



THE VOICE OF EAST TURKISTAN

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE EAST TURKISTAN GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

MAY - JUNE 2020



Uyghurs led by ETNAM demonstrate outside of the White House to thank the US for Passing the Uyghur Act into law | Photo credit East Turkistan National Awakening Movement. See page 8 to learn more.

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THE VOICE OF EAST TURKISTAN

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Contributions are welcome and may be addressed to the editor of the *Voice of East Turkistan*. The publisher regrets that only contributions that fit standards set by the editor will be selected for publication.

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Volume 1, Issue 4

May - June 2020

President Yaghma's Mothers Day Greeting

WASHINGTON
May 10, 2020

Statment below attributed to the President's Office

On Mother's Day, we celebrate and honor those who were the first to nourish us with their love even before we opened our eyes to the world outside of their womb.

Since the beginning of time, mothers have served as role models, teachers, and motivators for all of humanity. On an individual level, mothers have taught us compassion, love, and mercy. On a societal level, mothers have shaped the overall structure of communities and nations by cultivating its future. Mothers are pedestal of nations. Thus, for decades China and its occupation forces have engaged in physical and psychological attacks against our mothers in a bid to eradicate the future of our nation in East Turkistan.

Today, in East Turkistan millions of our mothers are being subjected to various forms of crimes against humanity. Millions of East Turkistani mothers have been forcibly separated from their children and families and sent to concentration camps, prisons, and slave factories, while millions of more are being deprived of their motherhood through forced abortions, forced sterilizations, and the murder of their progeny at the hands of the Chinese occupation forces.

We want to take a moment to remember and thank all the mothers that have contributed to development and overall wellbeing of our nation. We thank the countless mothers that have raised courageous men and women who dedicated their lives to ensuring the survival and development of our nation throughout history.

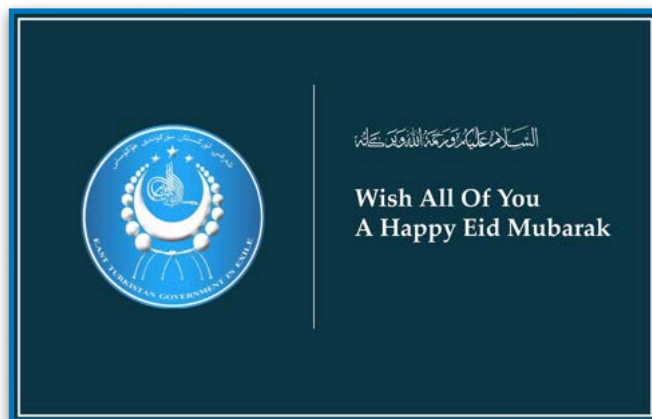
We ask those that are able, to respect and cherish their mothers every day. We call on those who have lost their mothers to pray for their mothers' souls and ask Allah to give them best of paradise in the hereafter. We call on those who have been separated from their mothers as result of the brutal calamity which has fallen upon our nation to have patience and pray for their safety.

We pray that Allah grants all of us his mercy and reunite those of us who have been separated from their

mothers and families. We pray that Allah grants our nation love for another, unity for our people, and strength to liberate our mothers, our families, and our Homeland from the tyranny of China and its occupation forces. We pray that Allah bestow our nation with more benevolent mothers that will uplift our nation. Ameen!

Happy Mother's Day to all the East Turkistani Mothers!

Prime Minister Hudayar's Eid Al Fitr Greeting



WASHINGTON
May 23, 2020

The following statement was made by Prime Minister Salih Hudayar

Assalam and Eid Mubarak!

On behalf of the people of East Turkistan, I want to wish all the Muslims across the world a happy and blessed Eid al Fitr!

This Eid al-Fitr, Muslims across the world are stuck in their homes and prevented from going to mosques to pray Salat al-Fitr [Eid prayer] as a result of China's coronavirus.

For years, China has banned every aspect of Ramadan and Eid in East Turkistan. East Turkistani Muslims have been prevented from praying not only Salat al Fitr but also Salat al-Jummah (Friday prayers) and their five daily prayers.

During the month of Ramadan, East Turkistani Muslims have been forced to eat pork, drink alcohol, and smoke cigarettes to prove they are not fasting.

SPECIAL

Millions of East Turkistani Muslims have been sent to concentration camps, prisons, and slave labor camps while the international community, especially the Muslim world, stood silent.

As Muslims, our deen [religion] requires us to help one another and help the oppressed. Thus, I call on all Muslims across the world to at the very least pray for an end to China's ruthless occupation and oppression in East Turkistan. I ask you to refrain from enabling China's oppression in East Turkistan by boycotting goods Made in China.

I ask you to call on your community leaders, religious leaders, and governments to take action to help liberate East Turkistan and its people from Chinese oppression and occupation.

May Allah protect all the people of the world, including the people of East Turkistan from oppression. May Allah soften the hearts of world leaders and give them strength to stand up against China's oppression in East Turkistan.

May everyone have a blessed Eid al Fitr!

East Turkistan stands with Hong Kong



Hong Kongers protest in support of East Turkistan - December 21, 2020 | Photo Credit: Stand News

WASHINGTON
May 25, 2020

The following statement was made by Prime Minister Salih Hudayar to express East Turkistan's solidarity with Hong Kong.

We would like to express our solidarity with the brave people of Hong Kong who are protesting

against Beijing's proposal of a so-called national security law.

The people of East Turkistan stand firmly with the people of Hong Kong.

The CCP is employing the same evil tactics that it used in occupied East Turkistan by labeling Hong Kong's peaceful protest as "terrorism."

In the past year, thousands of Hong Kong protesters were arrested, and women were raped by CCP forces.

The same atrocities are happening in occupied East Turkistan on a much larger scale, especially in concentration camps and prisons.

What will be the fate of the people of Hong Kong? Will they be sent to concentration camps, labor camps, and prison to be used as slave labor?

Will they become victims of organ harvesting and lab rats for China's ethnic specific biological weapons like the people of East Turkistan and Tibet?

We are all caught in the middle of an unrestricted economic, political, and biological war waged by the CCP against all of humanity.

What the CCP is doing in Hong Kong is essentially what Hitler did with Austria in 1938. What the CCP is doing in East Turkistan is what the Nazis did to Jews and others during the Holocaust.

If history has given us a clear indicator to wake up and take action against evil, now is that time!

Today, we celebrated Memorial Day, commemorating the brave men and women who sacrificed their lives to protect and ensure America's independence and the freedoms of its people.

We call on the world to help the people of East Turkistan, Hong Kong, Tibet and other occupied countries and oppressed peoples suffering under the evil PRC Empire to regain their freedom and independence.

We call on governments across the world to hold the CCP accountable for the calamity that it has inflicted upon all of humanity through the coronavirus.

We call upon the governments and people of the World to cooperate with one another and put an end to the evil Fascist CCP.

Remembering the 31st Anniversary of the Tiananmen Square Massacre and the Status of East Turkistan



Public Launch of the East Turkistan National Awakening Movement (ETNAM) followed by a peaceful demonstration in front of the US Capitol calling on the US Government to help East Turkistan – June 4, 2018 | Photo credit: ETNAM

WASHINGTON
June 4, 2020

For decades, China has done everything it could to suppress ONE IDEA, ONE FACT, which is: East Turkistan is an independent country.

First China rewrote history, claiming that East Turkistan and its people were a part of China since ancient times. The fact is that in over 6,000 years of East Turkistan's history, East Turkistan was never a part of China except for brief periods of occupation.

Over the past few years, China has imprisoned over 3 million Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, Uzbeks, and Tatars as they seek to physically and psychologically wipe out our very existence along with the fact that the Uyghur and other Turkic Peoples of East Turkistan, are the rightful owners of this land.

What China is doing in East Turkistan is no doubt 21st century colonialism and genocide.

When comparing the two petitions submitted to the White House in 2018, you can see that over 90% of East Turkistan's people demand independence. This is not a coincidence; we have a long history of being an independent nation prior to the Manchu Qing conquest of East Turkistan in 1884. We declared independence twice as the East Turkistan Republic in 1933 and once more in 1944.

We maintained our independent democratic, secular, pluralistic East Turkistan Republic until Chinese Communist invasion and subsequent occupation of East Turkistan in December 1949. Our struggle to restore East Turkistan's Independence has never stopped and won't stop until the day that we restore our complete independence.

Freedom is not free! Today, we commemorate the countless Hong Kongers, Tibetans and students in Tiananmen square who died struggling for freedom and democracy. We also commemorate the millions of East Turkistanis who died struggling for East Turkistan's freedom and independence.

On this special day, we would like to reiterate to the international community, especially to relevant governments, organizations, and individuals that East Turkistan is a separate and Independent country that is currently under Chinese occupation. East Turkistan's people want to restore their Independence.

The people of East Turkistan are not Chinese and have never been a part of the Chinese nation. Nor do our people want East Turkistan to be an autonomous region or part of a federal state of China or a part of "New China", no matter how democratic "New China" may claim itself to be.

