

NEW YEAR'S CONTRASTS CELEBRATIONS AMIDST SUPPRESSION AND SILENCE



EAST TURKISTAN PRESS AND MEDIA ASSOCIATION
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CONCLUSION OF THE TENTH MEETING OF THE EAST TURKISTAN SCHOLARS UNION

“ The tenth meeting of the East Turkistan Scholars Union was successfully held on December 30-31, with the participation of more than 60 members from all over the world. ”



At the meeting of the council, the following topics were discussed: threats faced by scholars, specific responsibilities of scholars, and how to carry out propaganda work aimed at achieving East Turkistan independence.

How to carry out advocacy work aimed at independence of East Turkistan?

The article “duties and obligations of the audit committee” was also added to the Charter of the Union by consensus of the members of the Union. The meeting also decided to establish a “Youth Work Department” at the Executive Directorate of the Union.

At the meeting, the Scholars Union stressed that it is the duty of all the Sons of East Turkistan to liberate East Turkistan from the Communist Chinese, and the phrase “East Turkistan” should be mentioned in all the works of Scholars, especially preaching, and at all events for the people and organizations fighting for the motherland and working for the “independence of East Turkistan”.

The meeting also strengthened the relations of the Scholars Union with all organizations and individuals active in East Turkistan. He stressed the need to enjoy the religious and national morals, customs, traditions and national values of the Uyghur people and make them the basic principles of their actions and work.

Sections of the Scholars Union have been discussing the work and what can be done in 2024.

Finally, the president of the East Turkistan Scholars Union, Dr. Jan Bogda, announced the decision on the work that the Scholars Union decided to accomplish during 2024 based on the above discussion.

In the decision, the Association of East Turkistan Scholars Union will make all efforts to protect the religion, morality, national customs and traditions of East Turkistan people, especially the Uyghurs in diaspora, work to further revive the East Turkistan issue in the Arab and Islamic Worlds, establish an advisory group to discuss the East Turkistan issue with some well-known scholars and public figures in Turkey, and seek to revive the East Turkistan issue in Turkey through regular meetings. The Scholars Union will also revive the work of the Interorganizational Relations Department, strengthen relations with East Turkistan organizations outside Turkey, and strengthen the campaign to implement all the work and activities of East Turkistan organizations abroad with a focus on the independence of East Turkistan. And also revive the movement to strengthen the relationship between the people and Scholars, organize regular educational activities to promote awareness of religious and national values in Uyghur

schools in Istanbul, work to instill love for religion, homeland, and nation in the hearts of our new generation from

an early age, and focus on Uyghur students studying in the fields of Sharia.

CHINA ATTEMPTS TO REVEAL HISTORY OF OCCUPATION BY BUILDING “GREAT WALL MUSEUM” IN EAST TURKISTAN



The occupying Chinese regime established the so-called “Great Wall Culture Museum” in Lopnur County and officially began to promote the disgraceful claim that the ruins of the towers and fortresses in East Turkistan are “the extension of the Great Wall in China”.

Xinhua News Agency reported that the so-called “Silk Road Great Wall Culture Museum” established in Lopnur has been officially opened since December 29, and more than 600 “cultural relics” are on display. The total area of the museum is 5,000 square meters, and the exterior is built in the shape of an ancient tower.

The report said that “Visitors deeply felt the different views and charm of the Straits Wall, which stretches from Shanghai to the West Country”, and alluded to the fact that China’s Straits Wall stretches to East Turkistan.

The Great Wall was built by the Chinese in history to prevent the attacks of the Huns, and it was called a “symbol of fear” in the mouths of the people. China’s official materials and textbooks state that the Great Wall

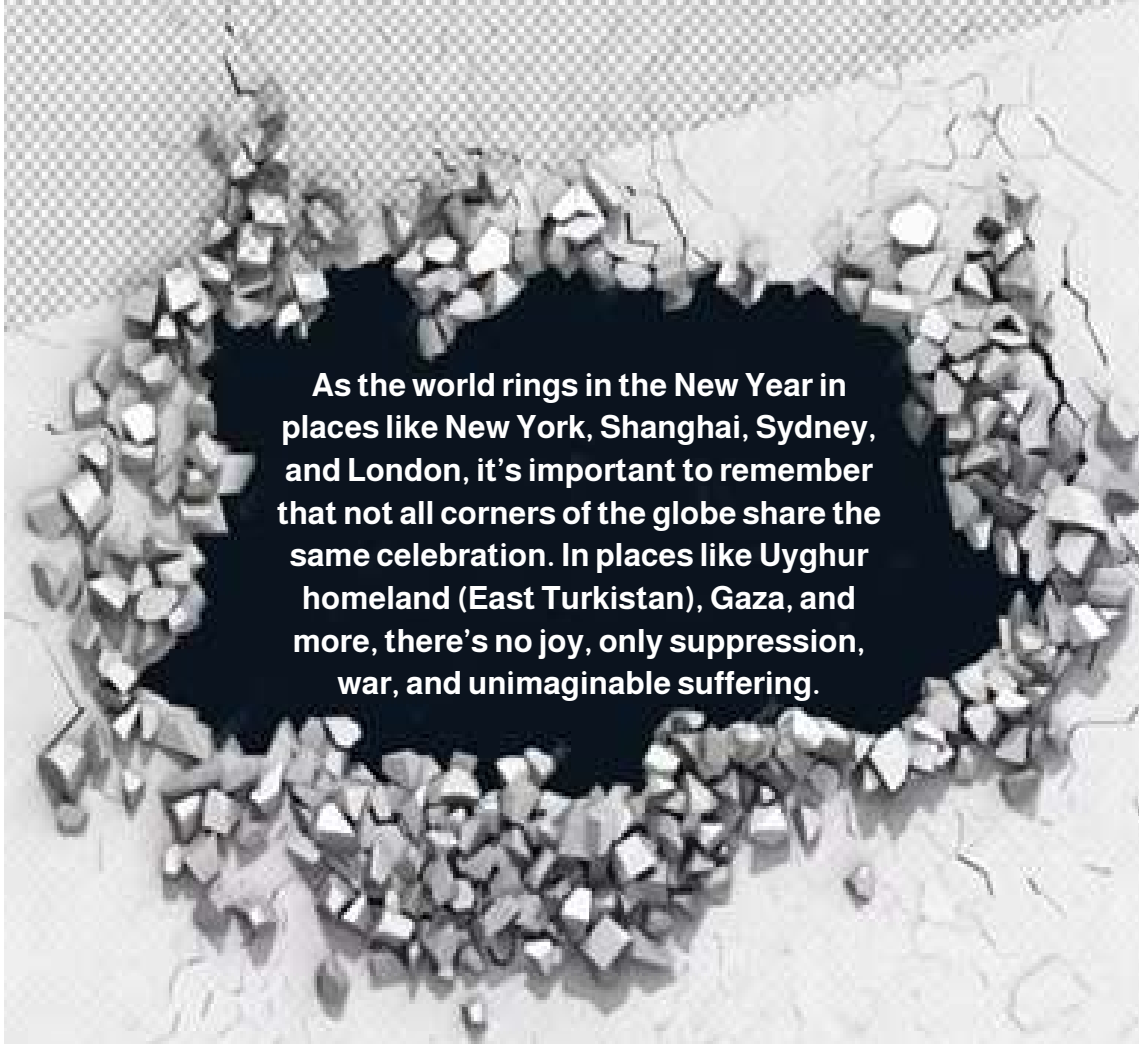
stretches from Shanghai to Gansu. However, since China began to carry out open genocide in East Turkistan and vigorously implement the so-called policy of “feeding Xinjiang with culture”, it has been trying to recreate the history of occupation with various fabrications. In the last few years, some so-called “researchers” of China have published articles, forcibly tied the traces of ancient towers and fortifications to the Great wall, and started to market the shameless lies that East Turkistan “has been in China since time immemorial.”

