Forced re-education in concentration camps

By applying its <u>inhuman regulations</u>, the Chinese government holds an estimated 1-3 million Uyghurs, other ethnic and Muslim minorities in concentration camps.

The Chinese government designed these concentration camps to **break your spirit**, forcibly indoctrinate you in order to transform you and Uyghurgs in general into a homogeneous, mindless, and therefore manageable mass.

In a concentration camp the Chinese government will **forcibly re-educate you** to follow the party line by constantly psychologically and physically torture you. You

- will day by day praise Xi Jinping, sing party songs and learn Mandarin,
- will be constantly humiliated and brutally beaten because of your religious beleifs or ethnicity,
- if you are a woman, you might be gang-raped and forcibly sterilized

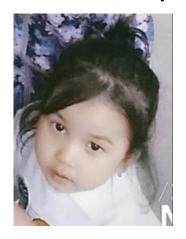
In the extreme case you will not survive, only your body will be released, released to your relatives to be buried.

The Chinese government can **put anyone anytime into a concentration camp**. Based on their <u>inhuman regulations</u> they can label you extremist (or maybe terrorist) for no reason (such as for not watching television or not listening to radio). Once you are labeled extremist (or terrorist), the Chinese government will send you to a concentration camp for re-education. With no court order. Without notifying your family about your whereabouts.

The random, illegal detainment of Uyghurs. The lack of notification. The constant uncertainty. All these create a system of constant terror in Xinjiang which then effects not just detainees but their relatives, friends and even the Uyghur diaspora by closing them into the prison of anxciety.

<mark>Illegal detaiment</mark> for no reason

The 5-year-old Hediche Ablimit is one of the over 10,000 victims registered in the Xinjiang Victims Database. She is 4774 in the database. 4473 is her brother Yunus. 4472 is her brother Imran. 4771 is her sister Rehime. 4702 is her mother, Horiyet.



Hediche Ablimit's page in the Xinjian Victim Database: https://mail.shahit.biz/eng/viewentry.php?entryno=4774

Here is her story:

Hediche's father, Ablimit Tursun, after his brother's detention in 2017, fled China and now lives in Belgium. Her father tried to get a family reunification visa for the family. As the Belgian embassy asked them for a medical certificate, they had to travel to Beijing. Although her mother was afraid to leave Xinjiang because it was only possible with permission, there was no choice, otherwise the application would have expired.

They arrived in Beijing on the night of May 26, 2019. Shortly after they took their seats in the hotel, police officers arrived to interrogate them, inquiring, among other things, about the purpose of their stay. His mother reported on the purpose of the visit, a request from the Belgian embassy.

The next day, May 27, all the necessary medical and other certificates required for the application were obtained.

On the third day, May 28, they went to the embassy in possession of the certificates. There, embassy officials informed her mother that the application could take up to three months to process, so she was advised to return to Urumqi, the capital of Xinjiang. This made her mother extremely nervous, fearing that if they returned to Xinjiang, they would have serious problems. She therefore asked to remain at the embassy for the duration of the proceedings, while also asking for their protection. The embassy threatened them to call the police if they did not leave. The

former also happened, with the embassy calling on Beijing police to remove the family. Police arrived at 4 a.m. and forcibly removed them from the embassy, forcing them to return to their hotel, where the Urumqi police were already waiting for them.

On the fourth and fifth days, May 29 and 30, nothing extraordinary happened. They were able to talk to her father without hindrance.

On the sixth day, May 31, while video chatting with her father, 4 police officers broke into their room and took her mother's phone.

They were not heard from for 18 days thereafter.

When Belgium would have sent two diplomats to find them, the relationship was suddenly re-established. Their father asked what happened, but her mother refused to give details. All she told him was that the district committee visits them daily, taking pictures to prove they were home. She also said police had asked her to sign a document admitting she had committed a crime against national security, but his mother refused.

Several months later, Ablimit Tursun, Hediche Ablimit's father, now working in Belgium, still cannot contact his family after they were sent back to Xinjiang. Someone deleted his wife's WeChat.

Uighur Family Spends More Than A Year Imprisoned In Own Home In China: https://www.npr.org/2020/07/13/890558029/uighur-family-spends-more-than-a-year-imprisoned-in-own-home-in-china

Inhuman conditions

Qelbinur Sidik worked as a teacher in two camps, where she claims she saw starvation rations and unsanitary and humiliating conditions, including limited access to bathrooms and water. She also heard the screams of tortured prisoners and witnessed at least one inmate being carried out dead.

