

World Uyghur Congress

Activities Report (October 2006-March 2009)

**May 2009
General Secretariat
Munich, Germany**

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Introducing the World Uyghur Congress (WUC)

The World Uyghur Congress (WUC) is an international organization that represents the collective interest of the Uyghur people both in Hast Turkestan and abroad. WUC was established on April 16, 2004 in Munich Germany alter the Hast Turkestan National Congress and the World Uyghur Youth Congress merged into one united organization. The main objective of WUC is to promote the right of the Uyghur people to use peaceful, nonviolent, and democratic means to determine the political future of Hast Turkestan.

On the second General Assembly of WUC which held in Munich from November 24 to 27, 2006, all delegates have elected Ms. Rebiya Kadeer (Rabiye Qadir), the leader of Uighur National Movement and the Spiritual Mother of Uyghur people, as the president of WUC.

Before Ms. Rebiya Kadeer is elected as the president of WUC, she founded the “Uyghur Human Rights and Democracy Foundation” and headed “The Uyghur American Association” based on Washington DC. She was also the winner of Rafto Prize and the nominee for 2005-2006-2007-2008 Nobile Peace Prize. For 5 years she spent her life in Chinese notorious prison. After her release, she has been exerting all her energy to fight for freedom, democracy and human rights for Uyghur people. For her great work she is entitled as “The Leader and The Spiritual Mother of Uyghur’s”.

On the first General Assembly of WUC in 2004 Mr. Erkin Alptekin was elected as a president. He had lead WUC to its second General Assembly in 2006. Mr. Alptekin is a former general secretary of the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO) based in The Hague, the Netherlands. He has remarkable experience in working with international organizations and governments in lobbying for the Uyghur people’s right to self-determination. He is also a close friend of the Dalai Lama, spiritual leader of the Tibetan people.

WUC is a democratic organization. All of WUC leadership was democratically elected by the participants from all over the world in the General Assembly. They all serve a three-year term. WUC has close contacts and working relations with most Uyghur organizations in the world that peacefully promote the human rights, religious freedom, and democracy for the Uyghur people in East Turkestan.

Mission Statement of the WUC

The main objective of the World Uyghur Congress is to promote democracy, human rights and freedom for the Uyghur people and use peaceful, nonviolent, and democratic means to determine their political future. By representing as the sole legitimate organization of the Uyghur people both in East Turkestan and abroad, WUC endeavors to set out a course for the peaceful settlement of the East Turkestan Question through dialogue and negotiation.

The WUC declares a nonviolent and peaceful opposition movement against Chinese occupation of East Turkestan and an unconditional adherence to the international accepted human rights standard as laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and adherence to the principals of democratic pluralism and rejection of totalitarianism, religious intolerance, and terrorism as an instrument of policy.

Foreword from the WUC General Secretary

In order to meet the new challenges and strong demands of the people of Hast Turkestan, the two major organizations in exile, the East Turkestan (Uyghuiristan) National Congress and the World Uyghur Youth Congress, merged to form a historic authoritative organ, *the World Uyghur Congress* (HTO) in April 2004, in Munich, Germany. The new organization would coordinate action and promote and worldwide the Uyghur human rights and democracy movement.

The achievements and progress made by the leadership of the WUC in its first executive period of 2004-2006 demonstrate the importance of integrating the separated but similarly focused Uyghur political factions in exile. The indispensability of forming the long desired and much needed amalgamated structure led by the united body for international Uyghur human rights and democracy movements is proved by the successes achieved since the Second General Assembly (a.k.a. the *5th National Assembly* of the Hast Turkestan people) of the WUC was convened in November 2006.

During a four-day meeting, representatives of the WUC's member organizations from all around the world discussed proposals made by various committees of the WUC, i.e. the Committee for Diaspora Affairs, the Committee for Political Affairs, the Committee for Information and Publication, the Committee for Organizational Affairs, the Committee for Financial Affairs, and the Committee for Education, Culture and Religion. The delegates also reviewed future plans and projects and adopted several important resolutions of great significance regarding our current situation.

A new WUC Executive Board was elected, which has opened a new page for the internationalization of the Uyghur human rights and democracy campaign.

Under the leadership of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, the new and united WUC executive board has steered the organization systematically and effectively, and has geared its efforts toward WUC's mission. Regardless of great internal difficulties such as extremely limited resources, the Executive Board continued organizational activities with great courage, and with firm and sustainable commitments achieving considerable successes.

In the past three years, the WUC has made considerable efforts for the Uyghur human rights and democracy campaign worldwide; including, the organization of worldwide campaigns to raise awareness and acknowledgement of the international community towards the Uyghur plight, the acceleration of the internationalization of the Uyghur issue, and the defeat of Chinese conspiracies libeling Uyghur dissident activities with "terrorism" in order to defame and destroy the international Uyghur human rights and democracy campaign. Furthermore, the WUC took the united-command-action system as its main avenue within the organization, set up a modernized leadership mechanism, motivated the members of the Diaspora and increased their accountability in the field worldwide against the Chinese communist regime. Meanwhile, the campaigns of the organization are also being driven to be more professional and efficient. As a result of its unremitting contributions, the WUC has gained broad respect and a firm reputation amongst the international community, and was

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acknowledged as the sole leadership body that truly represents the interest of the Uyghur people worldwide.

With the continuous and effective advocacy for the Uyghur cause led by WUC President Rebiya Kadeer and other WUC leaders, there have been more notable breakthroughs in the understanding of Uyghur situation among world communities. Furthermore, the plight of the Uyghur people began to attract the open sympathy of democratic countries and even garnered considerable political support by democratic governments. Today the Uyghur issue no longer remains as “unknown issue” and the Uyghur people are no longer an “unknown nation”.

By receiving Uyghur leaders on influential occasions, the major democratic powers of the world have showed their sympathy and support to the Uyghur cause, and at times openly criticized China’s unfair handling of the Uyghur people and discriminatory policies towards the entire nation.

Former U.S. President George W. Bush twice received Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, the leader and spiritual “mother” of the Uyghur people. In a “Democracy and World Security Forum” held in Prague, the Czech Republic, President Bush praised Ms. Rebiya Kadeer as an individual who has struggled for freedom, democracy and human rights in the face of tyranny. Furthermore, a number of heads of states, including Canadian Prime Minister Right Hon. Stephan Harper and Japanese Prime Minister Hon. Shinzo Abe, scores of influential political figures like UN Secretary General Mr. Kofi Annan, and the chairs of several national parliaments have received Ms. Rebiya Kadeer as the president of the WUC. These mark another major breakthrough for the WUC in gaining international recognition for the legitimacy of the international Uyghur human rights and democracy campaign.

The People’s Republic of China’s (PRC) ruthless crackdown of all political and religious dissent among Uyghurs in East Turkestan has continued for more than a decade in the name of “Strike Hard Campaigns”. Crackdowns have further intensified since 9/11 with the “War Against Terror”. This severe and systematic crackdown has resulted stigmatization, segregation and isolation of the entire Uyghur people economically, socially, politically and culturally.

In such harsh conditions, the WUC has conducted successful campaigns to inform the governments and parliaments of countries like the United States, Canada, Japan, Germany, Holland, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, Australia, Turkey, Belgium, and the United Kingdom, as well as international bodies such as the UN and the European Parliament. The international community was presented with the truth behind PRC lies and was cautioned to be prudent about Chinese conspiracies.

Following the continual and effective work in this regard made by the WUC and its President Rebiya Kadeer, resolutions regarding the severe human rights abuses of the Uyghur people by the PRC government were passed by the U.S. Congress and the European Parliament in 2007. In addition, a “14 Point Proposal” concerning the desperate situation of the Uyghur people was discussed at the German Parliament. These successes have further strengthened the reputation and position of the international Uyghur human rights and democracy campaign.

The WUC uniquely positioned itself in continual calls for the boycotting of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, and laid down solid evidence as to why the PRC was not qualified to host the Olympic Games as the games have always been the symbol of friendship, equality and peace among nations. However,

the WUC had long been long-standing in its call for the IOC' to not grant the I'RC the prestige of hosting the most important sports event unless substantial political reforms take place in China, which secure fundamental political and religious rights for its citizens through the adoption of international norms of freedom. It became evident that one of the most important and prestigious sports events had been hijacked by China for its political propaganda and its purpose of "image refreshment"

During the Olympic games period, the WUC joined with and echoed main human rights organizations and other concerned NGOs worldwide who were protesting the Chinese government's dismal human rights record and unmasking the PRC's behind-the-scenes mass arrests, detention and execution of Uyghurs political and religious activists in East Turkestan under the guise of Olympic security.

The WUC has effectively participated in various UN bodies to bring much needed attention to the worsening situation of Uyghurs in East Turkestan. The WUC submitted detailed reports on Chinese treatment of Uyghurs in East Turkestan to the United Nations Committee against Torture during the official review of the implementation of the UN Convention Against Torture in the PRC, which was convened in November 2008. and the UN High Commission for Human Rights (UNHCR) Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process, which convened in February 2009. Both processes have drawn considerable attention from member states, and the WUC made successful representation in Geneva at both events.

As the highest representative organ for the democracy and human rights movement of Uyghur people, the WUC initiated in 2007 a "Uyghur Leadership Training Program on Human Rights and Democracy" funded by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) to further strengthen the capacity of Uyghur leaders and activists around the world in understanding the basic concepts of international laws and mechanisms, and in enlightening their vision to explore ways of finding a peaceful solution to the East Turkestan problem within international law. Three phases of training program have been successfully organized over the past three years with presentations by internationally known experts, which have provided a unique learning opportunity for young Uyghurs activists to achieve considerable professionalism in their future campaigns.

Furthermore, a number of international visits undertaken by Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and other WUC leaders over the past years have also significantly contributed to the introduction and advocacy of the Uyghur cause and formed a positive international consensus.

Following are brief summaries of achievements made by the WUC in the past three years:

1. Relationships with foreign governments and parliaments.

The WUC has made considerable effort over the years in developing good relationships with foreign governments and parliaments. Sustaining such a relationship with friendly nations worldwide has been the top priority of the World Uyghur Congress, and it will continue to be the top priority in the future utilizing the solid base built in recent years.

The WUC has been consistent in its efforts to explore the ways and possibilities of building solid and long term relationships with nations and countries that can be influential and instrumental in the pursuit of achieving the mission of the Uyghur freedom movement.

Foreword from die WIJC (icncml Secretary

Led by President Rebiya Kadeer, the WIJC leadership has respectively visited these countries: Canada, the U.S., Germany, Norway, Switzerland, Sweden, Belgium, Holland, the Ukraine, Poland, the Czech republic, the U.K., Turkey, Austria, France, Denmark, Estonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Italy, Australia, Japan, Philippines, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and others.

During these visits, WUC leaders have held special meetings and discussions with scores of high-level government officials, leaders and influential members of parliament, including Presidents, Prime Ministers and Speakers. In all talks, by addressing the urgent issues of the Uyghur people in East Turkestan, WUC leaders submitted detailed reports, proposals on the human rights situation of the Uyghur people and appealed to governments to take action on behalf of Uyghurs. These efforts positively resulted in increasing awareness and sympathy of political leaders to the Uyghur people and their situation. Moreover on various occasions, some democratic countries raised their concerns regarding Uyghurs with their Chinese counterparts and urged them to respect the right and fundamental freedom of the Uyghur people. A number of parliaments have passed resolutions condemning Chinese violations of the fundamental rights of the Uyghur people and at the same time demanding Chinese government to take urgent action to rectify its discriminatory policy towards Uyghurs.

The PRC authorities, from time to time, have mobilized diplomatic pressure to defame Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and other prominent Uyghurs activists with distorted and fabricated “terrorism” charges, and tried blackmailing democratic countries to enforce travel restrictions on WUC leaders for any formal visits. With the continuous support by hundreds of Members of the European Parliament, this political intrigue of the PRC was once again defeated in 2007, when more than 60 Uyghur democratic leaders convened a meeting at the European Parliament and were warmly received by the Parliamentarians. The reception of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer as a guest of honor by distinguished world leaders in number of Western countries has sent a strong signal to the failed policies of the Chinese government. These positive outcomes are in fact a confirmation and recognition of the WUC on the world stage as the legitimate voice of the entire Uyghur people both at home and abroad.

2. Co-operation with international organizations

WUC has recognized the importance of building close working relationships and solidarity with international organizations since day one of its establishment. In the past three years, co-operation with international organizations in human rights campaigns has been substantially strengthened and reached new levels of interaction. Working relationships of the WUC with prominent international organizations, include, but are not limited to, Amnesty International (AI), Human Rights Watch (HRW), Association for Threatened People (GfbV), UNITED, Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO), Human Rights Without Frontiers (HRWF), Rafto Foundation, National Endowment for Democracy (NED), Human Rights In China (HRIC), Interfaith International and others.

A significant number of international activities have been organized in close collaboration with those organizations. These collaborations have played a positive role in broadening the influence of Uyghur democratic activities worldwide and have also created great sympathy and interest in the understanding of the Uyghur cause. The WUC voluntarily shared reports and up-to-date information

on the human rights situation of East Turkestan with variety of organizations worldwide. As a result of these close engagements, a number of international human rights organizations have taken up the Uyghur human rights issue on their agenda and promoted it through their worldwide networks.

In addition, WUC leaders have attended and presented reports and papers in hundreds of international conferences organized by NGOs, political parties, academic and research institutions, universities and parliaments.

3. News and publicity work

The WUC has long considered work on news and publicity as one of the organization's key tasks. Therefore, regardless of its very limited financial and human resources, the WUC effectively carried out publicity efforts and achieved notable results.

Since the launch of its official Uyghur and English languages website in 2005, the WUC has constantly upgraded the service quality of this important news channel and added Chinese, German and Japanese language pages to reach out to a wider audience. The WUC website has always been a source of reliable, accurate and timely information about the human rights situation of East Turkestan, unbiased analyses of prominent experts, reports on the WUC, and the activities of its member organizations. Today, the WUC's website is visited 40,000 to 50,000 times daily.

The News and Publication Center of the WUC is publishing materials about Uyghur history, culture, politics, economics, society, and the human rights situation of East Turkestan in various formats and in English and German. In addition, a selection of excellent books, articles and Uyghur-related publications also are being translated into the Uyghur language to introduce them to Uyghur readers.

Short documentaries about the WUC, Uyghur history, and culture, as well as East Turkestan flags, badges, T-shirts, boycott the Beijing Olympic Games balloons, various logos, and souvenirs are short list of the materials that the News and Publication center has produced with very limited resources. The 2009-2010 calendar containing brief information on Uyghur history, historic events and historic figures has been published and distributed to international organizations, senior members of governments, influential members of various parliaments, and sympathizers of the Uyghur cause as the WUC's New Year present.

4. Media Relations

As a legitimate voice of Uyghurs in East Turkestan, the WUC has become and continues to be a unique source and epicenter of information from a Uyghur perspective for domestic and international media outlets. Over the past years, various media outlets, universities, research centers and independent observers have contacted the WUC for reports, analyses, comments, updates and clarification from the Uyghur standpoint on number of issues related to Chinese policy in East Turkestan as events unfold. Leaders of member organizations of the World Uyghur Congress have frequently appeared on TV, Radio, and given newspaper interviews around the world and effectively counterbalanced Chinese attempts to spread false propaganda about the peaceful opposition of Uyghurs against Chinese rule. It was especially true prior and during the 2008 Beijing Olympics as China intensified its security crackdown in various cities of East Turkestan targeting peaceful Uyghur

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dissenters and protestors by associating them with exaggerated, unfounded and in some cases totally fabricated “terrorist” charges in order to justify harsh treatment.

This kind of continual publicity of the Uyghurs, their identity, culture and human rights situation has helped to make the Uyghur cause known and let the pleas of the Uyghur people be heard by the international community. Particularly, major news coverage of Uyghurs and the happenings in East Turkestan during the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games gave global publicity to the Uyghur issue, and drew people’s interest to the common concerns of Uyghurs.

In the past three years, WUC leader’s direct quotes of analysis, comments, updates to news programs directly linked to countless world media outlets, such as CNN, BBC, ZDF, Reuters, AP, Al-Jazeera, CBC, ARD, TBS has increased significantly.

Since President Obama’s executive order for the closure within a year of the Guantanamo detention facilities in Cuba, the media’s attention has once more focused on the 17 Uyghurs detainees in Guantanamo.

The WUC has played a crucial role in providing background information for those 17 Uyghurs in Guantanamo and highlighted the reasons that drove them to flee from China to Pakistan in the first place. By continuously reporting the still uncertain future and destiny of these Uyghurs, the international media has projected the desperate situation of the Uyghur people in East Turkestan. During this period, the broad range of international media coverage about the Uyghur issue included hundreds of news articles, TV/radio interviews, and special stories in magazine columns written in numerous languages including English, German, French, Japanese, Chinese, Arabic, Turkish, Russian, Italian, and Spanish.

5. Our Work on the Political, Cultural and Educational Front

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Legitimacy of the WUC as the highest and sole representative organ for the voice of Uyghurs in East Turkestan is firm and clear in the hearts and minds of Uyghurs around the world. This is in fact the driving force and strength of the WUC in unifying supporters under the mission that it is undertaking to find a peaceful, everlasting, and long overdue solution to the problem of East Turkestan in democratic and acceptable ways.

The principal stance and legitimacy of the WUC in leading the Uyghur human rights and democracy campaign, which was constituted by East Turkestan organizations in exile around the world, was generally accepted and the opinions of our people towards the organization have solidified over the years. Today, the WUC is the sole representative organ of the Uyghur human rights and democracy movement and the collective interests of the Uyghur people, which was consolidated by all East Turkestan organizations and acknowledged and respected by the international community

Internal unity of our people, inter-organizational cooperation and solidarity between our member organizations around the world has been and will be the key for the continuing success of the World Uyghur Congress in achieving its mission. For the first time in the short history of the freedom movement of East Turkestan, only the WUC has succeeded in bringing all the fractions and organizations under one umbrella and unified them in action and mission for common purposes. From such a position of leadership, the WUC paid substantial attention to unify the actions of all the

Elaboration, wpwatioiw and to facilitate and strengthen inter-organizational communication anil

^H'i'ili.'atica of member organisations around the world in various campaigns on set dates and times h'r announced purposes has only been possible with the leadership of WUC. Such mass mobilization "is demonstrated during the rail) prior to and after the 2008 Keying Olympics, various commemorations of historic events and tragedies such as the Karen uprising, the Ghuljn massacre, and rallies on international events of significance w ith other organizations.

During the 2008 Beijing Olympics alone, the WUC organized more than 120 protest rallies and demonstrations around the world to seize the nun ement to raise the fundamental concerns of Uyghurs in East Turkestan under Chinese rule.

The WUC has emphasized great importance on promoting the cultural, traditional, religious and social values of Uyghurs among the younger generation of Diaspora members. On National Day of the East Turkestan Republic and main other religious, national festivals for Uyghur people, the WUC has organized many cultural and commemoration events to celebrate together in order to strengthen the national unity, love, friendship and coherence within the Diaspora. This kind of promotion and effort has positively contributed to the understanding of Uyghur culture and ethnic identity, especially in the current exiled and isolated situation Uyghurs find themselves in.

Special effort and proposals have been made over the past years for raising Uyghur children within their national culture, and giving them an opportunity in mother tongue education.

Turkestan, every faithful Uyghur is being forced to sertous y c keeping the Uyghur national of their nation and the next generanon. Ontstde of East Turkestan too, !L_ora leh is very identity and unique culture heritage is becomtng a sensitive issue am g P ^ small in number and scale especially in the U.S. and Europe where the core of the Uyg ^ rights and democracy movement resides. Therefore, it became urgent y necessa secure Uyghur Diaspora to take proper action to raise their children within the Uyghur i en i ^ ^ ^ the continuity of our campaigns in the future. With this goal in mind, the WUC issue a its member organizations to prepare facilities in order to provide Uyghur children in ^QQ<J community with necessary cultural and language training. Directly set up by the WUC an since ^ * the special training program for Uyghur youth growing up in Germany is still successfu y "untTM" today. A special introductory course textbook of the Uyghur language was also prepared as part o t WUC s effons for Uyghur children, which filled a long-existing gap.

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i TMey and PakiS,a" ,0 begin ,0 edUCa,e ATr, of its patriotic education about the Uyghur language, culture, history and religion. As part of Jts situation of East Turk T also teach children the history, geography, culture an curre ***CJd^T A "Umb" of knowledge confels and relevant cultural ac.tvt.tes we >“ Practice iL K childre” to increase their interest in their cultural heritage and to mot.vate

foreword from Ihc WUC (icnenil Secretary)

The PRC authorities' have intensified and committed campaigns of cultural genocide over the Uyghur people in hast Turkestan by systematically targeting the Uyghur language, history, culture and religious beliefs, which are all in imminent threat. As a response to this campaign, the WUC has taken this issue seriously and adopted necessary measures for the promotion of the national identity, cultural and religious heritage of the Uyghurs, as well as other historic figures and events among the younger Uyghur generation through various ways, including dedicated cultural windows in websites, internet- based TV programs, online and printed publications, and periodic cultural events with mass participation.

Now unified textbooks, DVD films and online tools are available for parents to teach Uyghur language and cultural values to their children. Also recently published cartoon based on Uyghur fairy-tales and ancient legends are great source for our younger generation to learn about our past.

To further promote our cultural and religious values among younger generations, the WUC has always supported innovative ways and approaches in educating our children in a dynamic environment. Various knowledge competitions and contests organized for younger generations have created a platform for them to present exchange and learn about our national values, including knowledge of our past and present, distinguished culture, traditions and religious belief etc...

This motivation and cultural survival campaign will continue and be expanded all around the world.

6. Work on immigration and Diaspora affairs

During its 2nd General Assembly in 2007, the WUC has conducted specific discussions on Diaspora and immigration affairs and identified the Uyghur refugee problem as an urgent matter to be addressed. As a result of this emergency and to deal with a crisis that has international magnitude as the majority of Uyghur refugees are scattered in number of countries neighboring East Turkestan, the WUC decided to establish a specific committee. Since its establishment, the Diaspora and Refugee committee has done a tremendous amount of work in data collection, identity verification and responding to the emergency needs of those Uyghur refugees in collaboration with other international organizations and governments. As the reputation of WUC increases and people both in and outside East Turkestan gradually trust and faith in the organization and its works, the Uyghur refugees begin to ask help and assistances whenever and wherever they have difficulties. WUC has extended necessary assistances, despite it's very limited capacity and own difficulties, in order to meet the needs of the Uyghurs fled out of PRC or living in a third country. In special cases, the WUC even dispatch personals to visit Uyghurs who live in difficult situations and help them financially to ease their economic burdens and exert many efforts to facilitate the settlement of their various problems.

Almost all neighboring States to East Turkestan such as Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, where majority of Uyghur refugees temporarily stationed, have compromised to China's demand of repatriating Uyghur refugees back to China, largely due to fear of losing economical, financial and political incentives offered by China to them. In such, Uyghur refugees have become trade commodities in relationship of Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan with China. Despite such an unfavorable situation, WUC has actively engaged with UN High Commission for Refugee (UNHCR), governments, parliaments or diplomatic missions of those countries where the Uyghur seek political asylum and international human rights organizations in order to facilitate the process of the Uyghur

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political asylum seekers and their related affairs. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer also visited the offices of UNHCR several times and submitted reports on critical situation of Uyghur political asylum seekers, and appealed the authorities to draw special attention and extend all necessary assistances to their difficulties. As a result, main cases of Uyghur political asylum seekers were positively concluded and granted political asylum status.

Every year, especially during the important Muslim festivals like Ramadan or Eid ul-Adha, the WUC has mobilized the Uyghur communities in several countries to organize charity campaigns for those needy brothers and sisters in order to ease their difficulties and deliver them the warmth of the united Uyghur family. Furthermore, the WUC and all its member organizations extended many kinds of assistance such as providing legal aids and translation services, advising and solving their various problems, writing confirmations or reference letters to their political activities to the immigrants and political asylum seekers from East Turkestan.

7. Press Statements and Calls for Action

The WUC has been closely observing and analyzing all political events especially those regional or global changes which directly or indirectly affect the political, economical, social and cultural situation of East Turkestan, and immediately respond to sudden events and explain the WUC position.

