



Chinese Diplomats Claim Uyghur Concentration Camps Promote

‘Gender Equality’

‘EMANCIPATED’

*Blake Montgomery
Reporter/Editor*

Jan. 07, 2021

The Chinese Embassy in the United States tweeted Thursday that China’s Uyghur detention camps “emancipated” the minds of women incarcerated there. The embassy’s official account wrote, “Study shows that in the process of eradicating extremism, the minds of Uyghur women in Xinjiang were emancipated and gender equality and reproductive health

were promoted, making them no longer baby-making machines. They are more confident and independent.” Since 2017, the Chinese Communist Party has detained at least a million Uyghurs, members of China’s Muslim minority, in vast “reeducation” compounds in the Xinjiang province.

Chinese Embassy tweet about Uyghurs and birth rate draws instant condemnation

By Victor Ordonez, 8 January 2021

“ The Chinese government has carried out systematic oppression of Muslims. In a new state media report, the Chinese government is defending its policies against Muslim women in the country’s westernmost province, where it’s been accused of forced mass sterilization -- a horrific crime it strongly denies. ”

In a tweet Thursday, the Chinese Embassy in the U.S. shared the report, saying that Muslim women in Xinjiang province are “no longer baby-making machines” and that the decrease in population growth throughout the province led to a drop in terrorism. The tweet garnered instead blowback and calls for

Twitter to remove it, given the Chinese government’s oppressive campaign against Uyghurs and other Muslim ethnic minorities.

“Decreases in the birthrate and natural population growth rate in the Xinjiang Uyghur autonomous region in 2018 resulted from the eradication of religious



Bulent Kilic/AFP via Getty Images

Members of the Muslim Uyghur minority hold placards as they demonstrate in front of the Chinese consulate on Dec. 30, 2020, in Istanbul, to ask for news of their relatives and to express their concern after China announced the ratification of an extradition treaty with Turkey.

Study shows that in the process of eradicating extremism, the minds of Uyghur women in Xinjiang were emancipated and gender equality and reproductive health were promoted, making them no longer baby-making machines. They are more confident and independent. <https://t.co/lykDhByEiL>

— Chinese Embassy in US (@ChineseEmbinUS) January 7, 2021

extremism,” according to the article published by China Daily, the largest Chinese Communist Party-owned English language newspaper with circulation worldwide.

The study and press releases from the Chinese government attributed the decrease in population growth to family planning programs and increased education, which religious extremism “incited people to resist,” according to another press release from the embassy.

However, experts continue to believe Uyghur women in Xinjiang are being sterilized.

“They keep trying to get out of the accusations of genocide,” said Adrian Zenz, senior fellow in China Studies at the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation. Zenz’s research back in June provided substantial evidence for a “forced mass sterilization” campaign taking place in Xinjiang.

China’s treatment of Uyghurs has come under increased scrutiny in the last couple years, as the Chinese government ramped up its so-called “re-education” campaign that uses mass detention camps.

Those camps are used as a form of threat and punishment, with officials detaining women and families who fail to comply with pregnancy checks or forced intrauterine contraceptive devices -- more commonly

known as IUDs -- sterilizations, and even abortions, according Zenz's research.

"We first thought that internment and strict enforcement of family planning was greatly depressing population growth rates in Uyghur regions," Zenz told ABC News back in June. "But then the shocker came when I dug deep and found plans to reduce natural birth or natural population growth to near zero by 2020."

Now, the Chinese government seems to be agreeing with Zenz's conclusion.

"The birthrate in Xinjiang decreased from 1.6 percent in 2017 to 1 percent in 2018 and the natural population growth rate fell from 1.1 percent to 0.6 percent," according to the study.

As China's Muslim population in Xinjiang plummets, the government continues to relocate its Han Chinese, the country's main ethnic group, into the mineral-rich region. The article tweeted by the Chinese Embassy in the U.S. compares the population growth in the region to that of the Han majority -- claiming for years growth disproportionately favored the Uyghurs.