"There were almost 20 people in a room of 16 square meters. There were cameras in their rooms, too, and also in the corridor. Each room had a plastic bucket for a toilet. Every prisoner was given two minutes a day to use the toilet, and the bucket was emptied only once a day."

The Guardian: Uighur Muslim teacher tells of forced sterilisation in Xinjiang:

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/sep/04/muslim-minority-teacher-50-tells-of-forced-sterilisation-in-xinjiang-china

Continuous humiliation

I'd thought the theory classes would bring us a bit of relief from the physical training, but they were even worse. The teacher was always watching us, and slapped us every chance she got. One day, one of my classmates, a woman in her 60s, shut her eyes, surely from exhaustion or fear. The teacher gave her a brutal slap. "Think I don't see you praying? You'll be punished!" The guards dragged her violently from the room. An hour later, she came back with something she had written: her self-criticism. The teacher made her read it out loud to us. She obeyed, ashen-faced, then sat down again. All she'd done was shut her eyes.

The Guardian: 'Our souls are dead': how I survived a Chinese 're-education' camp for Uighurs

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jan/12/uighur-xinjiang-re-education-camp-chinagulbahar-haitiwaji

Gang rapes

Ms Sautybay said women were systematically raped and that she was forced to watch a woman be repeatedly assaulted.

"The policemen ordered her to disrobe and simply raped her one after the other, in front of everyone," she told.

"While they were raping her they checked to see how we were reacting. People who turned their head or closed their eyes, and those who looked angry or shocked, were taken away and we never saw them again.

"It was awful. I will never forget the feeling of helplessness, of not being able to help her."

INDEPENDENT: Prisoners in China's Xinjiang concentration camps subjected to gang rape and medical experiments, former detainee says:

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/asia/china-xinjiang-uighur-muslim-detention-camps-xi-jinping-persecution-a9165896.html

Forced sterilization

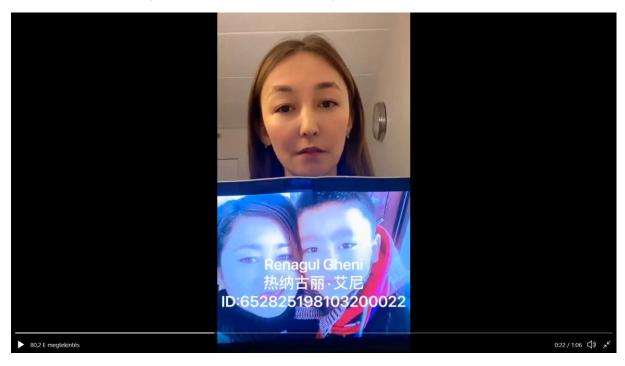
In the "transformation-through-education" camps, life and death do not mean the same thing as they do elsewhere. A hundred times over I thought, when the footfalls of guards woke us in the night, that our time had come to be executed. When a hand viciously pushed clippers across my skull, and other hands snatched away the tufts of hair that fell on my shoulders, I shut my eyes, blurred with tears, thinking my end was near, that I was being readied for the scaffold, the electric chair, drowning. Death

lurked in every corner. When the nurses grabbed my arm to "vaccinate" me, I thought they were poisoning me. In reality, they were sterilising us. That was when I understood the method of the camps, the strategy being implemented: not to kill us in cold blood, but to make us slowly disappear. So slowly that no one would notice.

The Guardian: 'Our souls are dead': how I survived a Chinese 're-education' camp for Uighurs https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jan/12/uighur-xinjiang-re-education-camp-china-gulbahar-haitiwaji

