



# Chinese New Year Gift To Uyghur Muslims Mega Pig Farming Park In Xinjiang

AJ Report

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China's crackdown on Uyghur Muslims in Xinjiang continues to make headlines. According to a recent report in Al Jazeera, documents on agricultural development show there is an "active" effort to promote and expand pig farming in the region.

By Aakriti Sharma

Quoting German anthropologist and Uyghur scholar, Adrian Zenz, the report said that agricultural development is part of the so-called "secularisation" policy pursued by China.

Xinjiang's top administrator Shohrat Zakir had said in 2019 that the autonomous region would be turned into a "pig-raising hub", a move that Uyghurs say is an affront to their way of life.

According to the Chinese-language website Sina, a new farm that aims to produce 40,000 pigs every year is expected to occupy a 25,000-square-metre area in an industrial park in Kashgar's Konaxahar county, renamed Shufu.

China has been long denying the existence of re-education camps, where the United Nations has said more than one million people have been held captive. Beijing, however, refutes such claims, saying it operates vocational centers that allow it to "retrain" the Uighur population and teach them new skills.

More than one million Uyghur Muslims are estimated to be living in detention in "counter-extremism centers" in China's far west, vice-chairperson of a United Nations anti-discrimination committee had said in 2018, citing credible reports.

Sayragul Sautbay, one of the victims at the camp, recently published a book in which.

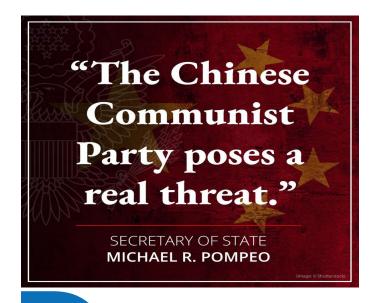




she detailed her ordeal, including witnessing beatings, alleged sexual abuse, and forced sterilization. She told Al Jazeera how Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities were subjected to harassment, including the consumption of pork, a meat that is strictly prohibited in Islam. "Every Friday, we were forced to eat pork meat," Sautbay said in the interview. She shared that they intentionally chose a day that is holy

for the Muslims.

"This is part of the attempt to completely eradicate the culture and religion of the people in Xinjiang," Uyghur scholar Zenz told Al Jazeera. He said: "It is part of the strategy of secularisation, of turning the Uyghurs secular and indoctrinating them to follow the communist party and become agnostic or atheist."







## China's 'XXX Files': '25 Thousand People Disappear Each Year, Their Organs Are Harvested

David Stavrou 04.12.2020

China experts and activists
claim that the repression of
minorities in Xinjiang has
escalated in recent years, with
thousands of Uighur Muslims
in 'reeducation camps' being
murdered and their organs
harvested for wealthy Chinese
and foreign patients.
The Chinese deny all such
allegations

"The interrogation started at 9 P.M. and ended around noon the next day. The five officers didn't hit me, but there was a sixth man and he beat me and threatened me. 'I'll remove your organs,' he says, 'and burn what's left of your body."

This is what Huiqiong Liu told Haaretz recently in a video call from her home in Europe. Liu was arrested at her Beijing home in 2001 when she was 29 years old, and taken for "reeducation through labor" as part of the Chinese govern-



ment's battle with Falun Gong – the spiritual movement that has been persecuted by the authorities since the late 1990s.

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'In the file of the so-called donor, there was no identifying information and instead of a name there was just 'XXX''



Liu was in the camp for about 18 months, and was imprisoned again between 2005 and 2007. She says that during her first imprisonment, she was taken to a hospital for tests. "I told [a doctor] I have a heart problem, but she said my heart is fine. Liu was in the camp for about 18 months, and was imprisoned again between 2005 and 2007. She says that during her first imprisonment, she was taken to a hospital for tests. "I told [a doctor] I have a heart problem, but she said my heart is fine. I asked if they're planning to take it away from me, and the doctor said: 'That will be decided by someone at a higher level.'"

Liu decided to go on hunger strike. Eight days later, she weighed just 88 pounds (40 kilograms) and the doctors decided that her organs were no longer viable.

