effective. Indeed, from the very beginning, the NEA worked to empower Washington, D.C., over the nation’s schools, in clear violation of the U.S. Constitution and its 10th Amendment.

Over a century ago, the NEA also began lobbying Congress for federal funding of education. NEA bosses knew that with federal aid comes federal control. They finally succeeded in 1965 with the passage of the Elementary and Secondary

Education Act. From there, the next stop was the creation of a cabinet-level Department of Education, an NEA wish that President Jimmy Carter granted the union in exchange for its critical support.

NEA bosses often get their way in government, even if it takes a while. That is because the NEA has been a well-oiled lobbying machine for decades. For one, by collecting dues from millions of members, the NEA and its state affiliates are able to pour endless resources into the campaign coffers of politicians. And by prodding its members to vote a certain way, write letters, and even protest, it can keep the politicians it gets elected in line indefinitely.

With almost 3 million members today, the NEA is the largest labor union in the United States. It has pumped well over \$100 million into federal political campaigns since the early 1990s alone. And data from the Center for Responsive Politics show that over 97 percent of that money went to Democrats. The tiny donations to Republicans virtually all went to the most liberal among them. Similar trends exist at the state and local level among NEA affiliates.

Today, the NEA is still trying to quash competition, seeking onerous restrictions on private schools and even waging a war on homeschooling families. In 1988 and the years following (amended in 2006 to the current version), the NEA adopted a resolution that formalized its hatred of families operating outside the government system. “The National Education Association believes that home schooling programs based on parental choice cannot provide the student with a comprehensive education experience,” the union declared.

Of course, not all of the millions of NEA members agree with the totalitarian ideologies and ideas peddled by the union’s leadership. But until recently, at least, in many states, they were required to be members, forced to fund political campaigns and extremist views that they may have vehemently disagreed with. Thankfully, California teacher Rebecca Friedrichs sued and won, ending compulsory union dues. But many teachers still do not realize they do not have to fund the extremism of the NEA and its affiliates.

There may be more bad news yet to come for the NEA, which is becoming increasingly radical with every year that passes. This writer has it on good authority that some significant scandals involving NEA leadership may be revealed in the months ahead.

Either way, an objective look at the history of these tentacles on the education-establishment hydra reveals a monster that is interested in gaining power and smashing freedom—not educating children. It’s time for teachers, parents, and the taxpayers who fund it to speak out loudly.



Dewey was especially warm to the Soviet indoctrination program masquerading as an ‘education’ system, his essays in the NEA Journal and other publications such as the New Republic revealed.

(Above) Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton addresses the 95th Representative Assembly of the National Education Association in Washington on July 5, 2016.

(Below) The Hydra Of Lerna, circa 1750. The Greek hero Hercules or Hercules cuts off the nine heads of the Hydra, a monster from the marshes of Lerna in Greece, while his friend Iolaus sears the stumps, to stop two heads growing back in place of the missing one. This was the second of the 12 labors.



HULTON ARCHIVE/GETTY IMAGES

in schools, he was totally fine with religion—his religion—in the classroom. In fact, he believed it was essential to creating the “new social order.”

“Our schools ... are performing an infinitely significant religious work,” he wrote in his 1907 essay “Religion and Our Schools.” “They are promoting the social unity out of which in the end genuine religious unity must grow. ... [D]ogmatic beliefs ... we see ... disappearing. ... It is the part of men to ... work for the transformation of all practical instrumentalities of education till they are in harmony with these ideas.”

From the 1920s onward, this sort of quack religious, political, and educational nonsense and propaganda from Dewey filled the pages of the “NEA Journal.” Among other ideas, Dewey’s writing in the NEA’s flagship publication, which reached more teachers than any other, constantly extolled the virtues of collectivism and the mass-murdering Soviet system while demonizing the United States and traditional American education.

Dewey was especially warm to the Soviet indoctrination program masquerading as an “education” system, his essays in the NEA Journal and other publications such as the New Republic revealed. And yet, because of clever word games, many Americans remained oblivious to the danger. One of the ways Dewey’s propaganda on behalf of tyranny was so effective was that he deceived readers by using the words “democracy” and “socialism” interchangeably.

Dewey was so wrapped up in Soviet intrigue that, before becoming honorary president of the NEA, he served as vice president and one of the original directors of the American Society for Cultural Relations

states of Eastern Europe and Latin America, including the phony unions created by the Soviet regime. That was despite harsh criticism from Soviet dissidents and even the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), another major teachers’ union that differed in important ways from the NEA.