"The [Uyghur] population grew from 10.2 million in 2010 to 12.7 million in 2018, an increase of more than 25 percent," the authors wrote. "While the population of Han people in the region increased by just 2 percent to 9 million over the same period."

China strongly denies any claims of forced sterilization.

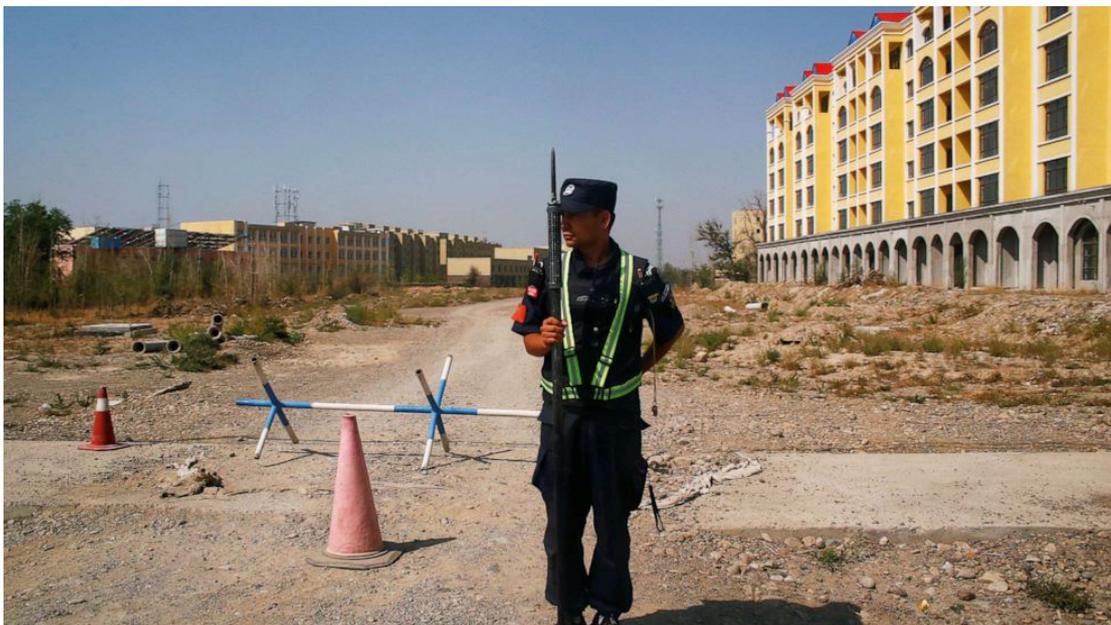
Both the country's government and the China Daily article call out Adrian Zenz and his research directly, stating that any decrease in population is largely the result of the country's crackdown on terrorism.

"In the process of eradicating extremism, the minds of Uyghur women were emancipated and gender equality and reproductive health were promoted, making them no long baby-making machines, women have since been striving to become healthy, confident and independent," according to the government's new study.

"In cranking out counter propaganda to my work, they keep digging a deeper hole," Zenz said Thursday.

News reports last month indicated that the U.S. State Department was considering classifying China's acts in Xinjiang as genocide. The State Department would not confirm these reports, but a spokesperson said the department "is deeply concerned about the People's Republic of China's appalling campaign of repression in Xinjiang against Uyghurs and members of other predominantly Muslim minority groups."

[ABC News' Conor Finnegan and Gerry Wagschal contributed to this report.](#)



Thomas Peter/
Reuters, FILE

A Chinese police officer takes his position by the road near what is officially called a vocational education centre in Ghulja in East Turkistan, Sept. 4, 2018.

Twitter finally removed Chinese embassy tweet about Uyghur women

“

Twitter finally removed Chinese embassy tweet about Uyghur women. Presumably embarrassed by the obvious double standard of “considering the wider context” Thanks to everyone who reported.