This museum in Lopnur County is the first “Great Wall Culture Museum” in East Turkistan, and it is a sign that China’s above-mentioned false monuments are starting to be formalized.





NEW YEAR'S CONTRASTS: CELEBRATIONS AMIDST SUPPRESSION AND SILENCE



As the world rings in the New Year in places like New York, Shanghai, Sydney, and London, it's important to remember that not all corners of the globe share the same celebration. In places like Uyghur homeland (East Turkistan), Gaza, and more, there's no joy, only suppression, war, and unimaginable suffering.



The Uyghur people have faced severe suppression under the occupation of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) for years. Since 2017, China escalated this by establishing arbitrary detention centers, effectively concentration camps, leading to what's been declared as genocide. A significant United Nations report in August 2022 and statements from various nations have labeled these acts as crimes against humanity.

Despite condemnations and joint statements from over 50 countries, there's been a lack of concrete action.

China invests heavily in propaganda, concealing the truth about the Uyghurs from the world. While global attention gravitates towards crises like Gaza, action often falls short. The lack of substantial intervention in Gaza's plight raises doubts about the world's readiness to act on larger, complex issues like the Uyghur crisis under China's rule. If concerted efforts don't materialize for Gaza, it's daunting to expect robust support for the Uyghurs. This disparity in response highlights the challenge of garnering effective global action, especially when facing

powerful entities like China, making it a grim reality for those seeking justice and relief in regions like East Turkistan. In the face of such grave atrocities, it's disheartening to expect immediate global intervention. Yet, awareness is key. It's up to each of us to spread

the truth, demand action, and stand in solidarity with the oppressed, even as the New Year begins. The hope lies in sustained advocacy, international pressure, and collective efforts to bring justice to those suffering under such oppression.





ACADEMIC PAPER BASED ON UYGHUR GENETIC DATA RETRACTED OVER ETHICAL CONCERNS

Exclusive: Study published in 2019 used blood and saliva samples from 203 Uyghur and Kazakh people living in Xinjiang capital

Concerns have been raised that academic publishers may not be doing enough to vet the ethical standards of research they publish, after a paper based on genetic data from China's Uyghur population was retracted and questions were raised about several others including one that is currently published by Oxford University Press.

In June, Elsevier, a Dutch academic publisher, retracted an article entitled "Analysis of Uyghur and Kazakh populations using the Precision ID Ancestry Panel" that had been published in 2019.

The study by Chinese and Danish researchers used blood and saliva samples from 203 Uyghur and Kazakh people living in Ürümqi, the capital of Xinjiang, to evaluate the use of genetic sequencing technology developed by Thermo Fisher Scientific, a US biotech company, on the two minority ethnic groups. Outlining the need for the research, the authors suggested that better DNA sequencing could help the police identify suspects in cases. "A clear knowledge of the genetic variation is important for understanding the origin and demographic history of the ethnicity of the populations in Xinjiang ... [which] may offer an investigative lead for the police."

Mark Munsterhjelm, a professor at the University of Windsor, in Ontario, who specialises in racism in genetic research, said the fact that the paper

had been published at all was “typical of the culture of complicity in forensic genetics that uncritically accepts ethics and informed consent claims with regards to vulnerable populations”.

Concerns have also been raised about a paper in a journal sponsored by China’s ministry of justice. The study, titled Sequencing of human identification markers in an Uyghur population, analysed Uyghur genetic data based on blood samples collected from individuals in the capital of Xinjiang, in north-west China. Yves Moreau, a professor of engineering at the University of Leuven, in Belgium, who focuses on DNA analysis, raised concerns that the subjects in the study may not have freely consented to their DNA samples being used. He also argued that the research “enables further mass surveillance” of Uyghur people.

It appeared in the June 2022 issue of the journal Forensic Sciences Research

(FSR), which was acquired by Oxford University Press in 2023. The research was partly supported by a research grant from Xinjiang Police College, and was authored by three of the same scientists as the retracted Elsevier paper.

Duarte Nuno Vieira, the co-editor-in-chief of FSR, denied that financial support from China’s ministry of justice had any impact on the journal’s editorial policies, calling the suggestion “ethically objectionable”.

Both papers are based on research conducted in Xinjiang, where there are widespread reports of human rights abuses. As well as a widespread system of detention camps, people in the region – who are mostly Uyghurs, Kazakhs, and other minority ethnic people – are subject to high levels of state surveillance.

