



NO UYGHURS FROM EAST TURKISTAN WENT ON HAJJ PILGRIMAGE



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NO UYGHURS FROM XINJIANG WENT ON HAJJ PILGRIMAGE

Consul General Wang Qimin, left, sees off the first batch of Chinese pilgrims returning home, at Jeddah Hajj Airport, June 22, 2024, in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Chinese Consulate in Jeddah



The apparent lack of participation is another example of China's repression of Uyghurs, experts say.

No Uyghurs from China's far-western region of ~~Xinjiang~~ were among the Muslims from China who went on this year's Hajj, according to data from the Islamic Association of China and a Uyghur living abroad who went on the pilgrimage to Mecca.

All told, more than 1.8 million people

participated in this year's Hajj, which fell between June 14-19, according to Saudi Arabian officials, including 1.6 million foreign pilgrims.

Muslims in China need government permission to make the pilgrimage, which as one of the Five Pillars of Islam is required of all Muslims once in their lives, if health allows.

As of early June, 1,053 pilgrims – 769 from China's Gansu province and 284 from Yunnan province – were registered to go on the Hajj, according to the website of the Islamic Association of China. No



Uyghurs or other Muslims from Xinjiang were included in the tally.

Last year, 386 pilgrims from Ningxia province and other places in China participated, but none from Xinjiang.

The last time any pilgrim from Xinjiang was reported by the association was in 2016.

Abdusalam Teklimakan Haji, a Uyghur in Turkey who went on the Hajj this year and is a member of the board of the International Union of East Turkistan Organizations, said he saw no Uyghurs from Xinjiang among the Chinese delegation, although he did see some ethnic Hui Muslims carrying Chinese flags.

Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Hajj and Umrah, which oversees the pilgrimage, allows about 1,000 pilgrims per million people from each country around the world, he said. With an estimated population of 11 million Uyghurs in Xinjiang – which Uyghurs prefer to call East Turkistan – at least 11,000 Uyghurs should be allowed to perform the Hajj.

Radio Free Asia tried contacting the Islamic Association of China and other departments in Xinjiang administering the relevant affairs for comment, but received no response.

REPRESSING RELIGION

The apparent lack of Uyghur participation suggests Chinese authorities are not permitting any Muslims from Xinjiang from going on the pilgrimage, and reflects Beijing's wider repression of Uyghur

culture and religious practice, activists and experts say.

Since 2017, China has severely restricted most religious practices among Uyghurs, including praying in mosques, reciting the Quran and fasting during the holy month of Ramadan, in the name of squelching religious extremism and terrorism.

“The Chinese government's targeted restrictions and repression on Uyghur people's religious activities, such as pilgrimage, prayer and fasting, are part of its genocidal policies against Uyghurs.” said Ma Ju, an analyst of Islam based in New York City.

“Although China is giving opportunities to a small number of Hui Muslims to perform Hajj so that they can attract the attention of the world, especially the Muslim world, we know that their religious freedom is also restricted,” he said.

“There is no religious freedom for any citizen in China,” Ma said.

Just before the start of this year's Hajj season, the Chinese government boosted its propaganda campaign for the Muslim world, experts said.

At the beginning of June, the Chinese Consulate General in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and the Xinjiang Overseas Friendship Association jointly organized a music night in Dubai called “Xinjiang is a Good Place.”

China has held similar events in Kuwait, Turkey, Egypt and other Muslim-dominated countries, emphasizing that

they respect the freedom of cultural and religious belief in Xinjiang.

Although the events featured Uyghur dancers and singers, no Uyghurs were a

part of the Chinese delegation to Mecca.

Translated by Martin Shawn, edited by Malcolm Foster.

CHINA CHANGES NAMES OF 630 UYGHUR VILLAGES IN XINJIANG

A vehicle drives past a signboard reading 'Welcome to the Hotan Unity New Village' in Hotan, northwestern China's Xinjiang region, Sept, 21, 2018.



It's another way of erasing Uyghur religion, history and culture, a human rights group says.

China has changed the names of about 630 Uyghur villages to Mandarin words such as “Harmony” and “Unity” to promote ethnic harmony in Xinjiang, a report by a human rights group found,

The move is “part of Chinese government’s efforts to erase the cultural and religious expression” of the more than 11 million

predominantly Muslim Uyghurs living in Xinjiang, New York-based Human Rights Watch, or HRW, said in its June 18 report.