Especially during the Beijing Olympics, the international Media closely observed and broadly covered the position and statements of the WUC. During that special period, the WUC has made instant press statements in English, German, Turkish, Chinese and Japanese languages to explain the stance of the organization and provide accurate information on happenings in East Turkestan.

WUC also called its member organizations to take actions to face important events. Today, a unified and mature command and action system is in place to guarantee the decisions of the WUC being smoothly transferred and implemented. Accordingly, the organizations under the leadership of WUC become even more eager and ready for taking and implanting responsibilities.

8. Activities in the United Nations (UN)

One of the main focuses of the WUC activities during the past three years was to contribute to the internationalization of the Uyghur cause and to push it to the UN agenda. The WUC set high priority to the efforts necessary for this goal and made considerable works. Among others, by collaborating with the international human rights organizations that have UN observatory status, the WUC has respectively organized conferences in the UN, met with high level officials of the UNHCR and other relevant Committees, submitted special reports on several subjects under the UN framework, lobbied the representatives of scores of democratic countries at the UN in order to raise awareness towards the worsening situation of the Uyghur people in East Turkestan.

Very recently, a special report on the situation of torturing, mishandling and other forms of crucial treatment of Uyghur prisoners and prisoners of conscience and conditions of the prisons in the East Turkestan was prepared in collaboration with the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO) and it was accepted by the UN Commission Against Torture (CAT). Besides that, a WUC delegation attended the UNCAT's formal session to review the implementation of UN Convention Against Torture and situation of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or **12**

Foreword from the WUC (General Secretary)

punishment in the PRC. During the session, the WUC delegation held a speech to address the critical situation of Uyghur prisoners in East Turkestan. The reports and questions raised by the WUC have played an important role during the UN examination of PRC.

The WUC highly regarded the importance of using the relevant UN mechanism to push the Uyghur issue to the UN. As being one of the key elements of the new UN Human Rights Council and a key instrument for safeguarding the human rights and freedom, the UN's Universal Periodic Review (UPR), a unique process which involves a review of the human rights records of all 192 UN Member States once every four years and which reminds responsibility to fully respect and implement all human rights and fundamental freedoms. In this regard, the WUC has made several important activities. A special report prepared by the WUC and the Uyghur American Association (UAA) was submitted to the UNUPR Committee and it was listed on the official UN website along with other accredited reports on the same subject. Regarding the coming UPR session, the WUC made considerable and effective lobbying campaigns in close collaboration with the UNPO to those diplomats and representatives of scores of UN Member States in Berlin and at the UN Office in Geneva respectively. During the period, the WUC team has met with high level diplomatic representatives of total 35 countries respectively, among which the EU Member States, member countries of the UN Human Rights Council and UPR Committee. As a result of such intensive diplomatic engagement of the WUC, countries like Czech Republic, Australia, Japan, Canada, Switzerland etc. specifically raised the Uyghur issue in their three-minute oral statements during the official UPR session at the UN Office in Geneva. In addition, some other countries like UK, Denmark, Sweden and Norway etc. also raised the Uyghur human rights issue in their written reports, which were later submitted to the UPR Commission. For the first time, the Uyghur issue is raised by the UN Member States openly at an exclusive UN meeting. By using its very limited resources and capabilities and the successful advocacy of the Uyghur human rights situation, total 9 member states have raised the Uyghur issue in an official UN meeting in different forms. This is not only a real success for the WUC's efforts at the UN level, but also a success for the Uyghur people, whose plight is being heard in the international community.

9. Boycotting the Beijing Olympics and relevant activities

As it was competing for the Olympic Bid of 2008, the PRC government had made big promises to the Olympic Committee and the international community to improve human rights situation in the country. But unfortunately, as soon as it was granted the honor to host the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in 2008 in their capital, the PRC has even tightened up its iron grip on the freedom of the people and the human rights abuses in PRC reached an unprecedented scale around the Olympic period. Soon after the brutal crackdown of Tibetan uprising in March 2008, in order to keep the Uyghur people quiet, the PRC authorities declared a state of emergency in East Turkestan and wildly pursue its policy of spreading state terror by launching mass scaled arbitrary detention campaigns, extra judiciary sentencing and executing scores of Uyghur dissidents. Alone in the Hoten Prefecture of East Turkestan, the peaceful demonstration of the Uyghur women was violently cracked down, and 700 more Uyghur women were arrested. Until today their whereabouts remain unknown.

Plenty of evidences of severe human rights abuses by the PRC using the name of Olympic Games once again showed the world why the PRC was not qualified for the host of Olympic Games, which is

the symbol of friendship. expulitv .uul peace among the nations. The WUC has continuously appealed the international community not to honor the PRC by granting it the title of hosting the most important sports event, later developments have proven the warnings of the WUC's call for boycotting the 200K Beijing Oi\mpies_ was evident. In 2007, the WUC Executive Committee decided to set up a special committee to lead its global efforts for appealing the international community to draw attention on the human rights abuses of the Uyghur people in East Turkestan, calling for the boycott of Beijing Olympics and the Olympic Torch Relay across East Turkestan soil. During the course of campaigns, the WTC also initiated a "f reedom Touch for the East Turkestan" activ ity and mobilized all member organizations to actively take part in this campaign. As a result, scores of anti-Beijing Olympics activities have been organized and these have positively contributed the awareness-raising of the international community towards the Uy ghur people and human rights situation in East Turkestan.

10. Uyghur Leadership Training Seminar on Democracy and Unman Rights

Another systematic effort of the WUC ov er the past three y ears was the implementation of its annual Uyghur Leadership Training Seminar on Democracy and Human Rights program, which has been generously financed by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED). In order to strengthen the efforts of the global campaign for human rights and democracy for the Uyghur people, increase the capability of Uy ghur democracy leaders and speed up the peaceful resolution of the East Turkestan issue under the framework of international law, since 2007 the WUC initiated a “Uyghur Leaders Training” program. After it successfully organized the first phase of the program in the Dutch city Gaga and at the European Parliament in Brussels, the WUC has organized the second phase of the Uyghur leadership-training seminar from 21-23 April 2008 in Berlin. In both seminars, more than 60 Uyghur democracy leaders all around the world gathered together to receive systematic training from the prominent experts in areas of human rights, democracy, international law, diplomacy, UN mechanism. In addition, they visited International Criminal Court, European Parliament, and German Bundestag etc. and were very' impressed by the examples of world democracies.

For the first time Uyghur leaders systematically received theoretical and practical fundamentals of campaigning for human rights and democracy in the framework of international law and the UN mechanism. Uyghur leaders have developed positive skills and integrated it in their campaigns from the practical knowledge they have learnt through well-organized lectures by the prominent experts on various topic such as UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, working mechanism of UN body and European Parliament, effective ways to organize NGO activities, proper approach to engage with UN and EU mechanism, exploring the ways of influencing their decision making, practical steps towards the internationalization of Uyghur issue etc.,. They also profited from this practical training blended with their experiences gained thorough long years of public campaigns.

In 18 and 19 May_2009, the WUC has convened an international conference on “past, present and future of East Turkestan: 60 Years under the People Republic of China” in Washington, DC, prominent scholars on Uyghur issue gave lectures based on their very recent research and analysis on existing problems of Uyghur people in economical, political, and social areas in East Turkestan under the 60 years of PRC’s communist regime.

These are the works accomplished by the WUC with its limited capabilities in terms of finance and human resources. Of course, it is still far behind the expectation of our people and the actual needs of 14

foreword from Ilic WIJC General Secretary

our mission. With valuable suggestion and more new and practical ideas of Uyghur leaders, activists, experts; though urgent discussions and making important resolutions concerning the desperate situation of our people; and the election of new round of WIJC leadership, we truly believe that our global campaign for the Uyghur people in Hast Turkestan will be raised to another level and secure the way of ultimate victory, By strongly adhering to the common will of the Uyghur people, we also deeply believe that the WUC will successfully accomplish this noble task entrusted by its people.

Dolkun Isa *General
Secretary*

21 May 2009

ACTIVITIES REPORT OF THE YVUC

October-December 2006

<p>1 October 2006 !</p>	<p>To peacefully protest the Chinese government's ongoing persecution of the Uyghur people and gross violations of their fundamental human rights, the WIJC called upon all umbrella organizations around the world to hold a demonstration in front of Chinese embassies and consulates in respective countries on October 1, the national day of China. On this day, Uygluirs in Germany, Holland, Norway, Sweden, Turkey. Britain, and the U.S. peacefully held demonstrations before Chinese embassies and consulates. All WUC member organizations urged the Chinese government to stop violating the human rights of the Uyghur people and stop persecuting them.</p> <p>The Uyghur Human Rights Project (UHRP) issued two press releases, drafted by researcher Ben Carrdus. during the period from October to December, one of them regarding the sentencing and torture of Rebiya Kadeer's children, and the other offering Ms. Kadeer's congratulations to the winner of the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize. http://uhrp.oni/articles/351/1/Rebiva-Kadeers-son-sentenced-to-seven-years-another-fined-another-feared-tortured/rabive.html .ore/articles/313/1/Rebiva-Kadeer-coneratulates-Muhammad-Yunus-e.\Dresses-aratitude-for-her-own-Nobel-nomination/Rebiva-Kadeer-coneratulates-Muhammad-Yunus-exDresses-aratitude-for-her-own-Nobel-nomination.html">http://uhn>.ore/articles/313/1/Rebiva-Kadeer-coneratulates-Muhammad-Yunus-e.\Dresses-aratitude-for-her-own-Nobel-nomination/Rebiva-Kadeer-coneratulates-Muhammad-Yunus-exDresses-aratitude-for-her-own-Nobel-nomination.html</p> <p>During this period, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and UHRP staff met with a number of high- level American government officials to discuss both the imprisonment of her sons in East Turkistan and broader issues of human rights and religious freedom for the Uyghur people. Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Seytoff met with Assistant Secretary for Population, Refugees and Migration Ellen Sauerbrey, Senior Advisor on Asia Susan O'Sullivan, and other officials at the State Department and elsewhere.</p> <p>During these period, UHRP staff also maintained contacts and exchanged information with John Kamm and Joshua Rosenzweig of the Dui Hua Foundation, Lodi Gyari and Bhuchung Tsering of the International Campaign for Tibet, Pastor Steve and Jim Thomas of Human Rights Without Frontiers, the staff of Human Rights in China, the Rafto Foundation, Harry Wu of the Laogai Research Foundation, Mickey Spiegel of Human Rights Watch, and Mehmet Tohti of the Uyghur Canadian Association.</p>
<p>3 October 2006</p>	<p>The WUC and the East Turkestan Union in Europe (ETUE) hosted a joint Iftar reception at the Qendil Restaurant in Munich. More than 100 guests from Munich municipal government, Muslim organizations, Christian organizations and Jewish organizations attended the Iftar. During the reception, WUC representatives briefed the guests on the current situation of the Uyghur people, especially on religious</p>

	persecution. This reception not only helped raise awareness of Uyghurs' religious persecution but also increased inter-faith understanding among different religious groups.
In October 2006	The World Uyghur Congress (WIJC), in order to successfully conduct the Uyghur Leadership Training Project (ULTP), the first such project supported by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), decided to cooperate with international human rights organizations and NGOs and to use their profound experience in conducting such training workshops. For this reason, the WIJC contacted the Unrepresented Peoples and Nations Organization (UNPO) in The Hague, Human Rights Without Frontiers (HIRWF) in Brussels, and Amnesty International (AI) in London and consulted with them regarding our project. During the consultation, the WUC established a close working relationship with UNPO and decided to use its experience and support to conduct ULTP in The Hague. After serious consultation between Dolkun Isa, director of ULTP, with Marino Busdachin, general secretary of UNPO, they worked out the program details. They also put the names of key speakers at ULTP on a list and began to contact them. In addition, they decided to conduct ULTP from March II to 17, 2007.
In October 2006	In early October, Ms. Kadeer and UHRP staff received a large number of visits and phone calls from journalists and human rights groups wanting to interview Ms. Kadeer on the eve of the Nobel Peace Prize nomination, or wanting to find out more information about Ms. Kadeer. With the help of an outside consultant, UHRP staff prepared a "press packet" to be used in the event of Ms. Kadeer's being awarded the Prize, and coordinated logistical arrangements for a press conference and reception, as well as media liaising, in the event of a win. UHRP would like to thank Amnesty International, among others, for the assistance it generously offered to provide at this time. UHRP believes that the media attention garnered on the eve of the Nobel announcement was tremendously positive in terms of the effect it had on raising awareness about both Uyghur human rights in general and our organization in particular.
6 October 2006	Ms. Kadeer was interviewed by Yitzhak Shichor, a professor at the University of Haifa.
16 October 2006	On October 16, Ms. Kadeer, Mr. Seytoff and Ms. Reger attended a human rights reception at the Cannon House Office Building, honoring the work that Congressman Wolf has done on behalf of oppressed peoples throughout the world during his many years in office. The event brought together numerous nationalities and ethnicities, and offered an excellent networking and learning opportunity. Dancers from the Uyghur community also performed at the reception.
17 October 2006	Ms. Kadeer was interviewed by Fabio Cavallera of the Italian news agency Corriere della Sera, who traveled from Beijing to Washington to interview her. Mr. Cavallera is writing a book about Chinese people who give a picture of various aspects of life in China and who have impacted China greatly in different ways. In addition to Ms.

	<p>kadeer. the book is expected to feature Ms. Li Lifei, president of MTV China; Mr. Mo Shaopiug, human rights attorney; Mr. Liang Long, rock musician of the group Second 1 land Rose; Mr. Li Dan, an advocate for AIDS orphans, and others.</p>
<p>1⁰ October :XX></p>	<p>In early October, Ms. Kadeer and CHRP staff received a large number of visits and phone calls from journalists and human rights groups wanting to interview Ms. kadeer on the eve of the Nobel Peace Prize nomination, or wanting to find out more information about Ms. kadeer. With the help of an outside consultant, UIIRP staff prepared a “press packet” to be used in the event of Ms. kadeer's being awarded the Prize, and coordinated logistical arrangements for a press conference and reception, as well as media liaising, in the event of a win. UIIRP would like to thank Amnesty International, among others, for the assistance it generously offered to provide at this time. UIIRP believes that the media attention garnered on the eve of the Nobel announcement was tremendously positive in terms of the effect it had on raising awareness about both Uyghur human rights in general and our organization in particular.</p>
<p>19 October 2006</p>	<p>Ms. kadeer and Mr. Seytoff attended the annual Iftaar dinner at the State Department, at which time they were able to speak with Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs Karen Hughes, along with other State Department officials and members of the Muslim community.</p> <p>Also on October 19, UHRP received a visit from Mr. Ed Huffine, VP of Humanitarian Missions at Bode Technology, who talked about Uyghurs and human rights with Mr. Seytoff.</p>
<p>26-29 October 2006</p>	<p>WUC Executive Chairman Alim Seytoff and WUC General Secretary Dolkun Isa attended the VIII General Assembly of UNPO in Taipei, Taiwan. During the conference, Mr. Seytoff and Mr. Isa met with UNPO members and delegates from other countries and exchanged experience. Mr. Isa was elected as president of UNPO. Mr. Isa also talked to UNPO General Secretary Marino Busdachin regarding ULTP and decided to conduct it in The Hague.</p>
<p>27-29 October 2006</p>	<p>From October 27-29, Mr. Seytoff attended the Eighth General Assembly of the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO) in Taipei, Taiwan. At the meeting, UNPO members resolved to recommit themselves to the principles of freedom, justice, peace, non-violence and democracy. Mr. Seytoff represented the Uyghur American Association at the event, where he was able to connect with envoys of unrepresented peoples from throughout the world, including Tibetans and Taiwanese. At the conference, World Uyghur Congress Secretary General Mr. Dolkun Isa was elected to be one of the nine UNPO Presidency Members, replacing World Uyghur Congress Chief Advisor Erkin Alptekin.</p>
<p>In October 2006</p>	<p>In late October, Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Seytoff attended the Amnesty International 2006 Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference in Wilmington, Delaware. The theme of this regional conference was the celebration of “the power of ordinary people,</p>

	performing extraordinary acts of courage, to bring about positive social change,” As a former Amnesty International Prisoner of Conscience, Ms. Kadeer told Amnesty audiences about her story, the effect Amnesty had had on her case, and the current situation of Uyghur human rights.
28 October 2006	WUC Executive Chairman Alim Seytoff and General Secretary Dolkun Isa attended a reception given by the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs while attending the UNPO VIII General Assembly in Taipei. During the reception both Mr. Seytoff and Mr. Isa talked to Taiwanese officials regarding Uyghur, Taiwan and China issues.
30 October 2006	Dolkun Isa, WUC General Secretary, visited Japan and attended a hearing the following day in the Japanese Parliament regarding the human rights situation in East Turkestan. Mr. Isa briefed members of the Japanese Parliament on the history, current situation, economy, culture, religion, education and family planning of East Turkestan. Many members of Parliament, human rights activists and members of the media attended the hearing. Mr. Isa testified for 40 minutes and the Q&A session lasted for another 40 minutes. In the end, Mr. Wa Shio, chairman of the human rights committee in the Japanese Parliament said he was surprised to learn the severity of the human rights situation in East Turkestan and promised to pay more attention to it in the future.
30 October 2006	Mr. Dolkun Isa along with Chinese dissident Wei Jingsheng attended a press conference organized by one of Japan’s biggest publishers Bungei Shunju Ltd. Mr. Isa answered question regarding the situation in East Turkestan, Uyghur and Chinese democracy movements.
31 October 2006	Mr. Dolkun Isa was interviewed by, reporters from two major Japanese newspapers, Yoshiaki Kukuchi from Yomiuri Shibun and by Reiko Suzuki from Mainichi. This interview was published on November 9th and December 1st of 2006.
30 October to 5 November 2006	WUC General Secretary Dolkun Isa visited Japan, and met with members of the Japanese Parliament, members of human rights organizations, media, scholars and business people, and briefed them on the current human rights situation of the Uyghur people.
1 November 2006	Mr. Seytoff attended an NED briefing entitled “Democracy in the World.”
2 November 2006	Mr. Isa gave a lecture on East Turkestan at the Tokyo Foundation at the invitation of the Tokyo Foundation and the Japanese Business Association. During the lecture, Mr. Isa talked about the current Uyghur human rights situation, economy, culture, education, religion and the ecology as well as the global work of the WUC. More than 50 Japanese businessmen, professors and media people attended it. Mr. Isa’s lecture helped increase their understanding of the Uyghur issue.
2 November 2006	Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Seytoff met with Bhuchung Tsering of the International Campaign for Tibet, to discuss the impact of the new Tibet Party Secretary, Zhang Qingli. In his previous post as commander of the Xinjiang Production and

<p>2 November 2006</p>	<p>Construction Corps, /bang oversaw a period of severe repression against Uyghurs in East Turkistan, and he became known for a hard-line 'anti-splitist' position in public statements.</p> <p>Also on November 2, Ms. Reger delivered a presentation on Uyghurs and human rights in East Turkistan to the Washington Semester class at American University. CHRP believes that speaking with the diverse and talented students in the Washington Semester program affords us a great opportunity to increase awareness about the human rights situation in East Turkistan, and we hope to continue sending a UHRP staff member to speak with the new class each semester.</p> <p>Mr. Dolkun Isa attended a reception given by the Japanese Foreign Reporters Club and talked about the Uyghur issue.</p>
<p>19 November 2006</p>	<p>Mr. Seytoff represented UAA and UHRP at the 27th Annual ATAA Convention in Washington, D.C. During the convention, Mr. Seytoff delivered a PowerPoint presentation about the work of UHRP and UAA, as part of a panel entitled "ATAA, Turkic Groups and Strategic Allies in the US". ATAA is an organization bringing together Turkish-American Associations throughout the United States.</p>
<p>12 November 2006</p>	<p>WUC commemorated the recent death of Uyghur writer, singer, composer and human rights activist Koresh Sultan and remembered his great contribution in raising awareness of the Uyghur people's terrible suffering in Europe at the World House in Munich.</p>
<p>In November</p>	<p>In late November and early December, Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Seytoff traveled throughout Germany, during which time they attended the General Assembly Meeting of the World Uyghur Congress in Munich. This trip was not approved for NED funding, but UAA/UHRP still feels it is important to briefly mention certain accomplishments of the trip. Ms. Kadeer addressed two separate committees of the European Parliament about human rights and the lack of religious freedom for Uyghurs in East Turkistan. In addition, Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Seytoff met with many high-level European Parliament officials during their visit, and we hope that these contacts may prove fruitful for UAA/UHRP's continued outreach efforts.</p>
<p>13 November 2006</p>	<p>WUC spokesperson Dilshat Rishit was interviewed by China Times Journal and answered WUC and Uyghur related questions. The interview was published on November 16th by the Chinese journal.</p>
<p>14 November 2006</p>	<p>Mr. Dolkun Isa participated in a Japanese Cable TV program on the Japan Cultural Channel. Mr. Isa and Japanese scholar Naouko participated in this program as a guest of the president and founder of this TV station, Satoru, and answered questions related to Uyghurs. This 35-minute program was broadcast on November 14th.</p>
<p>In November 2006</p>	<p>The WUC published two booklets just before the WUC II Assembly in late November. The booklets were based on WUC press releases in both the Uyghur and English languages from the past two years. The WUC also issued press</p>

	releases soon alter the WUC II Assembly in Germany.
21-23 November 2006	Prior lo the WUC II General Assembly, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, WUC Executive Chairman Alim Seytoff and Accountant, Abdulkerim, went to Berlin and met with members of the German Parliament and officials from the German Foreign Ministry from November 21 to 23. During this trip, Ms. Kadeer met with Volker Beck, minority whip for the Green Party, and briefed him on the current human rights situation of the Uyghur people. Ms. Kadeer also met with German Foreign Ministry China Desk officials as well as staff of Amnesty International's Berlin branch.
24 November 2006	The WUC II General Assembly opening ceremony was held at the Eden Wolff Hotel in Munich. More than 300 guests attended the opening ceremony. Both Mr. Erkin Alptiken and Ms. Rebiya Kadeer made keynote speeches. In addition, UNPO General Secretary Marino Busdachin, HRWF director Pastor Steve, Ulrich Delius from the Society for Threatened Peoples, Professor Yitzhak Shichor from Haifa University and attorney Albrecht Goring made special presentations on the human rights, religious freedom, culture and refugee issues of Uyghurs. Many German and Turkish reporters came and reported on this ceremony.
24-27 November 2006	The WUC II Assembly was held in Munich. 59 Uyghur guests and WUC representatives from Germany, the U.S., the U.K., Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Norway, Holland, Belgium and Australia attended this assembly. ULTP Director, Dolkun Isa, played an important role in the coordination and preparation of the WUC II Assembly. More than 250 officials from the German government, Members of the German Parliament, foreign diplomats and human rights activists were invited to this assembly. WUC received more than 50 letters of congratulations from dignitaries such as German Chancellor Angela Merkel, different ministers from the federal government, top officials from the Bavarian government, members of the German Parliament and foreign embassies.
25-27 November 2006	59 WUC representatives from all over the world attended the WUC II General Assembly and discussed WUC bylaws, organization, finance, activities, and elected a new WUC leadership. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, prominent Uyghur human rights advocate, was elected as the WUC's new president. Uyghurs and friends of Uyghurs all over the world welcomed her election.
27 November 2006	After the WUC II General Assembly, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, in her capacity as WUC President, with a WUC delegation met with different government and party officials in Munich. Ms. Kadeer met with Ms. Franz Maget, the head of the Social Democratic Party in Bavaria, with Hep Mauatzeder, Vice-mayor of Munich City as well as Ms. Margarita Bause, head of the Green Party in Bavaria and briefed them on the human rights situation of the Uyghur people and thanked them for their support.
28-30 November 2006	After the successful completion of the WUC 11 General Assembly, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, along with WUC Vice-president, Esker Can, and WUC Executive Chairman, Alim Seytoff, visited the European Parliament in Brussels from November 28 to 30. The WUC delegation led by Ms. Kadeer met with Edward Mc- Milan Scott, Vice-president of European Parliament, the chairwoman of the Central

	Asia Division, the political advisor to the President of Kuropean Parliament on Asian Affairs. Peter Costello, the President of Transnational Radical Parly, Marco Pannella. and other MPs. Ms. Kadeer also testified at the "Religious freedom in China" hearing and briefed the MPs on China's religious persecution of the Uygluir people. Ms. Kadeer. Mr. Can and Mr. SeytotT also testified at the European Parliament Human Rights Hearing. Ms. Kadeer gave a general overview of the human rights situation of the Uyghur people while Mr. Can specifically pointed out China's frequent execution of Uyghur political and religious prisoners for their peaceful opposition. Mr. SeytotT urged the European Parliament not to lift the arms embargo imposed upon China after the Tiananmen Massacre, which took place on June 4th, 1989.
o December 2006	On December 6. Mr. Se\ toff mot with State Department Foreign Affairs Officer Emilie Kao to discuss the lack of religious freedom for Uyghurs in East Turkistan.
In December 2006	In December. CHRP staff contacted Canadian director Petr Loin regarding his film "On a Tightrope", which was screened in January at the Sundance Film Festival. The film tracks Uyghur orphans in East Turkistan who are learning to navigate both literally w alking on a tightrope and walking the tightrope of balancing loyalty to their religion and culture w ith obedience to the anti-religious Chinese state. Mr. Lorn has since provided UHRP with a 10 minute-long film that includes far more direct testimony about policy on religion in East Turkistan. The short film, which is not to be publicly shown, is to be used as a human rights advocacy tool. UHRP has thus far shared the film with staff at the US Committee on International Religious Freedom.
6-7 December 2006	The "Liberalism and Democracy Conference," organized by the Transnational Radical Party, was held in the European Parliament (EP). Nearly 300 people including members of the EP, officials from different E.U. member countries, human rights activists and individuals from NGOs attended it. As one of the invited speakers, Mr. Isa briefed the Uyghur people's struggle for democracy and human rights. During the conference, he was also able to separately meet with EP Vice- president, Edward Mc-Milan Scott, EP Foreign Affairs Chairwoman, Benita Ferrero-Waldner, Chairman of the EP Liberal and Democratic Party Alliance, Graham Watson, Transnational Radical Party Chairman (TRP), Marco Pannella, and President of NED, Carl Gershman, and brief them on the Uyghur issue.
7 December 2006	WUC General Secretary Dolkun Isa met with Willy Fautre, director of HRWF, in Brussels and talked about cooperation between the two organizations, about establishing a Uyghur organization in Belgium, and strengthening the lobbying efforts regarding the Uyghur issue in the European Parliament.
8 December 2006	The Toronto Sun published a huge article regarding Ms. Kadeer's trip to Canada and what she was hoping to achieve upon the WUC delegation's arrival in Toronto. In the afternoon, when Ms. Kadeer was on her way to visit Hussein Celil's family, she was interviewed by the Globe and Mail reporter Omar el Akkad regarding the trip and her goals as well as Mr. Celil, who is under Chinese custody. The Globe and Mail published the interview the following day as one of its main articles.