Liu says she also underwent blood tests, blood pressure tests, X-rays and ECGs during her incarceration. "Sometimes they would take us to a hospital; other times, a large vehicle full of medical equipment would come to the camp and the checkups would

be done in it," Liu recalls. "They gave us all numbers and the doctors would follow-up on our situation. The doctors only knew the numbers, not our names. Sometimes they would ask for a specific number to be taken to the hospital. Those people never came back."

Liu says she has another vital piece of evidence: "Before I was taken to the hospital during my first arrest, they gave me a form to sign with my fingerprints," she recounts. "The form was already filled out, but the name and address on it wasn't mine; it was a name I didn't recognize. I didn't want to sign, but they made me do so anyway. They didn't let me see what it was I was signing, but when I asked other women who were arrested with me, one of them — a woman who was sentenced to death — told me it was a consent form, saying I'm willing to donate my organs after I die."

### 'Harvesting never left'

In recent decades, alongside China's rising political





and economic power, reports have also surfaced of human rights violations and methodical oppression of minorities and opponents of the regime.

During this time, the Chinese authorities have been accused of torture, executions and organ harvesting from tens of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners, and selling the organs to patients in need of transplants. Repression, ethnic cleansing and even genocide of minorities living in the Xinjiang province, northwestern China, has also been alleged.

According to numerous testimonies, minority groups – the largest of whom are the Uyghur (aka Uyghur) Muslims, who number some 12 million – are suffering restrictions on their rights and liberties, surveillance and privacy invasions, separation of children from parents and forced abortions. It is believed that more than 1 million members of minority groups in Xinjiang are now in "reeducation camps," which combine violent indoctrination with forced labor, rape and torture.

A number of international researchers and human rights activists say the oppression of minorities in Xinjiang has only grown worse, and that some prisoners are being murdered and their organs harvested. Ethan Gutmann, an independent researcher who's considered a world expert on this issue, unequivocally believes the practice is occurring. "Harvesting never left Xinjiang, it just took a vacation," he tells Haaretz. "The Chinese Communist Party [CCP] first experimented with the live organ harvesting of death row criminals on the execution grounds of Xinjiang as early as 1994. By 1997, surgeons were extracting livers and kidneys from Uyghur political and religious prisoners for high-ranking CCP cadres – small-scale, but it set a precedent.

"The explosion in transplant activity that followed and the use of surgeons as executioners?" he asks rhetorically. "This was fueled by Falun Gong organs. Now China appears to be running out of young and healthy Falun Gong, and, like 'a dog returning to its vomit,' the party's killing machine has returned to Xinjiang."



I don't know what it takes to get the attention of world leaders for action. Don't let it come to mass executions and gas chambers

Rushan Abbas



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Gutmann, 62, authored the 2014 book "The Slaughter: Mass Killings, Organ Harvesting, and China's Secret Solution to Its Dissident Problem," is co-founder of the International Coalition to End Transplant Abuse in China (ETAC), a China Studies research fellow at the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation (VOC) and was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017.

The executions and organ harvesting are not sporadic or local, he says. "China's transplant volume is 60,000 to 100,000 transplants per year. Beijing has no intention of dismantling its vast transplant infrastructure. Over 15 million Uighurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz



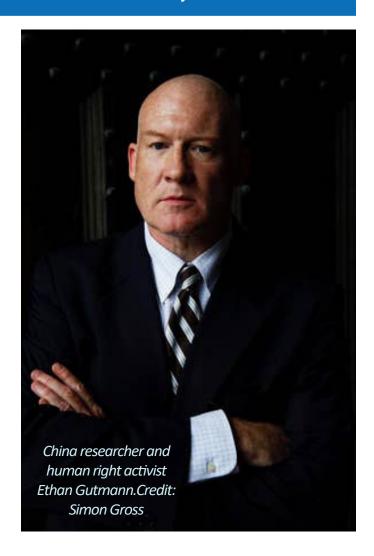
and Hui have been blood tested, compatible with tissue matching. Over 1 million are in camps. So yes, the CCP has created a policy of ethnic cleansing – a potentially very profitable one," the American scholar asserts.