Uyghurs are a Turkic ethnic group who are mainly found in Xinjiang, which is part of China, but whose ancestry hails from central Asia as well as mainland



China. They have long had a fractious relationship with Beijing, which accuses many of them of wanting to break away from Chinese rule.

Experts say that people in Xinjiang may not be able to freely consent to participating in research studies.

In both papers, one of the researchers, Halimureti Simayijiang, was affiliated with China's state security apparatus via the Xinjiang Police College, exacerbating these concerns.

Maya Wang, an associate Asia director at Human Rights Watch, said: "Given how coercive the overall environment has been for the Uyghurs [in China], it's not really possible for Uyghurs to say no [to the collection of DNA]."

The Biden administration recently lifted sanctions on the Chinese ministry of public security's institute of forensic science in an attempt to ease cooperation on fentanyl control. The institute had been subject to sanctions since 2020 because of the alleged abuse of Uyghur people.

QUESTIONS OVER LINKS TO CHINA

On 19 November, Moreau formally raised concerns about the study on Uyghur DNA published in *Forensic Sciences Research*.

The article states that "written informed consent" was obtained from each of the 264 Uyghurs who provided blood samples. In an email to Irene Tracey, the vice-chancellor of Oxford University, which was seen by the *Guardian*, Moreau said: "The standard for informed consent is free informed consent," which he argues

is impossible in the context of Xinjiang.

A spokesperson for OUP noted that the paper was accepted and published by FSR before OUP began publishing the journal. They said: "While the article was peer reviewed, and ethical research statements and disclosures are included on the article page, we will work with the journal's editors to investigate the concerns raised and the information we have received."

The authors of the paper are listed as Simayijiang, Niels Morling and Claus Børsting from the forensic genetics department of the University of Copenhagen. Simayijiang is listed as being jointly affiliated with Xinjiang Police College. Those three scientists are the authors of the paper that was retracted by Elsevier in June, along with Torben Tvedebrink, a data scientist.

The University of Copenhagen said Simayijiang was no longer affiliated with the university, having left in 2020. Both the retracted paper, and the paper about which Moreau raised concerns, were submitted before Simayijiang left the university.

Nuno Vieira said FSR was "completely impartial and transparent" and that the journal's editorial board included "some of the most recognised and respected forensic professionals and academics in the world".

He said he would highlight the ethical concerns with the relevant staff at the journal, adding: "There has never (I repeat, never) been any interference or

action” from China’s ministry of justice.

Hans Bräuner, the vice-dean for research at the University of Copenhagen’s faculty of health and medical sciences, said that since concerns were first raised about the ethics of data collection in Xinjiang in 2020, the university had introduced a number of measures to enhance checks on sensitive research, including the establishment of a data management unit and a security checklist for risk assessments of international research.

Two other papers about Uyghur and Kazakh genetic data by Simayijiang, Morling and Børsting, along with a fourth author, Vania Pereira, also from the University of Copenhagen, are officially under ethical review by the journal in which they have been published. Bräuner said his faculty was only made aware of the concerns about these papers, which are published in *Forensic Sciences International: Genetics*, in December, but was in touch with the journal’s editor-in-chief to clarify the matter.

None of the researchers responded to requests for comment.

Experts say the papers are the tip of the iceberg of scientific research that may not meet ethical standards for data collection, and which, in some cases, may help to develop surveillance technologies that can be used to breach human rights, particularly among minority groups.

Thermo Fisher, which owns the DNA sequencing kit that was being evaluated in the paper retracted in June, said in 2019

that it would stop selling its equipment in Xinjiang

In recent years there has been increased scrutiny of scientific research based on material from populations in China who may not have the ability to freely consent, particularly minority ethnic people. Bioethicists first started raising concerns in 2019, which led to respected journals retracting several articles based on genetic material from minorities.

Scientists say publishers are still too willing to accept research that may raise ethical concerns, and too slow to respond to complaints.

Moreau has raised concerns about dozens of papers. In November, he was awarded the Einstein Foundation prize for “forcefully” advocating for “ethical standards in the utilisation of human DNA data”, according to the judging committee.

According to Moreau’s analysis, more than 20% of published research on forensic population genetics in China between 2011 and 2018 focused on Uyghurs, despite the fact that they make up less than 1% of the population. Tibetans have an even higher “surveillance ratio”.

Moreau said: “Although Uyghurs are interesting to study from a genetics perspective because they are a mixed population with both east Asian and Eurasian heritage, and Tibetans are interesting because of their adaptation to high altitude, research on these groups is surprisingly intense.”

A spokesperson for the Chinese government said: “China is a country governed by law. The privacy of all Chinese citizens, regardless of their ethnic backgrounds, are protected by law.”

CHINA EXPANDED THE NUCLEAR

TEST SITE AT LOB NUR

“ Satellite images reveal that the Chinese authorities have modernized and expanded their nuclear test site in Lob Nur, East Turkistan. **”**



According to the New York Times, there were signs of the resumption of nuclear tests at the nuclear test site in Lob Nur province, East Turkistan. Some experts believe that this could lead to a new nuclear arms race.

China has expanded its nuclear test site and nearby facilities in Lob Nur province, according to satellite images. New roads were built around the nuclear test site, and the road leading to the military base, about 120 kilometers away, was repaired. In addition, digging equipment was found hidden in the hills, and signs of digging new tunnels were noted. It is estimated that the new tunnel, with a depth of more than 500 meters, will lead to the newly created underground nuclear test site.

The New York Times quoted experts as saying that the reconstruction of the Lob Nur test site is rare, and China's move

could lead to an arms race.

In response to questions about the reactivation of the Lob Nur nuclear test site, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said that the reports were exaggerated and that China was working to realize its ambitions for a comprehensive ban and the complete abolition of nuclear weapons.

According to the US Department of Defense, China has significantly expanded its nuclear arsenal over the past year and currently has almost 500 nuclear warheads.

Occupied China conducted a total of 45 nuclear tests in underground tunnels in the period from 1964 to 1996, when it conducted its first nuclear test in Lob Nur. As a result of China's crimes, the Uyghur people of Lob Nur were severely affected by nuclear pollution and suffered tragic illnesses.