If those advocating for a New China are truly democratic then they must distinguish themselves from the Chinese Communists, the Chinese Guomindang nationalists by acknowledging historical facts and recognize East Turkistan as an independent country that is occupied by China.

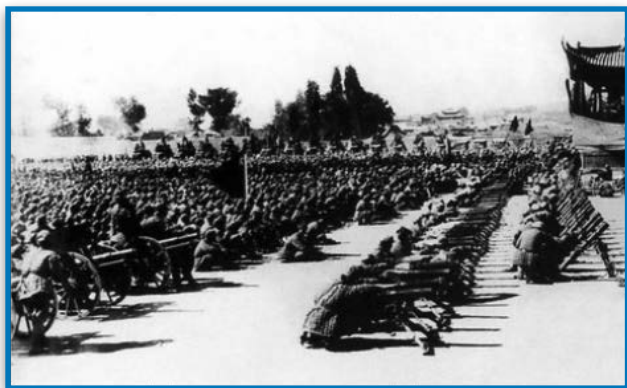
They must acknowledge the genocide and colonization undertaken by previous Chinese Communist and Nationalist administrations.

They must publicly agree to withdraw ALL of China's occupation and colonial forces, return the stolen land and properties back to the East Turkistani people, and they must compensate for the damages inflicted upon East Turkistan and its people.

East Turkistan is an Independent country under Chinese occupation and the rightful, lawful owners of this land are the Uyghur, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Uzbek, Tatar, and other Turkic peoples of East Turkistan, not the Chinese occupation forces and their colonists.

China has no right to East Turkistan!

Soviet archives reveal China's occupation of East Turkistan



PLA troops in Gansu making preparations to invade East Turkistan - October 1949

WASHINGTON
May 4, 2020

The Wilson Center published a series of English translations of recently uncovered Soviet documents involving East Turkistan from the period 1944-1949. The documents revealed how the Soviet Union initially supported the East Turkistan Republic in 1944 and later helped the newly established People's Republic of China invade and overthrow it in 1949.

On May 4, 1943, the VKP(B) CC Politburo adopted a secret decree titled "On Xinjiang." The decree stated that the Soviet Union could no longer "tolerate" the oppressive Chinese Governor of East Turkistan ("Xinjiang"), Sheng Shicai, and that the USSR should support non-Chinese rebels "in their struggle against the repressive colonialist policy of the Governor." With pressure from the Soviet Union, the East Turkistan Republic entered into an agreement with the Chinese government on June 6, 1946. However, the Soviet Union soon believed that the Republic of China was not in compliance with the treaty, and tried to resolve the complicated situation in East Turkistan twice, in February and again in September of 1947.

Among the recently revealed documents in Soviet Archives included directives approved by Stalin ordering Major-General Yegnarov and a group of Soviet officers to be sent to the Ili District in the East Turkistan Republic to organize the East Turkistani combat operations against the Chinese Army. The Russian State Archives also contain several letters to Stalin from Alihan Tore Shakirjan, the President of East Turkistan Republic.

By 1949, the Soviets had largely reversed their position on supporting East Turkistan and started holding high level meetings with Chinese Communists. On February 4, 1949, the Soviets denied having supported the East Turkistan Republic in a meeting between Mao Zedong and Antastas Mikoyan, the Vice Premier of the Soviet Council of Ministers. Mao stated he had heard there was an independence movement and communist party in East Turkistan to which Mikoyan responded that there is a national movement but no communist party. Two days later, in another meeting with Mikoyan, Mao stated his intentions to invade and occupy East Turkistan by 1951.

On June 27, 1949, Stalin met with a Chinese Communist Party delegation where he stated that the CCP should not put off the occupation of East Turkistan, "because a delay may lead to British interference" in East Turkistan. Stalin also told the CCP delegation that the Chinese population is less than 5% of the total population in East Turkistan, he urged the CCP to colonize East Turkistan and raise the Chinese population to at least 30%.

On August 24, 1949 the President and Foreign Minister of the East Turkistan Republic along with the Commander and Deputy Commander of the East Turkistan National Army along with other high ranking officials of the East Turkistan Republic boarded a plane to Moscow, according to East Turkistan's records. However it was reported by the Soviets that on September 2, 1949 that their plane had crashed in Irkutsk on route to Beijing and that all 14 people on board had been killed. On September 27, 1949, Mao sent a telegram pleading to Stalin to assist him providing air transport for part of the PLA's 500,000 troops that were tasked with invading and occupying East Turkistan. Mao stated that if he didn't receive the needed assistance, he would have to delay until March – April 1950 which would prove disastrous for the PRC.

On October 1, 1949 following the proclamation of the "People's Republic of China" in Beijing, Mao order his troops in Gansu to start marching towards East Turkistan. On October 12, 1949, the Chinese invaded East Turkistan and by November had seized much of northeastern East Turkistan. In late December 1949, the PLA marched into Ghulja, the capital of the East Turkistan Republic. On December 22, 1949, the East Turkistan National Army was forcibly incorporated into the PLA's 5th Army Corp, which led to the CCP's formal overthrow of the East Turkistan Republic and the loss of East Turkistan's independence.

Open Letter Opposing Chinese Colonization and Occupation in East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet



Map of East Turkistan and its neighbors

June 6, 2020
Washington, DC

Recently on June 3rd 2020, ahead of the 31st Anniversary of the Tiananmen Square Massacre, a group of Chinese people proclaimed a so-called “New Federal State of China” which claims to be a country without the Chinese Communist Party, which will bring rule of Law, democracy, and freedom to the 1.4 billion Chinese people.”

Looking at their recent declaration, we cannot overlook the striking similarities with the 1912 Provisional Constitution of the Republic of China (otherwise known as Nationalist China) and the 1954 Constitution of the People’s Republic of China (commonly known as Communist China). The major similarities are as follows:

All three claim to takedown a preceding regime and bring about a “New China” that represents China and the Chinese people.

All three claim to end slavery and oppression in one form or another and bring about democracy, freedom, and rule of law.

All three claim that there will be equality, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of religion, right to vote, right to be elected, right to privacy, and right to own private property.

All three claim to give autonomy to ”regions” and “provinces” which they claim to be as “a part of China.”

All of them either directly or indirectly illegally claim the countries of East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet as being “a part of China,” despite the fact that these countries, existed as independent nations for a long time before these three political Chinese entities came to existence.

When looking at these similarities, one can’t see much differences between these three Chinese political entities other than that while one claims to be “nationalist” the others claim to be either “communist” or “democratic.”

In the past century, the people of East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet suffered greatly as a result of Chinese nationalist and Chinese communist attempts to occupy occupy and colonize our countries. Both, groups sought to assimilate if not eradicate the native peoples of East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet.

We don’t wish to see a new Chinese regime promise the same lies as its predecessors, only to advance Chinese imperialism in the 21st century. The people of East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet have suffered far too long.

It should be very clear to everyone that the only way that we can truly ensure our basic human rights, freedoms, and overall existence is by restoring the Independence of East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet. We must end Chinese occupation and colonization of our lands to ensure our long term survival.

We want to clarify that we are NOT opposed to the existence of China or the 1.4 billion Chinese people.

However, we resolutely oppose ALL Chinese imperialists who wish to continue China’s illegal occupation and colonization of East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet, including those who portray themselves as being nationalist, communist, democratic, or whatever different name, title, or political leanings they attribute to themselves.

We want to make it very clear to the international community and to these “different” sets of Chinese political entities that East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet are NOT a “part of China,” nor are its people Chinese.

For the record, China and the Chinese people have no right to claim East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet as a “part of China.”

FOCUS

Historically, the countries of East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia (which was originally a part of Mongolia), and Tibet have long maintained their independence for millenniums, and in fact they don't have any cultural, political, or linguistic ties to China whatsoever.

If China and its people want to argue and use China's brief periods of current or past invasions and occupations of East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet as a evidence for its baseless claims, then the people of East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet can also make similar claims over China.

Let's not forget that the ancestors of East Turkistan's people, the Huns (also known as Xiongnu by the Chinese), the Kok Turks, the Uyghurs, and even the Tibetans, the Mongols, and Manchus had invaded and occupied parts of, if not all of, what are the true boundaries of China for many centuries.

The Mongols founded the Yuan Dynasty in 1271 and ruled China for over 97 years until 1368, should the Mongols claim China as a part of Mongolia?

The Manchus invaded China in 1644 and ruled over China for 268 years until 1912, should Manchus claim China as a part of Manchuria?

More recently, between 1937 and 1945, Japan invaded and occupied China as well, so can we say that Japan has the right to claim China as a part of Japan?

Let it be clear to everyone that China's true boundaries lie within "Great Wall of China," everything beyond it is NOT a part of China and never will be.

There is no doubt that the Chinese Communist Party will fall and the current Chinese Empire known as the "People's Republic of China" will fall along with it as well.