“How these village names are being kind of erased and replaced shows how dystopian the whole project of the Chinese government in the Uyghur region is,” Maya Wang, acting China director at

Village name changes by specific word 2009-2023



Source: National Bureau of Statistics of China. Graphic by Ananda Weerasinghe/ICAA

HRW.

“It’s about repressing people and ... the past, and erasing the future, and erasing what they can imagine as a possibility for their own children or grandchildren,” she said

The results came after HRW and Norway-based Uyghur Hjelp scraped names of villages in Xinjiang from the website of China’s National Bureau of Statistics.

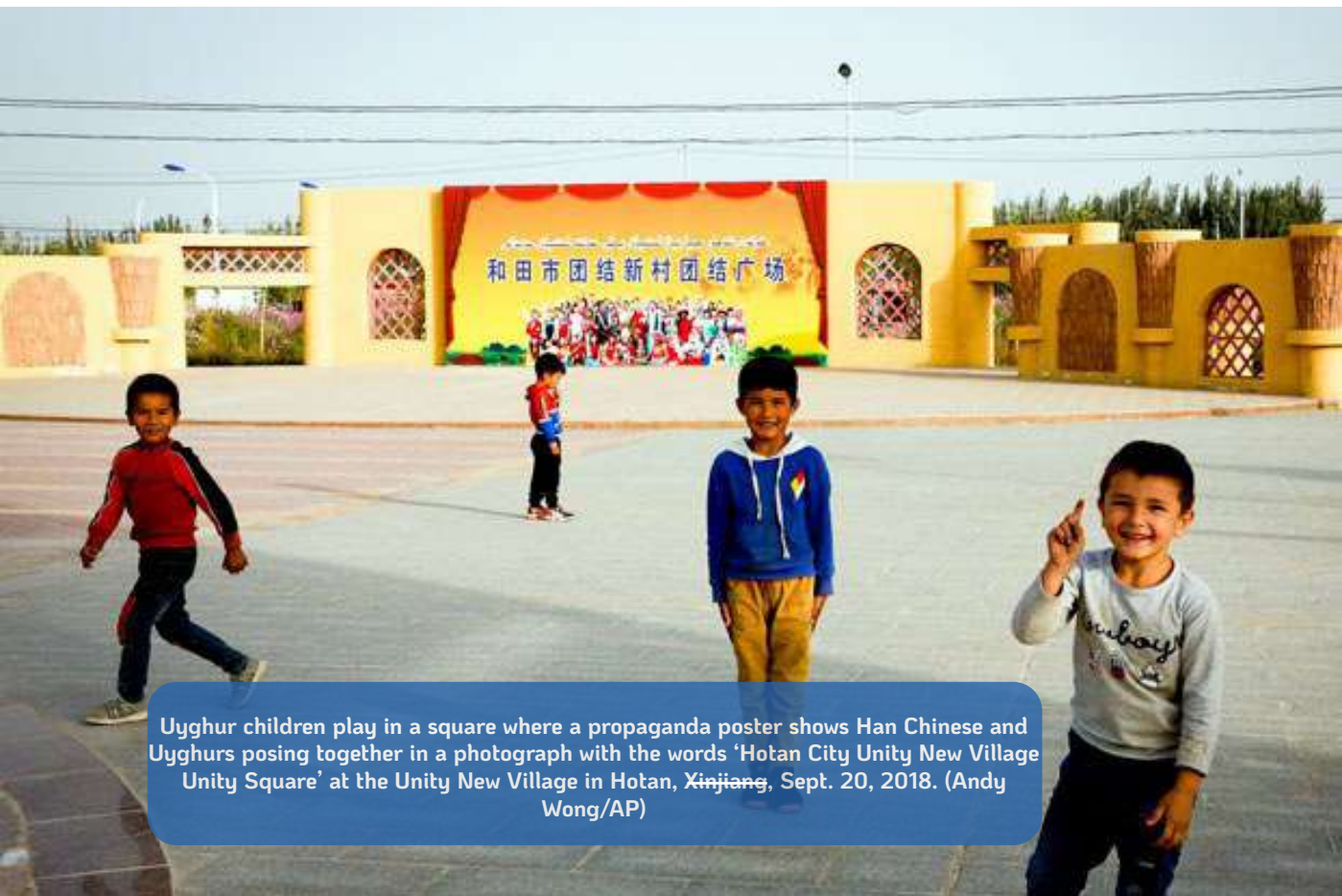
All told, China hanged the names of 3,652 of 25,000 Uyghur villages in Xinjiang between 2009 and 2023, but most of these changes have been mundane, such as correcting numbers or the way the names were written, they found.

