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Macau: Historic occasion must not be marred by intolerance

(Hong Kong) Friday's actions against Falun Gong practitioners by Macau contradicts specific assertions on basic freedoms by the territory's authorities just two months ago to a United Nations human rights watchdog, Amnesty International said today.

"Detentions, deportations and threats of imprisonment against Falun Gong members on the eve of the handover fly in the face of grand assurances that the Macau authorities made to the Human Rights Committee of the United Nations only in October," said Catherine Baber, Amnesty International's Hong Kong-based China researcher.

The Macau authorities told the Committee, at the time, that :