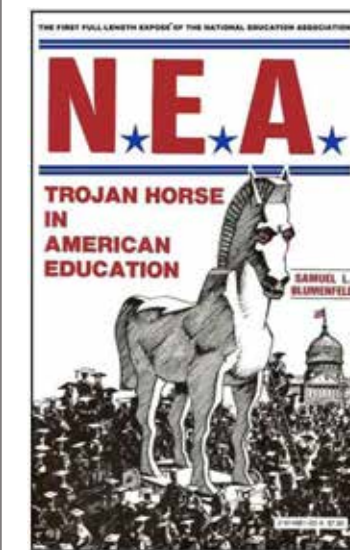
The most frequent writer in the NEA Journal throughout the 1930s and 1940s was socialist Stuart Chase. “It is no longer a question of collectivism versus individualism, but of what kind of collectivism,” Chase wrote in the NEA’s official propaganda organ after calling for the U.S. government to takeover agriculture, banking, credit, and more.

In a 1956 interview with the Los Angeles Times, former teacher and Communist Party defector Bella Dodd dropped a bombshell. “The Communist party whenever possible wanted to use the Teacher’s Union for political purposes,” she said, adding that the communists in the union were all in favor of Dewey-inspired “progressive” education. “Most of the programs we advocated, the NEA followed the next year or so.”

**Taking Collectivism Global** In addition to spreading its collectivist poison in the minds of children across the United States through public schools, the NEA also waged an effective campaign to spread the indoctrination system worldwide. Indeed, the union was among the first organizations to openly promote the idea of a global “board of education” to control every school on the planet.

As far back as 1920, the NEA created its so-called “International Relations Committee.” The ostensible purpose was to help build “world understanding.” But the real agenda soon become crystal clear to anyone

One of the ways Dewey’s propaganda on behalf of tyranny was so effective was that he deceived readers by using the words ‘democracy’ and ‘socialism’ interchangeably.



“NEA: Trojan Horse in American Education” by Samuel L. Blumenfeld.

Alex Newman is an award-winning international journalist, educator, author, and consultant who co-wrote the book “Crimes of the Educators: How Utopians Are Using Government Schools to Destroy America’s Children.” He also serves as the CEO of Liberty Sentinel Media and writes for diverse publications in the United States and abroad.

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.

Delegates wait for Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton to address the 95th Representative Assembly of the National Education Association in Washington on July 5, 2016.



ALEX WONG/GETTY IMAGES



People hold a banner picturing Communist figures including (L-R) Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels, Vladimir Lenin, Joseph Stalin, and Mao Zedong, as they gather in Bakirkoy district as part of the May Day rally in Istanbul on May 1, 2017.

## 56 Communist Parties Gather in Turkey to Celebrate 100th Anniversary of the Comintern

TREVOR LOUDON



**Commentary**  
The international communist movement just celebrated its 100th birthday at a gathering in Turkey.

Far from using the occasion to confess their responsibility for 160 million to 200 million deaths and their legacy of torture, famine, and oppression, the assembled communists look forward to a bright future, in which Marxism-Leninism rules every corner of the globe. The "One-Hundredth Anniversary of the Founding of the Communist International: The Fight for Peace and Socialism Continues" was held in Izmir, Turkey, on Oct. 18-20. The gathering drew at least 56 communist parties from more than 40 countries, including most of the world's major Marxist-Leninist organizations.

The event was hosted by the Greek and Turkish communist parties, which may be significant because Turkey is increasingly also playing a leadership role in the overlapping world Islamist movement.

The Americas were represented by the communist parties of the United States, Canada, Mexico, El Salvador, Venezuela, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

Almost every communist party from Western and Eastern Europe contributed, with the notable exception of the French. Three communist parties from Russia graced the stage, as did the Ukrainian party.

From Asia, the communist parties of Vietnam, Laos, Bangladesh, and Tibet all attended. The Azerbaijanis were there, as were both of India's main communist parties. The North Koreans were there, but the Japanese were not. China, though now in practice the leader of the world communist movement, skipped the event—but did get plenty of praise from other attendees.

Almost every party from the Middle East was present, including the Lebanese, Bahrainis, Iraqis, Syrians, the Communist Party of Kurdistan, and the Tudeh Party of Iran.

Africa was represented only by the Algerians—the quasi-ruling South African Communist Party was absent.

Oceania was represented only by Australia.

### Growing Confidence

Judging by conference speeches, posted online, the general mood was confident and defiant. By all accounts, the communist movement is growing and confident of overcoming its opposition, which in many countries is weak or non-existent.

The representative of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation was both upbeat and combative:

"Speaking of Russia, we can say with confidence that the left movement, led by the Communist Party, is also 'on the rise.' Our party was successful during the elections to many local parliaments. This year was one of the most successful election campaigns for our party.

"The capitalist international is cracking again - Trump's trade wars, US and EU contradictions, EU contradictions, etc. Under these conditions, it is important to develop a unified strategy for the communists of different countries in order to use the split of the imperialist international for the triumph of socialism."

