Problems of Anti-“Alien” Racism among Conservative Chinese

Part Eleven:  
Manchu Holocaust of 1911 and Continuous Anti-Manchu Racism in Chinese Society

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The most important reason the Manchu people in general do not like the Chinese Nationalist Party include the Manchu Holocaust of 1911, and institutionalized anti-Manchu racism and anti-Manchu mentality promoted by the Nationalist regime. During the 1911 anti-Manchu Rebellion, Han-Chinese rebel soldiers and secret society members massacred un-armed Manchu women and children as well as Han-Chinese civil servants loyal to the Qing Government across China, and the death toll is estimated to be between 200,000 and 400,000, based on The Memoirs of Timothy Richard, by a Welsh Baptist missionary in China and advocate of progressive social reforms for China’s modernization, on information collected by British secret service agents in China, by foreign embassies in China, and by news reports of foreign and Chinese journalists. At the beginning of the 20th Century, before the 1911 anti-Manchu Rebellion, the Manchu people numbered around
5,000,000, by 1949, barely 38 year after, the Manchu population decreased to about 1,500,000; this is due to many causes, including the 1911 Manchu Holocaust, the Manchu people hiding their ethnic identity to appear as Han-Chinese, or fleeing to Hong Kong or British colonies such as Malaya. During the 1911 Manchu Holocaust, many Christian churches in China controlled by British missionaries offered asylum to Manchu refugees. The truth about this holocaust has been cover-up but Chinese authorities for more than seven decades (1927-2000) as a sensitive political taboo, but in the last decade, the truth was revealed in both Mainland China and Taiwan through online channels with the process of democratization (Figures 1 and 2). According to an article by Weng Fuxiang (翁福祥) titled The Origin of Manchus in Taiwan and Their Current Conditions (台湾满族的由来暨现状), published online in the website of the Manchu Association of Taiwan (台湾满族协会), available at https://web.archive.org/web/20170502114705/http://www.manchusoc.org/contents/history.htm, as shown in Figure 5, for those Manchu people who followed Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek’s regime to retreat to Taiwan in 1949, except for a few law-makers, civil servants and educators, the majority of Manchus had to relinquish their Manchu family names and adopt Han-Chinese family names, in order to avoid racial discrimination from Han-Chinese colleagues and neighbors. The Manchu people have been branded as the target of Chinese Revolution by the Nationalist Party which identified the Manchu people as the rulers of the Great Qing Empire in their “revolutionary” propaganda materials; this party blamed the Great Qing Empire for all disasters of the Chinese people in modern times and make the “expulsion of the Manchu Barbarians” and the “restoration of political power to the Han-Chinese” its “revolutionary” objectives; it claimed that all “alien” ethnic groups in China have been assimilated by the Han-Chinese and thus, differences of ethnicity or race no longer exist in China; and its perpetual anti-Manchu propaganda continued after it retreated to Taiwan; when celebrating the October 10 National Revolution Day, the March 29 Youth Day and the January 1 New Year’s Day, the presiding officers of the Chinese Nationalist Party would start the ceremony by denouncing the Manchu people and the former government of the Great Qing Empire for “corruption” and “incompetence” and praising the “great merits” of the Chinese Nationalist Party of overthrowing the Qing Dynasty, when in fact, compared to the Qing Dynasty which practiced liberal social policies to win the minds and hearts of the Chinese people and governed China for around 300 years, the Nationalist regime was much worse in terms of civil wars and violation of human rights and lasted only 22 years; movies made in Hong Kong by supporters of the Chinese Nationalist Party would demonize the Empress Dowager Cixi, and portrait officers of the Qing Government as Zombies; and worse than the above, the Chinese Nationalist Party prohibited the publication of the History of the Qing Dynasty, which was compiled by scholars of the former government of the Republic of China under President Yuan Shikai, and forbade Manchu people from serving in the government and in the armed forces; therefore, the Manchu people had to hide their own ethnic identity and falsely claim that they are Han-Chinese in order to survive in the society. This anti-Manchu bigotry is in fact a cultural genocide! The phenomenon of Manchu people forced to relinquish their family names and to adopt Han-Chinese ones due to anti-Manchu mentality in the society also survive in Mainland China today, although in the last three decades, the
Contributions made by the Manchus to China’s progress have been re-evaluated in a more positive light. Anti-Manchu propaganda but Han-Chinese racists is still rampant in Chinese-language mass media especially in the Internet; and it has been combined with anti-Semitic “conspiracy theory” recently (see Figures 3 and 4).

