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

Uyghur Women In China's Genocide

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By Rukiye Turdush, coauthored with Magnus Fiskesjo

This paper researched China's gender-based policies, including policies to prevent births, state-sponsored forced marriages, forced labor, and the policy of appointing male Han Chinese cadres to live in Uyghur homes, as well as mass rape camps. Findings of the data collected and analyzed by the author expose China's intent to commit genocide as a direct outcome of its colonialism. Paper discuss that these acts committed by China's government today are not only violated most of the acts listed in the offence of the convention of the prevention of the crime of genocide, but also reveals 'general intent' as these acts are repeatedly implemented despite the fatal outcome. Another main finding of this article revealed how The Chinese leaders 'special intent' exposed in the reflection of Chinese colonialism in its policy implementation, particularly in the implementation processes that use the tools of punishment borrowed from China's ancient Legalism school of state philosophy.

Family planning workers' approach to Uyghur peoples and the differences among workers and/or regions to manage Uyghur birth-rates

China's birth prevention policy is very restrictive and does not have loopholes, especially when applying to the Uyghur population. It is harshly implementing both in the south and north of the East Turkistan. The former heavily populated with Uyghurs and latter not. Each village has family planning workers in charge of residents based on the residential papers of the villagers. These workers have to report to the higher-level officials from counties, who then report to the prefectures. County sends officials every three months to control women's medical check-ups in every village. So, family planning workers in each town are unable to help women even if they are willing to. Inter- rate reliability of the statements of the interview that I have conducted with 8 women in Uyghur diaspora shows that most Uyghur women who got extra children from the Chinese plan manage to do so by moving to other cities to hide their pregnancy and bribing the city family planning workers. Seven of these managed to hide their pregnancy move from one place to another constantly. Only one of them managed to hide her pregnancy locked herself in her secret basement and bribing local family planning worker in her village. Usually, when women came to another town with their family as migrants, family planning workers in that city force them to move back to their village or city because they have no hukou (residential paper) in their new residential areas. If this family has money, they bribe the family planning workers to make these workers not force them to move back. This could happen only if they have money and family planning worker agree to help. So these workers can ignore women's illegal pregnancy. Workers can do that because they report the issue to their boss based on the "hukou" in the area they are responsible for and not notify the pregnancy of migrant women who have no 'hukou.' However, it depends on family planning workers. Most family planning workers are very loyal to the Chinese government, and they

assist the government while being aware of genocidal consequences. Some of them strictly implement the policies while they are aware only of the harmful impact on women and families but the not knowledgeable genocidal impact on the entire Uyghur nation. Some strictly follow the instructions to avoid being fired from their job or charged with prison sentences. So, finding workers who can help women for money is not easy too. Implementation of policy and restriction is not going to change from region to region. But women may find a way to hide their pregnancy if they move to big cities since changing rental places is more manageable and people are not familiar with each other in the big city.

Additional documents:

<https://twitter.com/parlabest/status/1363288420047613953?s=20>

<https://twitter.com/parlabest/status/1400669400294903811?s=20>

Derogatory language relevant to China's intention of Genocide:

1. *Spray chemicals to kill the weeds. (chief of security for the Kashgar's chasa township, yasinahun told RFA that one of the Han chinese official told them over the meeting " 'you can't uproot all the weeds hidden among the crops in the field one by one—you need to spray chemicals to kill them all, he further explained re-educating people is like spraying chemicals on the crops."*

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/uyghur/wealthiest-01052018144327.html>

"Spray chemicals to kill the weeds" is not only symbolic dehumanizing expression used against kill Uyghurs, but also literally Uyghurs have been seen as a weeds. Camp survivor Zumret Dawut, recall her two month experience in Chinese concentration camps when she saw the video of wearing fully white protective gear workers disinfecting streets Wuhan city when the Covid19 pandemic break out and told author: "I saw these fully geared people in the camp too, it was my next day, two of them came and spray chemical to bunch of women over from their camp uniform. These women are jumping and screaming like a hell when they are spraying the chemicals, must be immense pain. I can see these women's hands and neck is wounded and bleeding. Someone told me they had skin diseases because of poor hygiene in the camp and that is how these geared workers disinfecting them."

