



AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL

Witness Name: Bumeryem Rozi		
Witness category:	fact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	expert <input type="checkbox"/>
Date of testimony: 5 June 2021		
Link to recording*: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWCwLvUIV0g&t=2s		
Time stamp (start/end): 08:05:00 – 08:43:00		
Statement included:	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
Transcript included:	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>

*Please note that all recordings of the Uyghur Tribunal hearings can be found on You Tube: [Uyghur Tribunal - YouTube](#)

Witness Statement

Bumeryem Rozi

Female – Age 54

1. My name is Bumeryem Rozi. I am a Uyghur Muslim. I was born in Kashgar in 1967. I left China in May 2016 and now reside in Turkey. In 2008, I was subjected to a forced abortion. My son and other family members have been detained by Chinese authorities.

Forced Abortion

2. I have in total four biological children (two girls and two boys). The fifth was subjected to a forced abortion. My ex-husband has children from another marriage. In August 2008, I was pregnant with my 5th child. This was illegal by the state. We were prepared to pay the 10,000 Yuan penalty for that, but the authorities refused our offer. The authorities said that if you deliver this baby, we will seal your house and you will be taken to a “People’s Gathering” and we will send your husband to a different “People’s Gathering”. I was planning to run away to somewhere else to give birth to my baby. My husband said if you run away, they will come to me and what will happen? My husband agreed to the abortion in order to avoid this. I had no choice but to say yes to the abortion.
3. The authorities came to my house 3 days before the procedure to tell me they were going to abort my baby. Four individuals; two from the local Birth Control authority and two from the local police station took me from my house and placed me in a civilian car. Three other women travelled with me. The three women belonged to the same Collective, which differed from mine. They took us to Kashgar, where we changed to another car which went to the hospital. The police followed us in a separate car. My husband and the husbands of the other women also followed us in another car. The hospital was the Mother and Baby Hospital of Kashgar.
4. When we arrived in the hospital there were many other Uyghur women from different villages. All of the patients I saw were Uyghur.
5. They put the four women I had travelled with and me into four different rooms, at almost the same time. In all rooms, there was one bed inside. It was there the abortion was carried out. They gave me a tablet. Then 2 hours later they injected my stomach. A further 2 hours later the dead baby came out. I was not allowed to leave the room until the baby came out. I passed out from the pain and I stayed there another half an hour after the abortion.

6. I was 5 months pregnant. In other rooms, I saw aborted babies that were a few days short of being born.
7. After that it was dark already and since that hospital was overcrowded, I decided to go. I paid the hospital 500 Yuan for the procedure. Following this, they showed us to a car, and I travelled home with my husband. I do not know who paid for that car.

Family Members

8. My husband and I divorced and following this, he took custody of my son. He sent my son to live with me when he was 19. Shortly after that, on 20th May 2015, my son was detained by the local authorities. He was taken Chang Ji city prison, which is close to Urumqi.
9. My son was enrolled in a Boxing class – the authorities found out that he was underage and that he spoke to someone there with whom he expressed interest in travelling to Turkey with. When the authorities take anybody including my son, they only give one reason, that they have “offended politics”. We do not know much about politics.
10. We knew around this time that people had been able to buy their sons out of detention with 50,000 Yuan. 10 days after they got bailed out, the same person would be arrested again and a given 10-year sentence. When they took away my son, during this period, I tried to get him a passport, so when he came out, I could get him abroad. A policeman was dealing with my passport request for my son. He passed on the information to an Uyghur and a Chinese police officer. They brought me into a car and offered to release my son for 200,000 Yuan but said there was no guarantee that he wouldn't be arrested again. I tried all possibilities, even to sell my house, to bail my son. My house was only evaluated at 50,000 Yuan.
11. Later in 2015, my son was sentenced to 13 years imprisonment. I left the country full of sadness. On 20th May 2016, I arrived in Turkey. I had no choice but to leave all my kids. My youngest had been sentenced to 13 years. My daughter was accused later on, because her mom went to Turkey – she was sent to the camp. All other children, I have no news. My brother too who was caring for my children was also taken to the camp.

The interviewer asked the witness whether she had understood the contents of the statement and whether she agreed with its contents.

The witness confirmed that she agreed with the contents of this statement orally on 05 March 2021 at 13:23 GMT.

3453 **5 June 2021 (08:05:00 – 08:43:00)**

3454 **Bumeryem Rozi UTFW-039**

3455

3456 *Counsel – You've stated that where you were taken to hospital for the forced abortion*
3457 *procedure there were many other Uyghur women. Were all these women being forced*
3458 *into abortions?*

3459 BR – Yes.

3460 *Counsel – You've stated your family have been detained. Can you provide details why*
3461 *they would be targeted?*

3462 BR – Yes, I can. I lost all communication with my family and have not had any news of
3463 them. I do not know if they are in the camp.