8-9 December 2006	The Transnational Radical Party held its Executive Committee meeting in the European Parliament. TRP members, EP members, different officials and Dolkun Isa, WIJC general secretary attended.
8-14 December 2006	WIJC President Rebiya Kadeer and Executive Chairman Alim Seytoff visited Canada and met with high-level Canadian officials, Canadian members of parliament, and human rights activist groups. Ms. Kadeer visited Canada in order to raise the awareness of the Uyghur people's human rights situation and raise the profile of the WUC with the Canadian government and win their sympathy and support for Uyghurs. WUC Vice-President Mohamed Tohti organized this successful trip.
10 December 2006	"The Turkish World Human Rights Conference" was held in the Turkish capital, Ankara. Turkic representatives from Kyrgyzstan, Cyprus, Azerbaijan, Iraq, Iran, Georgia, Dagestan, Bulgaria, Macedonia and Kosovo attended this conference. During the conference, the key discussion was about the human rights violations facing different Turkic groups around the world. Dr. Erkin Emet, WUC deputy general secretary, spoke on the human rights situation of Uyghurs in China.
9 December 2006	The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) interviewed Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and the program was broadcast the same evening. In the interview, Ms. Kadeer talked about the purpose of this trip and what she was hoping to achieve. CBC reporters followed the WUC delegation during their entire trip because it was doing a special program on WUC President, Rebiya Kadeer.
10 December 2006	To commemorate International Human Rights Day on December 10th, the WUC called on all member organizations again to peacefully protest in front of Chinese embassies or consulates around the world. As a result, Uyghurs in the U.S., Canada, Germany, Sweden, Holland, Norway, Turkey and Kazakhstan held peaceful demonstrations or issued statements urging the Chinese government to respect the human rights of the Uyghur people.
11 December 2006	A WUC delegation led by WUC President, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, met with high-level Canadian officials from the Canadian International Development Agency. They met with Jeff Nankivell, director of Asian affairs, along with other two officials and talked about potential Canadian support in establishing AIDS clinics in East Turkestan.
12 December 2006	Ms. Kadeer along with Hussein Celil's wife and AI Canada director, Alex Neve, spoke at a press conference in the Canadian Parliament. More than 12 TV crews and other reporters reported on it, some broadcasting it live. Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Celil's wife both urged the Canadian government to put more pressure on China to release Hussein. Alex urged the government to take urgent action.
12 December 2006	To commemorate the 21st anniversary of the Uyghur Student Protest in Urumchi on December 12th, 1985, WUC President Rebiya Kadeer called on all member organizations to hold commemorative activities of this most important Uyghur student democracy activity.
11 December	Amnesty International Ottawa branch director, Alex Neve, gave a reception in

<p>2006</p>	<p>Ms. Kadeer, the WUC delegation. Ms. Kadeer thanked Al for organizing such a wonderful reception and expressed her deep gratitude for M's efforts in raising the case of the Uyghurs around the world, and also for their collective efforts in getting her released from a Chinese prison.</p>
<p>12 December :000</p>	<p>The WUC delegation led by Ms. Kadeer met with Peter van Praagh, political advisor to the Canadian Foreign Minister, Peter McKay, and briefed him the human rights situation of the Uyghur people and thanked the Canadian government's strong stance on human rights. On the same day. Ms. Kadeer also met with directors of Human Rights and Asia Divisions at the Foreign Ministry.</p> <p>In the morning of December 12th. Ms. Kadeer testified before the Sub-committee on Human Rights in the Canadian Parliament on China's gross human rights violations against the Uyghur people and urged Canada to pressure China to stop such violations, and to release Canadian citizen Hussein Celil. Mr. Jason Kenny, Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister, Stephen Harper, chaired the hearing and expressed deep concern regarding the situation. Many members of the Canadian Parliament and from different parties attended this hearing and asked Ms. Kadeer on the proper approach Canada should take with regard to human rights in China. Mr. Seytoff interpreted during the entire hearing while Mr. Tohti urged Canada to take a stronger stance on China instead of only conducting quiet bilateral dialogue.</p> <p>After the hearing. Mr. Jason Kenny along with Executive Secretary to the Prime Minister, Obhrai. invited the WUC delegation to lunch at the Parliament. During the lunch. Ms. Kadeer urged both Mr. Kenney and Mr. Obhrai to urge to Prime Minister Harper to make the Uyghur issue one of Canada's foreign policy issues in dealings with China.</p> <p>In the afternoon. Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper received the WUC delegation in the Parliament. Ms. Kadeer especially thanked him for taking a strong stance on human rights and for urging Chinese President Hu Jintao to release Hussein Celil. Mr. Harper said he would continue to push for Mr. Celil's release until he came home. It was a cordial meeting, which ended with official photo-ops.</p> <p>In addition to these meetings, Ms. Kadeer met with high-level German officials in Berlin and senior EP officials in Brussels after the Second World Uyghur Congress, which was held at the end of November 2006.</p>
<p>8-13 December 2006</p>	<p>From December 8 to 13, Ms. Kadeer and UHRP Director Alim Seytoff traveled to Canada, where they spoke to government officials, lawmakers, members of the community and various human rights groups, including Amnesty International. On December 12, at the invitation of MP Jason Kenney (formerly parliamentary secretary to the prime minister and currently Secretary of State for Multiculturalism and Canadian Identity), Ms. Kadeer testified in front of a subcommittee of the Canadian Parliament, where she spoke at length about the human rights situation in East Turkistan, the case of Huseyin Celil and her own experience in China's prison system. She urged the Canadian government to pressure China for Mr. Celil's release. Ms. Kadeer's testimony may be viewed here:</p>

[http://cmlc.parl.ec.ca/cmlc/commit/coluhlicati»n.asi\)x?SourceId=188497](http://cmlc.parl.ec.ca/cmlc/commit/coluhlicati»n.asi)x?SourceId=188497)

	<p>Also on December 12, Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Seytoff were able to meet briefly with Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper. In addition, they met with a number of lawmakers that evening at a reception hosted by MP Kenney. During their trip, they also spoke at a rally in front of the Chinese Consulate-General in Toronto, updated Canadian officials on the AIDS situation in East Turkestan, and participated in a press conference in Toronto.</p>
16-17 December 2006	<p>The “Mahmud Kashgari and East Turkestan Conference” was held in Istanbul in order to commemorate the 1000th anniversary of the great 11th century Uyghur scholar Mahmud Kashgari’s birthday. During the conference, not only was Mahmud Kashgari remembered for his great contributions, but also the current human rights situation of the Uyghur people was discussed and briefed by Seyit Tumtiirk, WUC vice-president.</p>
17 December 2006	<p>WUC commemorated the 11th anniversary of the death of Isa Yusuf Alptiken and remembered his lifetime contribution to the freedom of the Uyghur people in Munich.</p>
19 December 2006	<p>Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Seytoff delivered a presentation on Uyghur human rights in East Turkistan to hundreds of staff members of the International Republican Institute at their Washington headquarters.</p> <p>Also on December 19, Mr. Seytoff appeared on the Issues and Opinions satellite TV program of the Chinese Branch of the Voice of America. On the program, Mr. Seytoff spoke at length about the situation of Uyghurs in East Turkistan. To view the program, please click here: http://uvehuramerican.org/articles/713/1_VOA-Satellite-TV-Interviews-Mr-Alim-Sevtoff-UAA-General-Secretary/voa.html.</p>
In December 2006	<p>During this reporting period, a number of well-respected news organizations cited UHRP in their published media reports, including the Associated Press and Radio Free Europe. Press releases and reports from other human rights organizations, such as Amnesty International and Rafto, also cited UHRP, including this Amnesty press release from December</p> <p>http://www.uYehurconeress.org/En/news.asn?ItemID=-1728183197&rcid=-768458094&Dcid=1110134820&cid=-768458094.</p> <p>A number of news organizations interviewed Ms. Kadeer and published reports around the time of the Nobel Prize announcement in October.</p>

January-December 2007

8 January 2007	The Chinese government had a press conference and declared that they had attacked "terrorist" bases in the Pamir mountains on January 5th and alleged that they killed 18 terrorists, and captured 17 wounded terrorists. The reaction from the international community to this incident was one of suspicion. The WUC also reacted strongly to this and released a statement immediately and urged the United Nations to investigate the truth about China's claim. http://www.uyghurcongress.org/pressrelease.asp?ID=1168368300
9 January 2007	Nur Bekri, the vice chair of the communist party for the XIIP attacked the WUC's leader, Rebiya Kadeer by expressing his opposition to her role as the Uyghurs' spiritual mother. To counter this accusation, Dolkun Isa, and spokesman, Dilshat Rishit, rebuked Nur Bekri.
10 January 2007	Rebiya Kadeer received a visit from the Chinese branch of VOA and answered their questions about Uyghurs and Eastern Turkestan. In this discussion, she described China's oppressive regime and its violation of human rights in Eastern Turkestan.
11 January 2007	January 11, 2007, the WUC had a meeting with Turkish organizations in Germany at the WUC's office. During the meeting, a range of things pertinent to Uyghur people was discussed. There are 2 million people of Turkish descent living in Germany, and they have founded several human rights organizations. Establishing relationships with them and obtaining their help is an important step to help spread to the German public the seriousness of human rights abuses against Uyghurs in China. http://www.uyghurcongress.org/uv/news.asp?ID=1168087929
13 January 2007	Mayor of Munich, Christian Ude, held a reception for immigrants at the city administrative building. More than 300 people attended the reception. The participants included city officials, parliament members and representatives of foreign organizations. On behalf of Uyghur immigrants, Asqarjan, the vice president, and Dolkun Isa, the General Secretary, participated in the reception. During the reception, they had a discussion with Mayor Christian Ude and other city officials. Asqarjan and Dolkun Isa gave speeches about the Uyghur people including the Uyghur immigrants issue in Germany.
11 January 2007	On the 11 th of January 2007, WUC vice president and Uyghur Canadian Association president, Memet Tohti, respectively met with the Canadian Prime Minister, Stephen Harper, Secretary of State, Jason Kenny, and the Prime Minister's chief Asian affairs advisor, Wajit Khan. During the meeting, on behalf of President Rebiya Kadeer, Memet Tohti thanked the prime minister for his reception of the WUC delegation on December 2006, as well as his concern for the safety of Hussein Celil. WUC representatives also requested the Prime Minister to reiterate his concern about the aforementioned issues through his Trade Minister who was visiting China at the time. Prime Minister Harper expressed his admiration and respect for president Rebiya Kadeer and wished her well.

	http://www.uvtihurc.com/news/ncw.s.asp?l=973338556
19 January 2007	The WUC sent a letter to Volker Beck, the General Secretary of the Green Party at the German Federal Parliament, and expressed the WUC's sincere gratitude for his raising Uyghur human rights issues at the German Parliament. Mr. Volker Beck had previously received Rebiya Kadeer at the German Federal Parliament on November 21, 2006, and on November 30, 2006, when he raised Uyghur human rights issues during the Parliamentary meeting and demanded the German foreign ministry do something so that China releases Rebiya Kadeer's children.
22 January 2007	Mr. Asqarjan and Mr. Dolkun Isa met with Margareta Bause, the chairwomen of Green Party at the Bavarian Parliament. During their meeting, WUC leaders gave a report to Margaret about the current situation of Eastern Turkestan, and on the Pamir incident. They also agreed to hold a joint press conference to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Ghulja massacre.
22 January 2007	On January 22, Mr. Dolkun Isa, the secretary general and the project director of the leadership-training program informed the worldwide Uyghur organization about the upcoming event. The purpose and the detail of the course were explained in detail and aspiring political activists were encouraged to attend. The individual applicants were asked to send their applications directly to the secretary of the WUC. http://www.uvahurconeress.org/News/News.asp?ID=1169486279&mid=2139923529
24 January 2007	WUC vice chair for the executive committee Abdul hakim Idris, and General Secretary, Dolkun Isa, went to Berlin and met with German member of parliament Omid Nouripour. They discussed the current situation of Eastern Turkestan, and other issues such as China's forced transfer of single Uyghur girls to China, China's renewed strike hard campaign directed at Uyghurs and the arrest of innocent Uyghurs. They asked the German government and parliament to put pressure on China and to do something for the release of political prisoners such as, Rebiya Kadeer's children, the historian Tohti Muzat, Abdugheni, and Hussein Eysa.
24 January 2007	Abdul hakim Idris, the vice chairman of the executive committee of the WUC and Dolkun Isa the general secretary went to Berlin to visit the Tibet Support Group. They met with Ms. Nadine who is the program director of this organization. They discussed how to strengthen the two organizations' relationship and agreed to carry out some activities to boycott 2008 Beijing Olympics.
31 January 2007	On January 31, as a result of president Rebiya Kadeer's perseverance and constant lobbying, the US senate Religious Freedom Committee held a hearing about the persecution of minorities in China. Officials from the Democracy, Human Rights and Labor department of the State Department attended the hearing. The participants heard witness statements from the imprisoned Canadian Uyghur Hussein Celil's wife, Ms. Kamile, and Bhuchung Serine, the chairman of the dissident Tibetan Organization about ethnic oppression in China. During the hearing Ms. Kamile introduced her husband's case in detail.
31 January 2007	The WUC and the Bavarian Green Party jointly held a press conference at the WUC's office to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Ghulja massacre. This press conference were attended by Asqarjan, Dolkun Isa and Bavarian Parliament Green

	<p>Party leader. Ms. M.ugmvta Pause, the international human rights organization Munich branch leader, JUrgen Ihirak, and some Tibetan organization leaders. Upon in\ itation. lots of German media also attended. <a href="http://www.UNeluneoimress.orii/Uv/ne\vs.aso?ltemin=11702519<>8&mid-21;S>">http://www.UNeluneoimress.orii/Uv/ne\vs.aso?ltemin=11702519<>8&mid-21;S>)</p>
<p>1 February 2007</p>	<p>Mr. Dolkun Isa met with Mr. Istvan Szent-lvanyi who is a member of the European Parliament and the leader of the Huropean 1 iberall Democratic Party. Isa thanked him for his letter to the European Parliament rebuking Mr. Nirj Dewa the chairman of the European-Sino friendship committee who accused the WUC and Ms. Rebiya Kadeer on January 23. Isa also updated him about the Uyglnr's current human rights issues. Mr. Nirj Dewa the chairman of the European-Sino friendship committee met w ith China's representative to the European Union on January 22nd and sent a letter to the European Parliament urging them not to support the WUC and its leader Rebiya Kadeer. In his letter to Nirj Dewa, Mr. Istvan Szent-lvanyi reminded the European parliament of China's oppression of Uyghur freedom and human rights since 1949. and he cited the documents prepared by international human rights organizations. He asked the European parliament to respect the truth and to not be decei\ed by China's false propaganda. http://www.unpo.org/artiele.ohD?id=6213</p>
<p>In February 2007</p>	<p>UHRP issued one press release in the February'-March period, entitled "Uyghur political prisoner executed in Urumchi" http://uhrp.org/articles/422/1/Uyghur-political-prisoner-executed-in-Urumchi/index.html. UHRP learned that Uyghur political prisoner Ismail Seined was executed on the morning of February 8 in Urumchi. Semed. who was 37 years old at the time of his execution, was sentenced to death in October 2005 on charges of "attempting to split the motherland" and other charges related to the alleged possession of firearms and explosives. He was known to have been politically active in support of Uyghurs' human rights. Upon learning of his imminent execution, UHRP staff members acted to urgently inform US Embassy officials and human rights activists, in an attempt to somehow influence the situation, but these efforts were unfortunately not successful.</p>
<p>1 February 2007</p>	<p>Amnesty International featured a multi-media account of the Ghulja Massacre on its homepage, including a picture and audio interview of Ms. Kadeer, who recounted her experiences during the tragic days after the massacre. This interview was translated by Mr. Seytoff.</p> <p>Also on 1 February, Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Seytoff met with Susan O'Sullivan and Emilie Kao at the State Department to discuss the transfer of Uyghur girls and the religious persecution of Uyghurs, as well as the situation of Ms. Kadeer's sons Alim and Ablikim. Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Seytoff also met with Susan O'Sullivan and other China Desk staff members at the State Department on February 15 to discuss various Uyghur human rights issues.</p> <p>Also in early February, Mr. Seytoff, Mr. Kanat and Mindy Larimore, along with Kamila Telendibaeva, the wife of Huseyin Celil, met with Tina Ramirez of</p>

	Congressman Trent Frank's office, to talk about Uyghur political prisoners Alim and Ablikim and Mr. Celil.
3 February 2007	A Kyodo News reporter interviewed Ms. Kadeer at her house with the help of Mr. Scytovff.
6 February 2007	Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Seytoff met with Zia Haider, legislative assistant to Senator Christopher Dodd, to discuss various Uyghur human rights issues.
5 February 2007	Asqarjan attended a conference organized by the U.S. consulate in Munich. The title of the conference was "the opinion of the Islamic world and Muslims on the West and their difficulties in adapting to the Western World." At this meeting Asqarjan described the life of the Uyghur nation after "the September 11th tragedy", and asserted that China was using this tragedy as an excuse to eliminate Uyghurs. At the end of his speech, s he appealed to Western governments to pay attention to China's behavior.
5 February 2007	Mr. Asqarjan attended to the opening ceremony of German-Turkish cultural week held in the Bavarian parliament. During his meeting with Franz Maget, the leader of the Social Democratic Party, and Turkish ambassador to Germany, Abdurrahman Bilgic, and other parliamentarian members, Asqarjan gave a speech about the current precarious situation of the Uyghurs.
5 February 2007	Under the leadership of the WUC, Uyghurs around the world commemorated the 10th anniversary of the Ghulja massacre, attracting the attention of the global media. On February 6th, a WUC spokesman gave telephone interviews to several international media organizations, and he released a press statement on behalf of the WUC. On February 6th, Dilshat Rishit gave a joint telephone interview for VOA, Radio Free Europe, Free Tibet Radio and the Taiwan Central News Agency. He answered all of their questions about the Ghulja massacre and Uyghur issues in general.
5 February 2007	<p>February 5, 2007 was the 10th anniversary of the Ghulja massacre. On the 5th of the February 1997, a peaceful march by Uyghurs in Ghulja city, East Turkestan (ET), demanding respect for human rights and equality was ruthlessly suppressed by the Chinese regime. As a result, hundreds were massacred and thousands more were imprisoned. This is a tragic event in recent Uyghur history. In order to consecrate the martyrs of the massacre and draw the attention of the world to the Uyghur plight, the WUC called on Uyghur communities worldwide to commemorate the event. With the WUC taking the lead, the international Uyghur dissident organizations showed solidarity and responded to the call without hesitation. They marched in the streets of major western cities in protest.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Munich, Germany</p> <p>Under the direct leadership of the WUC, a large-scale public protest was staged in Munich, Germany on the February 3. The demonstration started at Sendlinger Square and marched across the heart of the city for 5km, before reaching Odeons Square. The municipal government facilitated the protest by closing the traffic along the main march routes. The WUC leadership attended the protest and</p>

addressed the congress. They condemned the Chinese regime publicly for the bloodshed. The main speakers were Mr. Asqarjun, the vice chairman of WUC, Secretary General Ivlkun Isa, MI' Margarela Manse, the international human rights group representative in Munich, I lemma Sltinul, aiul the head of the Havana Refugee Committee. The participants accused the Chinese communist regime of oppression and inhuman treatment of Uyghurs in IT and exposed the racist and hegemonic discriminatory nationality policy of the Chinese state. Through factual evidence, the speakers revealed institutional bigoted Chinese chauvinism and its contempt for other ethnic cultures and traditions. In recent years, the regime intensified its overt policy of assimilation, marginalization and acculturation of the ethnic Uyghurs and other non-Man communities in the region. The speakers also emphasized the gravity of human rights violation in IT. The protest attracted a significant following among the German public and the Turkish communities in the country with over 2000 people attending the gathering. The whole event was meticulously planned and effectively executed. During the two months preparation phase, six meetings were held between the WUC and relevant NGOs. Over 5000 pamphlets were distributed and around 500 posters, 150 LT Hags and 100 placards were prepared for the purpose.
www.uyghurcongress.org/uv/news.asp?ItemID=170522266&mid=-2139923529.

Turkey

The WUC and ET Youth Organization (ETYO) jointly organized similar protests in Turkey. At a conference in Istanbul on February 3, the Ghulja massacre was commemorated and on the 4th, the ETYO and the East Turkestan Culture and Cooperation Society (ETCCS) jointly organized a protest in front of the Chinese consulate in Istanbul. The next day, a similar protest was staged in front of the Chinese embassy in Ankara, lead by Sevit Tiimturk, the vice chairman of the WUC. The Uyghur communities from Ankara and Kayseri, the Turkish public, and members of the Turkish Civil Servant Association, one of the largest civil institutions in the country, attended the gathering.

<http://www.uyghurcongress.org/uv/news.asp?ItemID=1790710458&mid=-2139923529>

Paris, France

Despite its small size, the Uyghur community in France also joined the worldwide anti-Chinese protests. A small number of protestors marched on the streets and shouted slogans in front of the Chinese embassy in Paris. The organizer of the event, Mr. Erkin addressed the congregation and condemned the Chinese authorities for the Ghulja bloodshed and demanded a halt to the Chinese brutality in ET. Pro-democracy Chinese dissidents, Falun Gong practitioners, Turkish sympathizers, and the French media attended the meeting.
<http://www.uyghurcongress.org/uv/news.asp?ItemID=1179076247&mid=-2139923529>

Sydney Australia

On February 2, in Sydney Australia, the Uyghur community marched in support of the worldwide Uyghur demonstrations against Chinese oppression. Hussein

Ilessen, (the chairman of Uyghur Australia Association and WUC representative in Australia, organized the Australian march. In order to attend the event, significant numbers travelled 1500km from Adelaide to Sydney on the day. Including prodemocracy Chinese dissident groups, local sympathizers, and friends of the Uyghur people. Over 150 people attended the meeting.