2. *The XUAR's Party Youth League recording, entitled 'What Kind of Place is the Educational Transformation Center,' was published Oct. 11, 2017, on the WeChat social media network by Request/Offer Salon. characterizes Uyghurs who have been sent for political "re-*

education” as “infected by an ideological illness and malignant tumor ”—like a disease that must be treated at a hospital. (full translation can be find here:

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/uyghur/infected-08082018173807.html>

<https://nymag.com/intelligencer/2018/08/china-muslims-camps-uyghur-communist-party-islam-mental-illness.html?gtm=bottom>m=top>

Translation of the recordings:

Members of the public who have been chosen for reeducation have been infected by an ideological illness. They have been infected with religious extremism and violent terrorist ideology, and therefore they must seek treatment from a hospital as an inpatient.

... There is always a risk that the illness will manifest itself at any moment, which would cause serious harm to the public. That is why they must be admitted to a reeducation hospital in time to treat and cleanse the virus from their brain and restore their normal mind ... Being infected by religious extremism and violent terrorist ideology and not seeking treatment is like being infected by a disease that has not been treated in time, or like taking toxic drugs ... There is no guarantee that it will not trigger and affect you in the future.

Relevance of these statement to genocidal intent:

Cancerous tumor here referred to religious extremism and terrorism. However, entire Uyghur and other Turkic population were targeted without any proof of religious extremism or terrorism. That is mean entire Uyghur and other Turkic populations religious believes and ethnic identity considered as cancerous tumor and must be eliminated. Attacking religious believes and ethnic identity is attacking existence of whole nation.

3. *Chinese ambassador to the United States responded to global criticism about the mass detention of Uyghurs and other Muslims in China’s so called “reeducation camps claiming that it is “to change Uyghurs into normal person”*

Relevance of his words to genocidal intention: It is another dehumanizing word to make easier to treat Uyghurs inhuman way.

4. *Break their lineage, break their roots, break their connections, and break their origins.*

Maisumujiang Maimuer, Chinese religious affairs official, August 10, 2017, on a Xinhua Weibo page said, “Break their lineage, break their roots, break their connections, and break their origins.” this sentence also officially stated in the document number 6 distributed by the kashgar government administration office in March 6, 2018.

(<https://web.archive.org/web/20180813115300/http://www.kashi.gov.cn/Government/PublicInfoShow.aspx?ID=2851>)

These words also very closely relevant to genocidal intention. For example, parents of Uyghur children were arrested, and these kids were removed from their home to orphanage camps and not allowed to see their parents or family members, so they break their lineage, they were not allowed to practice their religion and culture and not allowed to speak their language, and this is to break their origin. Those kids are locked up in prison style orphanage camps and it is to break their connection with outside world and their community. In fact, Chinese government is not implementing this kind of policy based on Mesumjan's words, or words appeared in Kashgar government's document. These words are exact description of policy that implemented against the Uyghurs, not represent this individual's specific intention. Because exact similar policy practiced in every other place of East Turkistan, not only Kashgar. This means his words comes after the implementation of genocidal policy against the Uyghurs. But his words represent Chinese government, the principal perpetrator. He is knowledgeable with catastrophic impact of the Chinese policies would have on the survival of Uyghurs.

5. *The General Secretary of Chinese Communist Party Xi Jinping is obsessed with the "rejuvenation of the Great Chinese Nation," and noted in his report of his party's 19th national congress that "We should do more to foster a Chinese spirit, Chinese values, and Chinese strength, to provide moral guidance to our people."*

Source: Xi Jinping, "Secure a Decisive Victory in Building a Moderately Prosperous Society in All Respects and Strive for the Great Success of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era" (Speech, Beijing, delivered at the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, October 18, 2017), accessed September 23, 2020,

www.xinhuanet.com/english/download/Xi_Jinping's_report_at_19th_CPC_National_Congress.pdf