But 630 of the changes were more dramatic and religious, cultural or historical in nature. And most renamings occurred between 2017 and 2019, when the Chinese government’s repression escalated in the region, the report said, but they appear to be continuing.

‘ERASING SYMBOLS’

For example, Aq Meschit, or “White Mosque,” village in Akto county, Kizilsu Kyrgyz Autonomous Prefecture, was renamed Unity village in 2018.

The same year, Hoja Eriq, or “Sufi Teacher’s Creek,” village in Aksu Prefecture was rechristened Willow village.



Uyghur children play in a square where a propaganda poster shows Han Chinese and Uyghurs posing together in a photograph with the words ‘Hotan City Unity New Village Unity Square’ at the Unity New Village in Hotan, Xinjiang, Sept. 20, 2018. (Andy Wong/AP)

And Dutar, a village named after a Uyghur musical instrument, in Qaraqash county of Hotan prefecture, was renamed Red Flag in 2022.

The Chinese government has used the village renamings along with other tactics, including the banning of hijabs for women, beards for men, and Muslim names for children, to wipe out Uyghur culture and to humiliate the ethnic group, Wang said.

“On a very fundamental level, erasing the symbols of people, the language and culture is about erasing who they are and teaching them to fear,” she said.

The village renamings are also part of the greater set of serious rights abuses and crimes against humanity involving the detentions of an estimated 1.8 million Uyghurs and other Turkic people in “re-education” camps, torture, forced labor, sexual violence and the forced sterilization of woman, Wang said.

Campaign for Uyghurs, a Washington-based Uyghur advocacy group, condemned the village renamings.

“The names, which have now been changed to empty CCP [Chinese Communist Party] slogans, once reflected our long history and rich culture and have been in our homeland for hundreds of years,” said Rushan Abbas, the group’s executive director, in a statement.

“Although the CCP appears to celebrate Uyghur culture by showcasing elements like our music and dance, these displays are nothing but hollow propaganda masking the regime’s ongoing and systematic suppression of cultural and religious expression,” Abbas said.

In response to such measures, foreign governments, especially those in Muslim-majority nations, can put pressure on the Chinese government to stop its abuses involving religious and ethnic minorities and condemn such behavior, said Ibrahim Hooper, national communications director for the Council on American-Islamic Relations in Washington.

Edited by Roseanne Gerin and Malcom Foster.



Watchtowers loom over a highsecurity facility near what is believed to be a re-education camp where mostly Muslim ethnic minorities are detained, on the outskirts of Hotan, in Xinjiang, May 31, 2019. _Greg Baker/AFP

UYGHUR WOMAN RESENTENCED FOR TEACHING YOUTH THE QURAN



Heyrinisa Memet had just completed a 10-year prison term after a 2014 crackdown.

Soon after completing a 10-year prison term, a Uyghur woman was sentenced to another 14 years in jail for attempting to split China by teaching the Quran to teenagers, authorities with knowledge of the situation said.

Heyrinisa Memet, in her mid-40s, had been previously sentenced during a crackdown in 2014 after a “terrorist attack” in ~~Xinjiang~~ that Chinese authorities blamed on separatist Uyghur Muslims.

Within days of her release, she was sentenced again on June 11 for activities back in 2014 — providing religious instruction to youth at the request of her neighbors — the director of security of Zulkum village in Kashgar prefecture said, insisting on not being identified for fear of reprisal.

“Her crime was teaching religious content to kids,” he said. “She wasn’t changing those kids’ ideology, she was just teaching them religious content.”

In recent years, Chinese authorities have punished large numbers of Uyghurs in ~~Xinjiang~~ for religious offenses, including teaching the Quran to children, according to leaked Chinese government documents, data compiled by Uyghur rights groups, and accounts of former detainees from “re-education” camps.

Authorities have criminalized such activities because they believe that Uyghurs use religion to incite subversion of state sovereignty, endanger social stability, and advocate religious extremism, terrorism and ethnic

separatism.