HOW THE CCP WEAPONIZES GLOBAL CHINESE DIASPORA AGAINST DISSENT

Increasingly, those who protest in the West for human rights in China are spied, harassed, and sometimes even beaten by overseas Chinese loyal to the Party.

Those who protested Xi Jinping's visit to San Francisco on November 23, 2023, were harassed and beaten by pro-CCP diaspora Chinese. Screenshot.



Protests supporting Tibetans and Uyghurs have significantly increased in Western countries, where expression of global outrage against China's oppressive behaviour have intensified. The Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) human rights violations have attracted increasing attention, especially from international human rights groups, thus leading to

greater advocacy to protect minorities in China.

These protests, however, are being stifled and disrupted by members of the Chinese diaspora both in Europe and in the U.S. From constant threats to protesters to directly intimidating those who raise concerns, the CCP has outsourced its

regressive crackdown to its diaspora overseas.

CCP'S STRATEGIES TO THREATEN INTERNATIONAL PROTESTERS

Apart from discouraging protests through brute force, the Chinese intelligence agencies are also recruiting agents that would source vital information on protesters. Reports of these agents gathering phone numbers, vehicle plates, addresses, and photographs have emerged across all the Western world. Some of the cases that have come forward have also indicated the recruitment of Tibetans and Uyghurs living abroad, promising visa approvals to visit their native lands, accompanied by threats against their family members back home.

Furthermore, Beijing's efforts have become far more sophisticated in curbing dissent overseas. By not only controlling the Chinese diasporas in the Western world but also intimidating others who join protests against the CCP's human rights violations, the Party has substantially expanded its transnational influence in the past few years.

According to several studies conducted in the West, the cases of physical assaults have also risen against those who protest the repression of minorities in China. Physical attacks in the past decade against protesters have largely originated from Chinese agents, making the Party a direct culprit in violence against human rights protesters. The perpetrators, in these cases, have mostly been members of the Chinese diaspora who have publicly

voiced their support for the CCP.

METHODS OF CCP INTIMIDATION, FROM FINANCE TO TECHNOLOGY

The CCP's growing technological powers have also been weaponized to threaten those who are seeking to expose the barbaric strategies the Party has deployed against minorities in the country. China's financial influence has played a large part in preventing governments to protest on such matters, both bilaterally and on international platforms. As part of the 51st session of the Human Rights Council, several member states presented a motion seeking a debate about human rights in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, which was eventually defeated, with all the nineteen states having signed Belt and Road Initiative agreements voting against the motion. Although defeated, the motion enabled many to understand the leverage Beijing is using on all its development partners to prevent international debates on its human rights violations.

The Party has also deployed various measures to prevent dissent globally. These "influence operations," as they are called, have various strategical dimensions. Firstly, they identify as targets a specific set of individuals, depending on their track record of voicing their dissent against the Party's oppressive approach to minorities in China. Secondly, these strategies use a wide range of measures including coercive techniques such as cyberattacks and cyber-bullying. The recent "overseas police stations" that came up as a matter

of debate in international media a few months ago are a significant part of the very same strategy of intimidating those in the Chinese diaspora who resist the Party's rhetoric claiming that minority groups are not oppressed in China.

As part of its transnational strategies, China tries to convert its international diaspora into the CCP's foremost flagbearer. Such attempts must be contained before they escalate to curb civil rights of peaceful citizens living in the host countries. Hence, Western countries that seek to safeguard their own citizen's rights should not only prevent China's coercive strategies but also push for greater

debate regarding these devious tactics on global platforms. The dual strategy of prevention of coercion along with raising a louder voice against China's human rights violations is the key to restricting the CCP from projecting its global vision, which is embedded in oppression against dissenters, not only within its own country but also transnationally.

Countries that prioritize human rights should work together to counter Beijing's blatant misuse of its global status and call for a more responsible international behaviour towards China than the one we are currently witnessing.



Media coverage of an October 2022 incident in Manchester, where a protester was beaten during a demonstration for democracy in Hong Kong in front of the city's Chinese consulate.



Susan J. Palmer, Dilmurat Mahmut & Abdulmuqtedir Uzun

UYGHUR WOMEN
ACTIVISTS IN THE DIASPORA
Restorying a Genocide

"UYGHUR WOMEN ACTIVISTS IN THE DIASPORA: RESTORYING A GENOCIDE" CHRONICLES THE EMPOWERING JOURNEY OF ADVOCACY

Uyghur Women Activists in the Diaspora: Restorying a Genocide” was released recently. The book emerges as a compelling and impactful narrative chronicling the lives of ten resilient Uyghur women. Authored by Susan J. Palmer, Dilmurat Mahmut, Abdulmuqtedir Uzun, this book, now available from Bloomsbury Academic, sheds light on the transformational stories of these activists who have become the voice of the silenced and oppressed.



Born and raised in East Turkistan during the tumultuous times of the 1970s-90s, these women encountered ethnic discrimination firsthand before choosing to leave China before 2005. Settling in Western countries, their personal experiences ignited a fire of advocacy and resilience within them, driving them to become torchbearers for the silenced voices of the Turkic people, especially those trapped in “re-education” camps.

Based on online interviews conducted between 2020 and 2021, “Uyghur Women Activists in the Diaspora” presents an oral history that intricately explores these women’s journeys. It

delves into their defining moments, cultural transitions, and the intricate interplay of religious, political, and psychological factors that shaped their emergence as advocates for a new Uyghur-Muslim feminism, redefining their identities and narratives.

Featuring remarkable individuals such as Zubayra Shamseden, Rushan Abbas, Rahima Mahmut, Rukiye Turdush, Arzu Gul, Raziya Mahmut, Dilnur Reyhan, Gulcherha Hoja, Zumrat Dawut, and Mihrigul Tursun, the book stands as a testament to resilience, activism, and the unwavering spirit of these exceptional women.