These words directly linked to Chinese colonialism and its special intent. This implies there is no survival space for "other" ideological values. As a consequence, any Uyghurs or others who will not transformed into ethnic Han Chinese, will be considered as a threat, an 'ideological enemy,' and as 'opponents' that must be eliminated. East Turkistan was historically not belonged to China and people of East Turkistan are different than Han Chinese. Despite the colonial history of East Turkistan, Chinese leaders believe that East Turkistan is inseparable part of China and China is only belonged to Han Chinese and there shouldn't be space for other nation. So Chinese leaders colonial mind set is closely linked with specific

Intent to destroy. Following statement of Chinese professor Ai yue jing also very similar to Xi Jin Ping's words and it was nakedly described his genocidal intent:

At Nankai University in 2003, Chinese professor Ai Yue Jing said, “Our great culture can assimilate any other nation or culture, we can change and absorb good one torture and kill bad one”.

Source: Wang xi (2018). “2013 年南开大学艾跃进：中国国防政策的历史沿革 (二)” (The History of China’s National Defence Policy). Author’s translation. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7atDdcvHSJI> [Accessed 21 Aug. 2019].

6. In April 2014, Xi travelled to Xinjiang. At a police station in Urumchi, he examined weapons on a wall. “The methods that our comrades have at hand are too primitive,” he said during the trip. “None of these weapons is any answer for their big machete blades, axe heads, and cold steel weapons.” He added, “We must be as harsh as them, and show absolutely no mercy.”

Source: New York times published 403 pages of leaked documents of Chinese government papers. Most of them are speeches of High-level Chinese officials.

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/11/16/world/asia/china-xinjiang-documents.html>

These derogatory words nakedly reveal the genocidal intent. Because “absolute no mercy” is not just words that can reveal Xi’s intent to destroy but that is an order. Because it can be used in any extend against the victims including rape, torture and killing.

7. In 2017, Xinjiang Party Secretary Chen Quan guo encouraged officials to “round up everyone who should be rounded up.” This vague phrase appears repeatedly in internal documents from 2017.

Source: Austin Ramzy and Chris Buckley, “‘Absolutely No Mercy’: Leaked Files Expose How China Organized Mass Detentions of Muslims,” New York Times, November 16, 2019, <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/11/16/world/asia/china-xinjiang-documents.html>

Intent to destroy is clear:

Millions of Uyghurs and other Muslims were rounded up for mass detention, torture and killing in many cases, they were not randomly selected for concentration camp or force labor. They were systematically selected because they were Uyghur and other Turkic Muslims.

1 **12th September 2021 (6:55:23 – 7:32:16)**

2 **Rukiye Turdush**

3

4 *COUNSEL – Tell the tribunal briefly how the pregnant women in Xinjiang get round*
5 *the family planning of the central government?*

6 RUKIYE TURDUSH – The family planning policy in East Turkestan I would like to say
7 – against Uyghur women should not be part of the national family planning as East
8 Turkestan was colonised and there is no need to control it. Also, they relaxed the policy
9 for Han Chinese but made it stricter for Uyghurs. I interviewed 8 women about the
10 family planning policy. I have not interviewed family planning workers. I only did two
11 of these workers. Based on their conversation I found out how the family planning
12 workers work there. The family planning policy were strictly implemented as the policy
13 comes from the party top. If these workers do not implement them [interrupted to ask
14 her to slow down] The family planning workers do not have some power which comes
15 from responsibility given by the CCP, if they do not, they may end up in prison. It is
16 listed in policy documents. These family planning workers – the system gave no
17 loopholes. At every county level, and prefecture, family planning workers work in
18 villages – every three months officers can come to check on them. If they find any
19 woman was hiding or pregnancy village family planning workers are responsible. I
20 interviewed 8 women how they hid their children. 7 tried to move to other city, or other
21 areas to hide illegal children. They escaped. Only 1 hid in own basement, did not go
22 outside for 1 year until deliver baby and gave bribe to village family planning worker.
23 The family planning workers cannot even if pay the bribe they cannot hide these
24 women. Only these women moving to other places as they do not have Huco in other