<http://www.uvuzhurconurcss.org/K/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=179076247&mid=-2139923529>

Brussels, Belgium

The WUC organized a similar protest in Brussels on February 2. Mr. Willy, the chairman of Human Rights Without Borders, personally attended the protest in support of the Uyghur cause.

<http://www.uvuhurconuress.org/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=179076247&mid=-2139923529>

Oslo, Norway

The Uyghur Norwegian Committee, in response to the WUC call, staged a large-scale public protest in the capital Oslo, on the same day. The Uyghur community and the Norwegian media attended the three hours protest.

<http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=1790591301&mid=-2139923529>

Washington DC, USA

Under the direct leadership of President Rebiya Kadeer and UAA, the Uyghur communities in the United States organized a similar demonstration in Washington DC on February 5. President Rebiya Kadeer addressed the crowd and introduced the background to the Ghulja massacre. She appealed to the American public to support the Uyghur cause and pressurize the Chinese regime to stop its human rights violations in ET. Pro-democracy dissident Chinese organizations and Falun Gong practitioners also attended the protest.

<http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=1170760253&mid=-2139923529>

Toronto, Canada

The vice president of the WUC and the chairman of the Uyghur Canadian Association, Memet Tohti, organized a protest in front of the Chinese consulate in Toronto, Canada, on the same day. Uyghur communities from Montreal and Hamilton travelled to Toronto for the demonstration. Amnesty International and other human rights organizations also joined the protest. <http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=326243514&mid=-2139923529>

Vancouver, Canada

On the February 5, the Uyghur community in Vancouver voiced their support by organizing their first ever large-scale anti-Chinese protest. Exiled Tibetans, sympathizers, and friends of the Uyghurs also joined the small crowd of over 30

	<p>prvMestors. ;o">http: w w w ,u\ ghuiwngivss.orti U\ news.asiV.'ltmlO 11 70706321&mitl - 21 ;oo; ;> ;o</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Hague, Netherlands</p> <p>On the Februarx 5, over 300 people attended a protest in Hie Hague, Holland. File Youth Committee of the VVUC and the Netherlands Fast Turkestan Foundation organized this protest. The Uyghur and Turkish communities in Holland and the human rights organizations attended the gathering 33&mid=-2139923529">http: www.uvohureoniiress.ora. Uv news.asp 'ltendO -d 170762(>33&mid=-2139923529</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Kazakhstan</p> <p>Conditioned by the legal restrictions with regard to public demonstrations, the Uyghurs in the central Asian republics of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan commemorated the Ghulja massacre within the limits of the local laws. On February 5. the vice president of the WUC, Kakhraman Khojamberdi, and the president of the Kazakhstan Uyghur Youth Unity. Abdurcshit Turdiyof, jointly presided ower a meeting dedicated to the commemoration of the Ghulja massacre. The event took place in Yultuz Cafe in Almaty Kazakhstan.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Kyrgyzstan</p> <p>The chief Auditor of the WUC and the chairman of the Kyrgyzstan Uyghur Association organized a commemoration of the Ghulja massacre. The event was consecrated by offering a public feast (Nazir) for the soul of the perished. In the gathering, the participants condemned the inhuman treatment of the Uyghurs in ET by the Chinese government.</p>
<p>8 February 2007</p>	<p>China executed a Uyghur political activist named Ismail Semet. On October 31, 2005, Urumchi intermediate court sentenced him to death on charges of splitting the country. China's execution of Uyghur political prisoners caused the anger of the entire Uyghur community and of international organizations. The WUC denied Ismail Semet's crime and asserted that he was innocent; he just advocated human rights for his people peacefully.</p>
<p>8 February 2007</p>	<p>Ms. Kadeer was interviewed, with the help of Mr. Seytoff, by Brice Pedroletti from Le Monde, a prominent French magazine.</p>
<p>9 February 2007</p>	<p>Asqarjan, Abdul Hakim Idris and Dolkun Isa met with visiting former Turkish deputy prime minister, and Turkish opposition party - republican people's party chairman, Deniz Baykal, and former ambassador, Elchi Onur Oymen, as well as with German parliament member, Prof. Hakki Keskin. They gave the visiting delegation a special report on Eastern Turkestan and complained to them about the Turkish denial of a visitor visa to Rebiya Kadeer. Turkish officials expressed that they would pay close attention to this issue.</p>
<p>12 February</p>	<p>The WUC, the International Campaign for Tibet, UNPO, Human Rights In China</p>

Activities Report of the WUC (Jiiniary-Deccmher 2007)

2007	(IHKIC), and Minorily Rights Group International had a joint teleconference. I hey discussed the preparatory work for the panel meeting to be held at the United Nation's human rights commission meeting. Attendees from the above organizations included Jan Willem, Stewart Watters, Elisabeth Wiekerei, Carol Wang, Tscring Jampa, Tcn/in Norgay, Ngawang Drakmargyapon, and Dolkun Isa.
12 February 2007	A prestigious newspaper in Japan, the Asahi Shim Bun published an article in their February 21 edition titled “Uyghurs are seeking freedom from China's iron hand”. This article introduced the WUC and General Secretary Dolkun Isa. The author analyzed the Uyghurs' current human rights situation, and their desire for democracy and human rights.
13 February 2007	Xinjiang news net, reported that 167 Uyghur girls from Pichan County in Turpan prefecture were sent to Hayyan county of Zhejiang province to work in a textile factory. China’s forceful transfer of young educated Uyghur girls from Eastern Turkestan to China in the name of employment has caused great concern among Uyghurs inside and outside of East Turkestan. Vice President, Memet Tohti, Dolkun Isa, and women's affairs director, Aygul Yusup, and cultural centre director, Dr. Kahar Barat, were interviewed by Radio Free Asia and expressed their opinion. They all agreed that China’s real motivation is to carry out demographic genocide against the Uyghurs, and that the political strategy was decorated with so- called employment.
15 February 2007	<p>UHRP issued one press release in the entitled “Uyghur political prisoner executed in Urumchi” http://uhrp.org/articles/422/1/Uvehur-Dolitical-Drisoner-executed-in-Urumchi7index.htm!</p> <p>UHRP learned that Uyghur political prisoner Ismail Semed was executed on the morning of February 8 in Urumchi. Semed, who was 37 years old at the time of his execution, was sentenced to death in October 2005 on charges of “attempting to split the motherland” and other charges related to the alleged possession of firearms and explosives. He was known to have been politically active in support of Uyghurs’ human rights. Upon learning of his imminent execution, UHRP staff members acted to urgently inform US Embassy officials and human rights activists, in an attempt to somehow influence the situation, but these efforts were unfortunately not successful.</p> <p>On February 15, using information provided by UHRP, Amnesty International issued an Urgent Action regarding the execution of Ismail Semed.</p>
16 February 2007	Mr. Dyrlydaev met with Elizabeth Dugan at the International Republican Institute, to talk about the situation of human rights and Uyghurs in Kyrgyzstan. The meeting was arranged by Mr. Seytoff.
20 February 2007	On February 20, Vaclav Havel, the former president of the Czech Republic, met 8 international human rights activists at the US senate library. They discussed and exchanged views about democracy and freedom. During the talk, Mr. Havel drew extensively on his anti-communist experience and encouraged the participants to follow his example in their fight against authoritarianism. Mr. Havel called, with

	<p>ev.w; .ind .ulrnu.mon. the S participants as the most active Irmiom fighters <" the world. Ni l) chairman, Carl Gcrshman introduced and invited Ms. Kebiva kadeer to the stage and called her a tighter for and defender of Uyghur rights. Ms. Kebiyn kadeer's speech was received with warmly, and Mr. Havel stood up and congratulated her in person after the talk.</p>
20 February 2007	<p>Ms. kadeer was featured at an event held at the l ibrary of Congress that honored former Czech President Vaclav Havel and also featured seven other dissidents and activists from around the world. At the event, entitled "Dissidents and the l ight for Freedom", speakers talked about the struggle for human rights in Belarus, Burma, China, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, and Russia. President Havel and the eight dissidents who spoke at this event were featured in a blurb in NED's Democracy journal, published on March 21.</p>
24 February 2007	<p>Asqarjan attended a conference on "The internal security of Germany and immigrants", l he internal affairs minister of Bav aria, Mr. Gunter Beckstcin, gave a speech on the internal security of Germany. At this meeting Asqarjan said that the Chinese Embassy was causing trouble for the WUC and other friendly organizations by monitoring their e-mails and harassing them. He demanded the internal affairs ministry take necessary actions against China's interference.</p>
26 February 2007	<p>Ms. kadeer and Mr. Seytoff met with Mark Mittelhauser and Michael Orona at the State Depanmem to talk about the transfer of young Uyghur women to work in eastern China.</p> <p>In mid-Febmary. Ms. Kadeer, Mr. Sevtoff and Mr. Ramazan Dyrlydaev, chairman of the Kyrgyz Committee for Human Rights, met with Deputy Assistant Secretary Evan Feigenbaum at the State Department, where they discussed the situation of Uyghur refugees and human rights for Uyghurs in Central Asia.</p>
27 February 2007	<p>Ms. Kadeer was interviewed, with the help of Mr. Seytoff, by Remi Castets, a student writing a doctoral thesis on the situation of Uyghurs. Mr. Castets studies at the Centre for Research in International Relations/Institute of Political Studies in Paris.</p>
28 February 2007	<p>Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Seytoff met with Molly Miller, legislative aide to Congressman Frank Wolf, to discuss the health of Ms. Kadeer's son, Ablikim, in detention.</p>
1 March 2007	<p>Ms. Kadeer, Mr. Seytoff, Omer Kanat and Amy held a teleconference with Dr. Martin Wayne, China Security Fellow at the National Defense University's Institute for National Strategic Studies. The teleconference featured a discussion of Dr. Wayne's forthcoming book "Understanding China's War on Terrorism", and UHRP staff expressed the hope that the book would include discussion of China's human rights abuses against Uyghurs.</p>

Activities Report of the WUC (January-December 2007)

2 March 2007	Ms. Kadeer, Mr. Scyloff and Mr. Kanat attended a meeting organized by President Lome Craner and Vice President Id i/abet It Dugan at the International Republican Institute in support of Uyghur human rights.
3 March 2007	Starting from March 3, 2007, under the patronage of the WUC, the Uyghur Sweden Committee introduced a youth training program for Uyghur children. The program was designed to promote awareness of Uyghur culture and traditions among young Uyghurs. It will teach Uyghur language, culture, traditions and history.
3 March 2008	A WUC delegation visited the Turkish Economic and Social Research Centre. Vice secretary of the centre, Prof. Arif Ersoy, kindly received and patiently listened to their briefing about the Uyghur problem and expressed concern about the persecution of the Uyghurs by the Chinese state.
6 March 2007	<p>The Chinese representative to the European Union sent a letter to members of the European Parliament accusing the WUC and its leaders with terrorism. To counter this accusation, WUC immediately contacted with international organizations and requested them rebuke China's accusation. As a result, China met with strong protests from international organizations. March 20, 2007, 8 international organizations, including UNPO, Society for Threatened Peoples, Human Rights in China, No Peace Without Justice, The Rafto Foundation, Non-violent Radical Party, Human Rights House Foundation, and UNITED for Intercultural Action jointly denounced China's accusations.</p> <p>http://www.uvEhurconeress.com/En/news.asp?ItemID-2086483818</p>
6 February 2007	<p>UHRP was contacted by a credible source regarding the imprisonment of three Uyghurs in Kyrgyzstan - Tohtiniyaz, Ablimit and Ali Masum. According to UHRP's source, the Kyrgyz authorities had decided to pardon these three Uyghurs. but one of the terms of the pardon was that they would be sent back to their country of citizenship - China. These three Uyghurs were imprisoned in Kyrgyzstan on political charges. Therefore, they are likely to face arrest, torture and even execution by the Chinese government once they are handed over to China. UHRP learned additional information about these Uyghurs in Kyrgyzstan in April. Mr. Seytoff translated the information received about the Uyghurs in Kyrgyzstan.</p> <p>UHRP shared information about all of the above individual cases with various human rights activists, State Department officials, US Embassy staff, UNHCR officials, journalists and others as it was obtained.</p>
7 March 2007	<p>On March 7, Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Seytoff attended the Annual Dinner of the American Enterprise Institute, where they met a number of respected Asia and China scholars.</p> <p>Also on March 7, Mr. Seytoff and Amy met with Rana Siu Imboden and Tyler Stilley at the National Democratic Institute, and discussed issues such as the trafficking of Uyghur women and strategies UHRP can use to raise its profile and gain support for its work.</p>

8 March 2007	UHRP learned in February that Ablikim had been tried in secret on January 22. that he was in poor physical condition, and that he had been tried on charges of secessionism. At that point, no one knew what Ablikim's sentence would be, although we now know that he was sentenced to nine years in prison on April 17. On March 8, using information provided by UHRP, Amnesty International issued an urgent action regarding Ablikim's secret trial and ill health.
8 March 2007	In order to expose the inhuman treatment of Uyghur women and children by the Chinese authorities under the pretext of birth control, the East Turkistan Cultural Cooperation Society established a Women's Committee in that respect. The committee held a press conference in Turkey on the March 8 on International Women's Day and condemned the Chinese persecution and genocide of Uyghur mothers and children under the guise of family planning policy. The Committee appealed to the Turkish public to support the Uyghur cause and to pressure the Chinese to stop violating the basic human rights of the Uyghur people.
9 March 2007	The Uyghur Sweden Committee celebrated March 8, International Women's Day. Abdushukur read a message from WUC president Rabiya Kadeer and passed on her regards to the participants on this auspicious occasion.
10 March 2007	On March 10, the Tibet Vancouver Society organized a peaceful protest in front of the Chinese consulate in Vancouver, and over 300 people from all walks of life attended the event. On behalf of the Uyghur community, the WUC representative Omerjan addressed the gathering on the ET problem. In his speech, Omerjan pointed out that the Tibetans and the Uyghurs were suffering the same fate under the Chinese colonizers. He called for greater cooperation and unity in the future between these two peoples against a common enemy. http://www.uv2hurconaness.org/Uv/news.asD?ItemID=-1173579508&mid=-2139923529
10 March 2007	In order to commemorate the 48th anniversary of the 1959 Tibetan uprising, the WUC joined demonstration activities held in Berlin and Munich led by the "Tibet Support Group". During the demonstration, Mr. Asqarjan, the Vice President of WUC, made a speech on behalf of the WUC. He harshly denounced China's human rights violations in Eastern Turkistan. Uyghur participants distributed more than 500 propaganda leaflets prepared by the WUC. http://www.uvehurconeress.com/Uv/news.asD?ItemID=1173696665&mid=-2139923529
11 March 2007	Envisioning the future demand for the leadership for the Uyghur cause, the WUC originally scheduled to run a week long Democracy and Human Rights Leadership Training for Uyghurs, commencing on the March 11. It was a joint project between the WUC and the LTNPO and it was suggested that it take place in The Hague, Holland. However, due to some unexpected last minute changes to the schedule, the commencement date was postponed until May 6, 2007. Some parts of the training are expected to be taught at the European Parliament building and the course will last until May 11.
11 March 2007	The final announcement regarding the upcoming leadership-training course was posted on March 11. The WUC reiterated the importance of the training and

	<p>emphasized the need to elevate the quality of the Uyghur national movement leadership to the international level in accordance with the requirements and practices of international laws and regulations.</p> <p>http://www.uvuhirconuress.onf/Uv/news.asD7ltemlO=I939472354&mid--1207551763</p>
13 March 2007	<p>On March 13, the Turkish opposition party chairman, Mr. Muhsin Yazicioghli, visited the F.T Cultural-Cooperation Society in Kayseri. He was accompanied by the vice chairmen of the Great Unity Party of Turkey, Uzeyir Tunch, Okkesh Shemdinler, and Ilassan Hussein Bozok. The visitors expressed great concern about the FT issue.</p>
13 March 2007	<p>Ms. Kadeer, Mr. Seytoff and Amy attended a reception on Capitol Hill honoring the Congressional Human Rights Caucus Task Force on International Religious Freedom. The event, sponsored by the Center for Religious Freedom of the Hudson Institute, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and other nongovernmental organizations, highlighted the Task Force’s planned focus on Sudan in the 110th Congress. At the reception, Ms. Kadeer, Mr. Seytoff and Amy were able to make valuable connections with other groups and individuals working on human rights and religious freedom around the world.</p> <p>Also on March 13, Mr. Seytoff attended a hearing in Congress entitled “Tibet: Status of the Sino-Tibetan Dialogue”. The hearing was held by the House of Representative’s Committee on Foreign Affairs. Among those testifying at the hearing were Mr. Lodi Gyari, Special Envoy to His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and the actor Richard Gere.</p>
14 March 2007	<p>Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Seytoff met with Congressman Frank Wolf and talked with him about Ablikim’s case. Congressman Wolf said he would raise the case directly with Ambassador Clark Randt, and said he was pressuring the Chinese government to provide answers to the U.S. regarding Ablikim’s health.</p>
16 March 2007	<p>Ms. Kadeer, Omer Kanat, Mr. Seytoff and Amy had a lunch meeting with Dr. James Millward, a renowned Georgetown professor and expert on Uyghur issues, to talk about the situation of Uyghurs in East Turkestan and the culture of the Uyghur people. Dr. Millward recently released a new book, entitled “Eurasian Crossroads: A History of Xinjiang”, which UHRP plans to use as a reference material in its future research.</p> <p>Also on March 16, Ms. Kadeer, Rishat Abbas and Mr. Seytoff met with Susan O’Sullivan at the State Department to discuss the transfer of young Uyghur women to eastern China and the situation of Ablikim.</p>
18 March 2007	<p>On March 18, the WUC Youth Committee and the Netherlands East Turkestan Foundation jointly organized the celebration of the traditional Newruz festival, and alongside the Uyghurs the pageantry welcomed Tibetans, representatives of human rights groups, and other locals and friends of the Uyghur people. http://www.uvehurconiress.ore/Uv/news.asD?ltemID=1174496057</p>

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19 March 2007	Ms. Kadeer and her husband were interviewed by a reporter from the well-known German magazine 'Brigitte'.
20 March 2007	Ms. Kadeer and Mr. SeytoY met with Undersecretary of State Paula Dobriansky, with whom they discussed the cases of Huseyin Celil and Ms. Kadeer's sons, as well as other important Uyghur human rights issues.
20 March 2(XV	Ms Rebiya Kadeer on behalf of the WUC celebrated the Newruz. festival of the Uyghur people who live both inside and outside of I-'ast Turkestan. http: wvvvv.uvvihurcomiress.com Uv pressrelease, asp? 1 lent ID- 1 174414594
21 March 2007	On top of the aforementioned political activities, the WUC and its branches in different countries have also undertaken bridge building endeavors with foreign governments. At president Rebiya Kadeer's behest, vice president Seyit Tiimturk. and the auditor Hayrullah b.fendigiil. and the WUC youth committee representative Abdullah Tursun met with Turkish politicians on March 21. The WUC delegates called on Yashar Yaqish, the ex-foreign minister and the head of the European Affairs Commission, and the MP and the head of the Sino-Turkish Parliaments' Friendship and Unity Committee Salih Kapsuz, and the vice parliamentarian Sadiq Yaqt. During the meeting, the hosts were briefed about the Uyghur plight in ET and were updated on the recent achievements of the WUC in promoting the Uyghur cause in the west. A 65-page report to that effect was prepared and presented to the Turkish politicians and their attention was also drawn to the immigration and naturalization problems faced by the Uyghurs in Turkey.
21 March 2007	WUC delegations also met with Mustafa Aqyurek and Onur Oyrnen, the vice presidents of the Republican Peoples Party (RPP), the largest opposition party in Turkey. The vice president Mr. Oyrnen, also the vice head of Turkish-European Parliaments Unity, promised to bring the Uyghur issue to the attention of his colleagues in the Turkish and European parliaments.
21-24 March 2007	As a part of the worldwide celebration of the Noroz festival, The WUC Cultural Cooperation Committee in Turkey organized Newruz celebration activities. The Uyghur community in Ankara, Konya, Trabzon and Kayseri attended various festive activities in their respective cities. In the meantime, Uyghurs in the USA, Belgium, Switzerland and Norway also celebrated the annual cultural event during that period.
23-24 March 2007	Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and the International Uyghur Human Rights and Democracy Foundation jointly organized a two-day democracy and human rights awareness seminar for Uyghur women outside of ET in Washington, DC. The seminar aimed to enlist Uyghur women to the national cause and prepare them for future challenges. She asked them to voice the grievances of Uyghur women to worldwide communities. The seminar was supported and encouraged by NED. During the opening speech, NED East Asia director, Ms. Louisa Coan Greve, revealed the Chinese attempt to foil the project at the preparation stage. She said, as an NGO,

	<p>NED will continue to support and stand by the people fighting for democracy and human rights in the world.</p> <p>http://www.uvuhureonuress.org/t/Jv/hewerler/tensili/hcwcrler/2007/03/26/iuhrdfxitav/?simnlc-1</p>
23-24 April 2007	<p>From April 23 to 24, Mr. Dolkun Isa, General Secretary of the WUC, went to The Hague to prepare for the Uyghur Leadership Training Seminar with the UNPO, and to meet with Palma Aktas, Director of Selam network, Gerard Scargo, Director of Avurasya Foundation, and Vejis GCMgor, Chairman of Turkish Democratic Union in the Netherlands. During the meeting, he introduced the human rights situation of Uyghur people and the activities of the WUC to the audience. They were asked to support the seminar to be held in The Hague. At the seminar, their tremendous support and heartfelt passions made the activities of the seminar dynamic, diverse and productive.</p>
23-24 March 2007	<p>UIIRP staff participated in the women's workshop held March 23-24 at NED, organized by our sister organization, the International Uyghur Human Rights and Democracy Foundation (IUHRDF). Senior Consultant Ms. Kadeer, as the founder of IUHRDF, was of course one of the main organizers of and participants in the event. Mr. Seytoff delivered presentations on various topics at the event and helped translate for Ms. Kadeer. Amy helped in the preparation for and coordination of the event, and also delivered a speech on information-gathering techniques. As mentioned above, the workshop also provided UHRP staff with an opportunity to gather information about human rights cases and issues, and to make contacts with various workshop participants with whom we hope we will maintain contact in the future. UAA/UHRP hopes that the workshop helped raise awareness among the Uyghur community around the world about our organization and the work we do, and that we were able to successfully encourage people to contact us with any concerns or human rights-related information they may obtain in their home countries.</p>
24 March 2007	<p>The WUC leadership met with Turkish MPs Zekeriya Akcham and Mehmet Kilich, members of Justice and Progress Party. On behalf of the WUC, Seyit Tumtiirk, Hayrullah Efendigil, Abdullah Tursun, and Dr. Erkin Emet addressed the dignitaries about the Uyghur issue in general and the Uyghur problem in Turkey in particular.</p> <p>http://www.uvuhureonuress.org/2/Uv/news.asD7ItemID-1646400576</p>
24 March 2007	<p>The WUC and the East Turkestan Union in Europe alliance jointly held the "Newruz in Europe" activity in Munich. Uyghurs in and around Munich attended this activity. The Norwegian Uyghur committee, the Swedish Uyghur committee, the Netherlands East Turkestan committee supported this activity by sending artists. During the 4-hour art festival, Uyghur artists from Europe performed Uyghur songs and dances. The U.S. consulate in Munich, the Kazak consul in Belgium, and international organizations in Germany, as well as Turkish organizations attended this festival upon invitation.</p> <p>http://www.uvuhureonuress.com/UY/news.asp?ItemID=1174853246&mid=-2139923529</p>

