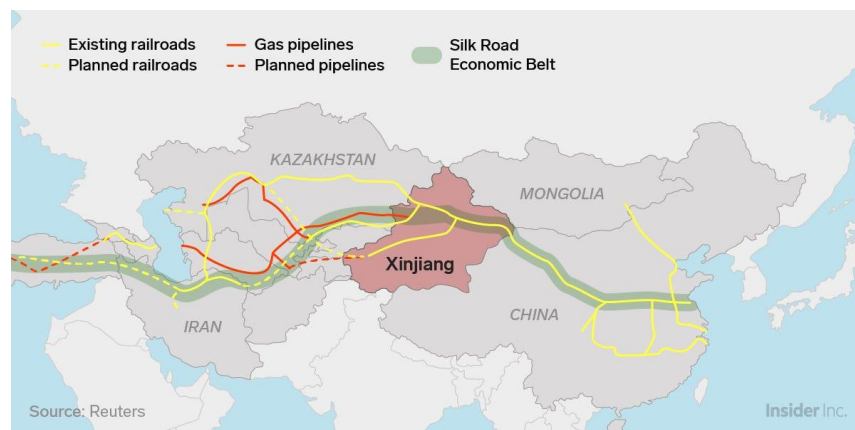


ONGOING NIGHTMARE FOR UYGHURS AND OTHER MUSLIMS IN XINJIANG,

Notes for Hon. David Kilgour, J.D.,
International Coalition to End Transplant Abuse in China (ETAC),
(<https://endtransplantabuse.org/>), World Uyghur Congress forum at European
Parliament and Universite Libre de Bruxelles,
Brussels
10 Dec. 2019

At a meeting of the U.N. Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in August 2018, Gay McDougall, Committee Co-Rapporteur for China, cited estimates that more than a million Turkic Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities had been forced into “political camps for indoctrination” in western Xinjiang. It appeared to be the largest internment of minorities since WW2. (1)

A month later, author Robert D. Kaplan noted that as all road and energy routes between coastal China and the Middle East must pass through Xinjiang, China’s massive Belt and Road Initiative “requires the complete subjugation of the Uyghur population.” (2)



At Harvard University that September, German academic Adrian Zenz estimated that Uyghurs have been sent to over 1,300 camps without trial or legal procedure. They endure endless hours of re-education/brainwashing - a direct translation of the Chinese xi nao - to “kill the memory of who they are, wipe out their separate identity, language and history.... having a copy of the Koran on a phone or making a contact abroad, can result in incarceration.” (3)

In some camps, inmates must replace the common Islamic blessing bismillah before meals, with thanks instead to Xi Jinping - who, like Mao Zedong, has promoted himself as the embodiment and protector of the Chinese nation. (4)

Almijan E., a healthy 22-year-old, was recently killed at a camp for denying that he had prayed in secret. His body was returned to his family for burial under police supervision. (5)

A recent leak from a courageous whistle-blower inside the CCP is revelatory: a set of 403 internal papers provided to the New York Times with the expressed hope that it would make it more difficult for Xi and other party leaders to avoid culpability for the mass detention of Uyghurs. Then came six internal documents obtained by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ), one of which gives detailed draconian orders on how to manage the rapidly growing indoctrination camps. (6)

Authorities must adhere to “strict secrecy” about the camp system. Fortunately, leaks occasionally occur:

- An officer at the Kuchar County Police Department confirmed that at least 150 people died from June - September 2018 while detained in one of the county’s four internment camps, marking the first confirmation of mass deaths since Xi began erecting a vast “re-education” network of camps for Uyghur communities in 2017. Some families glimpsed corpses under strict police monitoring. (7)
- Idris Q., a healthy farmer, and his brother died in internment from unknown causes in 2018-2019. Their families never saw their bodies. The Party secretary of the village said “details about the deaths of people detained in internment camps are typically held back, even from officials in their home villages, and if the bodies of those who have died are returned to their families, relatives are warned not to divulge any information to the public. The majority of bodies are never returned...” 8)

