

Uyghur Tribunal – Fact Witness statement

UTFW2-027 – Abdurahman Memet

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xvAkBAShtnQ>

1. My name is Abdurahman Memet and I am from Hejing County, Ulastay Argicultural Unit in the Korla Prefecture. My residence was at 17 Development Road, Ulastay Agricultural Unit. I moved to Turkey in August 2015 and am now studying at the Istanbul Business School.
2. I want to testify for my father, mother and brothers. My father was born on the 12th of April 1956. He retired from a local construction company. I heard, through an intermediary source, that he and my mother were sent to a concentration camp in December 2018. My mother was born on the 1st of May 1961. She worked at the same construction company as my father and retired. She was sent to the camp at the same time (December 2018) as my father.
3. I have three older brothers. I learnt through reliable intermediary sources that my second brother was arrested on the 4th of March 2017. However, I do not know what two of my brothers', Emetjan and Iskander, situations are like. My second brother's name is Ehet Memet and he was born on the 14th of June 1980. He graduated from the Urumqi Islam University in 2005 and then, after his graduation, he was assigned to be the Imam of the Beytulla Mosque in Ushaktal Township, Hoshut County, Korla Prefecture. After he was arrested (4 March 2017), he was initially sentenced to 15 years in prison but this was later increased to 20 years. He has 5 children. His wife and children are staying with her mother in Urumqi. Before his arrest, my father had high blood pressure and a ruptured intestine. He did not get a chance to get treatment. My mother had cholecystitis before her arrest. My parents are law abiding seniors who have never been in any trouble with the law. I believe they were arrested because I moved to a foreign country. I hold this belief because, in 2016, I was pressured (via phone calls) by the local police in our township to return to

China. I said I would return but I kept postponing. Later, the local police forced my older brother to call me and ask me to return to China. I have video and audio evidence of those phone calls and have provided a testimony of it newspapers. I believe that, since they did not succeed in forcing me back to China, they arrested my parents as a form of punishment.

4. My second brother was an Imam of the Beytulla Mosque in the Ushaktal Township. One year prior to his arrest, he was selected by the authorities to guide a delegation to make the Hajj Pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia. The reason given for his arrest was that he allegedly donated money to a terrorist group who wanted to split the country. My brother did not commit any such crime. He studied Islam at a government sanctioned Islamic University and was assigned by the government to be an Imam. He was issued a patriotic Imam certificate by the authorities. Despite doing everything by the books, he was still sentenced to 20 years in prison.

I have read and understood this witness statement and I confirm that I agree with its contents. I understand that this statement will be published on the Uyghur Tribunal website and will be available to the general public online.

Signature:

Date: