

## Appendix A: Glossary

Chinese pinyin	Chinese characters	English definition
<b>bu wanquan tongji</b>	不完全统计	Incomplete statistics, commonly used in official reports to suggest the statistics have serious limitations.
<b>caishen</b>	财神	The god of wealth, who can bless people with luck and prosperity. One popular caishen is <b>Guan Gong</b> .
<b>Cangu Nainai</b>	蚕姑奶奶	Silkworm Mother, a folk deity popular in Hebei province.
<b>citang/zongci</b>	祠堂/宗祠	An ancestral temple or hall.
<b>cunweihui</b>	村委会	Villagers' committee, the smallest administrative unit in rural areas. (Also refer to <b>juweihui</b> )
<b>Daodejing</b>	道德经	"The Book of the Way and the Virtue," a foundational text of Taoism, written by Chinese philosopher Laozi.
<b>dao guan</b>	道观	A Taoist temple with resident Taoist monks or nuns.
<b>Daojiao</b>	道教	Religious Taoism.
<b>dengji/zhuce</b>	登记/注册	To register or put on record.
<b>dixia jiaohui</b>	地下教会	"Underground church" that is Catholic (i.e., a Catholic church not affiliated with the state-controlled Catholic association). (Also refer to <b>jiating jiaohui</b> )
<b>Falun Gong</b>	法轮功	Literally "law wheel practice," a spiritual movement with Qigong elements and Buddhist and Taoist concepts. It was founded in 1992 and banned in China in 1999. (Also refer to <b>Qigong</b> )
<b>fengshui</b>	风水	Literally "wind-water," the practice of arranging objects and physical space to achieve balance and harmony to ensure good luck.
<b>fo</b>	佛	Buddha.
<b>Fojiao</b>	佛教	Buddhism.
<b>fomen dizi</b>	佛门弟子	A disciple of Buddha.
<b>gong/guan</b>	宫/观	A Taoist temple with a monastery in the context of this report. (Also refer to <b>si/siyuan</b> )
<b>Guan Gong</b>	关公	Lord Guan, the deified figure of military general Guan Yu. Historically worshipped as the god of wealth and war. (Also refer to <b>caishen</b> )
<b>Guanyin</b>	观音	The goddess of mercy, a popular folk deity rooted in the Buddhist bodhisattva Avalokiteśvara, who is often depicted as genderless or male.
<b>Gui</b>	鬼	In the context of this report, ghost or the spirit of a dead person.
<b>Gui Jie</b>	鬼节	(Hungry) Ghost Festival, which falls on the 15th day of the seventh lunar month. (Also refer to <b>Zhongyuan Jie</b> and <b>Yulanpen Jie</b> )
<b>guiyi</b>	皈依	"Taking refuge," a formal ritual of converting to Buddhism.

<b>hukou</b>	户口	Household registration, which the Chinese government uses to classify citizens into urban and rural residence categories.
<b>huoju daoshi</b>	火居道士	A Taoist priest who lives at home (as opposed to a monastery).
<b>jiaotang</b>	教堂	A church building.
<b>jiating jiaohui</b>	家庭教会	“House church,” typically refers to an unregistered Protestant church or a Protestant church whose leader refuses to affiliate with the state-run Christian agency. (Also refer to <b>lianghui</b> and <b>dixia jiaohui</b> )
<b>Jidujiao</b>	基督教	Christianity, but is often used to refer to Protestantism specifically. (Also refer to <b>Jidu xinjiao</b> )
<b>Jidu xinjiao</b>	基督新教	Protestantism.
<b>jili</b>	祭礼	In this report, refers to ancestral rites or the ceremony or ritual of venerating ancestors. (Also refer to <b>jisi zuxian/jizu</b> )
<b>jisi zuxian/jizu</b>	祭祀祖先/祭祖	Ancestor veneration, a traditional Chinese custom that often involves burning “spirit money” and making food or drink offerings to deceased family members.
<b>juhuidian</b>	聚会点	Meeting point, a Protestant religious venue that functions like a church but is typically smaller and not housed in a church building.
<b>juweihui</b>	居委会	Residents’ committee, the smallest administrative unit in cities. (Also refer to <b>cunweihui</b> )
<b>kongmiao/wenmiao</b>	孔庙/文庙	Confucian temple, traditionally a ceremonial site for the worship of Confucius.
<b>lianghui</b>	两会	Literally “Two Committees.” Refers to, in the context of this report, the China Christian Council (CCC) and the Protestant Three-Self Patriotic Movement (TSPM) Committee, the two agencies responsible for supervising Protestant Christianity in China.
<b>ling/lingyan</b>	灵/灵验	Efficacy or efficacious, used in this context to refer to prayers to gods or deities being answered.
<b>longwang</b>	龙王	Dragon king, a category of folk deities believed to control wind and rain.
<b>Lunyu</b>	论语	“The Analects,” a collection of Confucius’ aphorisms compiled by his disciples.
<b>Mazu</b>	妈祖	Goddess of the sea, the deified figure of Li Mo, a woman shaman who lived in coastal Fujian and has evolved into a popular Buddhist and Taoist figure.
<b>miao</b>	庙	Traditional religious temples that typically do not have a monastery for monks or nuns.
<b>ming</b>	命	Fate or destiny.
<b>minjian xinyang</b>	民间信仰	Folk religion(s).
<b>mixin</b>	迷信	Superstition.
<b>neidan</b>	内丹	Internal alchemy, the Taoist practice of maneuvering the energy of the body to achieve immortality.
<b>pusa</b>	菩萨	Bodhisattva, in Buddhism a person who is on the path to achieve enlightenment.