We kindly call on ALL Chinese entities and individuals that claim to represent China and its people, especially those who claim to be "democratic," to let go of their Sino-centric views and distinguish themselves from their predecessors by acknowledging historical facts, respecting and recognizing the sovereignty of East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet, if they are indeed truly democratic as they claim themselves to be.

We again reiterate to the international community that the people of East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet don't need China and the Chinese people to help "develop," "govern," "modernize," "defend," or "represent" us in any form or fashion.

We are highly capable of developing, governing, modernizing, defending, and representing ourselves as independent countries, like we had been for millenniums.

We don't want conflict with China or its people, we want peace and mutual respect.

We respect China's existence within its true boundaries behind the Great Wall and we ask that China and its people respect the existence and sovereignty of East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet.

We call on the international community to help bring about a democratic resolution that gives complete national independence for East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet. We don't wish to be a part of China nor a "federation" that keeps East Turkistan, Manchuria, South Mongolia, and Tibet under China's rule and influence.

We kindly ask China and its people to STOP their aggressive efforts of trying to claim what doesn't belong to them.

CC: United Nations Security Council
NATO
US State Department
UK Foreign Office
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Japan)
Ministry of External Affairs (India)

Signatories:

Alberta Uyghur Cultural Society
Association des Ouïghours de France
Concordia Association of Manchuria
East Turkistan Cultural Centre of Canada
East Turkistan Government in Exile
East Turkistan National Awakening Movement
East Turkistan People's Association
Japan Uyghur Intellectuals Union
Manchurian National Union
Tibetan National Congress

Statement thanking the United States for Passing and Signing the Uyghur Act



Uyghurs led by ETNAM demonstrate outside of the White House to thank the US for Passing the Uyghur Act into law on June 17, 2020 | Photo credit East Turkistan National Awakening Movement

WASHINGTON
June 19, 2020

The following statement was issued by the East Turkistan Government in Exile:

On behalf of ALL the people of Occupied East Turkistan, especially the Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, Uzbeks, and Tatars, we want to thank President Trump for signing the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020.

We also want to thank Vice President Pence, Secretary Pompeo, and all the great members of the United States Congress that contributed in making this bill a reality. Furthermore, we want to thank ALL of our great Americans friends and supporters that have shown solidarity with East Turkistan and its people, for without them we could have not made it this far.

June 17th 2020 will be remembered as a historic day for East Turkistan and its people, especially the Uyghurs. Although the bill is much weaker than what our people had envisioned, we are hopeful that this bill will be the first step towards ending China's brutal occupation and oppression in East Turkistan. We urge the White House and the whole of the United States Government to implement this law and undertake strong actions to hold China accountable for its 21st Century-Holocaust like Genocide in Occupied East Turkistan.

For over 70 years, since China invaded and Occupied East Turkistan in late 1949, East Turkistan and its people have been subject to colonization, occupation, and genocide. Over 3 million Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, Uzbeks, and other Turkic peoples have been locked up in concentration camps, prisons, and labor camps.

We urge the United States Congress to introduce and pass much stronger bills that will not only promote the human rights and freedoms of East Turkistan and its people but also acknowledge the reality that East Turkistan is not a part of China but rather an independent country that was invaded and occupied by China.

We urge the United States Congress and the United States Government to recognize China's crimes against humanity in East Turkistan as genocide according to the UN Genocide Convention. We want to make it very clear that East Turkistan is NOT a part of China, historically we have a long history being an independence nation.

We want to reiterate to the United States and all countries across the world that our country's proper name is East Turkistan, we reject the use of the Chinese colonial term "Xinjiang" which means "the New Territory" in the Chinese language. We are not and never will be a part of China's so-called "internal affairs."

Due to the unfortunate fact that we cannot protect ourselves, we call on the United States and the Free World to intervene and help the people of East Turkistan to put an end to China's pro-longed occupation and oppression in East Turkistan.

We call on the United States and all nations in the Free World to acknowledge and support our people's aspirations to restore East Turkistan's independence, for it is the only way that we can truly protect and ensure our basic human rights, freedoms, and our very existence.

Once again, we thank the United States and the American people for their solidarity and support for East Turkistan and its people.

Thank you and God Bless America!

China's Forced Sterilization of Uyghur and other Turkic Women in East Turkistan is an Act of Genocide



Doctors performing a forced abortion on a Uyghur woman - 1990s | Photo credit: East Turkistan Information Center

June 29, 2020
ETGE

Statement by the Executive Council of the East Turkistan Government in Exile

The world has once again received reports confirming that China and its Communist Party is using forced sterilization, forced abortion, and coercive family planning against Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, and other Turkic peoples in East Turkistan, as part of its continuing campaign of colonization and genocide.

The report by German researcher Adrian Zenz highlights China's forced sterilization of Uyghur and other Turkic women in East Turkistan over the past few years, especially since 2016. Zenz's revelations are sadly consistent with decades of Chinese government practices to slowly eradicate the Uyghur and Turkic population of East Turkistan.

In Zenz's reports he highlights the fact that in 1949, at the time of Chinese occupation of East Turkistan, about 6% of East Turkistan's population was Chinese. However, over the past 70 years, as a result of colonization and genocidal policies such as forced abortions, forced sterilizations, and executions, the Uyghur and other Turkic population growth have largely decreased.

Between 1979-2009, the Chinese government reported that they "prevented the illegal births of 3.7 million babies" in East Turkistan alone.

Reports of forced abortions have been prevalent in East Turkistan since the 1980s, in recent years, China has been mandating that Uyghur and other Turkic women be sterilized in a bid to prevent the growth of East Turkistan's population.

According to the UN Genocide Convention, "Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group," is an act of genocide. There is no doubt that China is clearly enforcing forced sterilization, forced abortions, and other family planning policies with a clear intent to eradicate the future existence of Uyghur and other Turkic peoples in East Turkistan.

Over 3 million Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, Uzbeks, Tatars and other Turkic peoples in East Turkistan have been locked up in concentration camps and labor camps. Millions more have been given heavy prison sentences for made up political crimes.

Over 500,000 Uyghur and other Turkic children have been forcibly separated from their families and are being indoctrinated in state run orphanages and boarding schools to become "loyal Chinese citizens." Hundreds of thousands if not millions have been starved to death over the past 70 years of Chinese occupation of East Turkistan.

Hundreds of thousands, more likely millions, have been killed as a result of Chinese nuclear tests, weapon tests, executions, and massacres of entire villages.

The World has promised "Never Again" many times after the Holocaust of over 6 million Jews and millions of others under the Nazi Germany, yet they fail to STOP genocide in the 21st century.

Thus, the East Turkistan Government in Exile urges ALL governments across the world, especially those in the Free World to formally recognize China's atrocities against Uyghurs and other Turkic peoples in East Turkistan as a genocide.

We call on the UN Security Council to raise the East Turkistan issue and work to uphold the UN Genocide Convention, and undertake humanitarian intervention if necessary.

East Turkistan Persecution



The Flag of East Turkistan

May 20, 2020
WAYS TO FAITH

*The below article was published by Ways to Faith,
Photo credit public domain*

One of China's best kept secrets is what has happened in East Turkistan. Salih Hidayar is the Prime Minister of East Turkistan now lives in exile because undoubtedly he would be arrested if he tried to return to his country.

This once independent country is now living under the dictatorial thumb of China and is largely hidden from attention due to its remote location. The area used to be on the Silk Road, which was the main trade route between China and Russia. For centuries, the indigenous Uyghurs lived there as a peaceful, independent nation since the fifth century. Turkistan became a vassal state to the Qing dynasty in what is now known as China.

Competition among the British and Russian Empires along with the Qing Empire in the east resulted in constant turmoil. Fearing the Russians would overtake the territory, the British supported an invasion by China into Turkistan finally conquering it in 1884. Turkistan then became incorporated into the Qing Empire and renamed as "Xinjiang" meaning "New Territory."

On November 12, 1933, the various ethnic groups living in Turkistan declared independence and became the East Turkistan Republic. This lasted only a few months until the Soviets and Chinese armies invaded and overthrew the Republic.

Ten years later on November 12, 1944, the people again declared themselves the independent state of East Turkistan. The country was able to remain independent until it was invaded by the Chinese Communists and finally lost their independence on December, 22, 1949 when it became a part of greater China.

Less than 5% of the population at that time were Chinese, and most of the Chinese living there were soldiers and their families. That has now changed with the massive internment of over 3 million Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgys, Uzbeks, and Tatars in concentration camps with millions more in prisons. There has also been a mass migration of Chinese population into the area with the Uyghurs becoming a minority population in their own land.

East Turkistan Government in Exile

The East Turkistan Government in Exile was officially founded in 2004. It is a democratically elected official body representing East Turkistan.

Due to the political activism of the Prime Minister, his family has not been heard from since 2017. He also notes his relatives have been detained and sent to concentration camps and prisons. Other members of the government have faced similar persecution from the Chinese government.

Concentration Camps and Prisons

The Chinese government has built over 1300 so called "re-education" centers otherwise known as concentration camps across East Turkistan. These camps hold over 3 million people of various ethnic groups.