6:31
WhatsApp

Tweet

 **Adrian Zenz**
@adrianzenz

Breaking: Twitter reversed course and removed Chinese embassy tweet about Uyghur women no longer being "baby making machines":
"This Tweet violated the Twitter Rules"

← Tweet

This Tweet violated the Twitter Rules. [Learn more](#)

 **Adrian Zenz**
@adrianzenz

Replying to @ChineseEmbinUS

You are committing genocide.

3:55 PM · Jan 7, 2021 · Twitter for Android

View Tweet activity

428 Retweets 20 Quote Tweets 6.8K Likes

11:11 PM · 1/8/21 · [Twitter Web App](#)

Akida's Story: The Desperate Cry of a Uyghur Woman

01/13/2021, By RUTH INGRAM

“

“Dear world, please help!” The heartrending plea of a daughter who has been searching in vain for her mother, folklorist Rahile Dawut, for the past three years.

There is no end in sight.

Living with the agony of silence since the renowned Uyghur folklorist Rahile Dawut was snatched at Beijing airport in December 2017, her daughter Akida Pulat has left no stone unturned in her mission to find where in the murky labyrinthine tunnels of detention, so-called transformation through education camps, or extra-legal prison terms the CCP has buried her mother.

The black hole of silence has been deafening, and every plea for information from the Chinese government has been stonewalled. Akida's life has been put on hold since her mother's disappearance. The once happy-go-lucky twenty-something young woman, who enjoyed her career, the company of friends, movie nights and shopping, has become obsessed with the search. She came to the USA in 2015 for a Master of Science in Information Systems at the University of Washington. Her mother joined her for six months as a visiting scholar in 2016, and the last time they saw each other was at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport as the departure gates closed. “Neither of us expected that she would become one of the more than one million Uyghurs detained by the Chinese government,” Akida tells Bitter Winter ruefully.

Akida is one of tens of thousands of Uyghur exiles scattered throughout the world, who have been severed not only from their



Rahile Dawut, who disappeared on a trip to Beijing in December 2017. All photos courtesy of Akida Pulat.

hometown, but also from their families. Which of them could have imagined that their visit to the West would be a one-way ticket, propelled alone or in small family groups into a future where going back was no option? The moment the new governor of Xinjiang province,

Chen Quanguo, seized control of their destiny in August 2016, all contact with home was cut off. Those back in the homeland receiving a call from outside were summarily disappeared. If any dared to succumb to pressure and return, arrest at the airport was de rigueur.

There are those who have heard informally that relatives have been sent for “re-education,” or been victims of kangaroo courts and sentenced to long periods behind bars, for crimes such as “unusual” beards, long skirts, or the Skype app on their phones. Their exiled relatives might cynically be described as the lucky ones. At least, they have heard.

Others such as Akida, and relatives of the hundreds of academics, poets and intellectuals who have simply gone missing, live in the twilight abyss of unknowing. Their children, often sent to study abroad to widen their horizons and work for a better future for themselves and their people, are now alone, wrenched from the umbilical cord of financial and emotional support, left to fend for themselves.

Akida finds herself constantly rehearsing all the “what if’s” and “if only’s” of those who have suddenly lost a loved one.



Akida’s Master’s graduation ceremony. The photo was taken by her mother Rahile while she was a visiting scholar at the University of Washington. Akida is in the center waving the victory sign.

She admits with shame, and mountains of regret now, that her interests and those of her mother’s rarely coincided. She was busy pursuing a career in technology that was light years removed from the daily lives of those whose folk tales, ballads, dialects, superstitions, and religious traditions intrigued and captivated Rahile. As a teenager, holidays spent in the depths of the countryside listening to the elders sharing memories and singing long forgotten songs were frustrating, even boring, she remembers. She could not wait to get back to “civilization” to gossip and shop with friends.

She is surprised at the changes in herself since this path was forced upon her.