Many in the West believe that because some ruling communist parties, such as in China, Laos, and Vietnam, have adopted some market-based economic policies, they have abandoned Marxism-Leninism. Any real student of Marx will tell you that "market" economics are regarded as a temporary phase to build wealth and military power, and are completely in line with Marxist-Leninist philosophy.

The Vietnamese contribution to the conference affirmed this oft-ignored point:

"On this occasion, the Communist Party of Vietnam would like to express its sincere thanks, deep gratitude to the communist, workers' parties, progressive forces all around the world for their valuable support, sharing and help in our past struggles for national independence, reunification, as well as in our national construction and defense today.

"We look forward to continuing to receive your feelings, support, encouragement and solidarity in the new period of the development of our Party and country. We reaffirm our close solidarity with the international communist and

workers parties."

The Venezuelans appealed for international communist solidarity in the face of U.S. pressure:

"Today, the cause of the Venezuelan people demands the greatest levels of solidarity from the world's revolutionary forces. We trust in the enormous power of the peoples' solidarity to contain any war adventure against Venezuela and to denounce the criminal measures that the US and the EU impose against Venezuela's sovereignty and the rights of the Venezuelan people."

The Iranian communists made a similar appeal:

"The Tudeh Party of Iran would like to state categorically that the people's movement in Iran needs the support and solidarity of the international communist and workers' parties in preventing imperialist interventions in Iran and in defense of the people's struggle for democracy and social justice."

The Canadian communists have long been at the forefront of pushing for Western disarmament and de-industrialization through the "global warming" scam. Communists have always promoted peace through Western disarmament and surrender. They believe there will indeed be "peace"—when there's no longer any opposition to communism.

"The climate strike demonstrations in October brought more than 1 million people into the streets in Canada - a larger protest than at any time in the last 20 years. This is significant, and hopeful. Mass protests will continue and must be expanded to include the fight for peace and global nuclear disarmament."

The Mexican communist party is a major part of the program to destroy the United States by promoting illegal immigration from Latin America:

"We raise our voice for the migrant question, an issue that must be addressed by the communist parties that we have to find a common intervention in that important sector of the international working class."

Further south, the El Salvadoran comrades boasted of their efforts to coordinate the communist parties of their region:

"We want to communicate that our party, in the framework of flying the flag of proletarian internationalism, is promoting



MUSTAFA OZER/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

communist articulation with the sister parties in what we call: 'Meeting of Communist Parties of Central America, Mexico and Panama', where the Communist Party of Mexico, the Guatemalan Labor Party, the Communist Party of Honduras, the Popular Vanguard of Costa Rica, the People's Party of Panama and the PCS converge. The VI Meeting was held in San Salvador, in the month of March, on the slopes of the historic hill of Guazapa, the guerrilla cradle of the revolutionary process that the country experienced.

"The Communist Party of El Salvador proclaims the validity of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism."

The Lebanese party confirmed that the West is indeed facing a united movement led by China and supposedly non-communist Russia:

"The US-led imperialist system, along with allies in the European Union, Japan and NATO countries, also faces serious challenges with the rapid rise of other rival international poles with conflicting interests with the dominant imperialist states... This rise, mainly of two international powers, China, led by the Communist Party of China (CPC), and its tremendous economic potential, Russia, which

today regains its military and political power as well as regional powers in Asia, Latin America and Africa, is already posing a real challenge to the system of unipolar hegemony that has been dedicated for three decades."

The Lebanese communists who played a significant role in the 2011 "Arab Spring" also condemned Israel and talked of uniting local Islamic states under the communist banner:

"We in the Lebanese Communist Party promise you that we will devote all that we can devote to achieve this crucial task by formulating our local and regional program based on confronting capitalism, imperialism and the Zionist movement through comprehensive resistance by all available means, and confronting reactionary, authoritarian and sectarian regimes, seeking to assemble leftist forces, Arab communism, to put forward a secular nationalist resistance in the path of socialism."

The North Korean Workers party made it very clear that any concessions made to the United States or the West would only ever be temporary:

"We will always hold the initiative in the righteous struggle for peace and security of the Korean peninsula to defend our socialist system and the gains of the revolution, and never tolerate or sit idle by the sanctions imposed by the imperialists but fight against and frustrate their moves."

The Brazilian communists emphasized their battle to overthrow President Jair Bolsonaro and the need for communists to go on the offensive both locally and internationally:

"The PCB [Brazilian Commu-

nist Party] understands that the moment calls for mobilization and struggle in the streets, accumulating forces to confront the Bolsonaro government. ... In Brazil and throughout the world, it is necessary, more than ever, (for) the resumption of a counter-hegemonic offensive of socialist and communist ideals."