Additionally, hundreds of new prisons are also built across the country holding millions more people. China's 2019 defense strategy whitepaper indicates these prisons and camps are built primarily for the purpose of preventing East Turkistan's independence.

People in these camps are being tortured, raped, sterilized, and there are even reports of dissident's organs being removed for sale.

Forced Marriages

The Chinese government has also been forcing Uyghur and other Turkic women to marry Chinese men in order to eradicate the existence of this dissident population.

Children are forcibly separated from their families and sent to state-run orphanages to be culturally and politically indoctrinated as loyal Chinese citizens.

Furthermore, millions of youth have been transferred throughout China to be used as cheap labor for factories producing shoes for Nike, Adidas, Gap, Zara and consumer electronics. This is at the same time that China is sending Chinese settlers into the province to dilute the population.

Economic Persecution

The region of East Turkistan is very rich in natural resources such as oil, natural gas, gold, silver, uranium, iron, copper, and coal, the indigenous people are living in extreme poverty. All the fertile areas in the province are occupied by Chinese colonists.

The wealth from these resources are taken by the Chinese government in order to empower greater China and its people.

The Chinese government has labeled the indigenous peoples as being “enemies of the state and people” and treats them accordingly. They are not permitted to worship at all, and children are not permitted to learn about their culture or learn their language. Children are removed from their parents and taught Mandarin Chinese and taught the Chinese atheist philosophy.

No one is permitted to travel outside of their neighborhood or freely associate.

Nuclear Testing

The Chinese Government carried out 46 surface nuclear tests in the province from 1964 to 1996 destroying much of the country. It is estimated that about 750,000 deaths have been caused by the nuclear fallout from these tests.

The International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War estimated the radioactivity produced by this nuclear testing. They determined it released about 48 kilograms of pulverized plutonium. Inhalation or ingestion of one-millionth of a gram can cause organ damage.

A 1998 British Documentary titled “Death on the Silk Road” documented the birth defects and malformation that are thought to have been produced by the radiation produced by these tests. East Turkistan has the highest mortality rate of all

the 28 provinces and regions occupied by the Communist Party of China.

More information concerning the East Turkistan Government in Exile can be found [here](#).

Summary

The brutal dictatorship of the Communist Chinese Party (CCP) over one of their provinces is frightening.

It is concerning that such brutality even exists during the twenty-first century, and that so few people are even aware of its existence.

Of course, part of the problem is the remoteness of this area, and that access to the region has been blocked by the Chinese government.

The brutality of forced sterilizations and organ harvesting of alleged dissidents would be difficult to believe were it not for the multiple reports of its existence. This is not even to mention the religious persecution and genocide being enforced against this population who are helpless to defend themselves.

Satellite images confirm the presence of the concentration camps and prisons which have recently sprouted up across the countryside. Documentaries document the excess deaths and deformities produced from years of nuclear testing and the environmental damage produced.

Hopefully the world community will acknowledge the crimes being committed against this people by a brutal dictatorship and at least embarrass the Chinese regime through widespread dissemination of this information.

Why care about a country you’ve never heard of?

The article was originally the WND

May 20, 2020
By Ron Boat | WND

Editor’s note: This is the first part of a two-part interview of East Turkistan Prime Minister-in-exile Salih Hudayar.

FEATURE

A sermon by the 17-century English author John Donne implanted the idea that “No man is an island.”

We exist because of others. We depend on others. Our family, our neighbors, our countrymen. Peoples from faraway lands all exert influence on our lives.

The great foods of one region or the music and art from another can all enhance our daily existence. Likewise, the political ramifications of an imperious regime can have devastating, long-term consequences for others on distant continents.

In the 20th century, actions of the Japanese Empire rocked the world with war and death as did Fascist Germany and Italy. Vivid, haunting memories of the Holocaust still ring loud in the consciousness of those affected by the actions of brown-shirted torturers. Times and places, never to be repeated.

One world power with similar behaviors chooses to exert its power over the less fortunate, defenseless people of one area many have never heard of. And why should Americans be concerned about a remote group of indigenous people thousands of miles away that aren't currently supplying us with valuable oil, much-needed food resources, or cultural advantages? Because no country is an island. What happens in one area can be a precursor, a silent warning of things to come if preventive awareness and actions aren't heeded.

One such country is East Turkistan, who lives under the inhumane, tyrannical thumb of China. My thanks to its prime minister, Salih Hudayar, for sharing the nation's story with me and explaining the daily oppression his people live under and how it could affect the world at large. From cultural destruction to camp imprisonment, torture, rape and localized nuclear testing, his words should serve as a warning of the many hidden actions and agendas of this Communist enslaver.

Ron Boat: The indigenous Uyghurs (pronounced “You-gers”) have roots in the region as descendants of the ancient Sogdian traders, an urban people who settled in the oasis towns of the Silk Road – the main trade route between China and Russia. For centuries, your area of the world was a relatively peaceful, independent nation. How did it come to be, and then suffered changes in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries? Can you explain these major shifts in your country's structure?



Prime Minister Salih Hudayar, photo credit East Turkistan government in Exile, 2019

Salih Hudayar: East Turkistan has been home to Turkic and Indo-European peoples, whom the Uyghurs are the hybrid descendants. For much of the course of history, East Turkistan had maintained its independence. Our country has been known as Turkistan since the fifth century. However, in 1705 with the fall of the Yarkent Khanate, we became a vassal state to the Manchu Empire.

Due to the great power competition between the British and Russian Empires in the 19th century, East Turkistan became encroached by three empires: the Manchu Empire in the East, the Russian Empire in the north and west, and the British Empire in the South. East Turkistan was ultimately invaded by the Manchus in 1876, with the financial support of the British, to prevent the Russian Empire from overtaking East Turkistan as it had already occupied the Ili Basin (Yetesu) since 1871.

In 1884, the Manchu Qing Empire was fully able to conquer all of East Turkistan, and East Turkistan was incorporated into the Manchu Empire as “Xinjiang,” meaning the “New Territory.” The Manchus would ultimately start the colonization of East Turkistan and work to alter the demographics of East Turkistan.

On Nov. 12, 1933, the Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, Uzbeks, and other peoples of East Turkistan united and declared independence as the East Turkistan Republic, which lasted until April 16, 1934, when the Soviets and Chinese armies invaded and overthrew our Republic. Ten years later, on Nov. 12, 1944, the people of East Turkistan declared independence once

EAST-TURKISTAN.NET

more as the East Turkistan Republic and maintained our independence until the Chinese Communists invaded and occupied East Turkistan with the help of the Soviet Union, and we officially lost our independence on Dec. 22, 1949.

Ron Boat: Xinjiang (the New Territory or Frontier) has had many controlling groups, including of course the Chinese but also the Russians. Does this cause any dramatic changes in the culture, or society in general, or do the Uyghurs maintain a steady connection to their past?



Map of East Turkistan and its neighbors

Salih Hudayar: For much of its history, East Turkistan has been controlled by the local Indo-European and Turkic tribes and kingdoms who are predecessors of the current Uyghurs and other Turkic peoples. Despite brief periods of foreign occupation, the overall culture and demographics of East Turkistan remained unchanged until after the Chinese Communist invasion and occupation of East Turkistan in late 1949.

In fact, prior to the Chinese Communist occupation, over 90% of East Turkistan's population were Turkic peoples, whom the majority were Uyghurs. Less than 5% of the population was Chinese, and that Chinese population at the time consisted mostly of Chinese soldiers and their families. It is the Chinese colonists who are the minorities in East Turkistan.

However, that has changed due to the mass internment of over 3 million Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, Uzbeks and Tatars in concentration camps with millions more in prisons, along with a wholesale attack on Turkic culture, identity and existence, combined with the mass migration of Chinese colonists.

Today, after 70 years of colonization and occupation, the Turkic peoples of East Turkistan, especially the Uyghurs, are at a risk of becoming a minority in their own land. The Turkic people of East Turkistan account for 55% to 60% of East Turkistan's population today.

Ron Boat: You're the prime minister of East Turkistan yet are living "in exile." Were you elected to the post, and are you under threats if you return? How are other government officials dealing with this oppression?

Salih Hudayar: Officially founded in 2004, the East Turkistan Government in Exile is a democratically elected official body that represents East Turkistan and its people. I was elected prime minister on Nov. 11, 2019, at the ETGE's 8th General Assembly in Washington, D.C.

I constantly received numerous threats from China and its agents. I haven't been able to contact my family in East Turkistan since the summer of 2017 due to my political activism and the Chinese government's increasing harassment of my relatives. I have over 100 relatives that have been detained and sent to concentration camps and prisons since 2017 alone. I won't be able to return until the time has come to formally declare East Turkistan's independence.

Other members of our government are facing similar oppression. In fact our vice president's two young children were killed by Chinese officials after he refused to cooperate with them. There is always a threat from China, but it's a threat that is upon our entire nation.

Ron Boat: Was it inevitable and unavoidable that the Chinese Manchu Empire would invade and occupy this once-independent country?