Secrecy is paramount and pervasive. Last August, Ghalipjan, a healthy 35-year-old in a camp in Turpan died suddenly, supposedly from a heart attack. Family arriving at the hospital saw a defibrillator still attached to his chest, but they weren’t allowed to look at his body. Party cadres oversaw Ghalipjan’s immediate burial, denying his relatives the right to follow their traditions. (9)

Camp Network

Xi's network of camps for Uyghurs is similar to the network established across China after mid-1999 for Falun Gong prisoners of conscience. Both systems are extrajudicial: no due process, no appeals, no rule of law. Without the need for legal charges, authorities can arbitrarily "disappear" any member of an ethnic minority group for the smallest perceived disobedience. The current threat of internment/indoctrination is magnified by a surveillance apparatus of unprecedented scale - a combination of manpower plus high-tech, networked surveillance equipment. (10)

China's party-state interns Uyghurs because of their "strong religious" and "politically incorrect" views. Secrecy and the prevention of families from looking at the remains of their loved ones are one indication that the victims have had their organs pillaged before their deaths.

Organ Harvesting and Uyghurs

Organ pillaging from Uyghurs pre-dates that from Falun Gong practitioners, which began in 2001. In 1995, a Uyghur general surgeon in a hospital in Urumqi, the capital, was ordered to go to an execution ground to remove the kidneys and liver from a wounded, but still living, man. Later, agonizing over what he had done, he fled China.

In 1998, five Chinese government officials with organ problems checked into a hospital in Urumqi. A Uyghur policeman in the city, now in exile, was sent to the political prisoner wing of the local prison to obtain blood samples from Uyghur prisoners. He learned that once a matching blood type was found, tissue matching was then completed before the "donors" were shot in the right side of their chests. The five officials left with their newly obtained transplanted organs.

In his 2014 book, *The Slaughter*, Ethan Gutmann, a former business consultant in Beijing, explains how he arrived at his "best estimate" that organs of 65,000 Falun Gong and "two-four thousand" Uyghurs, Tibetans and Christians were "harvested" during the 2000-2008 period.

Gutmann notes that by 2017, every Uyghur in Xinjiang appeared to have been blood-and DNA-tested, with the first being necessary for tissue matching for organ transplant purposes. He adds that the Uyghur witnesses at the China Tribunal in London earlier this year described medical examinations in custody similar to Falun Gong experiences.

According to a report on the website of the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (XPCC), from March 2017 - February 2018, the XUAR government listed tenders for contractors to build nine “burial management centers” that include crematoria.(11)

The first of nine crematoria was completed in Urumqi in early 2018; three fast-track lanes are now open for human organs in regional airports. (12)



A priority lane sign has been installed at the Kashgar airport (KHG) in Xinjiang. In simplified Chinese and Arabic, it translates as “Special Passengers, Human Organ Exportation Lane” and is kept open for the speedy transportation of recently extracted organs for implants. When a photograph of the lane sign first went viral on social media, many thought it was fake, but Japanese travellers landing at Kashgar in January 2018 confirmed its authenticity with their own photos. (13)

China Tribunal

The China Tribunal is an "independent, international people's tribunal" created by the International Coalition to End Transplant Abuse in China (ETAC), an international human rights NGO consisting of lawyers, academics, and medical professionals investigating and opposing organ harvesting in China. It recently reported its conclusions to the U.N. Human Rights Council. Hamid Sabi, a lawyer for the Tribunal, is speaking at this event. The Tribunal itself was led by Sir Geoffrey Nice, a British lawyer who was the lead prosecutor in the trial of Slobodan Milosevic, the former Yugoslavian president.

Beijing insists that it "stopped using organs from executed prisoners in 2015", but strong evidence to the contrary is available from a 2016 update of the separate books by Gutmann and David Matas/myself. (14)

Furthermore, a recent report in the BMC Medical Ethics journal asserts that the CCP's claims of reform are being supported by the “systematic falsification and manipulation of official organ datasets in China.” It adds that Beijing is artificially manufacturing organ transplant donation data; its so-called “reforms” were “a mask for the continued use of non-voluntary donors who are coerced into giving organs”. (15)

Indicators of the true nature of what is occurring in Xinjiang are summarized by international human rights lawyer David Matas: “ the demonization and disappearances of Uyghurs, travel of transplant tourists into Xinjiang, movement of organs out of Xinjiang (signs at airports), depletion of the Falun Gong organ source, systematic blood testing and organ examination of Uyghurs, anecdotal information of assurances from queries that Uyghur organs are available, and unexplained deaths.

