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seen the tears and felt the horror, the anger, the hope and the hopelessness. All expression of human emotion have entered our homes on our screens because of these professionals. They have brought the unerring eye of the camera to bear witness to the horrors, to the killings, to the unfairness of this struggle.

These reporters have shown a commitment to their profession, to responsible reporting, to the courage of their convictions that have of course shown the kind of concern for human rights that is the only way the world could have seen and now express their total repugnance for these acts.

There have been genocides, atrocities, unconscionable aggression and mass loss of life around this world that have not been addressed, but left in silence because these visual reports, these scenes, were not available. The doors were closed. The media had no access and so no one spoke out. It was like a complicity of silence. Often that is not really so. It is just the absence of our fearless, competent journalists to report and so bring the pressure of world censure to bear.

We are grateful to all these very brave people for staying and for facing the risks in the name of democracy.

Canada's daily journalistic broadcast through Radio-Canada International in English and Chinese is vital and all the more so right now. Canada is a tempering, calming, sobering voice of influence and can bring solace to those mourning their loss because they know we are watching, listening and speaking out.

The killing must stop. These very sad scenes demonstrate that Chinese authorities have lost their moral authority. They have violated fundamental principles of human rights. The brutality of the dark side of human nature has unfolded before our eyes. We are outraged, shocked and revolted at these despicable actions. This tragedy has touched the hearts and homes of millions of Chinese.

• (0030)

We as Canadians have to review our stand and determine whether or not and when to take economic and political sanctions, if the situation does not change. We do not want to push the Chinese people back into isolation and a more closed society. We do not want to bring more suffering. However, this maintenance of our political and economic contact should be conditional upon a change, and a move for a peaceful and respectful solution to the needs of the Chinese people by a caring and open Chinese leadership.

[*Translation*]

I say to the anguished families in mourning, be comforted because in spite of the great sorrow you feel now, your loss will not be in vain; freedom will definitely triumph.

[*English*]

To all the families whose hearts and homes have been touched, know that the torch has been passed to you and that in the end democracy and freedom will survive. Be assured that these brave young lives which have been snuffed out will not have been in vain. You and they have given hope to millions of Chinese and to the citizens of China. They shall be remembered and their dreams will one day become a reality, for you and I know that repression cannot forever be subdued.

Mr. Derek Lee (Scarborough—Rouge River): Mr. Speaker, tonight Members of the House meet to debate in emergency session the significance of the events which have just taken place in Beijing, and to articulate the reaction of Canadians.

Why is this important? Why do we call this emergency session? Perhaps the first reason is the sheer size and importance of the Chinese population of over one billion. Another is the shocking number of casualties on the weekend. Last is the stark contrast between the ideals manifested by the peaceful demonstration in Tiananmen Square and the brutality and loss resulting from the armed intervention.

We in the House represent more than 300,000 Chinese-Canadians. We must record the common sense of sorrow and fear for the future felt not only by Chinese-Canadians but by all of us.