25 cities. In other cities, family planning workers based on residential papers, call Huco.
26 They find women come from other cities and will call the old home town and force her
27 to go back. But if they give them a lot of money maybe they will want to help. The
28 person woman gave her a lot of money, maybe she wanted to help she doesn't notify
29 to her boss. It is very difficult as family planning workers are very loyal to CCP, many
30 know the genocidal outcome of the FP policy and impact on Uyghur life. They know it
31 is harmful for the baby but don't know genocidal effect. These conclusions I go not
32 directly interview from the FP workers only 2 family planning workers. Those 8 women
33 I interviewed constantly interrupted the family planning workers and had conversation
34 with them. I found out from the conversations they were very loyal and although
35 recognised genocidal policy they still wanted to implement them and were worried they
36 would lose their jobs.

37 *COUNSEL – Can you explain process of dehumanisation of the Uyghurs of terms and*
38 *remark on the negative impact. Can you explain further the remarks you mentioned in*
39 *the report? The derogatory remarks.*

40 RT – There is kill the weeds the chinse officials spray the chemicals to kill the weeds
41 – this was said by one of the other chiefs of Uyghur guy found by RFA who interviewed.
42 This dehumanises the Uyghurs. When they are dehumanised, it is easy to kill them.
43 Even if they are not high-level official. we do not know his name. The other official told
44 them. Although he is not high level but still represents the CCP which shows intention.
45 More derogatory words from social media include calling Islam an 'infectious disease'
46 like a 'cancerous tumour', like a tumour it has to be 'cured' in a re-education hospital.
47 Even though they used such words referred to directly to religious extremism, it has
48 worked with cancerous too as affect entire populations identities. 2-3 million are
49 incarcerated, Chinese government's target is not just terrorists it is whole group, they

50 have systematically incarcerated Uyghurs. Members of the CCP, part of it and they
51 words represent instructions. [interruption to say to slow down again]. Whatever they
52 say represents the CCP's decisions. So-called re-education camps do not look like
53 people educate, they torture, re-education hospital it looks nothing like school or
54 hospital. It is torturing people; you have a testimony that there is rape and torture. It is
55 prison style internment or concentration camp. This is represented in CCP's decisions
56 and intentions policies. Cancerous tumours in their words they refer to religious
57 extremism and terrorism but it is implicitly they are attacking the entire Uyghur
58 population's religious identity and belief. We know because they incarcerate – they
59 direct select national group of East Turkestan, not randomly selected individuals
60 because of religious extremism. We can see they want to attack or destroy the Uyghur
61 or Turkic population in whole or in part. Chinese consulate said they said they will 'fight
62 to make them normal people' at the US embassy. For them Uyghurs are not normal
63 or human people. This reveals intention of high levels officials. Xi Jinping in 2014
64 'absolutely no mercy' that means, this term can be taken in any way torture, killing,
65 rape, anything, gives the green light from a high-level official to other officials
66 implementing those policies, to do anything to these people. It was in the testimony of
67 Tursunay Ziawudun and another lady, guards told them in the camps even if they kill
68 you, nobody asks and nobody cares so behave. Xi Jinping has the intention to do so.
69 It is not an abrupt decision he gave the order before the action. It was said in 2014
70 and policies implemented in 2017. This was his words, this order aligned with planned
71 policies, so reveals his special intent. He also said: 'round up who should be rounded
72 up', who should be refers to terrorists then why all Uyghurs rounded up?

73 *COUNSEL – This question relates to the third part of your report. You have given 62*
74 *pictures and children taken away as you requested this will not be published. Can you*

75 *please tell me whether there have been studies on the psychological effects on these*
76 *children? Has there been any such studies to find out what happens to these children*
77 *after separation?*