26 March 2007	Ms. Ann coordinated a meeting between State Department China desk staff and Rabiye, the wife of Ikhlas Tunyaz. Rabiye had traveled from Tokyo to attend the women's workshop sponsored by the International Uyghur Human Rights and Democracy Foundation on March 23-24. Her husband, Ikhlas Tunyaz, who is currently serving an 11-year prison sentence in East Turkistan on charges of "stealing state secrets" and "engaging in separatist activities", was arrested and tried after returning to East Turkistan from Japan to do historical research in conjunction with his doctoral thesis for the University of Tokyo. During the meeting at the State Department, Rabiye shared important documents regarding her husband's case with the staff there, and UHRP was also able to obtain copies of these documents. Following the meeting at the State Department, Rabiye met with Mindy Larimore of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, at the UAA/UHRP offices.
In March 2007	Several journalists interviewed Ms. Kadeer and Mr. Seytoff. An article by Paulette Chu, who interviewed Ms. Kadeer, appeared in the March edition of the Far Eastern Economic Review: http://www.uhrp.org/articles/440/1/Taking-a-Stand-for-Chinese-Uyghurs/index.html
26 March 2007	WUC president Rebiya Kadeer and Dolkun Isa met with Jim Thomas, a representative of "human rights without borders" at the Excelsior Hotel in Geneva. They discussed human rights abuses in East Turkistan, as well as future cooperation between the two organizations.
26 March 2007	The WUC decided to raise the Uyghur human rights issue at the United Nations 4th session of Human Rights Council. According to this decision, Dolkun Isa, the general secretary contacted Tibetan organizations, Human Rights in China (HRIC), and Minority Rights Group International, and the Society for Threatened Peoples. Through two months of tireless work, they held a panel at the United Nations office in Geneva on "Minorities in China".
26 March 2007	On March 26, after visiting the UN and other relevant international institutions in Geneva, the WUC president Rebiya Kadeer, presided over a meeting with the WUC leadership. She objectively weighed the achievements and progress of the WUC after the II congress and proposed future action plans for the organization. In addition, the date and detailed mandate of the next executive meeting was decided.
26 March 2007	Ms. Rebiya Kadeer accepted a visit from French reporter Sylvie Lasserre in Geneva. During their 3-hour meeting, she answered all questions Ms. Sylvie asked about Eastern Turkistan, her family and her life experiences.
26 March 2007	A special session was dedicated to the human rights situation in China in the UN conference hall. The deliberation lasted for over two hours from 12:00 to 14:00. President Rebiya Kadeer was invited to make the inaugural speech in regard to the current general human rights situation in China and in ET in particular. That was followed by a talk from the Tibet representative, Miss. Tsering Jampa. Carol Wang represented the pro-democratic dissident Chinese organization. In her 30 minute long speech, drawing examples from her past experience, president Rebiya Kadeer

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	provided indisputable evidence of rights abuse in I T. At the end, she appealed with sincerity to the world community to join hands with the WUC and with 1 Tibetan organizations in condemning the violations of human rights by the Chinese state. Representatives of over 100 human rights organizations and foreign political parties attended the session.
26 March 2007	The German branch of Amnesty International held its Annual General Meeting in Munich, Germany. More than two hundred members of the German branch of Amnesty International from all around Germany attended the meeting. Ablikim Idris, Vice-chairman of the executive committee of the WUC, and Dolkun Isa attended the meeting. Dolkun Isa gave a speech at the meeting about the situation of Uyghur political asylum seekers in Central Asian countries. After the speech, there was a question and answer session dedicated to the Uyghur issue. http://www.uighurcongress.com/Uy/news.asp?ItemID=1180346500
26-29 March 2007	During the conference, president Rebiya Kadeer, vice president, Asqarjan, chairman and vice chairman of the executive committee, Alim Scytov, and Ablikim Idris, and general secretary Dolkun Isa formed a lobbying group, and promoted the Uyghur claim among the conference participants from March 26 to 29. The Switzerland trip was successful in terms of meeting the pre-set objectives of the WUC. As a part of conference agenda, the WUC delegation visited and briefed Swiss members of parliament, the public media and other relevant organizations about the Uyghur human rights issue. They also condemned and exposed the discriminatory socio-economic and political policies of communist China. This was a positive step forward in internationalizing the Uyghur cause on the world stage. http://www.uighurcongress.com/Uy/news.asp?ItemID=1175356828
27 March 2007	Under the leadership of Rebiya Kadeer, WUC members visited the most famous Swiss newspaper "New Zurich" newspaper, and she held a press conference at their offices. A well-regarded reporter for the New Zurich newspaper, Oswald Iten, interviewed Ms. Kadeer for more than 2 hours and she answered his questions about Eastern Turkestan and about her own experiences. -
27 March 2007	Responding to an invitation from the leadership of the Switzerland Society' for Threatened Peoples (GfbV), president Ms. Rebiya Kadeer arrived in Bern and met with Christophe Wieder, and Franciscka Stoker, from the aforementioned organization.
28 March 2007	WUC delegates revisited Zurich and met with MPs from Swiss parliament. The MP and the chairperson of 1000 Women for Peace, Ruth-Gaby Vermont, invited the WUC delegates and the president Rebiya Kadeer to a working lunch. During lunch, the two leaders exchanged opinions and views about global and national politics. Ms. Vermont expressed concern about Uyghur refugee problems and promised to raise the issue in upcoming parliament deliberations. Ms. Vermont spoke highly of the president Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and expressed delight at meeting her, thanked her for the detailed human rights report and for the list of the failed asylum applicants.
28 March 2007	After the meeting, the WUC delegates returned to Geneva and Ms. Rebiya Kadeer called on the UN Special Reporter on Religion, Ms. Jahangir, upon arrival. During their one hour-long meeting, Mrs. Rebiya briefed the host about the religious persecution in East Turkestan for the last 57 years and presented her with factual

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	evidence \rtor hearing the report, Ms. Jahangir expressed regret about the problem faced b> the Muslim community in China and informed the WUC about their organization's effort to engage the Chinese government in a dialogue on religious rights in China. She said her organization is preparing for a visit to China in the near future in order to obtain first hand information about the alleged violations and asked the \ UC to support her organ with new information in this regard.
March 2007	On March 29. the aforementioned WUC delegation visited influential political parties in the Turkish parliament. During the visit, they met with Mr. Nusret Kandemir, Saffet Arik Beduk. limit Arik and Emin Cmndu/'u, the vice presidents of True Path Party, and later called on the vice president of the Motherland Party, Mr. Mehmet keeeeler. They also met with Mr. T'aruk Unsal, a member of the Human Rights Committee of the Turkish parliament.
! April 2007	Organized by WUC Vice chairman and Uyghur Canadian Association president, Mamet Tohti. a protest "One Year Anniversary of Husain CeliPs imprisonment by the Chinese Government", took place in front of the Chinese Consulate in Toronto, http: ■ w ww .uv uluircongress.oriIT\nevvs.asp?ItemU)= 1 175510167
5 April 2007	In Baren village. East Turkestan, the Chinese government cracked down on peaceful protest by Uyghurs demanding greater democracy and freedom. Hundreds of females and children were killed in the crackdown. Memorial events commemorating the 17th anniversary of the Baren protest took place in many parts of Europe, including one in Stockholm on April 5. one in Munich on April 1, and the memorial event in Holland on April 8. httpD:/wvww.uviihurconiiress.ora/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=1 175522603 hUDI/Vw wvww.uv iihurcom>ress.ori>/JvVnews.asD?ItemID=1 176241005
8 April 2007	Under the leadership of Mr. Husain Hassan, the president of Australian Uyghur Association and representative of WUC in Australian, on April 8, 2007, a "Uyghur Youth Soccer Competition and Uyghur Cultural Night" took place in Sydney. The participants of the event included Uyghur soccer teams and fans from around Australia, some Australian parliament members, and some Sydney municipal government representatives, including Lori Fogison. The representatives spoke at the event on Uyghur culture and current Uyghur issues. The event served the guests with Uyghur cuisine and traditional Uyghur dances and songs. httpD:/Avwvv.uvt>hurconmess.ora/U\7news.asp?ItemID=I 176282609
10 April 2007	The WUC and Selcuk University in Turkey jointly organized a conference titled "East Turkestan: Past to Present", with the participation of thousands of students, teachers and NGO officials. During the meeting, Seyit Tumtiirk, Vice-president of the World Uyghur Congress gave a speech about the history of East Turkestan and the human rights conditions of the Uyghur people. After the conference, a delegation composed of members of the WUC headed by Seyit Tumtiirk met with the Mayor of Konya city in Turkey. At night, local TV stations interviewed Uyghur delegates, asking them some questions about the past and present of East Turkestan. httpD://www.uvEhurcom>ress.com/Uv/news.asD?ItemID=1 176722781
14 April 2007	A detailed list of guest speakers and lectures was finalized and a topic was confirmed. The WUC will have the final version of their paper by the April 14.

<p>17-18 April 2007</p>	<p>The secretary general of the WIJC, Dolkun Isa, and its spokesman, Dilshat Kishit, issued press releases on behalf of the WIJC on April 17 and 18 in order to protest the sentencing of Ablikim Abdurchim (son of Ms. Kebiya Kadeer) to 9 years in prison, and the sentencing of Canadian citizen Hussein Celil to a life prison term. The following sentences were especially emphasized in these statements: “We strongly denounce the unlawful and inhumane act of the Chinese Government. This is a revenge act against the political activities of Rebiya Kadeer abroad. We call on the international public, democratic countries and international human rights organizations to take necessary steps against unjust and unlawful acts of the Chinese government.” These press releases were picked up by the international media and these topics were covered by international news agencies including BBC, Deutsche Welle, Reuters and the Voice of America. http://www.voanews.com/chineseAv2007-04-20-voa18.cfm http://news.bbc.co.uk/chinese/simD/hi/newsid_6570000/newsid_6571200/657122 http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,2144,2446048,00.html http://www.uvkhurconEress.com/Uv/pressrelease.asD7ItemID=1177000487</p>
<p>20 April 2007</p>	<p>The vice president of the WUC, Asqarjan, and vice chairman of the executive committee, Ablikim Idris, met with the chairman of the Bavarian branch of the Green Party, Margareta Bause. In the meeting Asqarjan briefed Ms. Bause and other officials of Green Party about the current situation of the Uyghurs. http://www.uvehurconEress.com/Uv/news.asp7ItemID=1177229445</p>
<p>1 May 2007</p>	<p>Commemorating International Labor Day, the Swedish Uyghur Committee organized protest on the violation of rights and freedoms of Uyghur workers in East Turkestan.</p>
<p>4 May 2007</p>	<p>On May 4, 2007, the WUC organized a “Prize Awarding Ceremony” to the Uyghur children who graduated to middle school from elementary school with honors. WUC President, Rebiya Kadeer, handed Uyghur children prizes on the basis of their achievement, http://www.uveur.tv/</p>
<p>4-7-11 May 2007</p>	<p>WUC together with UNPO released three different press releases before, during and after the Uyghur Leadership Training seminar on May 4, 7, and 11. http://www.uvehurconeress.com/En/pressrelease.asp7ItemID=620114787 http://www.UYehurconeress.com/En/Dressrelease.asp7ItemID~1054200069 http://www.uvehurconeress.com/En/Dressrelease.asp7ItemID=-228604896</p>
<p>5-10 May 2007</p>	<p>During the Uyghur Leadership Training seminars, which took place between May 5 and 10, the leaders of the Uyghurs organizations from different parts of the world organized an event at the European Parliament on May 10. Members of the European Parliament, such as Mr. Jacques Lecarte, Mr. Michael Cashman, Mr. Istvan Szent-Ivanyi and representatives of international human rights organizations, including the chairman of Human Rights without Frontiers, Dr. Willy Fautre and Ms. Cindy Lane from Human Rights Watch also attended this event. They made several presentations to Uyghur leaders and answered questions from Uyghur leaders about several topics. <i>(More detailed information about this event is provided in a special section about the Uyghur Leadership Training Seminar).</i> http://www.uvehurconeress.com/Uv/news.asp7ItemID=233136040</p>

<p>0-11 N1a> :oo?</p>	<p>In order to successfully organize the Uyghur Leadership Training Project (111.TP), and to learn from the experience of the IINPO (Unrepresented Nations and People's Organization), the W orld Uy ghur Congress decided to cooperate with the U\PO. the seminar was scheduled for May 6-11. 2007 iit The Hague, the Netherlands, and was jointly prepared by both the WUC and the UNPO. In oriler to organize the seminar at an international le\ el and to familiarize participants of the seminar with the notion of democracy, international law and the structure of the United Nations and of the European Union, the W UC formed a close relationship with international human rights NGOs. university professors, scholars, political groups in the European Parliament and MEPs. Efforts were made to gain their support and active participation in the seminar. Some of them were invited as key note speakers at the seminar.</p>
<p>7-10 May 2007</p>	<p>The World Uyghur Congress (WUC) in collaboration with the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO) gathered more than 50 present and future leaders of the Uyghur community for a series of workshops and seminars (<i>Democracy and Human Rights Leadership Training Seminar Jar Uyghurs</i>) to introduce participants to the workings of key international bodies and effective non- \iolent campaigning.</p> <p>Leaders of the Uyghur community' gathered in The Hague to take part in an intensive program of lectures, discussions, workshops, educational visits, meetings at the European Parliament, and plenary sessions to prepare a concerted effort to raise international awareness of the reality of life within China's borders as an ethnic and religious minority. As China's economic weight increasingly encourages the international community to accept promises of "democratization" and "human rights protection", and with China preparing to present itself to the w orld during the 2008 Olympic Games, minority communities are working to remind the world that the People's Republic of China remains a state in which the death penally is applied more frequently than anywhere else, in which freedom of religion, speech, and assembly are substantially curtailed, and in which ethnic and religious minorities, exemplified by the Uyghurs, continue to suffer the systematic violation of social and political rights.</p> <p>In this context the event in The Hague, organized by the WUC and the UNPO and, funded by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), sought to ensure that the Uyghur community receives the knowledge and experience necessary not only to make efficient use of the international bodies that exist to ensure their rights, but also to build capacity in the field of human rights and democratization activities. Seminars and workshops held by experts and practitioners in their fields, covered topics ranging from "lobbying at the United Nations" to "effective use of human rights instruments" and "nonviolent organization and campaigning". This was supplemented by visits and introductions to the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the European Parliament. Workshops and interactive seminars stimulated active debate about how the Uyghur community might best direct its efforts to more effectively document, publicize, and pursue an end, through effective advocacy and campaigning, to the systematic and widespread human rights against the people of East Turkestan.</p> <p>Speakers at the event included Mr. Michael Cashman MEP, Mr. Istvan Szent-</p>

Ivanyi MEP, Dr. Ulrich Delius, Vice-Chairman of the Society for Threatened Peoples, Prof. Dr. Ciorg Ierks, Utrecht University, Ms. Louisa Coan Greve, Director, East Asia, National Endowment for Democracy, Mr. Larkin Alplekin, former President of the WUC, Prof. Yitzhak Shichor, University of Haifa, Mr. Marco Perduca, Nonviolent Radical Party, Ms. Alma Akta, Chairwoman of Selam Network, Dr. Larkin Lkrem, Citing Yun University in Taiwan, Mr. Vejis Gungbr, Turkish Democratic Union, Mr. Ken Kostyo, Global Democracy Resource, Mr. Joshua Cooper, University of Hawaii, Dr. Niccolo Ligatalamanca, Program Director, No Peace Without Justice, Ms. Isabella Nitschke, Human Rights in China, Ms. I ranz.iska Lckclmans, International Criminal Court and Mr. Marino Busdachin, General Secretary of the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO).

The event also greatly benefited from the active participation and contributions by Uyghur democracy leader, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, President of the WUC, who is herself among the victims of China's efforts to bring "stability" to East Turkestan. The participation of Ms. Kadeer, as a remarkable woman personifying Uyghur activism through peaceful means, significantly contributed to the event.

Moreover, speakers emphasized the need to document thoroughly all abuses, underlining how this provides a crucial link between events on the ground and the work of international rights groups such as the UNPO. The continued Uyghur commitment to non-violence was also applauded, as speakers emphasized the need for continuous renewal and innovation when planning nonviolent action, especially as the world's media descends upon Beijing for the forthcoming Olympic Games. The European Parliament proved a particularly welcoming venue for the Uyghur cause. Mr. Michael Cashman MEP noted that despite intensive effort, the Uyghur voice had not been silenced. Evidence of this was in abundance, as Dr. Willy Fautre, Director of Human Rights without Frontiers, and Ms. Cindy Lane of Human Rights Watch, both outlined the ways in which they and their organizations were actively pursuing Uyghur rights within European Union institutions - from their religious freedom to the fate of the young Uyghur men currently held in Guantanamo Bay. The main message, stressed also by Mr. Istvan Szent-Ivanyi MEP, was clearly that if all parties ensured close cooperation and coordination, the Uyghur voice would grow only stronger, and would undoubtedly find a natural ally in the European Parliament, an institution founded in part on the determination to condemn marginalization, discrimination, and conflict to the history books.

Meetings with Mr. Graham Watson MEP, Chairperson of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE), and Baroness Sarah Ludford MEP also confirmed a willingness on behalf of parliamentarians to work with Ms. Kadeer, UNPO and the Uyghur community to ensure European institutions take a leading role in pressuring Chinese authorities to respect their international commitments and afford all their citizens their full catalogue of human, political, and social rights.

As Uyghur leaders return to their respective communities to communicate their impressions and conclusions from a week of intense dialogue, and whilst minorities living within China continue to face a precarious future, the event is envisioned to enable and empower Uyghur leaders to make their campaign for human rights more visible, to ensure effective action and to draw increased international attention to one of the most underreported campaigns of human rights abuse anywhere in the

	<p>world.</p> <p>During the seminar, the WUC executive committee conducted its executive meetings in the evenings. WUC leaders presented reports on their activities in different parts of the world. The participants have also discussed how to apply the theory learned in the seminar to practical events.</p> <p>As an example of applying theory to practice, members agreed upon organizing more events that will attract the attention of the world community to the Uyghur cause before the 2008 Olympics in China. For this reason, a special commission named the "Olympic Committee" was established at the end of the seminar.</p> <p>The Uyghur leaders who participated in the seminar follow Uyghurs upon their return to their home communities. Members have presented what they learned at the seminar at a number of gatherings.</p> <p>On May 19 in Oslo and in Stockholm, on May 26 in Bishkek, on May 27 in Almaty, on June 2 in Munich, and on June 3 in Kayser and Istanbul, the participants of the training seminar briefed their communities about the training seminar held in The Hague. Some 50 to 300 people attended the meetings in Europe. In the meetings in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey, some 500 to 1500 people attended.</p>
<p>10 May 2007</p>	<p>After the event at the European Parliament, a group of WUC representatives, including Rebiya Kadeer, Dolkun Isa, and Kahar Barat met with the leader of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe, Graham Watson, and the vice chairman of the human rights committee of the European Parliament, Baroness Sarah Ludford. In this meeting the WUC representatives informed them about the current situation in the region, including issues such as the Uyghurs in Guantanamo Bay and the policy of the forced transfer of Uyghur girls to inner Chinese regions. Mr. Watson and Ms. Ludford promised to pursue a more active policy on the Uyghurs in Guantanamo, and on the children of Rebiya Kadeer who were arrested and imprisoned. After these meetings, Rebiya Kadeer attended a press conference in the European Parliament.</p>
<p>11 May 2007</p>	<p>Through the organization of the WUC and the European Eastern Union, on May 11, 2007, Uyghur women living in Germany celebrated the United Nations designated "International Mothers Day". Many Uyghur women living in different parts of Germany took part in the event. The participants discussed a range of issues including how to strengthen communication between Uyghur women in Germany and women from other parts of the world, and how to improve the level of participation of Uyghur women around the world in Uyghur cultural and political events. http://www.uvehurconeress.org/uv/news.asp?ItemID=1179179746</p>
<p>17 May 2007</p>	<p>Birlik Wexpi (United Foundation) based in Ankara, Turkey organized a conference titled "The Current Situation in East Turkestan." Some members of the Turkish Parliament, leaders of political parties, representatives of human rights organizations and other Uyghurs attended the conference. During the conference, Yakup Buda, Member of the Turkish Parliament, Salahettin Ozdemir, Chairman of Birlik Wexpi, and Seyit Tumoruk, Vice-president of the WUC briefed the attendees</p>

	<p>on the human rights situation of Uyghur people in East Turkestan. Seyit TUMTOR also gave a detailed account of the recent activities of the WUC, including the organization of the Uyghur Leadership Training Seminar that was held from May 6-11, 2007 in The Hague, the Netherlands.</p> <p>http://www.uvuhurcongress.com/Uv7news.asn?ItemID=1179502506</p>
18-20 May 2007	<p>The International Youth Congress was organized by the Turk Ocaklari organization in Uskischehir, Turkey. Abdulla Tursun, Vice-director of the Youth Committee of the WUC in Turkey, attended the congress and made a speech about the democratic youth movement in East Turkestan and the human rights situation of Uyghur people.</p> <p>http://www.uvuhurcongress.com/Uv/news.asn?ItemID=1179872371</p>
19 May 2007	<p>On May 19th, 2007, under the leadership of the Youth Committee of the WUC and the European East Turkestan Union, a Uyghur youth cultural event took place in West Park in Munich, Germany. The cultural event comprised of many programs including youth speech, recitals and a soccer competition. More than 30 youth between the ages of 16 and 23 took place in the event.</p>
19 May 2007	<p>In order to expand the strength of Uyghur political events and to centralize the Uyghur political activities around Munich, on May 19, 2007, a Frankfurt branch of the European East Turkestan Union was formed in Frankfurt, Germany. WUC General Secretary and Chairman of the European Uyghur Union, Mr. Dolkun Isa, vice Chairman of the WUC Executive Committee, Mr. Ablikim Idris, and the director of Public Relations, Mr. Abdujelil Amat, participated in the event. http://www.uvuhurcongress.com/Uv/news.asn?ItemID=179664076</p>
19-21 May 2007	<p>Other than her interviews mentioned above, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, during her visit to Germany between June 19 and 21, was interviewed by the German, Chinese, and Indian stations of Deutsche Welle, Deutschland Radio, RBB Cultural Radio, Die Welt, 3Sat TV station, ZDF TV station, SWR2 radio, B5 radio, Focus Journal, Sueddeutsche Zeitung, Vogue. She was interviewed by more than 10 national newspapers, more than 15 radio stations, 10 TV channels, and 15 different journals. http://www.uvuhurcongress.com/De/News.asn?ItemID=693231763</p>
30 May to 3 June 2007	<p>The presidency meeting of the UNPO was held in the Republic of Abkhazia from May 30 to June 3, 2007. Former president of the WUC, Erkin Alptekin attended the meeting, during which he met with some government officials and members of the Russian Parliament, Georgian Parliament, and Abkhazian Parliament.</p>
30 May 2007	<p>On the May 30, WUC president, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, published an op-ed in the Wall Street Journal titled "My Chinese Jailers". In this op-ed, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer mentioned the human rights conditions of the Uyghur people and gave her opinions on the Beijing Olympics.</p> <p>http://www.uvuhurcongress.com/En/news.asp?ItemID=47301558&rcid=803688565&Dcid=1110134820&cid=803688565</p>
30 May 2007	<p>Some members of the Frankfurt branch of the European East Turkestan Union took part in a Turkish culture day in Berlin. More than 10,000 Turks and friends of Turks living around Germany took part in the event. Mr. Kuresh Atahan, chairman of Frankfurt branch of the European East Turkestan Union spoke about Uyghur human rights, and also gave interviews to journalists.</p>