Memet was one of three people from Zulkum village sentenced at closed-door trials in Makit county of Kashgar prefecture on June 11, according to the village security director and to an officer at the village police station.

Two other Uyghurs from the community who had finished serving prison sentences were tried anew as well, said the village security director, who like others in the report, declined to be named so as to speak freely.

“It’s been one and a half years since their release,” he said. “There was no problem, but they were arrested only because they were in prison before.”

They were sentenced to 18 years in prison for listening to audio recordings or watching videos, he said.

“There was no mention of extremism, but they were keeping those audio and videos,” the village security director said. “They were accused of having hatred towards Han Chinese people, but there was no evidence.”

Authorities informed their families that their previous “education” was not sufficient, so they were taken away for further “education,” he said.

PREVIOUS SENTENCE

The village security director went on to say that authorities first sentenced Memet when she was swept up in a crackdown following a “terrorist attack” on a market in ~~Xinjiang~~’s capital Urumqi on May 22,

A Uyghur passes
before the Id Kah
Mosque in Kashgar
city in Xinjiang
region, July 13,
2023. (Pedro Pardo/
AFP)



2014.

On that morning, five assailants in two sport utility vehicles drove into a busy street market, tossing out explosives and mowing down the mainly Han Chinese shoppers before colliding with each other and exploding. More than 40 people, including four of the assailants, were killed, and over 90 others injured.

The attack occurred amid a string of violent incidents in Xinjiang that officials blamed on separatist Uyghur Muslims.

At the time, activists said the violence was being driven by authorities' restrictive and discriminatory policies directed at

Uyghurs, and the belief that only Han Chinese migrants were benefiting from economic growth in the region.

A police officer in Makit county told Radio Free Asia that some of the Uyghurs sentenced during the 2014 crackdown had completed their terms, but were transferred to jail upon release.

Some were kept in jail for a month, some for a year, and others were sentenced again, he said.

Among them were three people from Zulkum village who were sentenced up to 18 years in prison, he said, but could not provide further details.

CANADIAN AMBASSADOR'S VISIT TO XINJIANG DRAWS CHINA'S IRE



Jennifer May raised concerns about human rights violations against Uyghurs

Canada's ambassador to China expressed concern over documented human rights violations against Uyghurs with top officials during a visit to Xinjiang, sparking criticism from the Chinese Embassy in Canada that said her concerns were based on "fabricated rumors and reports with ulterior motives."

Ambassador Jennifer May visited the far-western region on June 19-22 and met with Xinjiang Party Secretary Ma Xingrui and other senior regional government officials, according to a statement issued by Global Affairs Canada, the government department that manages diplomatic relations.

Very few Western diplomats have visited Xinjiang in recent years. It was the first visit to the region by a Canadian diplomat in 10 years. Last August, a group of diplomats from Mexico, Pakistan, Iran and other countries visited the region as part of a government-sponsored tour.

May went to Xinjiang as part of Canada's diplomatic engagement with China and to raise concerns "over credible reports of systematic violations of human rights occurring in Xinjiang" affecting Uyghurs and other Turkic peoples, the statement said.

Specific concerns included restrictions on Uyghur-language education and the forced placement of Uyghur children in boarding schools, it said, but did not provide detail about the places May visited or what she saw.

In February 2021, Canada's House of

Commons passed a motion declaring the Chinese government's mistreatment of Uyghurs — including the arbitrary detention of Uyghurs in state-sponsored camps, the use of Uyghur forced labor, the suppression of Uyghur religious practices, and the forced sterilization of women — a genocide.

May also repeated Canada's calls for China to allow U.N. independent experts unfettered access to all regions of the country, including Xinjiang, the statement said.

"Until an independent investigation team can visit, assess the situation, and release an unbiased report, Canada is signaling that China's propaganda and staged displays showing Uyghurs as content are ineffective and disregarded," said Memet Tohti, executive director of the Ottawa-based Uyghur Rights Advocacy Project.

A 2022 report by the then-U.N. Human Rights Chief Michelle Bachelet, who visited Xinjiang, found that China's mass detentions of Uyghurs and other Turkic minorities in the region may constitute crimes against humanity. Uyghur rights groups criticized the tightly organized trip as a staged tour.

Beijing has denied accusations of severe rights violations.