Matthew Robertson is another research fellow at the VOC and a doctoral student at Australian National University, Canberra. He told Haaretz that while China claims to be performing over 20,000 transplants annually, sourced exclusively from voluntary donors, the figures appear to have been falsified, since they conform "extraordinarily closely to a simple mathematical function, and because of numerous artefacts throughout the data sets that are indicative or otherwise inexplicable except for human manipulation."

According to Robertson, there's a direct connection between the mass incarceration of Uyghurs in Xinjiang and the rise in organ transplants. "Over the last couple of years – during the same period organ transplants from 'volunteers' are claimed to have grown rapidly – over a million Uyghurs have been incarcerated in detention camps and prisons," he says. At the same time, he adds, "reports have emerged of Uighurs being subjected to blood tests and other medical examinations consistent with those required to assess organ health, which is a prerequisite for organ matching and transplantation. There's a history of the use of prisoners, including non-death row prisoners, for their organs. So in the end, it's very much about where the burden of proof should reside," Robertson says.

Robertson and Gutmann aren't the only ones to suspect the Chinese regime. An international tribunal based in London and headed by leading British human rights prosecutor Sir Geoffrey Nice published a report last year declaring that China's campaign of forced organ harvesting against innocent victims was a "crime against humanity," constituting one of the world's "worst atrocities committed" in modern times.

According to Rushan Abbas, the founder and executive director of Campaign for Uyghurs, China has



established "organ farms," where millions of people are forced to undergo DNA testing and are "prepped for slaughter," she said in a 2019 speech.

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The big profit margins come from medical tourists: Japanese, South Koreans, Germans – and Muslims from the Gulf states

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"In the beginning of the Holocaust, countries around the world continued to do business with Germany, enabling their economies while millions of innocent people were being attained and held in concentration camps," Abbas said, adding: "I don't know what



it takes to get the attention of world leaders for action. Don't let it come to mass executions and gas chambers."

### 'Something wild'

In the 1990s, Envar Tohti was a young surgeon in a hospital north of the city of Ürümqi, the capital of Xinjiang. He tells Haaretz that in 1995, two senior surgeons asked him if he "wanted to do something wild." In a phone interview from his home in London, Tohti recounts: "They asked me to pick up the largest mobile operation kit and bring assistants, nurses and anesthesiologists to the hospital gate at 9:30 the next morning and join an ambulance, which was in fact just a van with a bed in it.

summer." There was a hill at the site, Tohti recalls, and the surgeons told him "to wait there, 'and come around when you hear gun shots.' I was scared, wondering why we were here."

Tohti says he then heard gunshots. "We jumped into the van and drove toward the entrance to the field. There were between 10 to 20 corpses. They had shaved heads and were dressed in prison uniform. Their foreheads were blown up. They were shot in the back of the head. A police officer – I think he was one of the executioners – shouted at us: 'The one on the far right is yours.' I was confused. I moved to the location and our surgeons held me and told me: 'Hurry up, extract the liver and two kidneys.'"



Tohti says he did as he was told. "I turned into a robot trained to carry out its duty," he says. "The officers and my assistants put the body on the bed already inside the van. The victim was a man in his 30s."

Ethan Gutmann believes at least 25,000 people are murdered every year in Xinjiang and their organs harvested

Muslim trainees working in a garment factory at the Hotan Vocational Education and Training Center in Hotan, East Turkistan. September 22, 2020. Credit: Anonymous, AP

"The next morning, we assembled at the gate and the chief surgeons told us to follow them in a convey. We drove toward our branch hospital in the western mountain district, but halfway through our journey, we turned left and our driver said we were going to the western mountain execution ground."

At that moment, he says, "I felt chilly even in the hot

The senior surgeons apparently kept an eye on Tohti and when he asked to administer anesthesia, he was told there was no need because the man was already dead. "So I started my insertion, a cut designed as an upside-down 'T' shape to expose internal organs as wide as possible. My scalpel found its way cutting his skin. Blood could be seen, which implies



that his heart was still pumping blood. He was alive! My chief surgeon whispered to me: 'Hurry up!'"

The operation took some 30 to 40 minutes. When it ended, Tohti says, "The chief surgeons happily put the organs into a weird-looking box and said 'OK, now take your team back to hospital. And remember – nothing happened here today.' This was a command. No one talked about it ever since."

