UYGHUR TRIBUNAL

4 - 7 June

Church House, Westminster
Introduction

It is alleged that the People’s Republic of China (“PRC”) has perpetrated and continues to perpetrate the most serious of international crimes against the Uyghurs and other Muslim Population in the Uyghur region (“Xinjiang”) of North West China. In June 2020 Dolkun Isa, President of the World Uyghur Congress formally requested that Sir Geoffrey Nice QC establish and chair an independent people’s tribunal to investigate ‘ongoing atrocities and possible Genocide’ against the Uyghur people. The Uyghur Tribunal was launched on 3 September 2020 with assistance from a non-governmental organisation, the Coalition for Genocide Response.

The Uyghurs are a predominantly Turkic Muslim group and in the Uyghur region are estimated to number upwards of twelve million people. It has been widely reported that the PRC is detaining a significant proportion of the Uyghur population and other Muslim populations in camps which the PRC says are “vocational training centres” or “re-education centres” but are widely alleged to be involuntary detention centres which some have likened to “concentration camps”.

There have been numerous other allegations of the PRC subjecting the Uyghurs and other Muslim population to killings, serious bodily or mental harm including torture, rape and other sexual violence, enslavement, forced separation of children from their parents, forced sterilisation, forcible transfer or deportation, apartheid, forced labour, forced organ harvesting, enforced disappearances, destruction of cultural or religious heritage, persecution, forced marriages and the imposition of Han Chinese men into Uyghur households.

If proved, some of these allegations could lead to the conclusion that the PRC has embarked on a campaign intended to destroy, in whole or in part, the Uyghur people and their existence as a religious, racial, national, and ethnic group. Such a finding could constitute the commission of Genocide as defined in Article 2 of the Convention of 1948 to which the PRC is a signatory and ratifying state. Acts arising from or incidental to the prohibited acts of Genocide, may also in themselves constitute crimes against humanity.
The Hearings

The research section and associated investigators of the Uyghur Tribunal have been collecting, collating, and assessing evidence from many sources over the past months. The Tribunal will consider both inculpatory and exculpatory material on an independent and impartial basis.

Counsel and advisers to the Tribunal have selected a balanced and representative sample of all evidence provided for presentation to the Panel and the public. This evidence consists of Fact Witnesses and Expert Witnesses. Fact Witnesses are individuals who, being present, have personally seen or perceived a situation; a beholder, spectator, or eyewitness. Fact Witnesses testify to what they have seen, heard, or otherwise observed and describe only facts (as opposed to expressing opinions).

Expert Witnesses are individuals who by reason of education or specialized experience possess specific knowledge of a particular subject. Expert Witnesses will assist the panel in understanding complicated and technical subjects and may express opinions based on their specialised knowledge.

The Hearings will take place from 4 - 7 June and 10 – 13 September 2021 at Church House in London. The Hearings are open to the public and details on how to attend can be found at the end of this brochure.
The Panel

The Panel is composed of nine individuals who will act as roughly the equivalent of a jury with no specialist interest in the matters to be decided.

SIR GEOFFREY NICE QC. Sir Geoffrey is Chair of the Tribunal; has been a barrister since 1971, and served as a part time judge in England between 1984 and 2018. Between 1998 and 2006 he led the prosecution of Slobodan Milošević, former President of Serbia, at the UN’s International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. He was Gresham College Professor of law from 2012-16 and was Chair of the China Tribunal.

NICK VETCH. Nick is Vice Chair of the Tribunal and is a London based businessman. He is engaged with a range of NGOs particularly in the field of Human Rights and was a member of the China Tribunal.

DAME PARVEEN KUMAR. Dame Parveen is Emeritus Professor of Medicine and Education at Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London. She worked as a consultant physician and gastroenterologist for the NHS for over 40 years. She founded and co-edited the textbook Kumar and Clark’s Clinical Medicine, which is used worldwide. Parveen was a founding Non-Executive Director of the National Institute of Clinical Excellence and Chairman of the Medicines Commission UK.