May's visit coincided a call by international human rights organizations and Uyghur advocacy groups on June 20 for the U.N.'s current human rights chief, Volker Türk, to provide a public update of measures taken by the Chinese government and his



office to address the situation in Xinjiang.

‘SAME OLD RHETORIC’

On Monday, the Chinese Embassy in Canada issued a statement saying that Canada “repeated the same old rhetoric, expressing so-called concerns based on fabricated rumors and reports with ulterior motives, without mentioning what Ambassador May really saw and heard in Xinjiang.”

The embassy urged Canada to be objective and unbiased and to show Canadians what May saw during her visit. It also said that Xinjiang enjoys social stability, economic prosperity, ethnic

unity and religious harmony.

“Human rights of people of all ethnic groups, including their right to use and advance their own ethnic languages, are fully protected,” the embassy said.

“Canada has repeatedly made unwarranted remarks about other countries’ human rights situation, while turning a blind eye to its own racial issues,” the embassy went on to say, citing systemic racial discrimination and unfair treatment of indigenous people, homeless people whose rights are not protected, and racial discrimination against Black civil servants in the federal government.

Canada has long upheld human rights protections and has voiced its concerns about them periodically, said John Packer, a law professor and director of the Human Rights Research and Education Centre at the University of Ottawa.

“This has been a contentious part of the relationship because China does not share the same perspective and considers these issues a matter of internal affairs, feeling it is inappropriate for Canada to

raise them,” he told Radio Free Asia.

Because Canada and China are parties to international treaties, including human rights agreements such as the U.N. Charter and the Genocide Convention, they are bound by certain multilateral standards, making it legitimate to discuss such matters in international forums and in bilateral relations, Packer said.

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

A group of journalists from 16 countries visit the Kazanqi Folk Customs Tourist Area located in the south of Gulja City (Yining in Chinese) from June 15-23, as reported by Chinese state media.



CHINA HOSTS FOREIGN JOURNALISTS FROM 16 COUNTRIES IN EAST TURKISTAN TO COUNTER GENOCIDE

On June 24, CGTN - China's English-language global television network - reported that China invited journalists from 16 countries to visit the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, also known as East Turkistan.

This initiative aimed to counter allegations of genocide against Uighurs and to present a different narrative to the international community. The visiting journalists expressed positive impressions of the region's social stability, robust economic growth, and cultural preservation, but human rights organizations and observers said China continues these kinds of visits to counter and cover up human rights violations.

DETAILS OF THE VISIT AND JOURNALISTS' IMPRESSIONS

Starting on June 15, the journalists toured Urumqi, Ili Kazak Autonomous Prefecture, and Aksu Prefecture. They were impressed by the high-rise buildings, bustling streets, and busy traffic. Mustafina Almira, editor-in-chief of the Angren Truth newspaper from Uzbekistan, noted, "The development here is very rapid... Everyone is working hard to create a better life."

Levaz Didberashvili from Georgia's Rustavi 2 TV channel highlighted the growing trade between China and Europe

facilitated by freight trains, indicating a promising economic future for Xinjiang.

To address allegations of forced labor, particularly in the cotton and textile industries, China arranged visits to cotton farmers and textile enterprises in Aksu. Nathalie Benelli from Switzerland remarked, "In the West, we read about alleged forced labor and suppression of Uighur culture. What we see here is completely different." Adirek Pipatpatama from Thailand observed, "In Xinjiang, I have seen people of different cultures, ethnic groups, and religions living together in harmony."

The tour included visits to religious and cultural sites such as the Xinjiang Islamic Institute in Urumqi, Shaanxi Mosque in Yining, and Kizil Caves in Aksu. Faisal Said Mohammed Masood Saadi from Oman said, "I can feel the Chinese government's support for Muslims and ethnic minority people."

CHINA'S INTENTIONS AND INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS

China aims to counter Western media's negative portrayals and present its perspective through these visits. However, the country continues to deny access to independent Western observers and accuses critics of spreading lies and hindering China's development.

Recently, organizations like the World Uyghur Congress and Human Rights Watch accused UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk of failing to act on an August 2022 UN report.

This report highlighted that China's actions against Uighurs could constitute crimes against humanity. Meanwhile, China frequently invites diplomats from economically dependent regions like the

Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia to such events, attempting to mask its religious and national repression in the region.