3464 *Counsel – Do you have news of your son, daughter and brother who are detained? Do*
3465 *you know about your other family?*

3466 BR – I have no new information about them. An excuse given for my son's arrest was
3467 because I was abroad. Since I came to Turkey, I had eye surgery and my gall bladder
3468 was removed. Because of the pain and the suffering since I left, I left alone with my pain
3469 here without information of my relatives.

3470 *Panel – What did you and your former husband do in Kashgar?*

3471 BR – We used to be peasants and I and my ex-husband owned 20 moors of land (one
3472 moor is 666 square metres, 1300 square metre). We owned this land we used to cultivate.
3473 My children were small.

3474 *Panel – So you left your property and land behind? Who has taken it over?*

3475 BR – Yes. In 2017 I heard from my daughter that our house was sold off, I do not have
3476 any information who owns it right now or the land.

3477 *Panel – Why did you leave Kashgar in 2016?*

3478 BR – After 2015 one of my son's was detained by the authorities and I left in 2016 and
3479 came to Turkey because my son was arrested with the offences. The whole family
3480 suffered the cost of our son detained for so-called political crime. If I stayed there we
3481 would suffer the same. Because of my fear of persecution I had to leave.

3482 *Panel – Did you leave on your own or with other people?*

3483 BR – I came with 18 others because of fear. After they were forcefully returned and
3484 arrested at the airport they disappeared and I do not have any further information. I did
3485 not dare to go back as my son was already in jail. If I went back, I would face the same if
3486 not more due to my son.

3487 *Panel – Where you used to live, how many children were you legally allowed in Kashgar?*

3488 BR – As far as I know, government officials, cadres, were allowed 2, peasants were
3489 allowed to have 3. Because I had children from previous marriage, and my second
3490 husband he also had children from previous marriage, I was not allowed more.

3491 *Panel – When was your fourth child born?*

3492 BR – He was born May 1995.

3493 *Panel – Did you pay a fine for that child?*

3494 BR – For my fourth child I did not pay any fine because it was rather relaxed policy. After
3495 I gave birth to fourth child, the policy was tightened and abortion became widespread in
3496 hospitals so it became impossible to have any more children.

3497 *Panel – In 2008 you weren't allowed to pay the fine any more. If you were Han would you*
3498 *have been allowed to pay a fine?*

3499 BR – There was permission for Han Chinese to have more children. Some Chinese had
3500 a number of children in mainland China and then came to Kashgar to have children
3501 because of the Chinese policy to increase the amount of Han Chinese in the area.

3502 *Panel – Who took you away to have your abortion for the 5th child?*

3503 BR – Village officials report to one level higher entity and from the communication with
3504 this they put maximum pressure on us to abort the child with a direct threat of confiscating
3505 the land and property and jail. We begged to pay 10,000 yuan to have the 5th child to
3506 deliver but it was not accepted.

3507 *Panel – Which higher authority?*

3508 BR – The lowest level administration is called village, then it's Gacha (嘎查) in Chinese.
3509 Then county level, the prefectural level. Whether the abortion order came from highest
3510 level I do not know but it would have been a collaboration.

3511 *Panel – When you got to hospital how many women did you see had an abortion or were*
3512 *about to have an abortion?*

3513 BR – I came with six women. There were a lot of women waiting in the same unit. I did
3514 not count one by one and I was in great pain at the same time. There are units for
3515 abortions in each hospital and it is mostly Uyghur women.

3516 *Panel – So mostly Uyghur women?*

3517 BR – Yes, we don't see any Chinese women.

3518 *Panel – You say in your statement 'I saw aborted babies a few days short of being born',*
3519 *how and where did you see these?*

3520 BR – It was called Kashgar city hospital. And that baby was due for delivery 10-15 days
3521 before. That baby was aborted where I was at that time.

3522 *Panel – The question is whether witness can confirm whether she personally saw the*
3523 *number of women waiting for abortion in a unit at the hospital was approximately in the*
3524 *10s, 100s or 1000s of persons.*

3525 BR – Where I stayed there were more than ten in the room. After that abortion happened,
3526 I engaged with other women and we talked about the abortion and we shared our
3527 experience. I heard a lot of women accounts. In neighbouring areas there were a lot of
3528 neighbourhood regions surrounding Kashgar, I experienced such a pain and we tend to
3529 talk with other women. From that conversation I could say there were a lot of women in
3530 same.

3531 *Panel – Regarding this witness, did the PRC produce something adverse?*

3532 BR – Nothing we are aware of.

3533 *Panel – Anything else you would like to add?*

3534 BR – One thing I would like to emphasis here that the abortion became a lawless matter,
3535 and an incentive for local authorities from the top level. If they had more abortions there
3536 was a reward for them to show they have done a good job. So because of this, even with
3537 the limit of two child there were examples of aborted children. It became widespread
3538 because of the government incentives encouraging local officials encouraging abortions.