AMBREENA MANJI. Ambreena is Professor of Land Law and Development at Cardiff University. Between 2010 and 2014 she was seconded to Nairobi as the Director of the British Institute in Eastern Africa. She has served as the President of the African Studies Association UK. Her book, The Struggle for Land and Justice in Kenya, was published in 2020.

TIM CLARK. Tim’s first career was as a mergers and acquisitions and corporate finance lawyer at a leading international law firm where he served his last seven years as senior partner. Since leaving the law he has held board or senior positions at a number of leading corporates, charities and think tanks.
RAMINDER KAUR. Raminder is Professor of Anthropology and Cultural Studies at the University of Sussex. She served on the Mayor’s Commission for Asian and African Heritage and was Chair of the World Council of Anthropoligical Associations Ethics Taskforce. She has been widely published. Her latest book, Kudankulam, tells the stories of the people who have lived in proximity to a nuclear power plant in India. She was also a Trustee for Museums, Libraries, and Archives, London.

DAVID LINCH. David is Professor of Haematology at University College London. He has served as Director of Cancer Medicine and is currently the Director of the UCL and UCL Hospitals Biomedical Research Centre cancer programme. He was the Goulstonian Lecturer of the Royal College of Physicians and the recipient of the British Society of Haematology Gold Medal in 2006. He has been Chair of the NCRI Lymphoma Clinical Studies Group, President of the British Society of Haematology and President of the Lymphoma Association.

AUDREY OSLER. Audrey is Professor of Education at the University of South-Eastern Norway and Professor Emerita of Human Rights Education and Citizenship at the University of Leeds. She has held academic posts at the Universities of Leicester and Birmingham. She has published extensively on social, ethical, political and policy matters in education and her work has been translated into many languages, including Japanese and Chinese. She has served as an expert to the Council of Europe, the European Commission, and UNESCO.

CATHERINE ROE. Catherine has over 25 years’ experience of creating, developing, leading and advising foundations and other not-for-profits in fields as diverse as education, child development, arts and culture, social cohesion, disability and refugees. Catherine began her career as a British diplomat, specialising in multilateral negotiation following a posting to Tanzania. She has a deep interest in the Middle East, modern trends in Islam and Muslims in Britain. She serves on the boards of a number of foundations and organisations.
Counsel

HAMID SABI. Hamid is Counsel to the Tribunal and a London-based lawyer with an international practice in human rights, arbitration, and litigation. He acted as Counsel and Rapporteur to the Iran Tribunal, a people’s tribunal which investigated mass killings of political prisoners by the Islamic Republic of Iran in the 1980s. He served as Counsel to the China Tribunal.

AARIF ABRAHAM. Aarif is the Legal Adviser to the Tribunal and an international human rights barrister at Garden Court North Chambers in the UK. He qualified as a solicitor at Slaughter and May. He is currently a consultant and on the roster of candidates at the UN.

ALDO ZAMMIT BORDA. Aldo is Head of Research and Investigation at the Tribunal. He is the Director of the Centre for Access and Justice at Anglia Ruskin University and prior to that served in the legal division of the Commonwealth Secretariat. He is an advocate of the Courts of Malta and a solicitor in England and Wales (non-practising).

MARILENA STEGBAUER. Marilena is Assistant to Counsel and a London-based human rights consultant. Previously, she worked for the International Bar Association Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI). She holds an LL.M. in International Criminal Law from the Irish Center for Human Rights NUI Galway.
Friday 4 June 2021

Morning Session: 0900 – 1300

**Fact Witnesses**
A witness who worked as a teacher within a ‘re-education camp’ will give evidence on rape, forced sterilisation, and forced medication. A detainee of a camp will report their experience of being kept in solitary confinement. A third witness will provide evidence of the detention and ill-treatment of their relatives.

**Expert Witnesses**
Dr Sean Roberts is an Associate Professor in the Practice of International Affairs and author of the book “The War on the Uyghurs”. He will provide insight into the Chinese Communist Party’s (CCP) counter-terrorism narrative and how it relates to the allegations made by the witnesses.

Afternoon Session: 1400 – 1800

**Fact Witnesses**
Another former teacher will give evidence on rape and other serious bodily and mental harm witnessed in the camps in the course of their work there. A witness will speak about torture, sexual abuse, and organ testing within the camps. The Panel will also hear evidence of ongoing harassment and detention of family members of a witness and hear evidence authenticating leaked documents and cyber harassment of witnesses.

