

## **East Turkistan Government-in-Exile**

## The High Commission

Monday, September 16, 2019

## Statement Concerning Persons Undermining the East Turkistan Government-in-Exile

The Government-in-Exile of East Turkistan Republic was founded on September 14, 2004 in Washington, D.C., with the primary purpose of acting as the sole representatives of the people of East Turkistan until our country has been liberated from rapacious China's occupation. Today, it is made up of over 60 Parliamentary members representing East Turkistani diaspora community in over 10 countries.

Unfortunately, there has been some confusion regarding the East Turkistan Government-in-Exile and its representatives. Specifically, there are two individuals fraudulently claiming to be representatives of the East Turkistan Government-in-Exile, thereby damaging the interests of East Turkistan's people.

The first is Mr. **Anwar Yusuf Turani**, who was elected as the first Prime Minister of the East Turkistan Government-in-Exile to serve a 4-year term. In 2006, before even completing his first term, he was impeached by unanimous vote by the East Turkistan Parliament-in-Exile for violating the East Turkistan Republic's Constitutional Amendment No. 4, which prohibits any member of the East Turkistan Government & Parliament-in-Exile from visiting China or its occupied territories under any circumstances.

Despite his lawful impeachment, Mr. Turani has – for the past 13 years – embarrassingly continued to proclaim that he is still the "Prime Minister" of the East Turkistan Government-in-Exile.

More gallingly, he has enlisted non-East Turkistanis to join his self-proclaimed "Cabinet." Most recently, he has appointed a Turkish individual named "Muhammed Nurullah Cetin" as his "Defense Minister." Furthermore, it appears that this gentleman, Mr. Cetin, is linked to a jihadist group composed of Chechens and Turkmens operating in Syria. Moreover, it appears that this individual was at one point "the Honorary Consul to Turkey" from the Chechen "opposition."

Furthermore, one of the websites connected to Mr. Turani (http://en.eastturkistan-gov.org/), which was registered November 11, 2004, during his term and which still lists him as Prime Minster) has numerous Turkistan Islamic Party propaganda videos inciting people to wage jihad. All of his reckless activities not only violate our Constitution's Article 30, which term-limits the position of the Prime Minister to only two 4-year terms (had Mr. Turani not been impeached in 2006), but it also goes against the East Turkistan Government in Exile's clear policy opposing terrorism (including state terrorism), and – most importantly – its policy of peaceful struggle for independence, knowing that our only enemy is the Chinese Occupation forces, and our only goal is to restore East Turkistan's independence. We would like to make it clear that the East Turkistan Government-in-Exile is not connected to (nor is it contact with), nor holds sympathy with any group(s) or organization(s) involved in any form of armed conflict in any part of the world. Such organizations / groups is not compatible with our "one enemy, one mission"

policy nor does is compatible with our desire for world peace, and our desire to be ready to serve as the vanguard warriors of global peace.

The second individual is Mr. Ismail Cengiz, based in Turkey, who was another former Prime Minister of the East Turkistan Government-in-Exile (from 2009 until his impeachment on April 21, 2019). He was impeached by the Parliament after refusing to apologize for violating Article 1 by referring to East Turkistan as "China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region" in a statement. Article 1 is one the six guiding principles of our Constitution which cannot be changed or amended. In the months since his disgraceful conduct and lawful impeachment, he – like Mr. Turani – has continued to claim he is the "Prime Minister" and has accused several members of the East Turkistan Government-in-Exile of being "CIA/Pentagon assets." He put our government in a difficult situation by spreading anti-western and anti-American propaganda. His views are not and cannot be the position held by our government. We again would like to reiterate that we have no enemies other than the Chinese occupation forces. More recently, he has been trying to deceive and lure our people by urging members of the East Turkistani diaspora to go to Afghanistan to fight against China. Although it may appear as calling our people to fight against the Chinese occupation forces, in reality it is an attempt by the enemy to misguide our youth.

Given his refusal to accept his lawful impeachment, continuously carrying out activities to undermine the East Turkistan Government-in-Exile, slandering members of our government, and his subsequent agitation for East Turkistanis to travel to Afghanistan (thereby endangering their lives), as of Friday, August 30, 2019, Mr. Cengiz has been dismissed from the East Turkistan Parliament-in-Exile, permanently.

We again would like to make it very clear – both to the international community, to international counterterrorism researchers, and our fellow East Turkistanis – that Mr. Anwar Yusuf Turani, Mr. Ismail Cengiz, and their accomplices, can never become representatives of the East Turkistan Government-in-Exile, and they do not in any way represent the East Turkistan Government-in-Exile nor the East Turkistani people in any capacity.

This statement should also serve as a public notice to Mr. Anwar Turani and Mr. Ismail Cengiz to immediately cease and desist from fraudulently claiming any current affiliation with the East Turkistan Government-in-Exile.

Ghulam Osman Yaghma,

President

**Ilyar Semseddin,**Speaker of the Parliament

Abdulehed Nur,

Prime Minister

Salih Hudayar,

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Haji Mahmut,

**Deputy Prime Minister** 

Umit Uyghur,

Minister of Finance