CHINA IS TRYING TO JUSTIFY ITS ANTI-ISLAMIC POLICY



ACCORDING TO THE DECEMBER 22 NEWS REPORT OF THE TIANTAG NETWORK, THE CHINESE REGIME HAS SET UP A PROPAGANDA PROGRAM UNDER THE NAME OF THE SO-CALLED “HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION STORY” AND HAS BEEN ACTIVELY PROMOTING THE FEW MOSQUES THAT HAVE BEEN DELIBERATELY LEFT BEHIND IN CHINA’S “MOSQUE DEMOLITION OPERATION” IN RECENT YEARS, IN ORDER TO DENY THEIR CRIMES

The secretary of Jama Masjid, located on Navagh Street in Hotan City, China, said: “The Jama Masjid, where I am in charge, started construction in 1848. In the past, the conditions of the mosque were very simple, and it was only possible to pray in the prayer hall of tens of square meters. At present, the size of the prayer hall in the mosque is more than 1000 square meters, and water and electricity have been supplied. Normal religious activities such as fasting and celebrating religious holidays are completely according to the individual’s wishes and are not subject to any restrictions.

The Chinese regime first announced the legalization of Islamic Sinicization in East Turkistan over a five-year period from 2018 to 2022, and has so far destroyed nearly 16,000 mosques in its anti-Islam policy, which has been rapidly

implemented under the plan. In addition, all activities related to religion were completely banned, and the people were forced to completely abandon Islam.

On December 20, the Chinese regime released the so-called “Report on the Legal Protection of Human Rights in Xinjiang” and declared that the people’s religious and ethnic identity is fully protected and religious freedom is fully guaranteed. In fact, “Islamic Sinicization” With such slogans as “Subjugation of Religion to Socialism”, it is carrying out a policy of completely Sinicizing the East Turkistan people by separating them from their religious, national values, customs, and everything that clearly distinguishes them from China, and exterminating all Uyghurs who protest or are likely to protest in any way.

CHINA ESTABLISHED A COTTON-YARN TRADING CENTER IN EAST TURKISTAN

国家级棉花棉纱交易中心
揭牌仪式



THE COTTON INDUSTRY IS ONE OF THE MAIN INDUSTRIES IN WHICH THE CHINESE REGIME FORCES THE EAST TURKISTAN PEOPLE INTO FORCED LABOR, AND CHINA'S ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE-LEVEL COTTON YARN TRADE CENTER IN EAST TURKISTAN IS A SIGN THAT FORCED LABOR AGAINST THE EAST TURKISTAN PEOPLE WILL INTENSIFY

According to the Internet Report, on December 18, the opening ceremony of the state-level cotton and cotton spinning Trade Center established by the government of the Uyghur Autonomous Region, the production and construction department, and the China National supply and manufacturing authority took place. The general Trade Cooperative was held at the Urumqi International Convention and Exhibition Center on December 18.

According to Chinese media reports, after the construction of the mall, the construction of the tracking system from cotton cultivation to clothing production, cotton yarn quality, the establishment of a brand recognition system, cotton yarn production, processing, circulation, consumption and so on will be explored. It is said that it will simplify ties and accelerate the construction of cotton, textile and clothing industry clusters in

the region.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, the puppet official said, "We will build Xinjiang into the country's high-quality cotton and cotton yarn production base and textile and clothing export base."

East Turkistan cotton is not only China's main source of cotton but also accounts for more than 20% of the world's cotton supply chain. After China's forced labor in East Turkistan came to the attention of the international community, some countries led by the United States imposed sanctions on China, and some famous companies announced that they would not use East Turkistan's cotton.

Currently, it is said that China's establishment of a state-level cotton yarn Trade Center in East Turkistan means a further spread of forced labor against the East Turkistan people.

UYGHUR STUDENTS TARGETED IN PRC POLICE “ANTI-TERRORISM” PROJECT



UYGHUR STUDENTS ARE BEING EXPLICITLY TARGETED AS PART OF A WIDE-RANGING “ANTI-TERRORISM” PROJECT IN PRC.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Hangzhou police project tracks “Uyghur university students” to “predict and control” people “related to terrorism”, automatically alerting police of any “abnormal behaviors”.

Behaviors considered “abnormal” include certain types of purchases, VPN usage, online communications, and even gathering at unspecified religious

centers.

The system is aimed at securing Hangzhou and the 2023 Asian Games held there this fall. Four PRC integrators competed over the tender.

Hangzhou is a huge city of 11m people and is the headquarters of Alibaba, Hikvision, Dahua, and Uniview, although none of those companies were involved in this deal.

Industry insights delivered to your inbox weekly.

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“COUNTER-TERRORISM” SYSTEM FOR HANGZHOU ASIAN GAMES

In January 2022, the Counter-Terrorism Department of Hangzhou Municipal Police put out a ~\$85,000 tender for an intelligence system that can meet “the needs of counter-terrorism work” by utilizing “advanced technologies” and “big data”.

The project is meant to improve the department’s “ability to predict and control all kinds of local terrorism-related persons” and provide security for the Hangzhou Asian Games.

The Hangzhou Asian Games were held from September-October 2023 and touted as an “unprecedented success” by PRC state media.

UYGHUR STUDENT TRACKING SYSTEM WITH “ABNORMAL BEHAVIOR” ALERTS

The winning bid was submitted by PRC integrator China Oly, which pledged to develop a “comprehensive management and control platform” for “Uyghur students”, including “trajectory monitoring” and “warnings of online and offline abnormal behaviors”:

PROJECT PRICE, SPECS EXAMINED

The 2-page bid makes no mention of any specific hardware or software. China Oly

priced the Uyghur surveillance system at 164,000 Chinese Yuan which is about ~\$23,000 at current exchange rates. This is about a third of the total winning bid’s value of ~\$79,000.

The project is supposed to be built in 6 months and usable by up to 200 police officers; China Oly is required to provide maintenance and support for the system for 5 years.

HOW TRACKING UYGHUR STUDENTS WORKS

The project integrates data from Hangzhou’s universities and colleges to track Uyghur students specifically. Most of the data used already exists in Hangzhou Police’s “City Brain Operating System”, which China Oly helped launch in 2019.

PRC cities have huge police live facial recognition / ANPR networks and also track people’s smartphones through WiFi ‘sniffers’ and IMSI catchers, The New York Times reported in 2022. PRC police also have automatic access to certain types of data from private entities, such as hotel check-ins, which is not the case in the US.