Salih Hudayar: The competition between the Russian and British Empire in the 19th century greatly endangered East Turkistan's survival as an independent nation, and despite our leaders trying to balance our relations with these two empires, we ultimately were invaded by the Manchu Empire with the financial backing of the British Empire and became a buffer zone between the British and Russian Empires.

Ron Boat: What influences and changes did China exert over this once-peaceful civilization of millions of indigenous people? Are the Uyghurs' basic civil, religious, cultural rights being taken away?

FEATURE

Salih Hudayar: In 1931 it was estimated that East Turkistan's population was 6-8 million. In 1947 the East Turkistan Republic declared that the Turkic peoples of East Turkistan accounted for over 7 million. Today, we estimate that the Uyghur and other Turkic peoples (Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, Uzbeks, and Tatars) in East Turkistan account for about 35 million people. The basic civil rights, religious, cultural and human rights of all the Turkic peoples, including the Uyghurs, in East Turkistan have ultimately been eroded, especially post-2016.

Ron Boat is a veteran and corporate marketing and media producer/writer for his own production company. He also writes social commentary and interviews with top military, intelligence and government officials. He can be contacted through blog@freedommail.us.

Communist China's Horrific Atrocities in East Turkistan

May 20, 2020
by Ron Boat | WND

Editor's note: This is the second part of a two-part interview with East Turkistan Prime Minister-in-exile Salih Hudayar. The article was originally published by the WND.

We've seen that no man, or country, lives alone in this world. And the view of the future is oft seen in the actions of those oppressors who currently exert their will and presence on others.

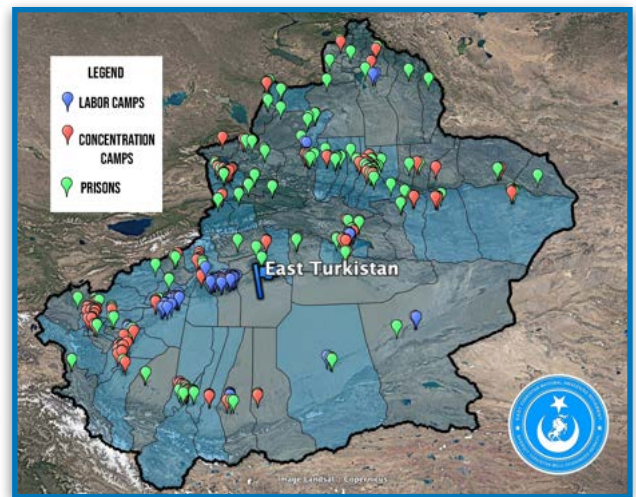
We continue our look at the invasion, oppression and torture of a free people at the hands of a dictatorial, domineering China. Again, our thanks to Prime Minister Salih Hudayar for his time in highlighting this blight on the lives of the East Turkistan Uyghurs.

Ron Boat: China's history of human rights abuses is well-documented and certainly relevant here. It's known for its labor camps, prisons and violent concentration camps. Are the ones in your own country to detain and punish your own people, or are they for people brought in from other areas of China? How many of these facilities exist in your nation?

Salih Hudayar: According to the Australian Strategic Policy Institute, since 2016, the Chinese government has built over 1,300 so-called

"reeducation" concentration camps across East Turkistan, which hold over 3 million Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, Uzbeks and other Turkic peoples. Several hundreds of new prisons were also built across East Turkistan holding several million people. China claims these facilities are for "reeducation," but really its to collectively punish our people and prevent East Turkistan's independence as defined in China's 2019 defense strategy white paper.

People in the camps and prisons are being tortured, raped, sterilized, and many prisoners' organs are being harvested. There are also several dozen massive labor camps run by the Bingtuan (Xinjiang Paramilitary Production Corp), which was set up in 1954 to colonize East Turkistan.



Map showing the locations of concentration camps, prisons, and labor camps across East Turkistan | Photo credit: East Turkistan National Awakening Movement

Organ Harvesting, Forced Abortions, Labor Camps

Ron Boat: We've heard reports of China's weapons testing, biological violations, religious incarcerations, organ harvesting, abortion misuse and others. What other human rights abuses have there been in general or against the Uyghurs themselves?

Salih Hudayar: Aside from nuclear testing, mass internment, organ harvesting and abortions, the Chinese government has been coercing Uyghur and other Turkic women to marry Chinese men in a bid to eradicate the future of our nation's existence. Over 500,000 Uyghur and other Turkic children have been forcibly separated from their families and sent to state-run orphanages and boarding schools to be

culturally and politically indoctrinated as loyal Chinese citizens.

Hundreds of thousands if not millions of our youth have been forcibly transferred to Chinese provinces, especially more recently during the COVID-19 pandemic, to be used as slave labor in factories producing shoes for Nike, Skechers, Adidas and clothing for H&M, Gap, Zara and many others, consumer electronics for Apple, LG, Huawei and so forth. At the same time the Chinese government is settling thousands of Chinese settlers into East Turkistan on a daily basis.

Ron Boat: Are there any major issues China feels threatened by and therefore feels the need to control your people, or is it strictly an invasion and occupational issue?



Uyghurs and other Turkic peoples of East Turkistan demonstrate in Washington, DC with Prime Minister Hudayar in commemoration of the former East Turkistan Republics - November 13, 2018 | Photo credit: East Turkistan National Awakening Movement

Salih Hudayar: As defined in China's national defense strategy, it's all about preventing East Turkistan's independence. China is threatened that majority of the East Turkistan's people will push for independence, thus it is strictly an issue of a genocide resulting from invasion, occupation and colonization.

Ron Boat: China has also been accused of violations of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) with its development of "dual-use" biological applications. Is the COVID-19 pandemic an example of this, and how can a dual-virus program really have more than one intended use? Is this going on in your area as well as Wuhan?

Salih Hudayar: China has not been transparent in relation to COVID-19 in remaining oppositional to an independent inquiry regarding the origins of this pandemic and the initial spread of the disease. An example is their threat of economic ramifications (made by Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Geng Shuang) if the Australian government continues to pursue such an inquiry.

It is very much the responsibility of and in the best interest of China to cooperate with the international community on understanding where COVID-19 came from and hence how to prevent another of these pandemics in the future. By cooperating, they can then prove the world wrong if this allegation is not true. Their resistance may be an indication that they indeed have something to hide as to how this pandemic started; if they have no concerns in this regard then they will be happy to cooperate with the international community on a transparent and independent inquiry.

Ron Boat: We know that your area is rich in oil and other natural resources. Has China exercised its control to confiscate these resources? They've certainly demonstrated their force against your country for what they claim are "environmental abuses."

Salih Hudayar: Absolutely. Despite East Turkistan being a very rich country in terms of natural and mineral resources such as oil, natural gas, gold, silver, uranium, jade, iron, copper, tungsten, and coal, the people of East Turkistan live in extreme poverty. All the rich and fertile areas of East Turkistan have been exclusively occupied by the Chinese colonists. The people of East Turkistan don't receive any of the wealth that our own land produces; instead it's robbed by China, and the Chinese government uses that wealth that empowers China and its people.

Ron Boat: In the day-to-day living conditions for your people, what are those major issues that oppress them, that make life less enjoyable and productive than they would like and deserve?

Salih Hudayar: The fact that we lost our independence and the freedoms that come with it is something that makes life less enjoyable and unproductive for us. It almost makes life meaningless for us. On a daily basis, the people of East Turkistan are constantly harassed, abused and humiliated by the Chinese occupation forces and Chinese colonists.

FEATURE

The Chinese government has declared our people as “enemies of the state and people” and treats us as if we are not even human. No one is able to travel outside of our neighborhood without hitting a checkpoint. There’s not being able to worship at all, not being able to learn our history and language, being forcibly married off to Chinese men, having our children forcibly separated, and not knowing when the oppression will end and when and if we will be reunited with our family members. These are among the issues that oppress us constantly.

Ron Boat: There are many beautiful areas in your country with its flowing rivers and green valleys, mountains and colorful plains. Professor Takada Jun has revealed that the Chinese government carried out 46 surface nuclear tests from 1964 to 1996. And you say that much of your country has been destroyed (specifically your largest lake, Lop Nur region) by China’s presence including this nuclear testing. Are we to believe that their nuclear testing has caused 750,000 deaths? What have you or your people locally observed to support reporting these activities?



*China's first nuclear test on October 16, 1964
in Lop Nur, East Turkistan | Photo credit
SCMP Pictures*

Salih Hudayar: In 1928 Lop Nur lake covered over 3,100 square kilometers (1,200 square miles), but due to Chinese constructions of dams in the late 1950s and throughout the 1960s, along with nuclear testing in the area, the lake ultimately dried up.

China conducted a total of 46 nuclear tests of which 18 were conducted underground. The total yield of those conducted above ground was 16,420 kilotons with the largest single test being 4,000 kilotons. Dr. Takada Jun estimates that some 750,000 deaths

have been caused by nuclear testing after comparing the nuclear tests with other tests and the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which totaled 34 kilotons and killed anywhere from 129,000 to 226,000 people. ...