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<p>4-6 June 2007</p>	<p>A conference titled “Democracy and Security” opened in Prague, the Czech Republic, and brought together dissidents past and present, as well as academics and politicians from many countries. Ms. Rebiya kadeer. President of the WUC, attended the meeting, along with other WUC members— kushen Abbas, Vice- president of the UAA, Ablikim Idris. Vice-chairman of the executive committee of the \\ I C. and Dolkun Isa. General Secretary In his speech. President George W. Bush praised the Uyghur leader and Nobel Peace Prize nominee Rebiya kadeer, saying that “[a]nother dissident I will meet with here is Rebiya kadeer of China, whose sons have been jailed in what we believe is an act of retaliation for her human rights activities. The talent of men and women like Rebiya is the greatest resource of their nations — far more valuable than the weapons of their army or oil under the ground. So America calls on even nation that stifles dissent to end its repression, trust its people, and grant its citizens the freedom they deserve.” After the meeting. Ms. Rebiya kadeer met with Laura Bush and discussed with her the human rights situation of the Uyghur people. Ms. Rebiya kadeer's meeting with President Bush is viewed as a crucial historic moment that gives hope for the peaceful struggle of the Uyghur people for democracy and human rights. During the meeting. Ms. Rebiya kadeer also met with Mr. Toomas Iivask. President of Estonia. Mr. Vaclav Havel, former president of the Czech Republic, Mr. Jose Maria Aznar. former prime minister of Spain. Mr. Natan Sharansky, former vice prime minister of Israel. Mr. Premysl Sobotka. Chairman of the Czech Parliament, Mr. Alexandr Vondra. former vice prime minister of the Czech Republic, Mr. Karel Schwarzenberg. foreign minister of the Czech Republic, Mr. Pavel Bern, Mayor of Prague. Mr. Garry kasparov. Russian political activist and world chess champion, Mr. Joseph Lieberman. Senator for Connecticut. The meeting became an important platform for Ms. Rebiya Kadeer to meet with very important politicians around the world, to inform them of the human rights situation of the Uyghur people and to gain their support for the non-violent and peaceful struggle of the Uyghur people for democracy and human rights.</p> <p>http://www.uv2hurconareass.com/En/nevvs.asD71teml D=634716154&rcid=-768458094&pcid=1110134820&cid=-768458094</p> <p>A lot of news reports and articles were published in the international media on the meeting of the president of the United States America and WUC president Ms. Rebiya Kadeer in Prague during the “Democracy and Security” conference, and Mr. Bush’s praise of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer as a freedom fighter prominently featured the media’s coverage. This issue played a huge role in publicizing the Uyghur democracy movement in the international arena. http://www.uv2hurconeress.ore/En/news.asD7Iteml D=634716154&rcid=-768458094&pcid=1110134820&cid=-768458094</p> <p>http://www.uv2liurconeress.ore/En/news.asp?ItemID=-1655693881 &rcid=-768458094&pcid=1110134820&cid=-768458094</p> <p>http://www.voanews.com/enelish/2007-06-07-voal5.cfm</p>
<p>6-8 June 2007</p>	<p>During the G8 meeting, which took place between June 6 and June 8 in Heiligendamm, the WUC issued a press release and asked the representatives of G8 countries to pressure Hu Jintao, who was attending to the meeting as an observer, about human rights and democracy.</p>

	http://www.uvurcoimpress.org/news/1-2007/06/07/06070701.htm -1783338279
7 June 2007	During the official visit of Chinese president Hu Jintao to Europe, Human Rights in China and the Swedish Uyghur Committee Chairman, Mr. Abdushukur, organized a protest in Sweden. http://www.uvurcoimpress.org/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=-868520504
9 June 2007	A conference titled “The 6th European Turkish Publishing Conference” was held in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. A number of writers, journalists and specialists from all around the world were invited to discuss a number of issues about the current situation of the Turkic peoples’ publishing industry. A delegation of Uyghur human rights activists headed by Bahtiyar Shemsheddin, director of the Youth Committee of the WUC, attended the conference and gave a detailed account of the human rights situation in East Turkestan. In the evening, the Uyghur delegates were interviewed by the Canal Europe and the East Turkestan issue was discussed by the specialists as a key human rights topic in a debate program aired by Canal Europe. http://www.uvurcongress.com/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=1181545573
11 June 2007	Mr. Asqarjan, Vice-president of the WUC and Dolkun Isa met with officials of Tibet organizations and discussed a number of issues, including the organization of joint activities and campaigns aimed at raising an awareness of the human rights situation in China before, during and after the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing.
11 June 2007	WUC spokesman Dilshat Rishit issued a press release on the Beijing Olympics. In this press release, Mr. Rishit stated that the Chinese government did not keep its pre-Olympic promises concerning the alleviation of the human rights situation in China. Mr. Rishit also mentioned the worsening human rights condition of the Uyghurs. http://www.uvurcongress.org/cn/news.asp?ItemID=1181636190
14 June 2007	The president of the International Olympic Committee, Jacques Rogge, met with journalists on June 14. In this press conference, Mr. Rogge stated, “25,000 members of the press will work during the Beijing Olympics safe and securely”. He also mentioned that huge changes are taking place in China regarding press freedom. The WUC issued a press release on June 16 on Jacques Rogge’s statements. In this press release it was stated that Mr. Rogge did not present the actual situation in China, and since the decision of the IOC to hold the 2008 Olympics in Beijing nothing has changed in the condition of the Uyghurs, moreover, there has been a deteriorating situation in recent years. This press release was picked up by the international media. http://www.uvurcongress.org/En/Pressrelease.asp?ItemID=1183108422 http://www.uvurcongress.org/En/news.asp?ItemID=952183667&rcid=-768458094&pcid=1110134820&cid=-768458094
18 June 2007	The Green Party of Germany organized a conference titled “China auf dem Weg zur Großmacht - wo bleiben die Menschenrechte” (“China on its way to be a superpower: Where are the human rights”). The conference panel was composed of MEPs, members of the German Parliament, university professors, and political party leaders. Mr. Asgar Can, Vice president of the WUC, attended the conference and gave a speech about the human rights situation in East Turkestan. In his speech, he raised awareness on the ongoing degradation of the human rights situation in China, which is about to organize the 2008 Olympic Games. Dr. Dilshat Rishit who

	<p>isitovl China in October ami No\ ember of 2000 in a fact-finding trip to China organized b\ the I uiopcan Parliament said that there has been no substantial change in the human rights situation in China despite China's promise during its eandidae> for the OI\ mpic Games. hup: \\N\ .m ghureomiress.com l Iv/news.asp.'ItemID -56 I35()9(></p>
18-23 June 2007	<p>WUC president, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer. attended several activities in Germany and in Switzerland between June 18 and June 23 concerning the publication of her biography. During her visit Ms. Kadeer and WUC representatives met with members of the parliaments in German) and Switzerland. On June 19, WUC representatives Ms. Rebiya kadeer. Dokun Isa. and Ablikim Idris met with member of the German parliament and chairwoman of the Green Party, Claudia Roth, member of the German parliament. Volker Reek, (who for the first time stated the Uyghur question in the German parliament), and a representative of Am nest) International. Dr. Dirk Plciter. During this meeting the representatives of the WUC briefed them about the current human rights violations in the region. htnn://www.u\ ghureoneress.eoin 1 >v/new s.asp'. 'l tern 1 D=1 182432203</p>
18-23 June 2007	<p>WUC president Rebisa kadeer attended several activities in Germany and in Switzerland between June 18 and June 23 concerning the publication of her biography. During her visit, Ms. Kadeer*s activities were followed and covered by the media in these countries. Ms. Kadeer was interviewed by more than 20 different TV and radio stations, journals and newspapers about her book, life, the current situation of the Uyghurs. and the activities of the WUC.</p>
19 June 2007	<p>A press conference was organized in Berlin on the publication of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer's biography. The attendees included journalists and reporters from the most important TV stations and newspapers. The press conference was moderated by the well-known TV speaker Stafan Niman. who had worked as the China correspondent of ARD TV station. Member of the Gentian parliament and chairwoman of the Green Party. Claudia Roth, member of the German parliament Volker Beck, (who for the first time stated the Uyghur question in the German parliament), and a representative of Amnesty International. Dr. Dirk Pleiter, also attended this press conference and made speeches about the current situation of the Uyghurs and the human rights abuses in the region. http://www.uvehurconaress.orti/Uv/news.asD7ItemI D=1182432203 http://www.uvahirconaress.org/IJ v/news.asp?ItemID= 1182432203</p>
In June 2007	<p>Newspapers, including “Suddeutsche Zeitung*” (on the June 14 and 26), “Die Welt” (on the June 21), and journals, including Focus (on June 25) published interviews with Ms. Rebiya Kadeer. In addition to this coverage, many articles and op-eds were published in newspapers and journals in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. www.welt.de/welt print/article962200/Ich wollte nieiemandes Feind sein.html http://www.welt.de:80/welt print/article962201/Die Uieuren.html http://www.prisma-online.de/express/sgn4ung.html?cid=Dreisat&stime=2007-07-01 %2018%3A00%3A00%7RO? http7/www.tvDeDad.com/t/trackbar 1-/425795/19638524</p>
19 June 2007	<p>The first marketing event of Ms. Kad^{eer} s German language biography took place — the largest German bookstore, “pusmann Kulturhaus”. More than 500 people</p>

	<p>participated in the event. A famous German moderator, Mr. Stefan Niemann, moderated the event. Ms. Kebiya Kadeer answered questions from journalists. The famous German actress, Ms. JIrike Kricner, recited quotes from the book and generated huge enthusiasm among readers.</p>
20 June 2007	<p>At the Munich Literature Hall, the WUC carried out a distribution event of Ms. Kadeer's German language biography with the organization of the Heney Publishing Mouse and Munich Literature Hall. The moderator, Mr. Stefan Niemann also moderated the event. Ms. JIrike Kricner recited quotes from the book. Ms. Kebiya Kadeer spoke about the current tragedies taking place in East Turkestan including her own experiences. A question and answer session also took place at the event. At the end of the event, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer signed books for a couple of hundred people. More than 800 hundred people took part in this event. http://www.uvuhurconress.org/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=1182420171</p>
22 June 2007	<p>After the event in Germany, similar events took place in Berne, Switzerland. Mr. Asqarjan and Mr. Ablikitn Idris from Germany accompanied Rebiya Kadeer to the events. During the event, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer met with members of the Swiss Parliament and also gave interviews to journalists.</p>
22 June 2007	<p>Ms. Meifung, a researcher from England, visited the WUC general secretariat in Munich and interviewed Dolkun Isa about the situation of Uyghur refugees and the human rights of Uyghurs in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. Ms. Meifung is conducting research on the human rights of the Uyghur people, sponsored by the European Parliament.</p>
24 June 2007	<p>On July 1, ZDF TV station and Sat3 TV station, broadcast documentaries on Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and the human rights situation of Uyghur people. www.uvuhurconress.org/De/news.asp?ItemID=1182847805 www.zdf.de/ZDFde/inhalt/24/0,1872.5557112.00.html</p>
24 June 2007	<p>On June 24, the European East Turkestan Union organized a summer picnic at Lerchenaur See Lake in Munich, Germany. More than 200 Uyghur community members participated. At the picnic, former president of the WUC, Erkin Alptiken, and the chairman of the European East Turkestan Union, Dolkun Isa, detailed the activities of the WUC and the European East Turkestan Union. The two leaders also commented on how to expand the distribution of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer's biography, which was published in Germany. http://www.uvuhurconress.org/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=259317626</p>
3 July 2007	<p>Ms. Rebiya Kadeer met with U.S. First Lady, Laura Bush, in the White House. Prior to this meeting, Ms. Kadeer was received by President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush during the "Diplomacy and Security" conference in Prague earlier this June. During the meeting, addressing the Uyghur human rights situation, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer raised the urgent issues such as forced transfer of Uyghur girls to inner parts of China on the pretext of "providing employment opportunities", the situation of Uyghur political prisoners, and the confiscation of passports of Uyghurs by the Chinese authorities. Ms. Laura Bush expressed her sympathy to the circumstances of the Uyghurs and indicated that she will raise awareness on these issues. http://www.rfa.org/uvahur/xewerler/uyghur/2007/07/03/aq-sarav/?simple=1</p>

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In July 2007	<p>In July 2007, the former President of the Past Turkistan Republic during 1944, was published in July in the WUC. This book is based on the memories of Elixan Tore, and describes the general situation of Pastern Turkistan from 1920-1930, as well as the author's personal experiences during his captivity in Kucha. Pastern Turkistan in 1938. The "Worries of Turkistan" was originally written by the author in Chagatai (an old Uyghur script) from 1966-1973 and is based on his recollections. After 40 years, the book was finally available to readers of modern Uyghur.</p> <p>http://www.uhuivonmcass.com/ItemID=1185458833</p>
In July 2007	<p>As the Chinese authorities implement discriminators policies as part of its attempt to extinguish the Uyghur language and Uyghur culture through so-called "bilingual education". Uyghur communities are raising awareness regarding the preservation of their culture and language, which are both vital for the existence of their national identity. In order to meet the needs of Uyghur children living in the Diaspora to learn their mother language, the WUC published "Plipba", a textbook to teach basic Uyghur, especially designed for children. Extensive emphasis on language exercises. Uyghur culture and basic information on Eastern Turkistan was included in this 80-page textbook. In addition, there are also plenty of articles from the literature of famous Uyghur writers on well-known people. Uyghur traditions, moral values and interesting fables.</p> <p>http://www.uvohurcongress.com/News/News.asp?ItemID=1184759670</p>
4 July 2007	<p>The WUC issued a statement to the international media condemning the mass transfer of Chinese immigrants from inner China to Eastern Turkistan under the pretext of the "Western Development" policy. http://www.uvohurcongress.com/cn/news.asp?ItemID=1151765041</p>
21-24 July 2007	<p>At the invitation of the president of Supporting Tibet, Mr. Helmut Steckel, President Rebiya Kadeer and Mr. Alim Seytoff, head of the WUC Executive Committee, jointly attended an international conference on "China - World Power without Human Rights" at Hamburg University in Germany. German government officials, members of the Parliament, Tibet-Uyghur supporters, the representatives of international organizations, professors, and students of Hamburg University also attended this conference. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer presented a report on the current situation in Eastern Turkistan, and on the human rights violations by Chinese authorities. She also answered questions raised by students and journalists. During her visit to Germany, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer met with His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and held a 45 minutes long talk to exchange views on Tibet and Eastern Turkistan issues.</p> <p>http://www.uvohurcongress.com/News/News.asp?ItemID=1191852551&rcid=-768458094&Dcid=1110134820&cid=-768458094</p>
26 July 2007	<p>The Second Executive Committee meeting of the WUC was held in Munich, Germany. During this meeting, preparations aimed at boycotting the 2008 Beijing Olympics were reported to the delegates. Important discussions were conducted on plans and strategies for coming events.</p>

27 July 2007	<p>Responding to a letter from the President of the Swedish Uyghur Community, Mr. Ahdushukur, the head of Asian Affairs Division of the Swedish foreign Ministry, Ms. Anna (iahrielson, addressed the issues raised by the Uyghur community in Sweden. In her letter, she appreciated his request for raising the ever worsening human rights situations in Pastern Turkestan, and stated that she will endeavor to raise the Uyghur human rights issue to the Chinese president, flu Jintao, during his visit to Sweden, through Prime Minster Fredrik Reinfeld and Foreign Minister Carl Bildt.</p>
1 August 2007	<p>An interview with Ms. Rebiya Kadeer by journalist Gudrun Dometeit was published in “Focus”, one of the most popular news magazines in Germany. The personal life experiences and the political activities of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer were mainly explained in this article. This contributed to the efforts made to make the German public aware of the Uyghur issue.</p> <p>http://www.uvuhurconuress.com/De/news.asp?ItemID=1188145158&rcid=803688565&ncid=1110134820&cid-803688565</p>
In August 2007	<p>To express its opposition to the 2008 Beijing Olympics and to raise more attention, the WUC designed a special logo and prepared thousands of t-shirts, which were stamped with this symbol.</p> <p>http://www.uvuhurconEress.com/De/news.asD7ItemID=1563877151&rcid=-768458094&ocid=1110134820&cid=-768458094</p>
3 August 2007	<p>With one year left to the Beijing Olympics, Mr. Dilshat Rishit, spokesman of the WUC, issued a press statement to call for attention to the worsening human rights violations of the Uyghur people by the PRC government. By stating that it was wrong to honor such a dictatorial government as the PRC with the right to host Olympics Games, Mr. Dilshat Rishit appealed to the international community to raise awareness toward the situation of the Uyghur people, and to exert pressure on the PRC government to stop violating people’s rights. http://www.uvuhurconeress.com/cn/news.asD?ItemID=1186502476</p>
4 August 2007	<p>In collaboration with Tibet supporting groups in Munich, the WUC organized a demonstration against the 2008 Beijing Olympics. More than 250 demonstrators including members of the WUC, Supporting Tibet, and members of the Bavarian Parliament joined in this demonstration.</p> <p>http://www.uYahurconuress.com/UY/news.asD7ItemID=1537609944</p>
5 August 2007	<p>In his speech during the annual conference of the “Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region’s” law enforcement systems earlier this August, Wang Lequan, party secretary and chief of the “Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region” government, blamed the United States and other western countries of “sponsoring Eastern Turkestan Terrorists in all aspects, and threatening the national sovereignty of the PRC”. On August 5, WUC spokesman, Mr. Dilshat Reshit, issued a press statement, which strongly criticized Wang Lequan’s unreasonable remarks. http://www.uvahurconuress.com/cn/news.asD7ItemID=1186655391</p>
8 August 2007	<p>With just one year left to the 2008 Beijing Olympics, a demonstration organized by Amnesty International was staged in front of the Chinese Embassy in Washington. Members of the Uyghur American Association (UAA), lead by president Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, also joined this protest. Among other speakers from Amnesty</p>

	<p>International. Ms. Rebiva kadeer made a speech and stated that the Chinese authorities has failed to keep its promise to improve the human rights situation, which the PRC guaranteed the international community it would do as they hid for the Olympics.</p>
	<p>(On the same day, another demonstration against the Beijing Olympics was held in close collaboration with Tibetan Canadian communities and Uyghur communities, which is led by the WUC representative Mr. Omerjan Bore. More than 40 media representatives reported on this event and interviewed some participants, http: www.uviihurconeress.com/News/News.asp?ItemID=1180058041</p>
11 August 2007	<p>The representatives of the Eastern Turkestan Union in Europe (ETUE) in Frankfurt organized a picnic in Ueinrich-krafts Park with the local Uyghur community. During this event, discussions on issues like the 2008 Beijing Olympics, racial and cultural discrimination by the Chinese authorities, and other hot domestic policies adopted by PRC government in Eastern Turkestan were conducted among the community members. Imp: www.uviihurconeress.com/News/News.asp?ItemID=1186094973</p>
13-16 August 2007	<p>WUC vice president Mr. Asqarjan visited Albania accompanied by journalists from Sweden. On behalf of the WUC. Mr. Asqarjan studied the current situation and needs of the Uyghurs, who have been released from Guantanamo and settled in Albania.</p>
16 August 2007	<p>A demonstration against the 2008 Beijing Olympics, which was lead by Hayrullah EtTendi, the chief Revisor of the WUC and the Ankara representative of East Turkestan Culture and Cooperation Association, was held in front of the Chinese Embassy in Ankara. Scores of Uyghurs living in Turkey, Turks and members of public organizations joined this demonstration. http://www.uvghurconeress.com/News/News.asp?ItemID=1188385736</p>
27 August 2007	<p>Mr. Hayrullah and Mr. Abdullah Tursun, the representative of the Youth Committee of the WUC in Turkey, visited the Turkish Parliament and met with a number of members of parliament. During the 45 minute meeting with Mr. Mehmet Shandir, a Member of the Turkish Parliament, Hayrullah F.ffiendi made a brief report on the current situation in Eastern Turkestan. Mr. Mehmet Shandir also expressed his good will by promising to raise the Uyghur issue to the Turkish Parliament. http://www.uvehurcomiress.com/News/News.asp?ItemID=1188663271</p>
30 August 2007	<p>At the special invitation of the president of HRWF, Mr. Dolkun Isa attended an international conference titled “The Taiwan Issue and The Beijing Olympics”, which was held in Brussels. Among the participants were Dr. Michael Ying-Mao Kau, Taiwan’s chief representative to the European Union in Brussels, Member of the European Parliament, Mr. Istvan Szent, president of the Hungarian Liberal Youth Union, Mr. Janos Boka, representative of Human Rights Watch, Ms. Cindy Lane, and scores of media representatives. This conference mainly discussed Taiwan’s bid to enter the United Nations and the World Trade Organization, and Uyghur-Tibetan human rights issues. Furthermore, a common understanding to form a united front against the Beijing Olympics was reached. Mr. Dolkun Isa spoke to the conference on the forthcoming action plans of the WUC in this regard.</p>

	http://www.uvghurcongress.com/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=1887-16214
In August 2007	Mr. Memet Tohti, vice president of the WUC, visited Ottawa several times, and held discussions on the Hussein Celil case with high-ranking officials in the Canadian government and parliament. During his visits, Mr. Memet Tohti was interviewed several times by journalists and answered their questions regarding the Hussein Celil case and the Uyghur issue.
2 September 2007	The Eastern Turkestan Foundation in Holland organized a picnic in one of the beautiful parks in Tilburg together with Uyghur community members in Holland. Representatives of some Turk organizations also took part in this event. Together with colorful cultural programs, the recent activities of the WUC were reported to the community.
6-8 September 2007	During the APEC summit in Sydney, the WUC, Amnesty International, the Uyghur Australian Association, Tibetan organizations, members of the Chinese democratic movements, and members of the Falun Gong movement jointly organized two demonstrations on September 6 and 8 against the Chinese president, Hu Jintao. More than 300 demonstrators joined the protest on September 8. Member of the Upper House of the Australian Parliament, Mr. Kerry Nettle, former Canadian parliament member and supporter of the Chinese democratic movement, Mr. David Kilgore, director of the Amnesty International Australian branch, Ms. Sophie Peer, and Uyghur-Tibetan representatives made speeches during the demonstration and condemned the human rights violations made by the PRC government. http://www.uvghurcongress.com/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=189421631
In September 2007	The Eastern Turkestan Foundation in Holland and the WUC Youth Committee jointly commemorated the 6th anniversary of the death of a famous Uyghur poet and historian, Mr. Turghun Almas. Mr. Turghun Almas was the author of "The Uyghurs", "A Brief History of the Huns", and "Ancient Uyghur Literature", which were widely respected by a great number of readers. At the same time, his work was harshly criticized and strictly prohibited by the Chinese government. The PRC authorities even deprived him of the right to write for rest of his life. http://www.uvghurcongress.com/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=189539530
In September 2007	On the eve of her PRC visit, vice president of the WUC, Mr. Asqarjan, wrote to the German Chancellor, Ms. Angela Merkel, and appealed to her to raise the Uyghur human rights issue during her talk with PRC leaders.
11 September 2007	On the 6th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks, spokesman Dilshat Rishit made a press statement on behalf of the WUC and expressed the sympathy of the Uyghur people for those who had lost lives in this horrible event, and reaffirmed that the Uyghur people remain side by side with the American people. By reemphasizing that the Uyghur people reject terrorism, Mr. Dilshat Rishit condemned the PRC authorities for using the war on terror as a pretext for repressing Uyghurs and for trying to label the legitimate struggles of the Uyghur people for democracy and freedom as "terrorist activities". http://www.uvghurcongress.com/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=1988436174
17 September 2007	Ms. Rebiya Kadeer called on all Eastern Turkestan organizations and patriots to organize demonstrations in front of Chinese Embassies on October 1, the Chinese