Finally, tracking Uyghurs is easier as PRC resident identity cards disclose one’s ethnic group.

UYGHUR STUDENTS “PEOPLE OF CONCERN”

The tender states “Uyghur students in colleges and universities” are “people of concern” who require monitoring:

"Management and Control" For Uyghur Students **IPVM**

For **Uyghur students in colleges and universities**, a comprehensive student **management and control** platform for groups of concern is specially developed that integrates basic information collection and entry, personnel data maintenance, trajectory monitoring and **early warning**, and **online and offline abnormal behavior early warning**. The **supporting map** practical module is developed to focus on the city's colleges and universities. Group students control the big screen.

4	高校可视化管控模块	中奥	针对高校维族学生，专门开发集基本信息采集、录入，人员数据维护，轨迹监测预警，网上网下异常行为预警的综合性关注群体学生管控平台，配套地图实战模块开发以全市高校为点位的关注群体学生管控大屏。	1	164000	164000	五年维护期
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“Abnormal Behaviors” Include Gathering at “Religious Sites”

The tender requires a system of “alerts” to police based on “abnormal behaviors” by “people of concern”, including Uyghur students.

“Abnormal behaviors” include ‘unusual’ purchases, gathering at unspecified ‘religious sites’, certain online activities, ‘abnormal’ VPN usage, and more:

Gatherings at Religious Sites: The system flags gatherings of specific groups at religious sites, especially if the number

of people and their proximity to each other meet certain (unspecified) criteria.

Abnormal Student Behaviors: The system aims to identify unusual student activities, such as searching for sensitive items online, “abnormal” VPN usage, staying outside school by checking hotel records, and involvement in gambling or loan-related activities. VPN.

Unusual Purchasing Patterns of Sensitive Materials: This refers to monitoring people who buy sensitive materials in a manner that is considered abnormal,

such as frequent purchases or buying in large quantities. The specific materials are not identified, however.

“Risky” Online Activities of Sensitive Populations: This refers to monitoring what people post or the kind of messages people send to each other.

Unregistered Sensitive Populations: This involves detecting “unregistered” “sensitive populations” based on their activities and movements. Typically, this includes Uyghurs who are staying in hotels or apartments without permission from police, which is a violation of anti-

terror rules and can result in getting sent to re-education camp.

The tender notes there are “other” abnormal behaviors for “counter-terrorism” purposes without detailing them.

TRACKS “FACES, VEHICLES, TRAJECTORIES” ON “MAP”

The tender tracks “faces, vehicles, trajectories, and network locations” of “people of concern” who are then displayed on a “map” that alerts whenever targets enter unspecified “prevention and control” zones:

Uyghurs Students "People Of Concern" IPVM

The 2.0 statistics page will automatically classify the attributes of **persons of concern** such as region, occupation, **criminal background**, age, and gender based on data improvement and cleaning. Intelligent statistics realizes intelligent analysis of small categories such as **gathering places, relationship circles, and communication relationships**, including modules such as local personnel trend analysis, regional data statistics, analysis of people in areas of origin, social occupational classification, and **distribution of Uyghur students in colleges and universities.**

1.3.1.2.1. 关注人员智能统计分析功能升级

应升级改造深空实战1.0原有的列表式本地关注人员统计功能，2.0统计页面将在数据完善并清洗的基础上，实现自动化对关注人员地域、职业、前科背景、年龄性别等属性进行大类智能统计，对聚集地、关系圈、通联关系等小类实现智能分析，包含本地人员趋势分析、区域数据统计、原籍地区人员分析、社会面从事职业分析、高校维族学生分布等模块。

English	Chinese
Alarm for Gatherings at Religious Centers	宗教节点聚集发现告警
Model for Abnormal Student Behaviors	学生异常行为模型
Discovery of Unusual Purchasing Patterns for Sensitive Materials	敏感物资异常购买行为发现
Alarm for Risky Online Activities of Sensitive Populations	敏感人群网上风险行为发现告警
Alarm for Discovery of Unregistered Suspected Sensitive Populations	未登记疑似敏感人群发现告警

Tracks "Faces, Vehicles, Trajectories"

Special scene construction should be carried out based on actual combat control of key positions related to terrorism and key people. Relying on the city brain map resource tool, based on the distribution points of key positions in the city and relevant data of key people (**faces, vehicles, trajectories, technical network locations**), etc., **Develop a map combat module** for sensitive time control and scheduling that meets actual combat needs, and **provide early warning for the behavior of local key targets** entering and exiting the **prevention and control circle**.

1.3.1.3.2. 重点阵地及重点人地图作战模块

应以涉恐重点阵地及重点人实战管控开展专题场景建设，依托城市大脑地图资源工具，根据本市重点阵地分布点位以及重点人相关数据（人脸、车辆、轨迹、技网位置）等，开发符合实战需求的敏感时间管控调度的地图实战模块，并对本地重点关注目标出入防控圈的行为进行预警。

ANTI-UYGHUR DISCRIMINATION PART OF PRC SURVEILLANCE BUSINESS MODEL

This is yet another example of how PRC surveillance companies profit from targeting a vulnerable minority group, which the Holocaust Museum says is “at serious risk of genocide”.

This also shows how Hangzhou has a track record of involvement in rights-abusing solutions, with Hangzhou firms Alibaba, Hikvision, Dahua, and Uniview

all getting caught: Alibaba Uyghur Recognition As A Service, Hikvision Markets Uyghur Ethnicity Analytics, Dahua Provides “Uyghur Warnings” To China Police, and Uniview Racist Uyghur Recognition Revealed.

In public no PRC company has admitted to targeting Uyghurs, but internally this has happened at least once, when Hikvision’s own hired attorney admitted to partners that Hikvision’s huge Xinjiang police contracts target Uyghurs.



CHINA HAS REVEALED THAT
**IT HAS PLACED
15,000
COMPANIES IN
EAST TURKISTAN**



“

IN RECENT YEARS, CHINA HAS ATTRACTED THE ATTENTION AND CONDEMNATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FOR DEPLOYING MANY CHINESE COMPANIES IN EAST TURKISTAN TO FORCE THE UYGHUR PEOPLE TO WORK.