The events Tohti recounted happened 25 years ago. But researchers say the situation in Xinjiang has grown much worse since then.

### 'Like a monkey'

Abduweli Ayup, 46, is a linguist who now dedicates his life to the education and preservation of the Uighur language and culture, and lives in Europe. He was arrested in August 2013 and incarcerated for 15 months at three different prisons in Ürümqi. Though it's widely claimed that the "reeducation camps" were only established in 2017, Ayup says the prisons in Xinjiang were operating the same way for years beforehand. "They were at the same places, the same conditions, the same uniform and the same rules," he tells Haaretz. He adds that when he was arrested in his hometown of Kashgar, he was gang-raped by other prisoners, who were ordered to do so by Chinese officers.

Ayup says that in the first prison, he was the "victim of a cruel prison hierarchy orchestrated by the regime." There were 17 prisoners in his cell, he says, explaining that he was one of the 12 "low-status" political prisoners forced to wear a yellow uniform. "There was no room for us on the beds, so we slept on the floor close to the toilet, which was a bucket covering a hole in the floor exposed to all. When we slept, the other prisoners' pee drops fell on us," he says.

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The Chinese have taken advantage of their power. The WHO chose to present the Chinese transplant industry as a case of successful reform



A woman with a partly destroyed Chinese flag amid demonstrators with Uyghur flags, in a protest during the visit of Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Berlin, September 1, 2020.Credit: Markus Schreiber,AP

The higher-status prisoners were drug dealers and murderers, Ayup reports. "One was in charge and he could decide to violently punish the others; another would execute the punishments, while a third and a fourth would guard and document them." He says he witnessed and suffered countless acts of violence, humiliation, torture and sexual abuse.

With lights on 24/7, cameras on the ceiling, a never-ending stench from the toilets and a strict schedule of indoctrination, this was just the first of the three camps where Ayup was imprisoned.

In the second prison, he had an encounter he will never forget. "A man called Abdul Rahman was brought into the cell," he says. "He was a political prisoner too, accused of separatism. I was shocked because he had a red uniform – the uniform of the people who are sentenced to death. His legs were chained and one of his hands was chained to his legs. Someone told me he has been held like that for two years. He slept in our cell, and I couldn't sleep that night. The next morning, he requested that after his death his body be cleansed according to Uighur tradition, but the guards refused. When his arms and legs were finally freed, he couldn't stand up so he had to walk with his hands. Like a monkey."

Ayup says that later, when he was finally released and fled to Turkey, he met Abdul Rahman's wife and a couple of his friends. "His wife said that after the execution, the family was notified but she was only allowed to see his face, not his body," he recounts. "The family was not allowed to wash the body and



they were allowed to visit the grave only a month after the execution.

"Even then, they were told that they were not allowed to plant a flower in the soil beside the grave, as is customary in Uyghur tradition, for at least a year," Ayup continues. "The family were told by workers at the 'burial administration' that organs are usually removed from executed prisoners, and that's why families are not allowed to see the bodies."

### **Top secret files**

Dr. Alim (not his real name) worked as a physician at the university hospital in Ürümqi for a decade, before leaving China. "In 2016," he tells Haaretz, "a new department was opened at the hospital. It was a liver transplantation coordinating department and the department head's office was close to mine."

When h

When he was arrested in his hometown of Kashgar, Abduweli was gang-raped by other prisoners, who were ordered to do so by Chinese officers When the department head was out, Alim says, "some of the patients who came to see him stepped over to my office and we sometimes chatted. These were wealthy people, they weren't local – I remember some of them being from Shanghai, Beijing and even South Korea. When I asked them what they were doing here, they said they were patients in need of a liver transplant and that it took 24 hours between the time they had their checkup and DNA test until a matching organ was found for them." (The waiting period in most countries is at least a few months.)

Alim says he recalled at least two instances in which he came across files of transplant patients. "In one case, all the information about the person who received the liver was in place — name, age, medical status, and so on," he recalls. "But in the file of the so-called donor, there was no identifying information and instead of a name there was just 'XXX.'"

According to Alim, all of the transplant files at the hospital were kept secret and most of the doctors were not given access to them.