These days she desperately tries to retrieve those precious memories and the days she spent with the simple villagers, endlessly generous, who showered hospitality upon them with a largesse they could barely afford. She is beginning to appreciate, not too late she hopes, the intensity of her mother’s love for Uyghur culture. But of course, it is too little too late now for her mother to benefit from this awakening camaraderie. Would that they could have shared together unearthing the precious cultural treasures scattered to the four winds of the deserts and mountains of her homeland. “Looking back, I wish she could have felt my support and companionship,” she says, hoping against hope for another chance.

She spoke to her mother via her website last year to wish her happy birthday, in the vain hope that somehow her message would get through.

Speaking on the video, she says, “Every day, I am being tortured with the thought of the uncertain fate that you and other innocent Uyghurs are facing, and



Akida, appealing for the whereabouts of her mother.

the outrageous behavior of the Chinese government in response to the Uyghur people's plight."

As a young graduate with plans and hopes, in no hurry to put down roots and content to let the future take care of itself, her mother's fate and that of millions of her people has thrown her into a turmoil of uncertainty, confusion and fear. Frantic for answers, the hunt for her mother and the crusade against the injustice against her people has consumed her. Her life and her destiny have been changed overnight. "I have become an activist. From morning to night, I think of nothing else. I will find my mother."

Consumed by the cruelty meted out to her mother, at first, she tried to juggle a full-time job with activism, but it all became too much. She has abandoned her profession and is now working full time for the NGO Campaign For Uyghurs, directed by Rushan Abbas, whose sister was sentenced in March 2019 to 20 years in prison. Her mission now and for the foreseeable future is to raise awareness of the ongoing plight of the Uyghurs, and campaign for world governments to join them in the fight for justice.

As she walked and talked with her mother beside the lake near their rented home in 2016, she remembers begging her to let her stay for a while to accrue more work and life experience. Rahile reluctantly agreed. But now in her daydreaming about the future, she wonders whether she will ever be able to return. "Will I be able to spend the rest of my life near my mother? Will she be able to move to the suburbs after retirement to spend all day quietly reading and writing? Will she be able to help me raise the grandchild she longs for one day?"

"You always told me to be a good person, and I never forget that," she says. "Happy birthday, mom. I love you. Please stay safe and mentally strong. I want to send beautiful gifts for your next birthday. I want to share every beautiful thing happening in my life with you. I trust God, and that day will come. At the end of this letter, I want to share with you a quote I recently read 'Where there's hope, there's life.' It fills us with fresh courage and makes us strong again. I love you and I miss you. Your loving daughter, Akida Pulat."



Rahile with her young daughter Akida over supper in an East Turkistan village, during happier times.

Rahile during a walk with Akida along the seashore in Summer 2016, while she was a visiting scholar at the University of Washington in Seattle.



The 16-year-old Uyghur girl was killed by Chinese police in prison

The 16-year-old Uyghur girl was killed by Chinese police in prison, on March 10, 2014.

The Chinese police claimed that the girl had died of the disease.

While the pictures were taken of the girl's body showed that her nails were pulled out and bruises on her face as a result of torture by the Chinese police.



Charles Tyrwhitt, the German company for men's shirt pendants, announced that it has terminated its trade agreements with Chinese cotton suppliers due to customer complaints about the slavery and forced labor system in East Turkistan.





Uyghur Muslim
Child
Gomaa Mubarakaa
East Turkistan News
Agency

The Chinese regime is accelerating the forced assimilation of Uyghur children whose parents are detained in the Concentration camps in East Turkistan.



EAST TURKISTAN PRESS AND MEDIA ASSOCIATION
شەرقىي تۈركىستان ئاخبارات ۋە مەدېيا جەمئىيىتى

Contact Us:

Adres: Kartaltepe Mah. Geçit Sok. No: 6 Dükkan: 2
Küçükçekmece / İSTANBUL

Tel: +90 212 540 31 15 Gsm: +90 553 895 19 33
+90 541 797 77 00 info@turkistanmedia.com