”

China has announced that it has deployed more than 15,000 Chinese companies in East Turkistan to promote the so-called “strengthening of national unity” in East Turkistan.

According to China People’s Network on December 14, since 2012, the Chinese regime has promoted the creation of the so-called “interconnected social

structure and community environment” in various parts of East Turkistan, starting from the daily links of housing, life, and entertainment, to achieve the communication and movement of ethnic groups.

The report also said: “In recent years, in order to encourage the people of all ethnic groups to find employment nearby

and to provide targeted assistance to Xinjiang, the cities have widely carried out vocational training, and more than 15,000 enterprises have been brought to Xinjiang and more than 2 million local people have been employed.

The report published in May last year revealed that the so-called “Uyghur Autonomous Region’s Human Resources and Social Security Supervision Department of Farmer-Labor Work” revealed that during China’s “14th Five-Year Plan”, the rural labor force in East Turkistan will be reduced to 2,750,000 annually. Thousands of people planned forced labor, and the so-called “nearby employment”, “local employment”, and

“remote employment” were repeated over and over again.

As part of the genocide in East Turkistan, China has greatly increased detention in concentration camps and prisons. On the other hand, it has placed Chinese companies in the towns and villages of East Turkistan in the name of “liberating the people of East Turkistan from poverty” and “getting employment at the door”. By means of forcing the local people into labor. At the same time, Chinese immigrants from Chinese provinces are moving to East Turkistan, attracting them with high wages, free houses, free land, etc., and making East Turkistan Chinese.





THE “WORKERS’ UNION” ESTABLISHED BY CHINA IN EAST TURKISTAN HAS REACHED 39,000

THE NUMBER OF GRASS-ROOTS TRADE UNIONS ESTABLISHED BY CHINA TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN ITS EAST TURKISTAN COLONY HAS GROWN TO 39,000.

ACCORDING TO THE SO-CALLED “XINJIANG NEWSPAPER” REPORTED ON DECEMBER 16, THE PRESS OFFICE OF THE PEOPLE’S GOVERNMENT OF THE SO-CALLED “UYGHUR AUTONOMOUS REGION” HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE UNDER THE TITLE “WORKING SITUATION TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF WORKERS IN XINJIANG”. IT SAID THAT IT HAS ESTABLISHED 39,000 TRADE UNIONS, COVERING 103,000 LOCATIONS IN THE

REGION, AND THE NUMBER OF TRADE UNION MEMBERS HAS INCREASED TO 4.35 MILLION.

IN THE STATEMENT, A TOTAL OF 1,115 RECRUITMENT EVENTS WERE HELD THIS YEAR, A SERVICE PLATFORM FOR RURAL WORKERS WAS ESTABLISHED, AND MORE THAN 213,000 JOBS WERE PROVIDED. ILDOS MURAT, A MEMBER OF THE MAIN PARTY GROUP OF THE SO-CALLED “UYGHUR AUTONOMOUS REGION” TRADE UNION, SAID THAT THE TRADE UNIONS AT ALL LEVELS ESTABLISHED IN EAST TURKISTAN HAVE FORMED 224 WORKING GROUPS, WENT TO THE GRASS-ROOTS TRADE UNIONS, AND CONDUCTED MORE THAN 900 ON-SITE GUIDANCE. IN THIS PROCESS, 10.15 MILLION YUAN OF SPECIAL EXPENSES HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED.

As part of the genocide in East Turkistan, China has greatly increased detention in concentration camps and prisons. On the other hand, the labor unions organized by the Chinese regime have placed Chinese companies in the villages of East Turkistan in the name of “freeing the people from poverty” and “doorstep employment”. China is forcing the local people into labor by various means. Trade unions have played a special role in forcing Uyghurs into forced labor and

expanding the scope of forced labor. Currently, these organizations directly communicate with Chinese companies and sell Uyghur youth to Chinese companies at cheap prices. At the same time, they are taking a special role in the Sinicization of East Turkistan by moving Chinese immigrants from Chinese provinces to East Turkistan, attracting them with high wages, free housing, and free land.

UYGHUR FATHER JAILED FOR 20 YEARS

FOR SENDING SON ABROAD AND FOR VISITING TURKEY



**NURAXUN ROZI JAILED FOR 20 YEARS
AFTER VISITING HIS TEENAGE SON
WHO WAS STUDYING IN EGYPT IN 2015,
INCLUDING A STOP IN TURKEY.**

When Nuraxun Rozi visited his teenage son who was studying in Egypt in 2015, little did he know his trip abroad, including a stop in Turkey, would later land him a 20-year prison sentence in Xinjiang.

“At the end of December 2015, my father came for a trip to Egypt,” said Nureli Nuraxun, now 22 and an engineer at an aluminum factory in Turkey.

“He stayed there for a week and traveled in Turkey for another week, then went back home,” Nureli told Radio Free Asia. “After he went back, his passport was confiscated, and he was not allowed to go abroad again.”

Sixteen months after his return, authorities sent him to a detention camp in April 2017 during the height of mass internment of Uyghurs in “re-education” camps under Chinese authorities’ guise of providing vocational training to prevent religious extremism and terrorism, Nureli said.

Nuraxun, now 49, was later sentenced to 20 years in prison in August 2018 for sending his child abroad to study, helping his son while he was in Egypt and for traveling abroad, his son said.

Nureli, who had not previously disclosed his family situation to the media to avoid complicating his father’s case, said he recently decided to reveal it after realizing that his silence was useless.

The Uyghur from the Ara community of Kepekyuzi village in Ghulja, known as Yining in Chinese, is serving his sentence in Kunes Prison, according to an officer

at the Kepekyuzi Police Station contacted by RFA.

“A total of 50-60 people are serving in Kunes Prison,” he said. “They are from places like Kepekyuzi and Turpan. They were all arrested around 2017, the same year as Nuraxun.”

The policeman said authorities arrested and jailed Nuraxun for sending his son abroad to study.