	National Pav. and tv' protest the anniversary of the formation of the so-called Xinjiang l Aghur Autonomous Region". Site also called them not to organize celebration parties and marriage ceremonies during these days, hup. w \y yy uv eluirconnress.com U\ /pressrelease.asp'. 'ltmlIV 11 90033 123
14-It* September 200'	A conference on "Human Rights and the Immigration Issue in Germany" was held in Bad Herrenalb, Germany. More than 120 participants including delegates from all German political parties, the representative of the UNHCR Director in Berlin, leaders of human rights organizations, and scores of media representatives took part in this yearly meeting. Head of the Executive Committee of the WUC, Mr. Ehmetjan. gave a brief report on the current situation of the Uyghur Diaspora in Europe. A number of suggestions and plans on the immigration issue, which will be sent to the German Parliament, were approved during the conference. Experience and good results in immigration management in some cities such as London, Amsterdam, Berlin, Karlsruhe, and Stuttgart were presented at this conference. http://vvvww.uv.sihurcongress.com/Uv/ne\vs.asp?ItemID=l190124184
19-21 September 2007	Mr. Dolkun Isa attended the conference "World Forum for Democracy in Asia", in Manila, the Philippines. More than 100 democracy and human rights activists from more than 20 Asian countries such as Japan, China, Mongolia, the Philippines, Malaysia. Nepal. Burma. Cambodia. East Timor, Laos, India, Pakistan, Korea, Taiwan, the U.S.. Canada. Tibet. Eastern Turkestan, representatives of Non Government Organizations (NGO), government officials, members of parliament attended this 3-day meeting. By debating on how to improve and promote democracy especially in Asian countries, the conference also discussed its action plans and strategies for the future. Making a brief report on the Uyghur human rights situation. Mr. Dolkun Isa mainly discussed some urgent issues in East Turkestan such as the forced transfer of Uyghur girls to the interior of the PRC, assimilation policies of the PRC government towards Uyghur culture, language and education, the PRC's labeling of the international Uyghur human rights and democracy movement with "terrorism", and the mass transfer of Chinese immigrants to Eastern Turkestan. Mr. Dolkun Isa also made personal contact with the leaders and representatives of many international organizations at the conference, and addressed them on the Uyghur issue and the current situation of East Turkestan. Among those persons he met, there were some high ranking political figures such as the chief assistant of the Philippine president, Jesus Dureza, former Malaysian president, Anwar Ibrahim, and secretary of the Philippine Liberal Party, Benigo Aquino. Finally, the conference made four decisions regarding the Uyghur and it was included in the WFDA's action plans for 2007-2009. http://www.uvtihurconeress.com/Uv/news.asp?ItemID=l190443714
22 September 2007	At the special invitation of the Association for Threatened People, vice president Mr. Asqarjan attended the conference "China-Human Rights and The Olympics". Together with the mayor of the German city of Gottingen, Mr. Wolfgang Meyer, the former minister, Dr. Schwarz Schilling, Iraq's minister Nimud Bayto Youkhanna, and the Bolivian Ambassador, Mr. Walter Prodencio Mangne Valiz. Mr. Asqarjan also delivered a speech and addressed issues such as the Chinese government's policy to deprive the fundamental human rights of the Uyghur people, severe restrictions on freedom of travel, speech, education, language,

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	<p>culture, religious belief and demonstration, the forced transfer of Uyghur girls to inner parts of China, economic and social discrimination, the mass transportation of Chinese immigrants, and horrible aftermaths of Chinese nuclear tests in East Turkestan, etc. lie also reaffirmed ineligibility of the PRC government to host the Olympic games.</p> <p>http://www.uvuluirconurcss.com/Uv/iiew.s.asp?ItemID=190863893</p>
23 September 2007	<p>The International Environment Protection Agency Bavaria branch organized an event named, "International Children's House", on September 23 in Munich. Scores of children from 5 continents participated in this event, and presented cultural performances. A number of Uyghur children also attended this event and their distinctive performance attracted many visitors. More than 100 booklets on Uyghurs and the human rights situation in East Turkestan were distributed to the public.</p> <p>http://www.rfa.org/uvehur/xewerler/teDsili_xewer/2007/09/28/medenivet-Daaliyiti</p>
24-26 September 2007	<p>The Human Rights Session of the 2007 European Security and Cooperation Conference was held from September 24 to October 4 in Warsaw, Poland. More than 1,000 people including representatives of EU Member States, diplomats in Poland, representatives of human rights organizations and scores of journalists attended the meeting. Mr. Dolkun Isa participated the sessions from September 24 to 26, and made a speech on the "Human Rights Situation of Uyghurs in Central Asia". He briefed the participants on the situation of Uyghurs living in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan, the discriminatory policies of these nations towards the Uyghur Diaspora, deportations of Uyghurs to the PRC, etc. In a dinner on September 25 hosted by the Polish Foreign Ministry, Mr. Dolkun Isa met with diplomats and officials of the U.S. State Department, Sweden, Norway, Turkey, Germany, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. He also met with leaders of a number of international organizations like the Helsinki Federation, the World Peace Federation, etc, and discussed the situation of the Uyghur people. http://www.uvehurconeress.com/Uv/news.asD?ItemID=1278821765</p>
23-26 September 2007	<p>A delegation lead by vice president of the Executive Committee of the WUC, Mr. Ablikim Idris, attended a meeting of the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva. In collaboration with the UNPO, the WUC delegates also staged a joint demonstration in front of UN offices against the human rights violations against the Uyghur people in the PRC. Every year, a WUC delegation attends this UN meeting and informs the UNHRC on the developments regarding the human rights situation in East Turkestan. This time also, they delivered special reports on these topics and appealed to the UN to press PRC authorities and to request it to act in accordance with the commonly accepted principles enshrined in the UN's Declaration of Human Rights.</p> <p>http://www.uvehurconeress.com/Uv/news.asD?ItemID=-37139577</p>
23 September 2007	<p>After the United States Congress passed a resolution on the Uyghur issue, a spokesman of the WUC issued a press statement to welcome this important development, and called on the PRC government for the immediate release of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer's children.</p> <p>http://www.uvghurconsress.com/cn/news.asD?ItemID=633529558</p>
26 September 2007	<p>At the special invitation of the Consulate General of the United States Consulate in Munich, Mr. Eric Nelson, together with the Ambassador, Mr. William R. Timken.</p>

and his wife, Mr. Dolkun Isa attended an Iftar dinner, which was to welcome the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. More than 50 guests including the Mayor of Munich Mr. Christian Ude, his wife Edith von Welser-Ule, Justice Minister of Bavaria Ms. Beate Merk, Turkish Consulate General in Munich, Mr. Rifat Koksal, leaders of some Muslim organizations, and religious figures joined this dinner party. Mr. Dolkun Isa also talked with Mr. Christian Ude and Mr. William R. Timken on Uyghur issues.

<http://www.uvnews.com/uvnews.asp?ItemID=11000089>

27 September
2007

A conference on Beijing Olympics boycotts was called by Amnesty International and the Holland Journalist Foundation in The Hague, Holland. Mr. Behtiyar Shemshedin, head of the Youth Committee of WUC and president of the Eastern Turkestan Foundation in Holland, was invited to this meeting. Journalists from the Dutch Media and professors from universities also participated. The conference discussed the human rights issues surrounding the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. Mr. Behtiyar Shemshedin delivered a report on the Uyghur human rights situation.

In September
2007

As a part of the Chinese government's campaign to mask its discriminatory policies towards Uyghur people, the PRC authorities in East Turkestan organized a group of Uyghur artists and brought them to Europe to perform in a number of European cities. In this regard, the WUC called its umbrella organizations in those cities to unveil the Chinese government's attempts to mislead the public. As a result, a number of effective campaigns were made to counter the PRC's erroneous propaganda campaign.

<http://www.uvdmrcongress.com/uvnews.asp?ItemID=1191233544>

October 2007

The WUC announced October 1, which is the National Day of China, as a National Day of Mourning for the people of Eastern Turkestan. Since the announcement, the WUC called on all its umbrella organizations to take action each year on this day, for example, to organize protests in front of Chinese embassies and to organize conferences. The WUC also requested the Diaspora to not arrange marriage ceremonies or other sorts of entertainment programs on this special day. In response to this call, umbrella organizations in Germany, Holland, Canada, Turkey, the U.K., Norway, the U.S., and Sweden organized protests in front of local Chinese Embassies or Consulates for this year's National Day of Mourning. Since there is no freedom to organize anti-PRC protests in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, representatives of the WUC instead convened a press conference on October 1 in Almaty and Bishkek.

1-6 October
2007

Ms. Rebiya Kadeer visited the U.K. at the invitation of the Uyghur-U.K. Association and Amnesty International U.K. During her visit, she met with members of parliament and heads of international organizations. She also made speeches at universities. Here are some details of her activities:

- A. On October 1, she met with Ms. Corinne Barbara, head of the international secretariat of AI, representatives of Human Rights Watch, and representatives of the Tibetan movement. She presented brief reports on the recent situation of Uyghurs in East Turkestan, and highly appreciated their support and efforts for the Uyghur human rights campaign over the years.

	<p>B. After she met with some high ranking officials of the British parliament and the Foreign Office, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer went to Wales on October 3, and visited the Welsh Assembly, where she held a briefing about urgent political, economical and religious problems, which face the Uyghur people.</p> <p>C. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer went to Scotland on October 4 accompanied by finver Tohti, president of the Uyghur-U.K. Association, and made a speech at the University of Edinburgh. More than 300 students and teachers attended this event. They asked many questions about the Uyghur people during her speech.</p>
2 October 2007	<p>A demonstration in commemoration of the International Day of Peace, which was jointly organized by the UNPO and Uyghur-Tibetan organizations, was staged at Peace Square, in The Hague, the Netherlands. The WUC representative in the Netherlands, Mr. Behtiyar Shemshedin, participated in this demonstration on behalf of the WUC.</p>
1-10 October 2007	<p>The 5th International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival was held in the German city of Nuremburg from October 1-10. At the invitation of the director of this festival, Ms. Andrea Kuhn, Mr. Ablikim Idris, the head of the Executive Committee of the WUC, and the General Secretary of the WUC, Mr. Dolkun Isa, attended this event. The WUC delegates introduced the newly published biography of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, and answered reader's questions about Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and the Uyghur people. Two documentary films on Uyghurs were played at the festival. One of which was contributed by the German satellite TV channel "SAT3", that describes the Chinese oppression on Uyghur people.</p> <p>Another film explained the Uyghur art form of "Dawaz" (the traditional Uyghur art of ropewalking) in Yingsar County, which filmed by the Canadian director Mr. Peter Lorn. This documentary not only showed the Uyghur "Dawaz" art, but also described the process of how Uyghur children are being brainwashed with communist ideology.</p> <p>Vice president of the WUC and president of the Eastern Turkestan Culture and Cooperation Association, Mr. Seyit Tumturk, paid visit to Saudi Arabia from September 28 to October 10. He reported to the Uyghur Diaspora in Saudi Arabia on the recent activities of the WUC, and met with the Director of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, Mr. Eli Demirchi. During these talks, Mr. Seyit addressed the daily hardships that Uyghur Muslims are facing in East Turkestan under the communist Chinese regime and appealed to the Islamic world to raise awareness of the situation to their Muslim brothers.</p>
10 October 2007	<p>The representative of the WUC at the European Parliament, Mr. Bjorn, met with the president of the Tibet Friendship Forum, Mr. Thomas Mann, vice president of the Liberal Democrats Union, Mr. Istvan Szent Ivanyi, and president of Human Rights without Borders, Mr. Willy Fautre, in Brussels and discussed the situation of the Uyghur people.</p>
13 October 2007	<p>Mr. Enver Tohti, WUC representative in the U.K., attended a conference organized by the Tibet Researchers Union, delivered a report on the Uyghur situation. In his</p>

	report, he especially outlined the forced transfer of Uyghur girls to inner China, and he massive settlement of Chinese immigrants in East Turkestan.
October :oo7	To celebrate the coming Ramadan festival, the WUC and the Eastern Turkestan I nion in Europe (E1 UE) jointly organized a party with the participation of more than 200 members of the Uy ghur community in Germany . On behalf of the WUC and the ETUE. Mr. Dolkun Isa greeted all community members with his best Ramadan wishes. During the celebration. Uyghur children gave colorful performances with traditional Uy ghur dance and songs.
13 October 2007	The "Human Rights Torch Relay", which is a parallel opposition action to the 2008 Beijing Olympics, and which began in Greece, arrived in the Norwegian city of Oslo. Members of the Uyghur-Norwegian Association and some human rights organizations joined this event. The Norwegian representative of the WUC, Adiljan, made a speech about the Uy ghur issue during this event.
14 October 2007	The "Human Rights Torch Relay" arrived in the Swedish city of Stockholm. Members of Uyghur-Mongol-Tibetan organizations, Chinese Democrats and some Members of the Swedish parliament participated in this event. They made speeches on the discriminatory policies of the PRC government toward ethnic minorities, and called for the international community to boycott the Beijing Olympics.
In October 2007	Accompanied by a representative of the UNPO, Mr. Behtiyar Shemshedin, representative of the WUC Youth Committee and the president of the Eastern Turkestan Union in Holland, met with high-ranking officials from the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Dutch parliament. In this meeting, which attended by Mr. Ormel H.J (Christian Democratic Party), the president of the Foreign Affairs Commission, Mr. Harry van Bommel (Socialist Party), Mr. Martin van Dam (Workers Party). Mr. Behtiyar Shemshedin presented a brief report on the current human rights situation of East Turkestan. Issues such as the strict control over religious practices, rejection and confiscation of the travel documents belonging to Uyghurs, prohibition from the Hajj pilgrimage, the imposition of discriminatory policies on Uyghur culture and language, and fierce restrictions on freedom, etc. were discussed at the meeting. The delegation appealed to the Dutch government to raise these issues whenever they meet with Chinese governmental counterparts.
20-29 October 2007	<p>Aiming to extend the influence of Uyghur human rights issues in Germany, the WUC organized several events for the visit of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer.</p> <p>During her Europe trip, Ms Rebiya Kadeer met with scores of government officials and leaders of international organizations. She also visited the Geneva headquarters of the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCR), and was interviewed by a number of journalists from European and international media.</p> <p>Following are some details on this trip:</p> <p>A. On October 21 a "Uyghur Culture Day" was organized by the Museum for Culture in the German city of Hamburg. Leaders of the WUC including Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, chief advisor to the WUC, Mr. Sidik Rouzi, vice president of the WUC, Mr. Asqarjan, and secretary general, Mr. Dolkun</p>

Iso, etc. attended this event. Mr. Asqarjan introduced Uyghur history and culture during his speech. Other Uyghur performers from Munich presented their exciting Uyghur art shows, the director of the Asian exhibitions of the museum, Ms. Weslcrman, introduced the story of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer delivered a report on her human rights, democracy and freedom work for her people. This event, which was attended by more than 400 people, was a positive step to raise awareness to the Uyghur issue in Germany.

- B. The German media showed considerable interest in Ms. Rebiya Kadeer's visit to Hamburg. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer was interviewed by several media outlets during her European trip. She was individually interviewed by Ms. Sibylle Bremer a journalist for "Schleiwig Holsteinische Zeitung"; by Ms. Eva Ouisterhus for "Die Welt" newspaper; by Ms. Luis Mittler for "Tagesschau Online"; by Ms. Sylvia Nagel, who intends to make a documentary on Ms. Rebiya Kadeer's life; by Ms. Florian Godovits for the "The Epoch Times"; by Mr. Sven Hansen for the "Die Tageszeitung" newspaper in Berlin; by Ms. Ursula Week for "De Radyo"; by Ms. Farah Lenser for "Ab Vierzig"; and by "Deutsche Welle".
- C. A group of 7 Members of Parliament from the German Green Party (Die Grünen) including Mr. Manuel Sarrazin and Ms. Anjes Tjarks received a WUC delegation led by Ms. Rebiya Kadeer in their party headquarters on October 22. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer made a brief report on the current situation of the Uyghur people.
- D. After the meeting, the WUC delegation visited the Institute of Asia and Africa at the University of Hamburg and met with the institute's President, Prof. Dr. Raoul Motika. Discussions were held on the Uyghur language, and the possibility of establishing Uyghur language courses at the institute.
- E. Inner Minister of Hamburg, Mr. Reinhard Stuth, received a WUC delegation on the evening of October 22. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer informed Mr. Reinhard on the current situation of the Uyghur people.
- F. After the successful completion of her Hamburg visit, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, together with WUC chief advisor, Mr. Sidik Rouzi, and vice president of the WUC, Mr. Asqarjan, visited the German capital of Berlin. They began their activities in Berlin by visiting Dr. Gudrun, director of the "Institute of Knowledge and Politics".
- G. A WUC delegation then met with Ms. Theresa Tang, Taiwanese vice representative in Berlin. Discussions were held on the PRC, Taiwan and East Turkestan affairs. Ms. Tang expressed her support and sympathy for the Uyghur people.
- H. An event aimed to promote the biography of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer was organized on the evening of October 23. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer answered reader's questions during this event.¹

I. A WUC delegation led by Ms. Rebiya Kadeer visited the Human Rights |

	<p>Commission of the German Parliament on October 24. If members of the Human Rights Commission lead by Ms. Christel Rieman 1 lanexvinckel avei\ed the delegation in the Parliament Building. In addition to her briefing on the current human rights situation in Past Turkestan. Ms. Rebiya kadeer specifically raised issues such as the future of the Uyghur inmates in Guantanamo, and the situation of Uyghur asylum seekers in Kazakhstan, kirgi/stan. Uzbekistan and Pakistan. Officials of the Commission assured Ms. Kadeer that they will closely monitor the Uyghur issue and treat it as equal priority w ith the Tibetan issue.</p> <p>J. Mr. Gunter Nooke. director of the Human Rights division in the German Foreign Ministry , received Ms. Rebiva Kadeer and the WUC delegation in his office in the afternoon of October 24.</p> <p>K. Ms. Rebiva Kadeer individually met with Mr. Tilmann Ziilch from The Society for Threatened Peoples, Ms. Barbara Unmiiffig, director of the Heinrich Boll Foundation, and her assistant Ms. Christian Molt, Prof. Dr. Peter Hefei, director of the Asia Section of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. Ms. Rebiva Kadeer requested from them assistance in introducing the Uyghur issue to the German public through helping the WUC. They also assured that they will initiate support to the programs of the WUC. *</p> <p>L. After the completion of her visit to Berlin. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer arrived with her counterparts in Geneva on October 26. and visited the Geneva headquarters of UNHCR. They discussed current Uyghur refugee issues with high-ranking officials of the Commission including Mr. Pirkko Kourpula and Pierfrancesko. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer especially addressed the difficult situation of those Uyghurs refugees who are living in insecure conditions in some countries. The officials from the High Commission promised to keep close attention to the Uyghur refugee issue.</p> <p>As part of its propaganda effort, the PRC especially organized a group of Uyghur performers from East Turkestan to perform the Uyghur Dolan Mukam in a number of Dutch cities, such as Amsterdam, Utrecht and Veere. By disseminating various leaflets, which show the real meaning of these Chinese attempts, the East Turkestan Foundation in Holland revealed the Chinese assimilation policies regarding Uyghur culture and language.</p>
<p>In October 2007 20 October 2007</p>	<p>“The Deported Uyghurs from China”, a book by a famous expert on the Uyghur issue and a teacher of the Central University of Tokyo, Ms. No’oko, was published in Tokyo on October 20. By describing the Chinese policies to repress the Uyghur people, the author also wrote in detail on Ms. Rebiya Kadeer’s experiences and on a number of prominent political activists in exile such as Dolkun Isaand Ablimit Tursun. The publishing of her work just two weeks before Ms. Rebiya Kadeer’s visit to Japan made a positive impact in informing the Japanese public on the Uyghur issue.</p>
<p>24 October 2007</p>	<p>The WUC representative in U.K., Mr. Enver Tohti, participated in a program called “Question and Justice” broadcast by Press TV on October 24. He answered a broad</p>

	<p>range of questions about the ethnic, geographic, economic, political situation of East Turkestan. Though this TV broadcast, Mr. Hnver Tohti called on the international community to pay closer attention to urgent issues, such as the forced transfer of Uyghur girls to inner China.</p>
<p>25 October 2007</p>	<p>A demonstration organized by the International Movement to Boycott the 2008 Beijing Olympics was staged in London. Uyghurs, lead by U.K. representative, Mr. Hnver Tohti, joined this demonstration, he made a speech to explain why the Uyghurs are calling for a boycott of the Olympic Games in Beijing.</p>
<p>7-30 November 2007</p>	<p>Ms. Rebiya Kadeer visited Japan at the invitation of the Japanese branch of Amnesty International. During her visit, she gave more than 20 open lectures in 8 cities, and met with Japanese members of parliament, government officials, and people from industrial commercial branches.</p> <p>Following are some details on her Japan trip;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. On November 8 and 9, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer held a press conference in Tokyo. She answered questions from journalists and made a brief report on the Uyghur human rights situation. Broad Japanese media such as KYODO information agency, ASAHI newspapers, TOKIYO newspaper, JWAVE Radio, JIJI information agency, TBS television, SANKEI newspapers, and MAINICHI newspapers, etc. reported on her trip to Japan. B. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer made several public speeches at a number of Japanese cities, such as Tokyo on November 10, Tunable on November 11, Kurashiki on November 15, Matsue on November 17, Yamaguchi on November 18, Osaka on November 20, Sapporo November 24, and Niigata on November 25. She explained to the Japanese people how the Chinese government brutally oppresses the Uyghur people in East Turkestan. C. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer went to Kobe Gakuen University on November 14 and introduced the current human rights situation of East Turkestan to teachers and students. More than 300 students attended her lecture. She then arrived in Osaka on November 21, and informed the students about the painful reality of Uyghur students, teachers and farmers in East Turkestan. She spent an hour to answer the questions raised by the students. D. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer met Japanese Democratic Party members, Members of the Japanese Parliament and held a meeting in Tokyo on November 26. For many years, they have supported pro-Tibet activities and were very interested Rebiya Kadeer's report. She also met with Japanese Communist Party members on November 27 and presented them with evidence of crimes committed by the Chinese Communist Party. E. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer attended a party organized by Teikoku Corporation on November 17. She appreciated their corporate management and informed them on the current human rights situation of the Uyghur peoples in East Turkestan. On the same day, she also met with activists from the Chinese Democratic Party, the Southern Mongolia movement, and the Tibetan movement. Discussions were held on issues of mutual concern.

<p>12 November 2007</p>	<p>I\ On November 28, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer met with high-ranking officials of the Japanese Liberal Party, and discussed Uyghur issues. On the same day, she also delivered a report in the Japanese Parliament. Members of the Lower House and several ministers attentive!) listened to her report.</p> <p>G. On November 29, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer again held a press conference in Tokyo. She answered questions raised by journalists from well-known Japanese newspapers and magazines, such as ASAHI Weekly and YOMIURI newspaper. During her trip to Japan, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer was interviewed by number of media agencies, such as Japan's biggest news agency KYODO, ASAHI newspaper, TOKYO newspaper, JIJI information agency, YOMIURI newspaper, SANKEI newspaper, MAINICHI newspaper and PBS TV. PBS TV broadcast a documentary about Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and East Turkestan on the evening November 26, which attracted many Japanese viewers.</p> <p>H. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer successfully finished her visit to Japan on November 30. Her trip to Japan was a big success in introducing the Uyghur issue to the Japanese public.</p> <p>The WUC issued a statement to celebrate the Independence Day of the East Turkestan Republic, which was also the National Day of the two East Turkestan Republics of 1933 and 1944. Uyghur communities in Sweden, Germany, Netherlands, the USA, Turkey, Australia, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan celebrated Independence Day with colorful cultural activities.</p>
<p>8 November 2007</p>	<p>Mr. Dolkun Isa and Mr. Dilshat Rishit visited the Swedish branch office of Amnesty International, and met with Mr. Madelaine, director of AI Sweden and his spokesperson, Ms. Elisabeth Lofgren. During the two-hour meeting, Mr. Dolkun Isa reported on the current situation of East Turkestan, the recent work of the WUC, and answered their questions.</p>
<p>9 November 2007</p>	<p>Mr. Dolkun Isa and Mr. Behtiyar Shemshedin, director of the WUC Youth Committee, and Mr. Qeyser, were interviewed by a journalist from Kuriren newspaper in Eskilstun. This interview' was published on November 15.</p>
<p>15 November 2007</p>	<p>An exhibition organized by a Turkish society opened its doors. More than a hundred local and international organizations from all over Turkey and other countries attended this event. On behalf of the WUC, Mr. Seyit Tumturk, vice president of the WUC, attended this exhibition.</p>
<p>17-19 November 2007</p>	<p>The 11th Congress of Friendship, Brotherhood, and Cooperation Among Turkic States and Communities were held in Azerbaijan's capital, Baku. More than 1,500 people including representatives of Turkish speaking countries such as Kazakhstan, Kirghizstan, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan; vice president of the WUC, Mr. Seyit Tumturk, vice General Secretary of the WUC, Dr. Erkin Emet, and Mr. Hamut KoktUrK, participated this conference. During the conference, the WUC delegation met with Turkish prime minister, Mr. Sait Yazijioghlu, Turkish Industry Minister Mr. Zafer Chaghlayan, and Minister of Culture, Mr. Ertugrul Gunay. The</p>

	WUC delegation gave briefings on the situation in Hast Turkestan. They also visited several newspaper publishing houses, such as “Turkestan”, “Olay” arid “Azerbaijan”.
K November 2007	Mr. Abduweli and six other Uyghur political activists were sentenced to death in a public trial held in (he Hast Turkestan city of Kashgar. Once again, the Chinese government showed its brutal face to the world. General Secretary, Mr. Dolkun Isa, and spokesman, Mr. Dilshat Rishit, issued statements and strongly condemned this brutal act of the PRC authorities.
13 November 2007	Ms. Rebiya Kadeer held a press conference in Japan and condemned the PRC government for handing down death penalties to a number of Uyghur political activists.
20 November 2007	The WUC sent letters to the chairman, vice chairman, and the executive members of the International Olympic Committee, as well as to ambassadors of more than 40 countries in Germany informing them of the recent executions of Uyghur political activists Abduweli Imin, Muhtar Sitiwaldi, Khurban Mamut, Ehmet Rakhman, Imin Mekhman and Perhat Yakhup by the PRC authorities on the eve of the Beijing Olympics. The WUC also appealed to the International Olympic Committee and democratic countries to take action against the barbaric acts of the PRC.
22 November 2007	Ms. Rebiya Kadeer’s article titled “The Pain of the Uyghurs” was published in the Wall Street Journal. In her article, she condemned the execution of six Uyghur political prisoners by the PRC authorities, and criticized the PRC government of not keeping its promise to improve human rights conditions in China.
In November 2007	Ms. Rebiya Kadeer made a televised address to the Uyghur people around the world. The WUC made thousands of copies of this video and sent it to Central Asia, Europe, USA and Canada.
10 November 2007	General Secretary Mr. Dolkun Isa sent letters to the Foreign Ministry and international organizations in Switzerland and appealed for the quick resolution of the Uyghur refugee issue. The Swiss Foreign Ministry replied to his message and expressed their concerns on this issue.
6 November	After the broad introduction of the Uyghur issue to the Japanese public by Ms. Rebiya Kadeer on a recent visit to Japan, the WUC opened its Japanese language website in order to provide more information about East Turkestan and Uyghur people. The website of the WUC currently offers up-to-date information about Eastern Turkestan and the Uyghur people in the Uyghur, English, Chinese, German and Japanese languages.
In November 2007	A total of 149 articles, including 38 in Uyghur, 27 in English, 24 in German, and 35 in Chinese, were published on the WUC website.
30 November to 1 December 2007	General Secretary of the WUC, Mr. Dolkun Isa, and the former president of the WUC, Mr. Erkin Alptiken, attended the second presidency meeting of the UNPO in The Hague, the Netherlands. Discussions were made with UNPO counterparts on the concrete plans for the next Leadership Training Program of the WUC.