"In another case, I noticed there was a name on a consent form – but the name didn't match the name





of the person who signed the form. Medical forms don't include prices, but it was common knowledge that a liver costs a minimum of 100,000 Chinese Yuan [about \$15,000]."

The Uighur doctor also believes there's a connection between what's happening in Xinjiang and the hospital transplants. "Many Uyghurs disappeared after the massacre of July 5," he says, referring to violent clashes between rival Uighur and Han Chinese protesters in Ürümqi in 2009, which resulted in hundreds of deaths and injuries.

"Since then, the number of transplants at my hospital grew dramatically," Alim says. "In 2007-08, there were about 60 to 70 transplants a year. I first saw patients from outside of Ürümqi in 2009, and since then it was around 200 transplants a year. The new coordinating department finally opened in 2016. That was also when I remember all Uyghurs in Ürümqi being summoned to local clinics, in order to provide blood and DNA samples and medical data."

### **Constructing crematoria**

Gutmann wanted to look more deeply into claims of organ harvesting in Xinjiang, so he went to Kazakhstan earlier this year and looked for people who had been released from the "reeducation camps." Once there, he says he drove around in an old car and refrained from using the internet or electronic devices that could reveal his identity.

"I disappeared, and this gave me the freedom to do confidential interviews with witnesses who still had family in the camps," he says. Gutmann spoke with approximately two dozen people, who all indicated a clear pattern. "Every year, about 2.5 to 5 percent of healthy individuals in the camps simply disappear in the middle of the night. On average, they're 28 – Beijing's preferred age for harvesting." This, he says, explains the "health checks" that Uighurs undergo in Xinjiang.

Gutmann believes at least 25,000 people are murdered every year in Xinjiang and their organs harvested. To streamline the process, he says, the Chinese created "fast lanes" for the movement of human or-



A protester from the Uyghur community living in Turkey holding an anti-China placard during a protest in Istanbul, October 1, 2020.Credit: Emrah Gurel,AP

gans in local airports, while crematoria have recently been constructed throughout the province.

One of these was discovered by chance thanks to a job ad in a local Ürümqi newspaper, seeking 50 security guards for work at a crematorium, on a salary of about \$1,200 a month — "a small fortune in that part of the world," Gutmann says. "I don't know about you, but the presence of 50 security guards in a single crematorium sends a chill up my spine," he adds.

The majority of the clients for these organs are wealthy Chinese people, according to Gutmann. But the big profit margins come from medical tourists: Japanese, South Koreans, Germans — and Muslims from the Gulf states. "The theory is that they have a preference for organs taken from people who don't eat pork," he explains of the latter group.

Gutmann says the Chinese themselves have admitted that until 2015, they harvested organs from death row prisoners after execution, though they never released precise numbers or admitted that these were political prisoners.

He adds that the Chinese have taken advantage of their power on the world stage to silence criticism, and that international institutions such as the World Health Organization chose in 2016 to present the Chinese transplant industry as a case of successful reform.



Only a handful of physicians came out against the alleged practices, one of them being Prof. Jacob Lavee, director of Sheba Medical Center's Heart Transplantation Unit. He was the driving force behind the Israeli transplant law that blocks "organ transplant tourism" from Israel to China.

The problem, Gutmann concludes, is that "they never saw the human rights catastrophe in Xinjiang coming. Now they're left in an indefensible position." Anyhow, the researcher says, the phenomenon of organ harvesting is known, but the Chinese have extensive influence in the international medical establishment.

"Every major media that I can think of in the West has reported on this crime during the last four years," he says. "Not on the front page perhaps, but as I'm sure your readers are aware, The New York Times didn't put the Holocaust on the front page until after 1945 either."

### The Chinese response

In response to questions for this story, the Chinese Embassy in Israel told Haaretz: "Firstly, regarding the



A guarded facility in the Kunshan Industrial Park in Artux in East Turkistan, December 3, 2018.Credit: Ng Han Guan,AP

Vocational Education and Training Centers. From 1990 to 2016, separatists, religious extremists and terrorists have plotted and carried out several thousand violent terrorist attacks in Xinjiang. Many innocent people were killed and several hundred police officers died while performing their duty. Terrorism and extremism are the common scourge confronting





humanity.