The enormous Communist Party of India (Marxist) boasted of the huge numbers they were able to mobilize through their domination of the Indian labor movement:

"In India, the CPI(M) is trying its best to move in this direction of intense class struggles by mobilizing workers, peasants, youth, students, marginalized sections and women. On 8-9 January 2019, a 48-hour National Strike of workers called by 10 central trade unions, in which many national confederations of workers and employees also joined hands, was a historic success. The bourgeois media had reported that over 180 million workers participated in this strike. Taking forward these struggles, trade unions have once again called for a general strike on 8th January 2020, for which preparations are afoot."

### US Contribution

Houstonian Alvaro Rodríguez, the international secretary of the Communist Party USA, addressed the assembled comrades on international resistance to U.S. imperialism and President Donald Trump:

"Efforts to beat back the achievements of the worldwide working-class struggle have reached a high point, especially since the election of Donald Trump, a racist, misogynist 'white supremacist' as President of my country. Imperialist interventions aimed at regime change and the imposition of the rule of voracious neoliberal capital are underway in many parts of the world. Economic sanctions have been imposed on progressive and socialist governments in Cuba, Venezuela and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. ...

"But the picture is not all bleak. Neoliberal capitalism offers nothing to the working people and toiling masses of the world. Everywhere there is mounting resistance.

"The Communist Party of China, with its 90 million members, is leading the world's second largest economic power on the road to socialism with Chinese characteristics. Socialist Cuba is holding out strongly against everything imperialism is throwing against it and continues to provide solidarity and inspiration to the world. In Argentina, the right wing Macri government has lost the elections. Elsewhere, right wing, pro-imperialist governments are on the defensive; in Guatemala, Honduras, Ecuador and other countries. In Mexico, a new government is giving promise

China, though now in practice the leader of the world communist movement, skipped the event—but did get plenty of praise from other attendees.

They gather together to openly plot the destruction of what is left of the free world, with zero mainstream media coverage.

A protester walks in front of a poster during a May Day demonstration in Istanbul on May 1, 2006.

Trevor Loudon is an author, filmmaker, and public speaker from New Zealand. For more than 30 years, he has researched radical left, Marxist, and terrorist movements and their covert influence on mainstream politics.

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.

of advances against old inequities."

Rodríguez was also fulsome in his praise for a new socialist wave building inside the United States:

"In my country there is a massive youth led movement to combat climate change and global warming. Important political figures, such as Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Representative Alexandria Ocasio Cortez of New York have taken a leading role in proposing new environmental protection laws, called "the Green New Deal". This effort is supported by many unions, environmentalists and other organizations.

"There are many new signs of working-class struggle. Under the slogan of fighting for a national minimum wage of \$15USD per hour, super exploited and mostly minority and women workers nationwide have reached a high level of mobilization. Youth are also mobilized behind demands for an end to gun violence, to police brutality and many other things. Unionized teachers have been carrying out successful strikes aimed at rolling back neo-liberal policies in the educational field.

"The fight for the rights of immigrants with or without documents is nationwide, intense and has the support of labor unions, African Americans, other minorities and many others. The indigenous inhabitants of my country are mobilized against racism and in defense of the national environment.

"Communists in the United States are involved in all these struggles and more, as part of broadly-based coalitions. The working-class fightback was seen in the midterm legislative elections of 2018, and the likelihood that it will sweep the extreme-right regime of Trump and his allies out of power in the 2020 elections is high."

In a sane world, an international gathering of parties sworn to the destruction of the West would probably make it to the 6 o'clock news. Most viewers would probably like to know that the world revolutionary movement is alive and well and is able to mobilize hundreds of millions of people at will.

The communists are now leading violent insurgencies in Sudan, Lebanon, Ecuador, Chile, and Catalonia/Spain.

They are heavily involved in every major trouble spot in the world. They are actively trying to depose the two most actively anti-communist world leaders: U.S. President Donald Trump and Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro.

Yet, they gather together to openly plot the destruction of what is left of the free world, with zero mainstream media coverage.

It's very easy for the world communist movement to be confident of victory when the vast majority of their intended victims don't even know that the threat still exists.



Communist Party leader Gennady Zyuganov gives a speech during a rally marking the 100th anniversary of the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution in Moscow on Nov. 7, 2017.

YURI KADBNOV/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES



# Thank You.

Thanksgiving is a time for sharing  
A time to be with friends and family.  
A time to share a warm holiday dinner and then  
gather around the television for the big game.

Today we want to share our heartfelt thanks.  
On behalf of everyone at The Epoch Times,  
thank you for allowing us to share honest,  
traditional journalism with you.

It's an honor to serve you.

*Happy Thanksgiving  
from all of us at The Epoch Times!*