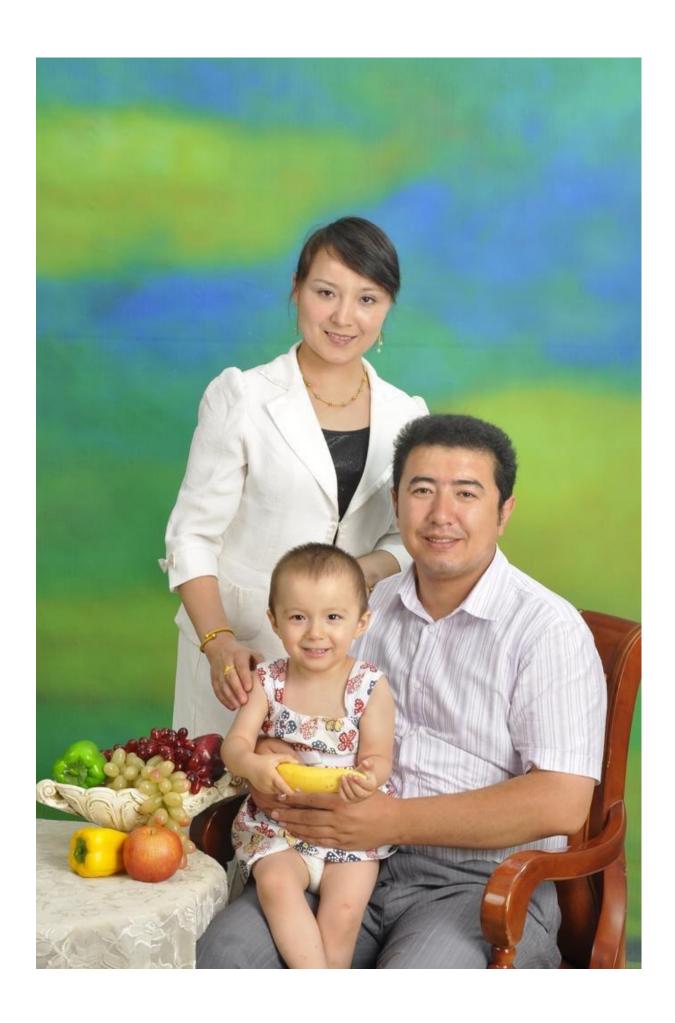
No information about the where, why and what

Kalbinur Gheni wants her sister, Renagul Gheni to be released. She was detained in 2018 into a Chinese concentration camp then sentenced to 17 years for praying and having a Quran. Since then she never heard about her. Renagul's 2 sons are waiting her back, too.



https://twitter.com/Qelbinur10/status/1214058448310210560

Mirehmet Ablet's brother, his wife and their two kids were happy till aug 2017, the day he was taken away from home at night by the Chinese police in Kashgar. His crime is being a well educated young Uyghur man. They still do not know if he is in prison or concentration camp. They hope he is still alive.



https://twitter.com/mirehmet/status/1284126365168672771

"Sorry the user you dialed is turned off." Since the last three years Abdurahman Öztürk has no information about his father, mother, brother, sister and relatives.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sh6W4-Jet74

Mamutjan Abdurehim's wife, Muherrem Ablet was taken to a camp in 2017, released two years later, but then re-detained and allegedly sentenced. He cannot talk to his two young children since 2017.



https://www.businessinsider.com.au/uighur-china-father-mamutjan-abdurehim-wife-detained-ordeal-2020-7

Shayida Ali's father, Elijan Mamut, an educated Uyghur business dissapeared in 2017. She has not heard from him for three years.



https://twitter.com/sydaaaAli/status/1261313250890846209

Since 3 YEARS Arfat Erkin has still no information about where his father is, or even if he is still alive.



https://twitter.com/Alfred_Uyghur/status/1346946379705413632

The goals

From official documents we know that the Chinese government applies the means of concentration camps as a forceful measure in order to destroy the Uyghur identity (aka "extremism"). Concentration camps are designed to

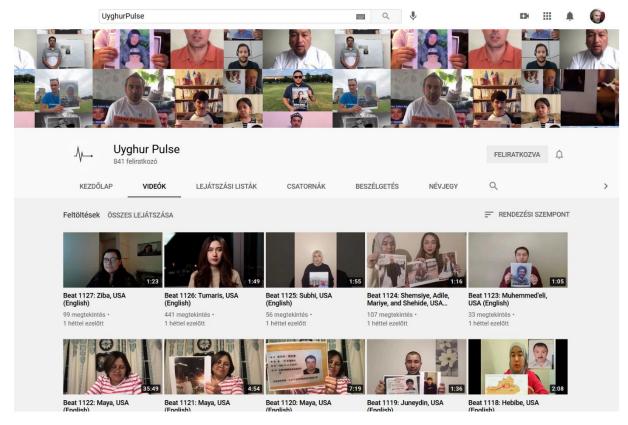
- forcibly prevent large Uyghur families
- forcibly prevent religious practicies
- forcibly prevent pass on of Uyghur identity to minors
- forcibly prevent free opinion and speech

According to the 2019 white paper, "Vocational Education and Training in Xinjiang" issued by The State Council Information Office of the People's Republic of China:

"Addressing both the symptoms and root causes and integrating preventative measures and a forceful response Xinjiang has established vocational education and training centers in accordance with the law to prevent the breeding and spread of terrorism and religious extremism."

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/ce/cegv/eng/zywjyjh/t1692588.htm

See also the Uyghur Pulse Youtube channel which has over 1000 video testimonies:



https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxtHBfWaWYQPNgfvdvSDn4A