"It is for the purpose of counterterrorism, deradicalization and saving those who were deceived by extremist ideas that Vocational Education and Training Centers were built in China, and their operation has always been in strict accordance with the law. In essence, the Education and Training Centers are no different from the deradicalization centers in many countries around the world, and they do not target any specific region, ethnicity and religion.

"The Vocational Education and Training Centers fully protect the personal dignity and freedom of trainees in accordance with the basic principles of the Chinese Constitution and the laws on respecting and protecting human rights. These Centers are education and training institutions that deliver the curriculum, including standard spoken and written Chinese, laws and regulations, vocational skills and deradicalization. Trainees can have home visits, ask for leave to attend private affairs and have freedom of commu-

nication. The relatives of the trainees are fully aware of their training through telephone or video chat, as well as visiting the trainees.

"The number of people participating in Vocational Education and Training programs is not fixed, some in and some out from time to time. It is purely fabricated and baseless to say that there are 'around 1 million or even 2 million trainees' by some media. Vocational Education and Training Centers are special efforts in special times. By the end of 2019, all the trainees of the Vocational Education and Training Centers have reached the training requirements and graduated. Most of them have obtained vocational qualification certificates or vocational skill level certificates and found decent jobs.

"In the future, Xinjiang will provide regular and open educational training programs to meet the needs of local people to improve their skills, based on principles of respect for their will, independent decision, categorized training programs and freedom to join





or leave.

"Secondly, regarding the question about organ transplantation. The Chinese government has consistently followed the WHO guidelines on human organ transplantation. In recent years, China has further strengthened the management of organ transplantation. In 2007, the State Council of China promulgated and implemented the Regulations on Human Organ Transplantation, which stipulates that organ donation should follow the principle of being voluntary and for free. The sale of human organs is

strictly prohibited in China. Since January 1, 2015, the use of death row prisoners' organs as a source for transplantation has been completely banned and citizen donation is the only legal source for organ transplantation.

"Last but not least, I would like to emphasize that some international forces with ulterior motives have fabricated some lies distorting facts, smeared and attacked China's policy of governing Xinjiang, in an attempt to contain China's development."

Uyghur "Mahmoud Jan Abdul Rahim" posted a picture of his two children - who are in East Turkistan - on his Twitter account, saying:

"My two lovely children have lived for the last four years without their parents. They are also suffering from isolation from the outside world, and from their mother, who is detained for being Uyghur, and I, who is in exile.

Only if you are parents, can you try to imagine the torment and pain we are going through? "

East Turkistan News Agency







### Uyghur meeting with his son for the first time .. and his wife after three years.

An Uyghur man in Australia met his wife and child after a three-year campaign for their release from East Turkistan. Where Australian citizen Saddam Abdel Salam was able to finally meet his wife, waitress of Womayer and his three-year-old son Lotfi, in Sydney, after years of diplomatic negotiations. The Uyghur waitress stated she was previously under house arrest.

Saddam posted on Twitter on Friday: "I am overjoyed to inform everyone that yesterday I met my wife, whom I had not seen for three years, and my son, whom I had never met." Where he was forced to leave his wife when she was pregnant due to the Chinese authorities.

He added, "I did not expect this day to come, and I would like to thank everyone who worked hard for our reunion."

As the happy father said: "My wish is for all my fellow Uyghurs to be reunited with their families."

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Turpan - East Turkistan -Carpet Merchant Bazaar Gomaa Mubaraka

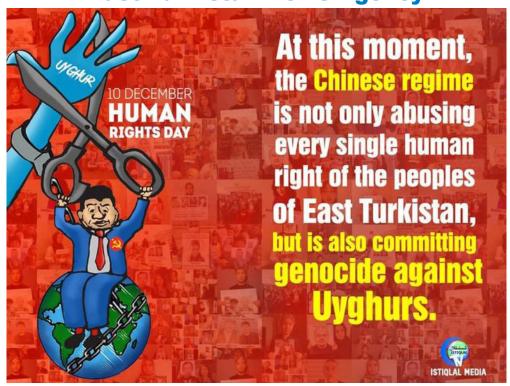
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10 December, Human Rights Day.

At this moment, the Chinese regime is not only abusing every single human right of the people of East Turkistan. but is also committing genocide against Uyghurs.

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