The International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War founded that the estimates of radioactivity that was released across the entire region was roughly 48 kg of pulverized plutonium. Inhalation or ingestion of one-millionth of a gram can cause damage to the kidneys, as well as liver or lung cancer.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), states that the doses recorded in cities close to the test site in Lop Nur are high enough to cause malformations and cancers in babies which were confirmed in the 1998 British Documentary titled “Death on the Silk Road.” East Turkistan has the highest mortality rate of all the 28 provinces and regions under the control of Communist China.

Chinese Authorities Construct Parking Lot Atop Historic Uyghur Cemetery

May 1, 2020
RADIO FREE ASIA

The below article was originally published by Radio Free Asia's Uyghur Service

A cemetery considered sacred by Uyghurs that was razed by Chinese authorities last year in East Turkistan, also known as the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) has been paved over and turned into a car park, according to an expert on Uyghur history.

“Last year, the Chinese government destroyed the central Uyghur graveyard and sacred shrine in [Hotan],” Rian Thum, a professor of history at the University of Nottingham in Britain, said in a post to Twitter on April 28.

“We can now see part of what they have put in its place: a parking lot.”

Thum posted a time lapse view of the Sultanim Cemetery, in central Hotan (in Chinese, Hetian) city, based on satellite imagery from Google Earth, which shows grave plots being gradually being plowed over with dirt beginning in 2019 and a parking lot being erected in the western portion of the site.

“This is not just a run-of-the mill graveyard,” Thum tweeted, including coordinates for others to use to find the site on Google Earth.

“It is a well-known sacred site, the only major one inside the city. People would go there to pray for healing, fertility, forgiveness, etc.”

Thum also posted a photo taken by a photographer from Agence France-Presse last year showing a notice from local officials, informing residents that the cemetery was being destroyed “on the basis of the needs of our city’s development,” and to “promote a spacious, beautiful environment for all of the city’s people.”

“The graveyard and shrine destructions are part of a larger cultural cleansing campaign involving mass internment camps, forced labor, and child separation for Turkic minorities in China,” he said.

In particular, Thum said, authorities have focused on “eliminating or desecrating Uyghur sacred shrines,”

including one to a well-known Muslim imam named Jafar Sadiq, which he described as “one of the five most important Uyghur holy places.”

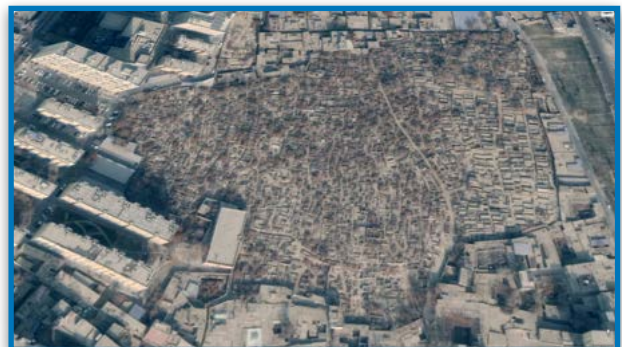
He said that the parking lot in Hotan is one of the first cases in which outside observers have been able to see what was built over a graveyard, or “mazar,” that included an important religious shrine, although he noted that an AFP investigation last year revealed that a park had been constructed atop a cemetery that held the grave of renowned Uyghur poet Lutpulla Mutellip.

According to that investigation, which AFP conducted with Earthrise Alliance and published the findings from in October, at least 45 cemeteries had been destroyed since 2014—30 of which were razed since 2017.

Many of the sites were transformed into parks or parking lots, while others had remained empty lots, AFP said. Reporters said they had seen human remains left at several sites.



December 2018



November 2019

Before and after images of the Sultanim Cemetery in Hotan city | Credit: RFA/Google Earth

Targeting the dead

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Speaking to RFA's Uyghur Service, Thum said that by razing cemeteries, China's ruling Communist Party is "literally targeting Uyghurs who have already died," in addition to the estimated 1.8 million Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities authorities are believed to have been detained in the XUAR's vast network of internment camps since April 2017.

But he said that destroying graveyards is also part of a bid to control the wider Uyghur population, which views the sites as "a part of the historical landscape of the Uyghur region," regardless of their religious significance.

"For a long time, [Chinese authorities] have been nervous about the shrines—particularly those shrines where large numbers of people gather—and so a lot of the most important shrines were already closed but were not being destroyed or damaged," Thum said.

"And that's what's really different here, is that they're now—in several places—completely removing and destroying these mazars."

Thum suggested that actions such as destroying graveyards are tactics authorities use to "eliminate Uyghur culture or to transform it into something that is more like Han Chinese people's culture."

"Some of these shrines are just a collection of flags in the desert, and yet, by people going there frequently and engaging in the memorialization of the person who is supposed to be buried there, they keep them up, and they keep the memory alive," he said.

"But also, these physical markers on the landscape help remind Uyghurs of their own traditions."

Reported by Kurban Niyaz for RFA's Uyghur Service. Written in English by Joshua Lipes.

East Turkistanis urge US Senate to pass Uyghur Act

May 8, 2020
ETGE

The below statement made by the East Turkistan Government in Exile

Yesterday, [US Senate Leaders announced that they would soon schedule the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act \(S.178\)](#) for voting.

The [Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act](#) is an act which would direct US Government resources to address the human rights violations and abuses carried out by China's government against the Turkic peoples of Occupied East Turkistan.

The [East Turkistan National Awakening Movement \(ETNAM\)](#) and its supporters had been actively campaigning for a Uyghur Act since 2018, in fact Salih Hudayar, the current Prime Minister of the East Turkistan Government in Exile, had been pushing for an East Turkistan / Uyghur Act since 2016. While pushing for the Uyghur Act in 2018, ETNAM discovered that a Uyghur Act had been originally sponsored back in 2009 by Congresswoman Ros Lehtinen and Congressman Dana Rohrabacher and was ultimately sabotaged by China and its agents. Although the current bill is not as strong as what the East Turkistani people had envisioned, it will definitely get the gears of the US Congress and the US Government turning in the right direction to where we can easily follow up with much stronger bills in the future.

On behalf of the people of East Turkistan, we want to thank all the members of the US Congress, especially Senator Rubio, for pushing the Uyghur Human Rights Policy which he has dedicated to the Uyghurs and other Turkic peoples of East Turkistan. We especially thank all of our friends who have been actively pushing for this bill behind the scenes. We urge President Trump to immediately sign the bill into law as soon as it passed by the US Senate and we urge the United States government to recognize China's atrocities in East Turkistan as a genocide while also recognizing the fact that East Turkistan is an occupied country.

We hope that this bill will lead to much greater bills and actions undertaken by the US Congress and the US Government to hold China accountable and bring an end to China's brutal occupation and genocide in East Turkistan.

We hope that US Government and the American people along with the rest of the Free World will respect and show solidarity to the East Turkistani people's struggle to regain their lost independence and dignity.

We again encourage all of our friends and supporters across the world to continue advocacy on behalf of East Turkistan by writing to and calling their members of Congress, Parliaments, along with their respective government, organization, and community leaders.

Turkey-China extradition agreement may target Uyghurs living in Turkey

May 19, 2020
NORDIC MONITOR

The below article was published by the Nordic Monitor | Photo credit Turkish Foreign Ministry

Turkey has been a destination for thousands of Uyghurs fleeing China and has become home to a sizable Uyghur diaspora; however, a Turkey-China extradition agreement that was signed in 2017 and is still awaiting ratification by the Turkish parliament may target Uyghurs living in Turkey and accelerate their extradition to China.

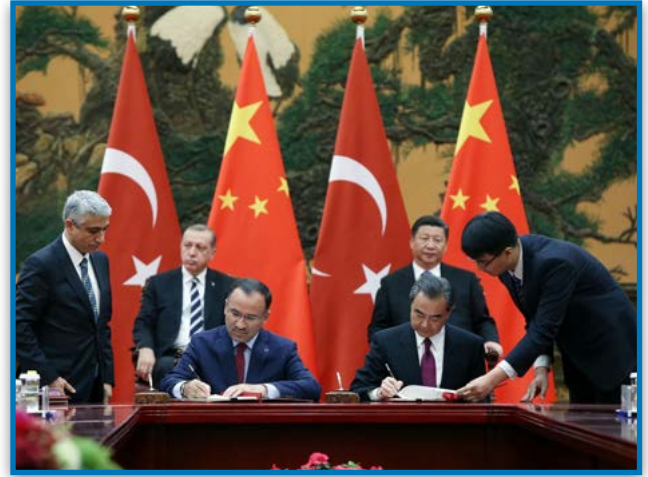
The text of the agreement, obtained by Nordic Monitor, contains ambiguous phrases that might trigger the extradition of scores of Uyghurs from Turkey and violate extradition mechanisms regulated by the European Convention on Extradition (ECE), to which Turkey is a party. The ECE provides for the extradition between parties of persons wanted for criminal proceedings or for the execution of a sentence.