Figure 1. Institutionalized racial discrimination against the Manchu people in Taiwan during the White Terror rule of the Chinese Nationalist Party, as described by a Manchu from Taiwan. Source: https://web.archive.org/web/20170502114705/http://www.manchusoc.org/contents/history.htm
中國各大城市，包括西安、荊州、杭州、廣州、南京的滿人居住城鎮都遭到全面式的種族屠殺。杭州與河南被砍下的滿人頭顱，把各村的井桶裝得滿滿的。許多原是長期大量駐紮數萬旗兵的區域被殺得乾乾淨淨，廣州三萬旗兵，被殺到只剩一千餘名。

許多滿人家族，見到革命軍殺來，知道對方一定不留活口，乾脆全家服毒自殺。最慘的就是滿人婦女，除了她們的服飾與漢人不同之外，最明顯的就是她們不像漢人有纏足傳統，一雙大腳馬上就會被認出，很快就會成為被凌辱、綁架與殺害的目標。有的滿人家族就趕快把幼小的女孩送去纏足，想要裝成漢人女子的樣子，結果痛得小女孩哇哇大叫。

以被屠殺最慘烈的西安城為例，英國傳教士李提摩太（Timothy Richard）在「親歷晚清四十五年」的回憶錄中說道：「1911年10月22日，陝西首府西安爆發意想不到的流血事件，一萬五千名滿族人（有男人、女人還有孩子都是否殺）。」陝西的革命黨事後也承認，攻破西安滿城後，戰鬥隊伍分成小隊在城內逐巷逐院進行搜索戰，在此其間，一些士兵和領隊官殺死一些不必要殺死的旗兵和家屬。

另外一個名為凱特的英國傳教士也描述過西安城的慘狀。

西安城的滿人城被攻破之時，革命軍衝入城之後，無論長幼，男女，甚至小孩子，通通被殺，房子被燒光搶光。有的滿人被綁架，這些希望躲避這場風暴的人最終也被迫露頭。革命軍在一堵矮牆後，放了一把無情的大火，把滿人城焚燒殆盡。那些試圖逃出來並進入漢人城鎮的滿人，一出現在外門，就被砍倒在地。