UYGHURS IN CHINA THE MOST HEAVILY JAILED GROUP IN THE WORLD

Muherrem Mettursun, left, 49, was detained in 2021; her 68-year-old mother, Tajinisa Yimin, center, was detained on terrorism-related charges in 2021; and her father, Nuri Mettursun, right, was 67 when he was arrested in 2017. He died five months into a five-and-a-half-year sentence. Photo: Courtesy of Nurmemet Mettursun.



According to the Washington DC-based advocacy group, Uyghur Human Rights Project, (UHRP) 3,814 Turkic people per 100,000 were jailed in Xinjiang between 2017–2022 compared with the figure for China of 80 Han Chinese per 100,000. This dwarfs El Salvador’s hitherto notorious record of imprisoning 1,086 per 100,000 of its citizens.

The UHRP probe into prison numbers in China has shown that despite Uyghurs being only one percent of the total population of the superpower, one third of its total prison population is made up of Turkic peoples scattered throughout the province on its far northwestern flank,

roughly four times the size of France.

Ben Carrdus, senior researcher at the UHRP and co-author of the report with Peter Irwin, UHRP Associate Director for Research & Advocacy, told “Bitter Winter” they were “stunned” by the statistics. Sifting through the data “over and over again,” he said they were “almost in disbelief.” The figures add weight to “an ongoing human rights crisis in the Uyghur Region,” he said.

“Even if our estimates are wildly overstated; even three times the true imprisonment figures, they would still show that the Uyghur Region has the

One third of China’s total prison inmates are Uyghurs and Turkic people.

Uyghurs are the most heavily imprisoned people in the world according to alarming figures released by a Uyghur rights group, claiming that at least 1 in 26 of Xinjiang’s non-Han citizens have been incarcerated.

According to the Washington DC-based advocacy group, Uyghur Human Rights Project, (UHRP) 3,814 Turkic people per 100,000 were jailed in Xinjiang between 2017–2022 compared with the figure for China of 80 Han Chinese per 100,000. This dwarfs El Salvador’s hitherto notorious record of imprisoning 1,086 per 100,000 of its citizens.

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Winter” they were “stunned” by the statistics. Sifting through the data “over and over again,” he said they were “almost in disbelief.” The figures add weight to “an ongoing human rights crisis in the Uyghur Region,” he said.

“Even if our estimates are wildly overstated; even three times the true imprisonment figures, they would still show that the Uyghur Region has the world’s highest rate of imprisonment,” he said.

Turkic people, mostly Uyghurs, of Xinjiang were extrajudicially sentenced in their hundreds of thousands during the brutal crackdowns of 2017, when President Xi Jinping’s “War on Terror” in Xinjiang assumed sinister proportions. Arrests were for the most part on terrorism-related charges.

While more than one and a half million were herded into purpose built so-called Vocational Training Camps; an additional eighty seven percent of the formal prison sentences from 2017 to 2022 were for more than five years, with an average of 9.24 years.

Although the Chinese government no longer publishes yearly prosecution statistics, there is no sign that the overall prison population has dwindled. An analysis of the 2016 to 2024 19,014 cases contained in the Xinjiang Victims Database still indicates an average sentence of 8.5 years.

By 2017 incarcerations had already been underway following the launch of Beijing’s

The late Nuri Mettursun. Photo: Courtesy of Nurmemet Mettursun.





The Chinese passport of the late Nuri Mettursun, courtesy of his son, Nurmemet Mettursun.

“Strike Hard” campaign against terrorism in 2014, when Uyghurs were rounded up to tackle the “ideological virus” of Turkic Muslims. Since then, around half a million people in Xinjiang have been prosecuted through the criminal courts and there is no sign of numbers abating.

“Overall prison population today likely remains as high as it was during the peak of the strike hard campaign,” they say. “Given the high prosecution numbers for 2018 and 2019 amid the continuing strike

hard climate, it is reasonable to assume that sentencing patterns in those years remained every bit as harsh as they were in 2017.”

High though the figures are, Chinese state-published data could just be the tip of the iceberg claims Carrdus. The true numbers could be much higher.