Article 2 (2) of Turkey-China deal reveals that “it shall not matter whether the laws of both Parties place the offence within the same category or describe the offence by the same terminology.” According to the article, the parties could request the extradition of its citizens despite the fact that the offense does not fall within the scope of the provisions of the other party’s relevant laws.

For decades, Turkey has assisted and defended Uyghurs, who share many cultural and linguistic traits with Turks and are seen as ethnic brethren by Turkish nationalists. But Turkey’s ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) has changed this policy in recent years and deported several Uyghurs to China. Moreover, as international condemnation increases over China’s crackdown on Uyghurs in Xinjiang province, Turkey has remained silent due to China’s economic and political influence. Moreover, the Turkish government last October refused to join 23 nations in joint a statement calling on China to end violations against its Uyghur minority.

Following pressure from the AKP’s nationalist coalition partner the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP), the Turkish Foreign Ministry had to call on China in February to stop the crackdown on Uyghurs and close the camps in Xinjiang. However, Turkish

President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan didn’t hesitate to submit the Turkey-China extradition accord to the Turkish parliament for ratification on April 12, 2019, two months after the ministry released its statement.



The extradition agreement was signed in Beijing on May 13, 2017

President Erdoğan paid an official visit to Beijing to attend the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation on May 13, 2017. Following his meeting with President Xi Jinping, then-Turkish Justice Minister Bekir Bozdağ and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi signed the 22-article agreement, which sets out the framework for extradition procedures.

“[T]he offence should be punishable under the laws of both Parties by imprisonment for a maximum period of at least one year or by a more severe penalty,” Article 2 1. states, adding that “the period of sentence that remains to be served by the person sought should be at least six months at the time when the request for extradition is made.”

According to Article 3, an extradition request will be rejected if the requested party considers the offense political or purely military; if the person who is sought has been granted asylum by the requested party; or if the requested party believes that “the request for extradition has been made for the purpose of prosecuting or punishing the person sought on account of that person’s race, sex, religion, nationality or political opinion.”

“In case of urgency, either Party may apply for provisional arrest of the person sought before the request for extradition has been transmitted to the Requested Party,” Article 9 underlines. According to the Turkish media, Ankara has been quietly

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

deporting small numbers of Uyghurs, and more than 1,000 Uyghurs are currently in jail in Turkey. This number could increase following ratification of the extradition agreement by parliament.

Turkey and China have established a judicial cooperation mechanism that has deepened the multidimensional Turkish-Chinese relationship following President Erdoğan's official visit to China in May 2017. In addition to the extradition deal, the justice ministries of both countries also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in November 2018 to enhance cooperation between their judicial authorities.

At the signing ceremony, Turkish Justice Minister Abdulhamit Gül stressed that Turkish-Chinese dialogue has increased due to the contacts between the two countries' leaders and that this has led to cooperation in economy, trade and diplomacy as well as the judiciary. Moreover, he added that China and Turkey would seek more judicial cooperation.

In accordance with the MoU, Turkish judges and prosecutors have started receiving training at Chinese universities, familiarizing themselves with China's judicial system, culture and language. In July 2019, Turkish judges and prosecutors completed a special program at the Public Security University of China in Beijing and attended language courses and studied the Chinese judicial system during the program.

Uyghurs urge US Congress to recognize East Turkistan as an Occupied Country

WASHINGTON
May 27, 2020

The statement below is attributed to Prime Minister Salih Hudayar

On behalf of the people of East Turkistan, we want to thank the US Congress for passing the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act earlier today with an overwhelming majority of 413 vs 1. We urge President Trump to sign it into law as soon as possible and hope that this bill will lead to more stronger actions and bills to help bring an end to China's brutal occupation and oppression in East Turkistan.

Recently, Congressman Scott Perry introduced new legislations that would authorize the US President to

recognize Hong Kong and Tibet as separate, independent countries. We commend Congressman Perry and fully support his bills.

We would like the US Congress and the US President to recognize East Turkistan as a separate independent country as well.

History bears witness to the fact that there is no basis for the Chinese regime's claim of East Turkistan being "a part of China." It was the Manchus, who had invaded and occupied China in 1644, that invaded and occupied East Turkistan in 1884 and renamed it to "Xinjiang" meaning the "New Territory."

East Turkistan and its people have a long history of independence prior to 1884. Our people declared independence as the East Turkistan Republic for the first time on November 12, 1933, but our nascent Republic was brutally crushed on April 16, 1934 following Soviet and Chinese invasions.

The people of East Turkistan declared independence once more on November 12, 1944 and maintained their independence as the Turkistan Republic until the then newly established "People's Republic of China" invaded and occupied our Homeland with the tacit support of the Soviet Union.

Since China invaded and occupied East Turkistan 70 years ago in December 1949, the Chinese Communist regime has engaged a brutal campaign of colonization, genocide, and occupation against our people and Homeland.

When comparing two petitions submitted to the White House in 2018, you can see that while less than 10% of Uyghurs advocate for only human rights, while over 90% of East Turkistanis view that the restoration of East Turkistan's independence is necessary to ensure the human rights and freedoms of Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, and other Turkic peoples in East Turkistan.



East Turkistan Petition (Independence)

EAST-TURKISTAN.NET



“Xinjiang” Petition (“Human Rights”)

The people of East Turkistan have never given up their struggle to regain their independence. Millions of East Turkistani people sacrificed their lives in the path of independence.

Today, over 3 million Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, and other Turkic peoples are in concentration camps and with millions more in prisons and labor camps is a part of China’s attempts to prevent East Turkistan’s independence.

Restoring East Turkistan’s independence is the only way to truly ensure our peoples human rights, freedoms, and their existence.

Thus, we urge the US government and all governments across the world to acknowledge and respect our people’s democratic choice for independence by recognizing East Turkistan as a separate and independent nation under Chinese occupation.



Uyghurs commemorate the former east turkistan republics by calling on the US congress to recognize East Turkistan as an occupied country.- November 13, 2018 | Photo credit: East Turkistan National Awakening Movement

Muslim Student Organization of India held webinar on East Turkistan atrocities



MSO of India speaking to Prime Minister Salih Hudayar | Photo credit MSO webinar screen grab

June 4, 2020
VOICE OF HINDI

The below article was published by the Voice of Hindi

- Statement of Vice President and Prime Minister of East Turkistan
- East Turkistan leaders called Pakistan leadership confused
- China is destroying our land and culture- AbdulAhad Nur

“Our land has been occupied by China who has changed our country’s name to “Xinjiang (New Territory).” We are Eastern Turkistan, a country in Central Asia. No country is ready to speak out even after seeing our suffering,” said the the Prime Minister of the East Turkistan Government in Exile who is currently living in America.

He was speaking at a webinar organized by India’s largest Muslim Students Organization of India. Apart from him, the East Turkistan Government in Exile’s Vice President also addressed Indian students at the webinar.

The exiled government also accused Pakistan and Turkey of being a “confused country”.

Prime Minister Salih Hudayar of the East Turkistan Government in Exile said that, “in 1934, the Soviet Union invaded and helped China to occupy our country and we gained independence from them in 1944.” In these four years, we tried to establish relations with India and Britain. China occupied our country again in December 1949. The day our

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country was occupied, our country's population was 90 percent Turkic Muslim."

He also stated that, "China has conducted 46 nuclear tests so far, killing many of our population. Its side effects are also coming." The Prime Minister stated that China holds half a million children hostage. Chinese forcibly marry our women so that our existence can be ended. So far 1.12 million Chinese have been settled in the homes of our people and there are about 10 million Chinese in our country.

China wants to internationalize our country through One Belt One Road initiative. Salih said that in 1955 it was first made an autonomous region.

Our political powers were taken away. Muslim countries should raise our voice in the Organization of Islamic Countries, OIC. Even once the organization did not raise any voice in favor of our suffering. You cannot even call 'Assalaam' in East Turkistan. There is a need to pressure China to make free East Turkistan.

Salih Hudayar said that till now there is information about the death of our millions but there is no data for it.

Many people have died due to nuclear tests. Millions of women were aborted to prevent our population from growing. Currently 3 million people are in construction camp. There are millions of people in prisons. They are raped in jails. Chinese intelligence has killed our people in Turkey. Many of our leaders have been killed by Chinese intelligence in Pakistan, Egypt, Tajikistan and also in Europe. China prevents our people from being united.

In response to a question from Shujat Ali Qadri, the national president of the Muslim Students Organization, Salih replied that the game that China played in 1949 with Turkistan is playing with Pakistan today.

"Pakistanis know that it will not benefit but they are silent. We have cultural connections with Turkey and Central Asia but they are silent because of Chinese gimmicks. In 1955, China broke the treaty with East Turkistan and stripped our country of autonomy. When we were free there were 5 percent people of Chinese origin, today this number is 40 percent. In the name of CPAC, they are giving 60 billion dollars to Pakistan, but Pakistan is not getting more than 2 billion dollars. Pakistanis are being fooled by China. East Turkistan's name comes from Turkistan. Turkey is also like Pakistan."