<b>Qigong</b>	气功	A form of body-mind practice to cultivate and harness Qi, the energy or the life force that empowers all living creatures in Chinese religious tradition.
<b>qiancheng de</b>	虔诚的	Devout or deep, as in religious commitment.
<b>Qingming Jie</b>	清明节	Tomb Sweeping Day, which usually falls on April 4 or 5, when Chinese people traditionally tidy the gravesite(s) of deceased family members and perform ancestor rituals.
<b>Quanzhen</b>	全真	Pure Perfection, a Taoist sect.
<b>ren</b>	仁	Benevolence or “loving others,” one of Confucianism’s central teachings.
<b>Rujiao/Rujia sixiang</b>	儒教/儒家思想	Confucianism.
<b>shaoxiangbaifo</b>	烧香拜佛	Literally “burn incense to worship Buddha,” typically refers to worshipping various deities of traditional Chinese religions.
<b>shenkan</b>	神龛	Shrine or altar dedicated to local deities and, in some cases, also ancestors.
<b>shenxian</b>	神仙	“Immortal,” a colloquial term for Taoist deity.
<b>shuyu</b>	属于	Belong to, e.g., an organized religion or political organization.
<b>si/siyuan</b>	寺/寺院	Buddhist temple with a monastery. (Also refer to <b>gong/guan</b> )
<b>simiao</b>	寺庙	Places of worship with some Buddhist connection, either having a Buddhist monastery or housing Buddhist deities.
<b>Sishuwujing</b>	四书五经	Four Books and Five Classics, a collection of foundational Confucian texts.
<b>teyi gongneng</b>	特异功能	Spiritual or supernatural power.
<b>tian</b>	天	Heaven, an important concept in Confucianism that typically refers to a pervasive, invisible entity with divine powers and authority.
<b>Tianzhu</b>	天主	Word used by Chinese Catholics for God.
<b>Tianzhujiao</b>	天主教	Catholicism.
<b>tudi ci</b>	土地祠	A place of worship dedicated to an earth god. (Also refer to <b>tudigong</b> )
<b>tudigong</b>	土地公	Earth god or earth lord, a patron deity who typically oversees affairs in a small jurisdiction, such as a village or forest.
<b>wan</b>	万	10,000.
<b>wu/wushu</b>	巫/巫术	Shaman/shamanism.
<b>wuchang</b>	五常	The five constant virtues of Confucianism (i.e., benevolence, righteousness, propriety, wisdom and trustworthiness).
<b>wu shen lun zhe</b>	无神论者	Atheist.
<b>xiangxin</b>	相信	Believe in, trust or have confidence in. When used in a religious context, it commonly does not imply formal commitment. (Also refer to <b>xin</b> and <b>xinyang</b> )
<b>xiao</b>	孝	Filial piety, a key concept in Confucianism that emphasizes respect for parents and elders.
<b>Xiaojing</b>	孝经	“The Classic of Filial Piety,” one of Confucianism’s foundational books. (Also refer to <b>Sishuwujing</b> )

<b>xie</b>	邪	Evil or unorthodox.
<b>xiejiao</b>	邪教	Evil cult or heterodox teaching, refers to religious groups whose teachings the Chinese government deems harmful or disruptive.
<b>xin</b>	信	Believe in, trust or have no doubts in. This a verb implies a stronger commitment than <b>xiangxin</b> as it connotes worship or veneration. (Also refer to <b>xiangxin</b> and <b>xinyang</b> )
<b>Xinjing</b>	心经	“Heart Sutra,” a popular Buddhist scripture.
<b>Xinde She</b>	信德社	Faith Press, a Catholic-run news agency.
<b>xinyang</b>	信仰	Firm belief in or commitment to a theory, thought or philosophy. Commonly implies a formal commitment to or serious conviction in a value system. (Also refer to <b>xin</b> and <b>xiangxin</b> )
<b>xisu</b>	习俗	Traditional custom. Some customs, such as the (Hungry) Ghost Festival, are steeped in folk religion.
<b>xuefo</b>	学佛	To study Buddha.
<b>xuyuan</b>	许愿	To make a wish.
<b>yitangdaidian</b>	以堂带点	A program the “Two Committees” launched to “connect unauthorized meeting points with an official [nearby, registered] church.” (Also refer to <b>lianghui</b> )
<b>Yulanpen Jie</b>	盂兰盆节	The Buddhist version of the (Hungry) Ghost Festival, also known as Ullambana festival.
<b>yun</b>	运	Fortune or luck. In Chinese religious tradition, humans can bring about good fortune or keep misfortune at bay by praying to deities or engaging in practices such as <b>fengshui</b> .
<b>Zhengyi</b>	正一	Orthodox Unity, a Taoist sect. (Also refer to <b>Quanzhen</b> )
<b>zhong</b>	忠	Loyalty (to the king), one of Confucianism’s central teachings.
<b>Zhongyuan Jie</b>	中元节	The Taoist version of the (Hungry) Ghost festival, also known as the Zhongyuan festival.
<b>zixuanzisheng</b>	自选自圣	“Self-election and self-ordination,” a government-sanctioned policy of appointing Catholic bishops without input from the Vatican.
<b>ziyou</b>	自由	Freedom.
<b>zongjiao</b>	宗教	Religion. Typically refers to organized religions with professional clergy and institutional or governmental oversight.
<b>zongjiao xinyang</b>	宗教信仰	Religious belief. Typically refers to a formal commitment to a value system. (Also refer to <b>zongjiao</b> and <b>xinyang</b> )
<b>zuo libai</b>	做礼拜	Worship attendance (for Christians) or prayer (for Muslims). This term does not apply to the types of worship common among Buddhists, Taoists or other traditional Chinese religious groups.