**Expert Witnesses**
Schona Jolly QC is a London-based international human rights and equalities lawyer and writer. She will be providing legal classifications of the activities carried out against Uyghurs in Xinjiang.
Saturday 5 June 2021

Morning Session: 0900 – 1300

Fact Witnesses
Testimony will be given by a witness whose relatives have been detained in camps and prisons within China.

Expert Witnesses
Dr David Tobin is Hallsworth Research Fellow at the University of Manchester and will discuss the Chinese approach to Counter Terrorism and state and society security dynamics.

Professor Rachel Harris has conducted fieldwork in Xinjiang, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan over a period of twenty years and is an expert in ethnomusicology at SOAS, University of London. She will provide evidence relating to allegations of torture and sexual violence in the camps.

Dr Rian Thum is Senior Lecturer in East Asian history at the University of Manchester and will present evidence relating to allegations of child separation and coercive birth control.

Professor Laura Murphy is an expert on human rights and contemporary slavery with the Helena Kennedy Centre for International Justice at Sheffield Hallam University, and will discuss evidence relating to allegations of forced labour in Xinjiang.

Dr Jo Smith Finley is Reader in Chinese Studies at Newcastle University and will provide evidence relating to allegations of the destruction of religious practice and heritage.

Afternoon Session: 1400 – 1800

Fact Witnesses
Testimony will include evidence of rape, torture, beatings, forced medication, forced medical examinations, and the enforced presence of Han Chinese ‘relatives’. Other witnesses will provide evidence of forced abortions, sterilisation, and detention of relatives.

Expert Witnesses
Ethan Gutmann is an award-winning China analyst and human-rights investigator. He will provide evidence of organ harvesting and the operation of the organ market.
Sunday 6 June 2021

Morning Session: 0900 – 1300

**Fact Witnesses**
Witnesses will provide evidence of serious bodily and mental harm, torture, forced medication, and will testify that they were witness to rape and the detention of family members.

**Expert Witnesses**
Nathan Ruser is a researcher at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute. He will provide information on the nature, scale, and growth of the camps as determined through satellite imagery analysis, along with evidence of cultural and religious heritage destruction.

Afternoon Session: 1400 – 1800

**Fact Witnesses**
Witnesses will give evidence on detention and ill-treatment, including serious bodily and mental harm and sexual violence. Further testimony will be given on the disappearance of relatives, and the forced ‘re-education’ of family members.

**Expert Witnesses**
Muettter Iliqud of the Uyghur Transitional Justice Database will provide evidence from the organisation’s report into the extent of disappearances of family members within China.
Monday 7 June 2021

Morning Session: 0900 – 1300

Fact Witnesses
Evidence will be presented of ill-treatment within the camps, including torture, extensive medical examinations, and the rape of single women and widows. A report of the conditions within the camps and investigations of missing people will be provided. A former camp guard will testify on torture and wider repression of the Uyghur population.

Expert Witnesses
Dr Adrian Zenz is an anthropologist who has studied the expansion of the internment policy and will provide evidence on the CCP’s Population Structure Optimisation for Uyghurs.

Afternoon Session: 1400 – 1800

Fact Witnesses
A witness will provide evidence on forced sterilisations and poor conditions in the camps, including forced labour. There will also be testimony of torture, sexual violence, and death within the camps.

Expert Witnesses
Dr Darren Byler is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Colorado. He will provide evidence of the destruction of cultural, religious, and linguistic heritage, and forced assimilation.
How to Attend the Hearings

The hearings are free to attend.
A ticket system will be operated to manage capacity, with each session ticketed separately. There is no limit on how many sessions can be attended.

Tickets may be obtained at any time, but the doors to the hearing room will be closed a couple of minutes before the start of each session to minimise disruption to proceedings. Doors will remain closed to admission until the next break.

The hearings will also be streamed live.

TICKETS
Via Eventbrite
An independent people’s tribunal investigating China’s alleged genocide and crimes against humanity against Uyghur and other Muslim populations.