78 RT – The mental effects on children is severe. I interviewed a woman whose children
79 were released recently 2021, her 4 children were taken. When they were returned
80 after she told me they do not want to talk to her. They were afraid of their own mum.
81 They feel shock they do not want to speak in Uyghur. Her eldest is 14: taken when 11,
82 she fully spoke Uyghur, within three years she no longer did. Maybe she was too afraid
83 or she really forgot it. She was so afraid. The youngest one forgot the Uyghur
84 language. Her mother said they are changed. She cannot talk much as she is from
85 East Turkestan – we speak in coded language so it is not easy to communicate. There
86 is another case that those kids - I did not directly interview them – a kid was brought
87 to Turkey as had a Turkish passport. He refused to speak Uyghur or answer to
88 anybody. The kids become like this. I had a video I have collected the girls where I
89 asked what if the Chinese teacher asks to say something in Uyghur, they said they do
90 not want to say it. They asked ‘What if you hit me, teacher hit me if I say it?’. She was
91 afraid. Ok, we will not do anything. She said her brother's name and thought it was so
92 weird. They are teaching Uyghur language as weird. Another videos of kids not – one
93 of the teachers tried to speak to her – she just looked shocked and doesn't move her
94 eyes. Other videos posted by Chinese workers where kids were crying all the time
95 waiting for mummy to come back.

96 *COUNSEL – Briefly if one was to construct ‘weeds’ and ‘tumour’ would you say that is*
97 *terms relating to reformation or assimilation, or is it relating to destruction?*

98 RT – Related to destruction. If humans are weeds you can easily destroy them. Uyghur
99 become weeds the intention is for destruction.

100 *PANEL – Relating to family planning and workers and women you have interviewed,*
101 *you have given us some information. I would like to ask whether these 8 interviews*
102 *reveal anything about how these women managed to continue to hide and educate*
103 *their children as they grow up?*

104 RT – They could not send children to school as they were considered illegal. The fine
105 as a result is based on income and could be 5-10%. Even if they pay the heavy fine
106 the children cannot go to school. In 2015 the Chinese gave Huco Then in 2015
107 everywhere in China start to give allowing them to register so they could go to school,
108 people started to register their kids. In 2017 they started to take the kids. In a family of
109 4 kids, 1 was illegal so they took all the kids.

110 *PANEL – Dehumanising language is symbolic and has direct impact on the people*
111 *who are experiencing it, and on the wider population?*

112 RT – Yes.

113 *PANEL – the weaponizing of language?*

114 RT – Yes as ‘absolutely no mercy’ is a greenlight. One example from an interview -
115 workers came to camp and sprayed liquid on women over their uniforms and these
116 women were jumping in immense pain and the shock of immense pain. It was
117 disinfecting these women as they have skin diseases. How are these poisonous? They
118 take really people as weed.

119 *PANEL – They are echoing the language. Children permanently separated from their*
120 *parents – you mention 62 missing children and therefore 62 family tragedies, but also*

121 *arguing here that we are talking about a community breakdown with so many lost*
122 *children. How would you describe the impact, in summary of 2 or 3 words what words*
123 *would you choose?*

124 RT – Deliberate infliction of conditions of life to destroy – children taken, families
125 destroyed.

126 *PANEL – Parents themselves use words like concentration camps, some written notes*
127 *to children, Chinese orphanage camps. Do you have precise understanding of*
128 *difference between formal terms the state is using? We have evidence of increasing*
129 *number of boarding schools, and orphanages. I would like to ask you about Uyghur*
130 *language and of state mandarin – is the language clear cut or is it interchangeable?*
131 *Are families and communities, and is state differentiating between boarding schools*
132 *and if they are what is the difference?*

133 RT – Orphanage camps are when children are taken when parents take to the camp
134 but baby onwards. They can access to school but have to come back to the orphanage
135 camp. Boarding schools are mandatory. The girl released from orphanage camp she
136 was in grade 4 when taken, she couldn't access to the school. She was released when
137 14 to grade 7 where she has extreme difficulty to catch up. I don't think people mix up
138 orphanage camp or boarding school. Both are forced, no one goes voluntarily. People
139 maybe want to send kids to boarding school, but don't want to be separate from their
140 kids for a long time. They have no time to communicate with their parents who in
141 villages were sent to farm and work and don't come back all day. Even if kids come
142 back on Sunday, they still cannot see their kids. A woman in forced labour and could
143 come back but her kids could not as the kids could only come back every two weeks.