“We need to stress that these figures are for formal imprisonment only. They don’t include people who may still be

effectively imprisoned in the camps or held indefinitely in pre-trial detention.” “And they don’t include people sentenced to prison by the Bingtuan’s courts (the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps, originally set up seventy years ago to guard the Western frontiers, which has since mutated over time to create an “environment of extraordinary terror and oppression”). The true numbers are therefore likely to be astronomical,” he said.

Leaked documents hacked from Xinjiang police computers in 2022 and released to the Associated Press show that 830,000 mostly Uyghurs from Southern Xinjiang were detained during the mass roundups on charges related to terrorism, separatism, or religious extremism. Examples of their “crimes” were typically the style of their clothes, the shape of their beard, the number of their children, reading and studying the Quran or praying.

Known as the Xinjiang Police Files they blew the whistle on police activities that saw “offenders” from the age of 14 to 90 sentenced without formal trial or legal representation, often for historical “crimes” committed when they were minors, such as studying in Turkey, or learning to read the Quran.

Carrdus’ report notes that the dramatic number and length of prison sentences in the Uyghur region “should not be interpreted as a reflection of increased criminality among Uyghurs and other Turkic peoples.” Citing a recent UHRP

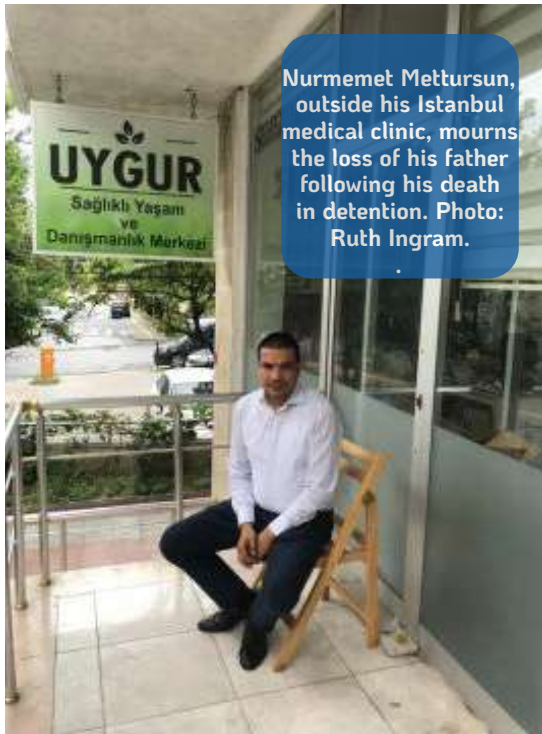
report on female religious figures in East Turkestan (the preferred term for Xinjiang used by exiled Uyghurs), it stresses a “remarkable, indeed shocking, lack of proportionality between crime and sentence,” when Uyghur cases go through the Chinese courts.

Specific case studies from the UHRP report included that of Ezizgul Memet who studied the Quran with her mother for three days in 1976 when she was five or six years old, for which she was sentenced to 10 years in prison in 2017.

Tursungul Emet did the same in 1974 and was sentenced to 11 years. Aytial Rozi studied the Quran and taught it to a group of women between 2009 and 2011, for which she was sentenced to 20 years in prison.

Of the almost 80,000 recorded in the Xinjiang Victims Database, 1,481 imprisoned Uyghurs are aged 55 years or older; 15 are over 70 and three over 90. These elderly Uyghurs have been jailed, forced to learn Chinese, and subjected to hours, weeks, and months of CCP propaganda. They are charged with “participating in terrorist organizations” and are being held to be purged of “ideological viruses.”

Nurmemet Mettursun, whose 67-year-old father died five months into a five-and-a-half-year prison sentence imposed in 2017, spoke to “Bitter Winter” from his exiled home in Türkiye. Shattered by the death of his father, the arrest and disappearance of his 68-year-old mother



Nurmemet Mettursun, outside his Istanbul medical clinic, mourns the loss of his father following his death in detention. Photo: Ruth Ingram.

in 2021 was also playing on his mind. Inquiries made to the United Nations last year by the Istanbul-based Chinese Concentration Camp Victims Group as to her whereabouts revealed that she had been “criminally detained on suspicion of possessing items promoting extremism and terrorism” on July 25, 2021. (During the clampdown, kitchen knives were considered terrorist tools, confiscated, and cataloged) His 49-year-old sister Muhherrem Mettursun was also detained at the same time, but both their cases have gone cold. Meanwhile his wife and two children still in the homeland have disappeared.