Miles M. Yu, a specialist on the history of East Asia concludes, “The rush for the construction of a large number of ‘re-education’ concentration camps for the Uyghur masses, the systematic round-ups and arrests of their intellectuals ... the ominous surge in the number of new crematoria in Xinjiang -- all sound the alarm of another genocide or even holocaust in the making. Will the pogroms of the 20th century find their evil twin in the 21st century? Let’s hope not.” (16)

Conclusion

Governments and international organisations should impose a global blacklist on the import of all goods produced or manufactured in Xinjiang.

Because of the potential for gross human rights abuses by buying or producing in Xinjiang, all foreign companies should end their business partnerships there. Global Magnitsky legislation, or other similar measures, makes it easier to impose targeted financial/visa sanctions.

Last week (Dec 3), the US House of Representatives passed the Uighur Human Rights Policy Act bill, calling for sanctions on China's senior officials responsible for the abuses against Uyghurs. It is a model for other legislators.

Tourism to Xinjiang should cease; the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics should be boycotted.

Muslim-majority countries should remind Beijing that they are important clients and ask for the protection of Muslims who are suffering ongoing mass-persecution in Xinjiang. (17 and 18)

Thank you.

(www.david-kilgour.com)

Footnotes/sources:

1- ohchr.org August 13, 2018 United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner “CERD reviews the report of China”

2-The Wall Street Journal Sept 16, 2018 Robert D. Kaplan “Why China is brutally suppressing Muslims”

- 3-The Washington Post October 11, 2018 “China finally admits it is building a new archipelago of concentration camps. Will the world respond?”
- 4-foreignpolicy.com August 22, 2018 Rian Thum “China’s mass internment camps...”
- 5-Radio Free Asia (RFA) 2019-07-15 “Uyghur man dies in Xinjiang interment camp after sacking over Muslim prayers” (<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/uyghur/death-07152019163824.html>)
- 6-<https://www.icij.org/investigations/china-cables/governments-respond-to-china-cables-call-for-un-oversight/> and (<https://www.icij.org/investigations/china-cables/>)
- 7- Radio Free Asia (RFA) 2019-10-29 “At least 150 detainees have died in one Xinjiang internment camp: Police Officer” (<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/uyghur/deaths-10292019181322.html>)
- 8- www.rfa.org 2019-09-18 “Uyghur brothers perish while detained in Xinjiang: Authorities say the two men ‘became ill,’ but provide no details.
- 9-<https://www.rfa.org> October 28, 2019 “Police officer beat Uyghur internment camp detainee to death in drunken rage”
- 10-foreignpolicy.com August 22, 2018 Rian Thum “China’s mass internment camps have no clear end in sight”
- 11- rfa.org 2018-06-26 “Xinjiang rapidly building crematoria to extinguish...traditions”
- 12- endtransplantabuse.org Westminster Statement September 11, 2019 Ethan Gutmann “A personal note to the British Foreign Office”
- 13-eng.the-liberty.com Sep. 21, 2018 Hataru Nomura “Proof of China’s organharvestingfound in Xinjiang: the shocking meaning behind Kashgar airport’s ‘Organ’ priority lane”
- 14-https://endtransplantabuse.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Bloody_Harvest-The_Slaughter-June-23-V2.pdf
- (15) Forbes Nov 16, 2019 “China killing prisoners to harvest organs for transplant: BMC report accuses China of ‘falsifying’ data”
- (16) 16-The Hoover Institution, Oct 9, 2018 “China’s Final Solution in Xinjiang”
- (17) <https://www.dailysabah.com/op-ed/2019/12/02/what-can-the-muslim-world-do-to-save-the-uighurs-and-islam-in-china> Professor Olsi Jazexhi Daily Sabah 02.12.2019 “What can the Muslim world do to save the Uighurs and Islam in China?”
- (18)-World Uyghur Congress website: www.uyghurcongress.org