144 *PANEL – When a child is in orphanage camp, that child has no access to trainees,*
145 *teachers or lessons at all?*

146 RT – From my data, some kids have access. Some kids whose parents are in Italy
147 have school in daytime, but have to go back. Now they have disappeared from that
148 school too.

149 *PANEL – Some children are going back and forth?*

150 RT – The 4 kids accessing school and in camp because parents in Italy - contact was
151 looking for but could not access. Before they were in the school and at night at camp.
152 I need more research.

153 *PANEL - I am worried about their psychological effects, is there any help from there*
154 *as separated from parents?*

155 RT – No.

156 *PANEL – What happens to those who leave? Although they speak mandarin, they are*
157 *still Uyghur.*

158 RT – They do brainwashing, it is not just mandarin language, they were completely
159 brainwashed into Han Chinese. We have no data on children released of over 18. I
160 am thinking even if kids are released they cannot be Uyghur as those released do not
161 have any connection with their mother. Even children released they cannot contribute
162 to their own community. When Uyghurs die, the children become Han Chinese. This
163 will destroy the Uyghur nation.

164 *PANEL – In a way they have a crisis of identity, but although they speak mandarin but*
165 *will always look different. Will they be second class citizens?*

166 RT – We will see when they grow up. Brainwashed and forced to say they are Chinese
167 and not Uyghur. Still kids remember their roots or not we do not know. Remember the
168 words ‘break lineage, break origin, break connection’ – this applies to the orphanages.
169 So connection is cut as they cannot see parents; they cannot speak their language or
170 eat Uyghur food or practice religion which breaks their origin, and cannot be visited.
171 What kind of identity crisis they go through will need more research.

Research Questions:

- How do gendered policies targeting Uyghur women expose the Chinese government's genocidal intention in East Turkistan?
- As a root cause of this genocide, how is Chinese colonialism reflected in the policies implemented against Uyghur women and, particularly in the implementation processes that use the tools of punishment borrowed from Legalism?

Case selection and methodology

- Uyghur genocide can be considered as a critical / typical case of the genocide in contemporary world.
- This paper utilizes the qualitative means to evaluate the current situation of women in East Turkestan.
 - In-depth interviews with camp survivors.
 - Thematic analysis of available sources.
 - Review of related literature
- Limitations
 - Few available data due to strict control of the CCP
 - Few camp survivors reachable

Main argument: China's 'special' intent and 'general intent'

- China's gendered policies against the Uyghur women expose its genocidal intention. Because, catastrophic result of these policies are foreseeable. These policies include prevention of births, state-sponsored forced marriages, forced labor, and the policy of appointing male Han Chinese cadres to live in Uyghur homes, as well as mass rape in the camps.
- Chinese state colonialism and their hate ideology against the 'others' that can't transform into ethnic Han Chinese is the main cause of 'special intent' of China's genocide. It was expressed in Chinese leaders derogatory words. .
- The reflection of Chinese colonialism in the policies implementation process in East Turkistan also exposes genocidal intent, particularly that the use of 'punishment' borrowed from legalism in the case of Uyghur women. Xi Jinping's order "absolute no mercy" towards the Uyghurs aligns with the theory of "punishment" in the classic Chinese philosophy of Legalism. Punishment with absolute no mercy extended to genocide when the objective was to eliminate 'others' in colonized land.

Gendered Policies against the Uyghur women and Genocidal Intention

Family policy planning

- Reducing reproductivity
- Forced sterilization

State sponsored marriage policy

- Forced
- Demographic destruction

Forced labor camps

- Deliberate infliction on Uyghurs of life condition aimed at destruction.
- Population reduction

Rapes and sexual torture

- Physical and psychological damage
- Biological genocide
- intentional, conducted from the top –down, and centrally directed

Pair up and become family policy

- Violation of privacy
- Surveillance network
- Sexual assault
- Destroying dignity to destroy whole nation.

Conclusion

- As symbols of the land and the dignity and continuation of their people, Uyghur women have become the symbolic and direct target of domination under China's colonialism. The ancient barbaric philosophy expressed in Legalism has also underpinned Chinese colonial ideology and reinforced the genocide.