He says his medical practice and writing project are all that keep him sane during his sleepless nights and days sunk in deep depression.

“Offenders” are still being rounded up

and sentenced to lengthy jail terms for historical offenses. Investigations by Radio Free Asia have probed the recent arrest of three women from Zulkum Village in the Makit county of Southern Xinjiang’s Kashgar. Having been released from 10-year sentences imposed in 2014, they were re-sentenced on June 11, 2024, to periods of 14–18 years for teaching religion to children and listening to Islamic recordings ten years ago.

The village security director interviewed by RFA is quoted as having said, “There was no mention of extremism, but they were keeping those audio and videos.” “They were accused of having hatred



Nurmemet Mettursun’s mother, Tajinisa Yimin. Photo courtesy of Nurmemet Mettursun.

towards Han Chinese people, but there was no evidence.”

10 years in prison had not been enough, said the official, “so they were taken away for further education,” he said.

Carrdus criticized the Communist Party’s “absurdly upbeat propaganda about the overall status and welfare of Uyghurs and other Turkic people in the region.”

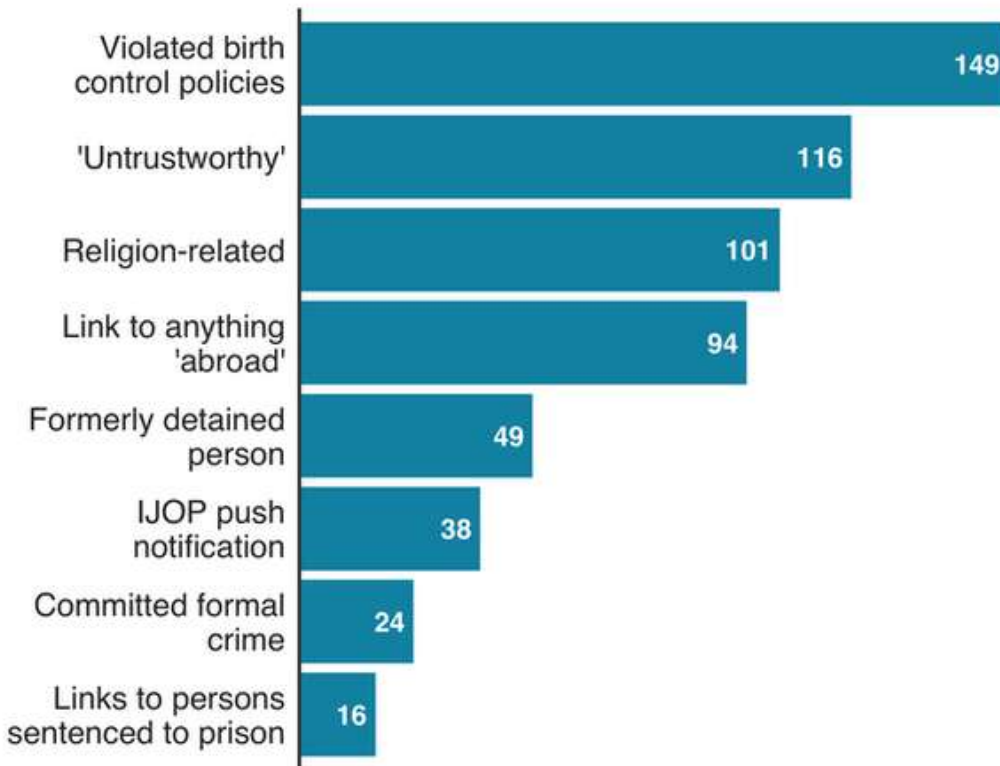
“You can’t claim Uyghurs are the ‘happiest Muslims in the world’ when your own stats reveal that Uyghurs are the most-

imprisoned people in the world.”

Beijing typically brushes aside any concerns and defends its actions by claiming China is a country ruled by law, said Carrdus. “But the law in China is only what the Party wants it to be and being ‘the law’ doesn’t mean there’s justice. These sentences, these imprisonment statistics, they’re the Party’s choice and the Party’s will, and they are yet more evidence of the ongoing human rights crisis in the Uyghur Region.”

Reasons given for a person's internment

(Multiple counts per person)



Source: Karakax List report by Adrian Zenz



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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.



China changes names of 630 Uyghur villages in East Turkistan

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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