殘酷的無差別屠殺導致不下十萬人的死亡，也造成多名無辜的外國僑民被殺。存活下來的人，有錢人被敲詐，小女孩被綁到富人家做婢女，年輕的婦女則被迫成為窮苦漢人士兵的妻子，其他的人都被驅逐出西安。
Party: A Holocaust Not Less Brutal than the Nazis’ and the Only Entertainment for Children Being a Competition in Counting Corpses (國民黨掩埋的辛亥革命真相: 一段不下於納粹的種族屠殺史，孩子的娛樂就是比賽數屍體) at https://buzzorange.com/2017/02/15/the-truth-of-double-ten/. In all large cities across China, including Xi’an, Jingzhou, Hangzhou, Guangzhou and Nanjing, the towns and districts where the Manchu people lived suffered from complete racial massacres. In the City of Hangzhou and across the Henan Province, cut-off heads of the Manchu people filled water wells up to the top in all villages. Genocides of the entire population took place in many districts where tens of thousands of Manchu Banner People previously resided for a long period of time; in Guangzhou, there were thirty thousand Manchus, only slightly more than 1,000 survived the massacre. Many Manchu family clans, seeing the rebel troupes coming to kill them, knew that the other party would not let them survive, committed suicide using poison pills. The most tragic fate was suffered from by Manchu women; besides wearing clothes with styles different from those of the Han-Chinese, their most outstanding trait is not binding their feet like the Han-Chinese women; thus, their natural feet could reveal their identity as Manchus; and they could become targets of humiliation, kidnapping and even slaughter. Some Manchu families immediately send their young daughters to have their feet bound so as to appear as Han-Chinese girls; and the girls cried in pain. Take the example of the City of Xi’an, where the massacre was the most brutal, British missionary Timothy Richard said in his memoirs titled 45 Years of Personal Experience in the Last Years of the Qing Dynasty that ‘in October 22, 1911, horrible bloody event took place in Xi’an, the capital city of Shaanxi Province; 15,000 Manchus including men, women and children were massacred.’ The rebels later admitted that after they took over the Manchu Garrison District, their troupes were divided into small groups to carry out street-by-street and house-by-house searches; and during this combat, some soldiers and commanders had killed some Manchu soldiers and their family members without military necessity. Another British missionary name Kate also described the tragic scenes in the City of Xi’an. After the Manchu Garison District was occupied, the rebel troupes broke into the area and conduct indiscriminate massacre of elderly and young people, men and woman, and even little children, burning houses and looting properties; those people who tried to hide themselves were forced to finally come out from place of hiding. The rebel troupes mercilessly set a fire behind a short wall and burned down the entire Manchu Garison District. Those Manchus who tried to escape and to enter the Han-Chinese Districts were cut down with knives upon their appearance at the entrance. The cruel and indiscriminate massacre caused the death toll of not less than 10,000 people; and this also included many innocent foreigners. For those who survived, the wealthy were blackmailed; little girls were kidnapped and given to wealthy families to serve them as maids; and women were forced to marry poor Han-Chinese soldiers, and the others were expelled from the City of Xi’an.”
Figure 3. This Nazi-style racist article claimed that the Jewish are involved in all revolutions in Western Europe to kill people; it reads “When people consider class struggle and class conflict as the issues of primary importance, then it could let the rich and the poor within one nation to kill each other; and this could provide an opportunity for another nation to maneuver. The Jewish did this in all countries of Western Europe, during the French Revolution, the Hungarian Revolution, and the October Revolution; all of these have been manipulated by the Jewish who afterwards controlled these countries. The Jewish people, during their two thousand years of diaspora world-wide, have set a very good example; in whatever country the Jewish live, they always struggle for their national interests alone. It is more sublime to love the nation than to love the state, it is more important to defend one’s own nation than to defend the country where one lives, and the blood lineage is more important than citizenship. […] Many unwise policies and stupid policies of the Chinese Government are indeed most beneficial and smartest for the Manchus.” Source: https://bnn.co/news/gb/pubvp/2013/03/201303082344.shtml.
Figure 4. The same racist article claimed that the Jewish people and the Manchu people controlled the Chinese Government in a conspiracy to decrease the Han-Chinese population, which is now more than 90% of China’s population. It reads “After the end of the Manchu-dominated Qing Dynasty, The Manchus first established the Empire of Manchuria with Japanese support, then they collaborated with the Jews to comprehensively control the (Chinese) Government; the plan of this group of devils is to massacre Han-Chinese babies with the Policy of Planned Parenthood, to let Han-Chinese population collapse and decrease drastically in 20 years, to let the populations of the Manchus and other ethnic groups to increase rapidly in 20 years, and then to start a war to kill all Han-Chinese. Many auxiliary measures are implemented now simultaneously under this plan. In the year 2000-2005, the number of newborn babies of Han-Chinese only constitutes 52% of all births; those of minority ethnic groups constitutes 48%; the data for the years 2005-2010 has not been published; this is because they dare not publish the data. The Han-Chinese population is about to collapse and the situation is now very dangerous. The Manchu people are the truest students of the Jews. ‘We must live like a vine that is attached to a tree. We use this tree to climb to the top and then to kill it and use its flesh as nutrition to power ourselves for growth.’ The Great Emperor Xi Jinping does not belong to their group; therefore, they try to assassinate him; fortunately, the Great Emperor Xi Jinping has been enthroned; and in the next 8 years, we the Han-Chinese will have the last opportunity; if we still fail, then after Xi Jinping, a Manchu shall become the (Chinese) President; and afterwards, the Manchus shall come forward from behind the scene, and will start the comprehensive oppression of the Han-Chinese in the open.”

To sum up, Anti-Manchu racism has been recently combined with anti-Semitism in a “conspiracy theory” by the wight-wingers in Chinese society as a political tool to opposed the
Chinese Government’s family planning policy and to the growth of China’s ethnic minority population.