“His visit to Turkey also contributed to his 20-year sentence,” he added, though he did not know how authorities determined the length of Nuraxun’s jail term.

‘SENSITIVE COUNTRIES’

In their monitoring of Uyghurs’ activities, Chinese authorities previously identified more than 20 countries, including predominantly Muslim ones such as Egypt, Turkey, and Saudi Arabia, as “sensitive countries” and arrested those who visited them, imprisoning most for five to 10 years.

“I’m not sure how many of the 20 years is due to sending his son abroad and how many is for visiting Turkey,” said the policeman, adding that Nuraxun also took his friend’s teenage son abroad for study.

While Nureli was in Egypt, he saw other Uyghur students being sent back to China in 2016, and the following year he lost contact with his family. Fearing that he would be targeted, Nureli went to Turkey in 2018

“I had heard about my father’s arrest in 2017 and sentencing for 20 years in 2018

after coming to Turkey,” he said

“I couldn’t handle this news at the beginning,” Nureli told RFA. “It caused psychological trauma. For some time, I was very depressed. Later I focused on my studies. I was determined to study harder, thinking of my father suffering in the cells.”

In 2019, Nureli took and passed the exam

for prospective mechanical engineering majors at Suleyman Demirel University in Isparta, Turkey, and graduated this year.

He works as an engineer at Yalcinlar Aluminum, where he had interned during his senior year of college.

Translated by RFA Uyghur. Edited by Roseanne Gerin and Malcolm Foster.



POLICE ABDUCTED AND ARRESTED KAZAKH CITIZEN

”

ASKAR AZATBEK, ARRESTED BY CHINESE POLICE IN A BORDER TRADE ZONE, IS SERVING 20 YEARS FOR SPYING.

Chinese police crossed into Kazakh territory in 2017 to arrest and abduct Askar Azabek, a naturalized Kazakh citizen, police and his family told Radio Free Asia.

Azatbek, now 47, was an ethnic Kazakh of Chinese nationality living in Xinjiang region until 2016, when he traveled

to Kazakhstan and acquired Kazakh nationality shortly thereafter.

RFA had previously reported that Azatbek was arrested on Dec. 7, 2017, when he visited the Khorgos International Center for Boundary Cooperation, a special international trade zone on the Kazakhstan-China border. In 2018, he

was sentenced to 20 years in prison for espionage.

His sister, Gauhar Kurmanalieva, who lives in Kazakhstan's largest city of Almaty, said he was forcefully detained by Chinese police while in the Khorgos Market, on the Kazakh side of the border.

"His passport was confiscated and he was forcibly taken to China by car," she said.

The court verdict from 2018 stated that Azatbek was arrested by the Khorgos county (Huocheng county in Chinese) Police Department in China.

After months of effort to corroborate this, RFA managed to speak to a police officer in that department who was involved in Azatbek's abduction and described what happened.

The officer, who insisted on not being identified, said that Azatbek had been blacklisted by the police due to a complaint from an acquaintance who had helped him get a visa but with whom he had a financial dispute.

The officers spotted him in the trade zone on Dec. 7, 2017, and they brought him to the Kazakhstan border control office and interrogated him.

Azatbek insisted that he was a citizen of Kazakhstan and refused to answer their questions, the officer said. The police found out that his Chinese citizenship was not yet erased from the archive and moved him from the Kazakhstan border office to Chinese territory.

"He was a little bit arrogant. It was intense,

so we treated him badly," said the officer.

"He ripped up a letter we wrote. Then we started having a conflict," he said. "There were 15 [police officers], so finally we managed to control him."

Police then grabbed him by the collar, dragged him out of the Kazakhstan police office, forced him into a car and took him to the Chinese side, the officer said.

"He was grabbed by the neck and thrown out of the office," the officer said.

Azatbek refused to go to the Chinese side of the border, so the police pushed and pulled him to the car. "While he was ... resisting, we beat his hand a couple of times," the officer said.

BEFRIENDED APPARENT SPY

Azatbek was apparently arrested because of his links to Daniyar Serikbayev, who worked at Kazakhstan's Consulate in Urumqi. He was not aware that Serikbayev also worked for Kazakhstan's National Security Commission, the country's intelligence agency.

Kurmanalieva said that the accusation of "espionage" against her brother was slander and that the arrest of a Kazakh national by the Chinese police was disrespecting Kazakhstan's sovereignty.

"If China had proof that my brother committed a crime, instead of crossing the Kazakhstan border to arrest him, they should've done so via Interpol or should've discussed it diplomatically with Kazakhstan," she said. "I think what China did is an insult to Kazakhstan."

She called on the Kazakh government to act on behalf of her brother and to protect and restore the honor Kazakhstan.

Translated by RFA Uyghur. Edited by Eugene Whong and Malcolm Foster.

VIDEO SHOWS DESTRUCTION OF UYGHUR HOME



Jélil Ömer, a Uyghur sheepherder in Ghulja County in East Turkistan, posted a video online depicting what he said was the destruction of his family's home to make room for a local energy company's operations.

The minute-long video pans to the right to show a number of structures that had been leveled as a dog barks in the background. It then tracks to show household items like TVs littered on the ground.

"Look at the TVs and blankets they threw outside," the man says in the video, which was posted on Douyin, the Chinese version of TikTok, last month. "While we are not at

home, they have demolished the homes."

Local officials contacted by RFA Uyghur confirmed that families in the area have been relocated to make room for the energy company's operations, including the development of its mine.

A security official said more than 5,000 family homes in Qarayaghach village were destroyed in 2018 and the families offered resettlement in Chipar Terek in Qash village.

But families have resisted the relocation, saying the village is too remote, lacks basic amenities and isn't conducive to farming.



The surveillance cameras made by the Chinese company Hikvision, which is blacklisted in US, blanket the occupied West Bank, according to Amnesty International. The same Surveillance cameras have been helping the genocidal Chinese regime to track Uyghur Muslims in East Turkistan.

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istiqlal

What is happening in East Turkistan?

What is true and what is false?

The “ISTIQLAL” journal uses reliable sources, evidence and witnesses to reveal China’s genocide crime and shine a light on the oppression in East Turkistan as well as expose China’s fake news propaganda.

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