He said that our displaced Diaspora arrange money and political support for us. Our friends also live in India. Like the Tibetan people, we are carrying forward our struggle. Whether it was the struggle of Prophet Muhammad or you would see the struggle of Gandhiji, initially they had nothing. We do not dream of freedom on the basis of Caliphate. We feel that we will be able to re-establish ourselves on the strength of humanity and equality. Every one of us is a political prisoner. If it is a concentration camp, it is a prison.

Abdul Ahad Nur, the vice-president of the current exile government of East Turkistan (present-day Xinjiang, China) said that China's persecution is very heavy. Islam and Muslims have been under attack ever since they took possession.

"First they killed politicians and then religious leaders. Now China is targeting everyone. All my relatives are either in jail or are in concentration camp. This happened when we were in Turkey in 1999. Now China has come out openly against Islam and common Turkistan Muslims. This terror is increasing at the rate of daily. The Chinese government has banned the keeping of Qur'an, teaching and Islamic names on Muslims. The brain of the younger generation is being changed. There they are being taught to worship Xi Jinping."

The Chinese government wants to end our identity. Wants to end cultural and religious identity. The goal of the Chinese government is to eliminate all identity through genocide. East Turkistan does not consider China as a government. China is the aggressor. We want the Islamic world to speak in our favor, but the entire Islamic society is silent. We have been living here for 6 thousand years. The Uyghur people adopted Islam only in 964 AD. The city of Kashgar was called the second Bukhara according to Islamic culture. We are not Chinese. China has occupied East Turkistan.

Very emotional Abdul Ahad Noor said that the mosques, graveyards of East Turkistani Muslims aka Uyghurs also been destroyed. Our women are forced to marry communist men. Religious freedom has been abolished. Islamic cultural dress of women is also banned. There is a ban on offering prayers in homes. We cannot name our children according to Islam. Our homes and neighborhoods are monitored by CCTV.

China's official statement that "there is ideological evil in Islam. It should be eliminated." That is why

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they have destroyed our system of education. Due to Chinese education, our people are also becoming communists and many Turkistan intellectuals are getting confused. Our intellectuals are turning away from our side. The people of East Turkistan are 99 percent Sunni Hanafi and therefore do not have Wahhabi influence in our region. China is trying to make a copy of the Qur'an. But we know that he will not be able to succeed.

In response to a question by Shujaat Qadri, Noor said that Pakistan does not raise our voice. He denied the influence of Wahhabism in East Turkistan, stating that he is a Sunni Hanafi people and does not believe in Wahhabism.

The East Turkistan government-in-exile also tweeted praising the Muslim Students Organization for giving time and listening.

Trump Signs Uyghur Human Rights Act Into Law

June 18, 2020

THE DIPLOMAT | Elanor Albert

The below article was published by The Diplomat

On Wednesday, U.S. President Donald Trump signed into law the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020. The bill authorizes the imposition of U.S. sanctions against Chinese officials responsible for the detention and persecution of Uyghurs, a Turkic, Muslim ethnic group predominantly residing in the Xinjiang autonomous region in western China.

The Chinese government has long had concerns about the Uyghurs' religious and ethnic ties to neighboring states, as well as spates of violence against government workers and civilians over the years. However, the latest Beijing-directed crackdown, which dates back to April 2017 according to leaked official documents, appears to be a sweeping effort to eradicate even the possibility of separatist sentiment and activity by targeting Uyghur cultural identity itself.

Many reports describe arbitrary detentions, forced labor in nearby factories, forced loyalty pledges to the Chinese Communist Party and renunciation of Islam, as well as accounts of prison-like conditions with detainees subject to torture and other abuses. Estimates of detained Uyghurs range from 1 to 2 million in dozens of internment camps.

In the United States, these reports led to increasingly loud calls to take punitive action. The Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020 passed both houses of the U.S. legislature nearly unanimously in May; previous versions had been introduced last year. Under the new legislation, the U.S. government can freeze the assets of individuals and entities found responsible for human rights abuses in Xinjiang, as well as ban the identified individuals from entry to the United States.

Moreover, the bill requires the submission of periodic reports to Congress on human rights abuses in Xinjiang, efforts to protect U.S. citizens and residents from harassment and intimidation by the Chinese government in the United States, China's technology capabilities to facilitate internment and mass surveillance in Xinjiang, as well as classified reports on the scope and scale of the Chinese government's detention and forced labor policies against Muslim minority groups.

'China using counter terrorism as a pretext to detain Uighurs'



Uyghurs being blinded and loaded onto trains - 2020

June 25, 2020

ANI

The below article was published by ANI

Washington D.C. [USA], June 24 (ANI): A US report issued by the Department of State has said that China uses counter-terrorism (CT) as a pretext to detain and carry out a repressive campaign against millions of Uighurs and members of other Muslim minority groups in internment camps in East Turkistan (the Xinjiang Autonomous Region located in the northwestern part of the country). It said China's response to terrorism "remained difficult to distinguish from the government's

suppression of peaceful activities that authorities deemed separatist or subversive in nature".

"The PRC government's CT attention remained on ethnic Uyghur so-called 'extremists' whom Beijing ascribes to the East Turkistan Islamic Movement, despite a lack of evidence that a group by that name is still active. The PRC government shared international concerns regarding other terrorist groups such as al-Qa'ida and ISIS, among others," said the Country Reports on Terrorism 2019, submitted to the Congress, in compliance with Title 22 of the United States Code, Section 2656f (the "Act"), which requires the Department of State to provide to Congress a full and complete annual report on terrorism for those countries and groups meeting the criteria of the Act.

The report said that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has detained more than one million Uyghurs and members of other Muslim minority groups in Xinjiang since April 2017 because of their religion and ethnicity, and subjected them to political, linguistic, and cultural indoctrination as well as forced disappearance, torture, physical abuse - including forced sterilization and sexual abuse - and prolonged detention without trial.

The Chinese authorities also developed new legal guidelines and law enforcement tools to expand their capabilities to carry out this repressive campaign, which included pervasive, arbitrary, high-tech surveillance; the collection of personal data including DNA samples; compulsory stays by PRC government officials in Uyghur homes; and controls on the expression of cultural or religious observations, it said.

China is forcibly sterilizing Uyghur women and giving them unwanted abortions in a mission to purge the Muslim group, report says

June 29, 2020
BUISSNESS INSIDER| Bill Bostock

New evidence has come to light exposing the draconian tactics Chinese authorities are using to persecute Uyghur Muslims, including forced abortions, birth control, and sterilization.

An Associated Press report published on Monday cited interviews with 30 former prisoners, family

members, and a former detention-camp instructor, as well as government statistics and state documents. Since 2016, China has interned at least 1 million Uyghurs in hundreds of prisons, which it euphemistically calls "reeducation centers" or "vocational training and education centers." They are, in reality, concentration camps designed to brainwash Uyghurs and force them to abandon their heritage and religion.

According to the AP, authorities at the camps and in Xinjiang, the Uyghur heartland also known as East Turkestan, have been cracking down on the birth rate by: Regularly subjecting women to pregnancy tests. Forcing those who test positive to have abortions. Forcibly fitting women with intrauterine devices, or IUDs, to prevent pregnancy. Force-feeding Uyghur women birth-control pills or injecting them with fluids — without saying what they are — to make them sterile.

Reports of forced abortions and sterilization have surfaced in the past, but the AP investigation indicates that the forced birth control is much more widespread than previously thought. The AP said the measures affected "hundreds of thousands" of Uyghur women. The AP also found that a major reason Uyghurs were sent to camps was being deemed to have too many children. The government ordered one Chinese-born Kazakh woman to get an IUD inserted after her third child, the AP said. She was later told to pay a \$2,685 fine for having more than two children.

The AP said it spoke with 15 Uyghurs and Kazakhs who said they knew people who had been interned or jailed for having too many children. Additionally, the AP said, citing several former detainees, that "women are subjected to forced IUDs and what appear to be pregnancy prevention shots." "Many felt dizzy, tired or ill, and women stopped getting their periods," the AP reported. "After being released and leaving China, some went to get medical check-ups and found they were sterile."

From 2016 to 2018, the number of sterilizations rose sevenfold in Xinjiang, the AP said. The birth rate in Xinjiang has plummeted in recent years, largely as a result of the crackdown: It fell by nearly 24% in 2019, the AP said.



The East Turkistan Government-in-Exile (ETGE) is the democratically elected body which represents the interests of East Turkistan and its people. Therefore, it is the voice of East Turkistan and its people.

The *Voice of East Turkistan* is the official bi-monthly journal of the East Turkistan Government-in- Exile, which seeks to inform governments across the globe world along with organizations, think tanks, researchers, and the public masses about the truth regarding the situation in East Turkistan. The *Voice of East Turkistan* seeks to provide the best information regarding East Turkistan, the activities of the East Turkistan Government-in-Exile, and the East Turkistani diaspora.

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