1 December :00?	During his \isit to the Netherlands, Mr. Dolkun Isa met with the Uyghur community in Amsterdam. He informed the community on the latest activities of the \\\ I C and its leaders, including Ms. Rcbiya kadeer \s \isit to Japan.
2 December :007	Mr. Dolkun Isa welcomed the Italian researcher. Ms. Valentina Dimmno. and the German researcher. Mr. Jurgen ('better, to the WUC offices in Munich, lie answered questions on the political situation of the Uygluirs in f ast Turkestan and in Central Asia, the Shanghai Cooperative Organization (SCO), and global activities of the WUC, etc. Ms. Valentina and Mr. Jurgen are specialists on the political situation of the Uyghur people and are preparing a book on this subject. They have visited East l urkestan several times and gathered valuable information in their field of research.
4 December 2007	Mr. Osman Giinesh, the former governor of the Turkish state of Kayseri, gave a party to celebrate his new duty as the Deputy Interior Minister of Turkey. He invited more than 500 guests including senior officials, the Mayor of Kayseri, and Members of the Turkish parliament. Vice president of the WUC and the president of the East Turkestan Cultural and Solidarity Association. Mr. Seyit Tiimturk, were also among the guests. He congratulated Mr. Osman Giinesh and presented him with a traditional Uyghur Ton (Jacket). Mr. Tiimtiirk also informed the guests on latest developments in the political situation of Eastern Turkestan.
In December 2007	<p>The condition of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer's two sons remained unknown since their arrest by Chinese police. On December 6. Chinese officials let their father see his sons. Evidently they suffered severe torture at the hands of the Chinese authorities. The physical and mental health of Mr. Alim and Mr. Ablikim is substantially damaged and they are even unable to recognize their own father.</p> <p>After this news was spread, the WUC immediately wrote letters to international organizations such as Amnesty International (AI). the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO), The Society for Threatened Peoples (GfbV), Human Rights Watch (HRW). Human Rights Without Frontiers (HRWF), the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR), the European Parliament (EP), The German Parliament, and the German Foreign Ministry to inform them of this situation. The WUC appealed to the international community to pressure the PRC authorities on the immediate release of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer's sons.</p> <p>On December 14, in a general assembly at the German Parliament, the Bundestag, Member of the German Parliament, Mr. Volker Beck, addressed the members on the human rights situation of the Uyghur people in East Turkestan, and called on the Chinese authorities to release the sons of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer immediately and permit them to receive medical treatment outside of prison. Together with Mr. Volker Beck, another ten Members of Parliament, including Marieluise Beck, Dr. Uschi Eid, Thilo Hoppe, Ute Koczy, Kerstin Muller, Winfried Nachtwei, Omid Nouripour, Claudia Roth, Rainer Steenblock, and Mr. Jurgen Trittin submitted the a 16 term proposal concerning the Uyghur people to the German Parliament.</p>
6-8 December	Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, Mr. Alim Seytoff, chairman of the Executive Committee of the

Activities Report of the WUC¹ (January-December 2007)

<p>2007</p> <p>7 December 2007</p>	<p>WUC, and Mr. Mehmet Emin Elmek attended a conference sponsored by the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) and the Transnational Radical Party (TRP) at the European Parliament. They met with Members of the European Parliament, political leaders, and leaders of international organizations. The WUC delegation informed the participants on the human rights situation of the Uyghur people in Eastern Turkestan and appealed for support for the Uyghur human rights and democracy campaigns</p> <p>Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and Mr. Mehmet Emin Elmek met with high-ranking officials of the Committee for External Affairs of the European Parliament. She briefly introduced the current human rights situation of the Uyghur people and called on the Commission to raise Uyghur human rights issues to their Chinese counterparts in official talks.</p>
<p>8 December 2007</p>	<p>Ms. Rebiya Kadeer gave an interview for the "The Top 100 Women in the World" program, which was made by the French-German TV broadcaster. ARTE. She spoke about her past life and described the crimes committed by the Chinese Communist regime in East Turkestan, including the destruction of traditional Uyghur culture, and the human rights violations of the Uyghurs since the occupation of East Turkestan 59 years ago.</p>
<p>10 December 2007</p>	<p>After the successful completion of their Belgian trip, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and Mr. Mehmet Emin Elmek arrived in Geneva. There, they met with Dr. Novak, the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment. Dr. Novak discussed his visit to China and East Turkestan, where he inspected cruel and inhuman treatment in Chinese prisons. He concluded that the situation is as bad as Ms. Rebiya Kadeer had been describing. He is now working on a report about these issues to be presented to the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.</p>
<p>11 December 2007</p>	<p>Ms. Rebiya Kadeer met with officials of the UN Religious Affairs Commission. During the meeting, she reported to the officials on the Chinese policies to restrict the normal religious practices of Uyghurs in East Turkestan, such as the confiscation of travel documents in order to prevent the Uyghurs from performing the Hajj pilgrimage.</p>
<p>13 December 2007</p>	<p>Ms. Rebiya Kadeer met with officials of the International Labor Organization. There she addressed the forced transfer of Uyghur girls to inner China for cheap labor. Instead of providing them with employment opportunities in their homeland, the PRC authorities are coercively moving the young, unmarried Uyghur girls to inner Chinese cities to work in factories with bad conditions and in night clubs for very cheap wages. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer also presented the officials with strong evidence in this regard and called on the UN to take concrete action to stop the Chinese action.</p>
<p>14 December 2007</p>	<p>Ms. Rebiya Kadeer met with officials of the UNHCR. She addressed the issue of Uyghur political activists who flee to neighboring countries of the PRC, such as Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Azerbaijan, or even to Saudi Arabia. The asylum applications of the Uyghur refugees are often rejected by those countries and in many cases they are extradited to the PRC, where they suffer torture and at times execution. She also pointed out that Chinese government used the Shanghai</p>

	Cooperation Organization (SCOJ as an important tool to prevent Uyghur political refugees to flee from of the region, which controlled by SCO member states.
12 December 2007	The WCC called on Uyghur youths to commemorate and to learn from the spirit of the “December 12 Student Demonstration”, which was staged on October 12, 1985. This demonstration was one of the biggest democratic movements in East Turkestan, which was attended by more than 15,000 student demonstrators.
15 December 2007	Shortly ahead of the 2008 Beijing Olympics, the International Olympic Committee held a news conference on the worsening human rights record in China. Many human rights activists and representatives of the local human rights organizations in Europe, the WUC, and winners of the Sakharov prize attended this conference. Sakharov Prize winners Mr. Wei Jingsheng, Dorn Zaharias kamwenho. and Oliver Bazel from Reporters without Borders were among the participants. Representative of the WUC in Brussels, Mr. Memtimin Ela, delivered a report titled “Assessment of the Situation of the Uyghurs”. During the conference, he criticized the Chinese authorities' use of the war on terrorism as pretext to suppress the Uyghur people, and criticized the PRC's labeling of the rightful struggle for human rights and democracy as “terrorism”.
10 December 2007	To commemorate Human Rights Day, umbrella organizations of the WUC in Germany, Sweden, Holland, Turkey, the USA, and Canada organized protests in front of their local Chinese embassies or consulates.
10 December 2007	The Tibet Initiative in Germany held a large-scale demonstration in Hamburg to commemorate Human Rights Day. On behalf of the WUC, Mr. Asqarjan attended this demonstration and made a speech on the Uyghur human rights situation. A protest petition to request the release of political prisoners was sent to the Chinese Consulate General during this event.
10 December 2007	An academic conference on “The Influence of Human Rights on Democracy” was held in Ankara. Leaders of human rights organizations and activists from a number of Turkish speaking countries, the Ukraine, Greece, Bulgaria and Afghanistan attended this conference. Representative of the WUC in Kirgizstan and president of the Bishkek Democracy and Human Rights Association, Mr. Tursun Islam, and vice Secretary General, Mr. Erkin Emet, participated in this conference on behalf of the WUC. In his speech, Mr. Tursun Islam addressed the human rights violations of the Uyghur people in central Asian republics.
23 December 2007	The Eastern Turkestan Union in Europe (ETUE) celebrated the traditional Muslim festival Eid al-Adha in Munich together with more than 300 Uyghurs around Germany. Mr. Dolkun Isa delivered his good wishes to the participants on behalf of the ETUE presidency. Art shows prepared by Uyghur children attracted and excited all members of the audience. The Alptiken Education Center awarded 35 children with an achievement of excellence.

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<p>7-8 January 2008</p>	<p>During their visit to the Turkish Parliament on January 7 to 8, a group of WUC delegates consisting of WUC vice president, Mr. Seyit Timiturk, member of the Committee for Internal Revision, Mr. Uayrullah Efendigul Effendi, representative of the WUC Youth Committee in Turkey, Mr. Abdullah Tursun, vice Secretary of the WUC, Mr. Erkin Emet, and Mr. Ablikim Hajji, Director of the Eastern Turkestan Education and Cooperation Association, met with Turkish Prime Minister, Mr. Rejep Tayip Erdogan, the prime minister's chief Advisor and former president of the Turkish Parliament, Mr. Bulent Arinch, fellow Members of Parliament, and leaders of Turkish political parties. While briefing on the current human rights situation of the Uyghurs and activities by the WUC, the delegation raised the issues of Uyghur immigrants in Turkey.</p> <p>In discussions, Mr. Bulent Arinch restated his support to Uyghur human rights issues during his presidency and mentioned his rejection of all 5 official invitations by the Chinese People's Congress as a protest against Chinese oppression in East Turkestan.</p>
<p>13 January 2008</p>	<p>More than 150 people participated in the 16th General Assembly of the Eastern Turkestan Union in Europe (ETUE), which was convened in Munich, Germany. The Assembly democratically elected its new round of leadership.</p> <p>Former president of the ETUE, Mr. Dolkun Isa, delivered an exclusive report on the work and achievements of the organization during the past two years. Mr. Umit Tursun briefed attendees on his work as head of financial affairs for the organization. Mr. Dolkun Isa, the acting General Secretary of the WUC, was once again elected as the new president of the organization for the following 2 years of the executive period.</p> <p>http://www.uvehurconeress.org/Uv/News.asD?ItemID=1006321268&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>17 January 2008</p>	<p>A roundtable meeting, "Beijing Olympics and the Human Rights Situation in China", was convened in the Dutch Foreign Ministry. Foreign Ministry officials, members of the Dutch Olympic Committee, and leaders of human rights organizations attended this meeting. Director of the WUC Youth Committee and the head of the Eastern Turkestan Foundation in Holland, Mr. Behtiyar Shemshedin, were also invited. Discussions were held on the human rights situation in China. Human rights organizations presented the increasing human rights violations in the PRC under the Chinese communist regime. Mr. Behtiyar Shemshedin raised the Uyghur human rights issue.</p> <p>http://www.uvahircomiress.org/Uv/News.asD?ItemID=1200677628&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>18 January 2008</p>	<p>Mr. Behtiyar Shemshedin joined the TV talk show "Threatened Turkish Nations", which broadcast by the Cologne based "Turk Show" TV, Germany. Representatives of East Turkestan, Iraq, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, and Turkish organizations, as well as a number of experts also participated. They discussed the</p>

	<p>economic, social and human rights situation of East Turkestan. and the Chinese assimilation policies aimed to extinguish the minority population in the region. Mr. Behtivar presented strong evidence, with scores of examples, of the historical and cultural destruction caused by Chinese policies.</p> <p>Imp: www.uvehireoncongress.org/News.asp?ItemID=12009-1-166-KV: mid - 2130025520</p>
<p>10 January 2008</p>	<p>The Eastern Turkestan Education and Cooperation Association in Turkey celebrated the opening of its new branch office in Beytinburnu district in Istanbul. Governor of the municipal district. Mr. Mural Yildin, offered his congratulations at the opening ceremony. Mr. Seyit Timiltirk participated on behalf of the WUC and made an opening speech.</p> <p>!utp://www.uokbavrak.com/Turkestan.asp?inc=haberdetay^:numara=042</p>
<p>19 January 2008</p>	<p>In his interview to the Epoch Times. WUC spokesman. Mr. Dilshat Rishit, appealed to the British Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, to exert pressure on Chinese leaders regarding Uyghur human rights issues during his state visit to China.</p> <p>Imp: news.epochtimes.com/bk/8/1/19/n198328S.htm</p>
<p>30 January 2008</p>	<p>The WUC organized an awards ceremony in Ankara to honor and express its appreciation to those Turkish civil societies which have been advocating and contributing to the Uyghur cause and showing continuous solidarity to their Uyghur brothers.</p> <p>More than 200 people including a number of leaders of Turkish civil organizations. Members of the Turkish Parliament and scores of members of the Uyghur Diaspora in Ankara participated in this ceremony. Former Member of Parliament, Mr. Orxan Qawunchu, director of the Turkish Cadres Association, Mr. Birjan Aqyildiz, the head of the Women's Committee of the Turk Ocakliri Association, Ms. Filiz Awshar, the head of the Turkish World Human Rights Association, Mr. Abdullah Boksur, the director of the Union for Turkish Cadres Associations, and Mr. Exmet Aqsu from the Ankara branch of the Radio Free Asia were presented with awards during this ceremony.</p> <p>http://www.uv.turkoncongress.org/uv/news.asp?ItemID=1201975916</p>
<p>5 February 2008</p>	<p>On 5 February 1997 in the East Turkestan city of Ghulja, scores of Uyghurs youths, who gathered for a peaceful demonstration against the strict control over religious freedom long imposed by the PRC authorities, were brutally cracked down upon by Chinese security forces. As result, hundreds of demonstrators were shot and detained. On February 5, every year, Uyghur organizations around the world organize unified actions to commemorate those fallen brothers and sisters in this tragic event. Parallel to this year's commemoration of the Ghulja massacre, several demonstrations to boycott the Beijing Olympics were organized by WUC umbrella organizations in Germany, the U.S., Canada, Turkey, France, Holland, and Norway.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">In the Netherlands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Eastern Turkestan Foundation in Holland and the UNPO organized a joint demonstration on DAM Kings Plaza in Amsterdam. More than 200

people including the East Turkestan Diaspora in the Netherlands, Turks, Turkmens, Falun (long members, Dutch citizens, Taiwanese, and UNPO members) joined this demonstration.

<http://www.uyghurcongress.org/News/News.asp?ItemID=-758166003&mid=-2139923529>

In France:

- Despite its small size, the Uyghur Diaspora in France staged a demonstration in front of the Chinese Embassy in Paris. <http://www.uyghurcongress.org/News/News.asp?ItemID=-670927629&mid=-2139923529>

In Norway:

- The Norwegian-Uyghur Committee organized a protest in front of the Chinese embassy in Oslo. Several other commemorative events also took place in the Norwegian city of Bergen in close collaboration with the Rafto Foundation. <http://www.uyghurcongress.org/News/News.asp?ItemID=1202309820&mid=-2139923529>

In Canada:

- Uyghurs in Vancouver held a demonstration in front of the local Chinese Consulate. <http://www.uyghurcongress.org/News/News.asp?ItemID=1202319548&mid=-2139923529>

In Turkey:

- The Ankara branch of the Eastern Turkestan Education and Cooperation Association organized a protest in front of the Chinese Embassy in Ankara. Together with Uyghurs living in Kayseri and Istanbul, leaders of some Turkish civil societies, Azerbaijanis, and Turkmens joined the demonstration. The Ghulja massacre was also discussed in the Turkish parliament. On February 5, the head of the human rights commission of the Turkish parliament, Mr. Mehmet Ekichi, addressed the Ghulja massacre in his speech to parliamentarians. More than 500 people, including several ministers, listened to his speech. Vice president of the WUC, Mr. Seyit Tumturk, member of the WUC committee for Internal Revision, Mr. Hayrullah Efendigul Effendi, and the WUC Youth Committee representative in Turkey, Mr. Abdullah Tursun, were among the audience. This speech was broadcast live by the Turkish state run television station, TRT3.

In Germany:

- The Eastern Turkestan Union in Europe (ETUE) organized a demonstration of more than 150 protestors on Marian Plaza, in Munich. A boycott of the

	<p>2008 Beijing Olympics was one of the main themes of the demonstration. The biography of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer was introduced to the public and pictures of political prisoners were exhibited during this event. A number of protest activities also took place in Frankfurt, which were organized by the Frankfurt branch of the H WE. and in several other German cities such as Berlin, Saarbrueken, Karlsruhe. Kassel, Cologne and Leipzig from February 2 to February 9. Flyers which disclosed the current situation in Last Turkestan, human rights violations, and Chinese repression in Ghulja were presented to the public.</p> <p>http: www.uvjihurcongrcss.org Uv Nevvs.asp?ItemID=-730182612&mid=-213992352*)</p> <p>http: vwww uv ghurcongrcss.org Cv New s.asp?l tern ID-1202646876&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>In February 2008</p>	<p>In regard to the 1st anniversary of the Ghulja event, Mr. Dolkun Isa issued a statement on behalf of the Eastern Turkestan Union in Europe (ETUE) to commemorate those who lost lives in this massacre committed by the PRC authorities.</p> <p>http: vwww.uvghurcongress.org/De/news.asD?ItemID=-674634670&rcid=-708458094&pcid=1110134820&cid=-768458094</p>
<p>In February 2008</p>	<p>In collaboration with the UNPO. the head of the WUC Youth Committee, Mr. Behtiyar Shemshedin. met with officials of the Dutch Parliamentary Commission for Human Rights and Defense and a representative of the Freedom and Democracy Party'. Mr. Van Baalen. In addition to his introduction to Uyghur history and the current situation in East Turkestan, Mr. Behtiyar mainly addressed the urgent issue of the current Chinese policy of the forceful transfer of Uyghur women to inner Chinese cities. Mr. Van Baalen expressed his sympathy and said that he will raise these issues in coming human rights meetings, which would be held on March 11 and March 25.</p> <p>http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asD?ItemID=1202932418&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>27 February 2008</p>	<p>A Hong Kong based newspaper, "Xing Dao", reported that a gathering to commemorate the 11th anniversary of the Ghulja massacre held in a building in the Behit District of the East Turkestan capital, Urumchi, was raided by Chinese security police. During the raid, Chinese police opened fire on the people in the building and subsequently killed 17 Uyghurs. After the spread of this news, WUC General Secretary Mr. Dolkun Isa immediately issued a press statement to condemn this brutal crackdown by the Chinese authorities. In his statement, he condemned the Chinese authorities' increased repression on the entire Uyghur nation in the name of "protecting Olympic security", and the manufacture of fake "terrorist threats", in order to distract international attention from their human rights record, from shameful attempts to damage the reputation of Uyghur people, and from their rightful claims.</p> <p>httpD://www. uvehurconeress.org/Uv/News. asp?Iteml D= 1203010814&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>18 February to 1 March 2008</p>	<p>Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, president of the Executive Committee, Mr. Alim Seytoff, and the General Secretary, Mr. Dolkun Isa, visited Australia accompanied by the WUC</p>

representative in Australia and president of the Australian Uyghur Committee, Mr Hussein Hessen. They made stops in several Australian cities such as Sydney, Canberra, and Adelaide. During their visit, the WUC delegation met with Australian members of parliament, government officials, international organizations, diplomats, journalists and the local (Uyghur Diaspora).

Following are some details of this trip;

- On February 19, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer gave an interview to Australian SBS TV journalist, Ms. Jenny Eavelle, and answered her questions about the situation of Uyghur people in East Turkestan, the Beijing Olympics, and the objectives of her trip to Australia.
- On the same day, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer held a press conference for local Turkish journalists. She answered questions raised by journalists from local newspapers “Weten” and “Zaman”, as well as by famous Turkish TV broadcaster, TRT.
- In the evening, a welcoming party was held for Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and her fellow WUC delegates. More than 150 people including local Uyghur Diaspora, leaders of Turkish civil societies, and journalists attended this ceremony.
<http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uy/News.asp?ItemID=1203424603&mid=-2139923529>
- On the morning of February 20, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer was interviewed by a journalist from the Sydney Morning Herald, Mr. Hamish McDonald. She made a comprehensive presentation on the current situation of East Turkestan.
- WUC delegates then visited the local authority for migration and asylum affairs. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer made an inclusive report on the human rights situation in East Turkestan and raised the issues of asylum seekers in Australia. More than 60 participants including officials, representatives of Amnesty International, and some experts on Uyghur issues attended this meeting. Reports prepared by the Uyghur American Association were presented to the participants.
- The WUC delegation also visited the American Consulate in Sydney accompanied by the U.S. General Consul, Ms. Judith R. Fergin.
- After their visit to the American Consulate, the delegation met with the General Secretary of the Ministry of Immigration, Mr. Jose Alvarez, and his assistants. While briefing on the urgent issues, which the Uyghurs are facing in East Turkestan, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer appealed to the Australian authorities to take more care of Uyghur asylum seekers. Mr. Alvarez said that he will closely follow and act on this issue.
<http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uy/News.asp?ItemID=1203607857&mid=-2139923529>

- The WUC delegation began their activities in the Australian capital, Canberra, by visiting the U.S. Embassy on February 21. Assistant in political affairs to the U.S. Ambassador, Mr. James F. Cole, and the human rights issue assistant, Mr. Davies Sohler, warmly welcomed the WUC delegates. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer gave a comprehensive report on the situation in East Turkestan and answered questions concerning to Beijing Olympics.

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- WUC delegates then visited the Australian parliament and were welcomed by the Minister for Culture, Laurie Ferguson, Senator Kerry Nettle, and other members of parliament, such as Malcolm Turnbull, Michael Dauby, and Alexander Downer. During the talks, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer mainly raised urgent issues, such as the forceful transfer of Uyghur girls to inner Chinese cities and the prohibition of the Uyghur language in the teaching system. The members of parliament said that although they had heard about Uyghur issues, they never realized the seriousness of the situation in East Turkestan, and stressed that they will be more concerned in these issues. After the meeting, the Hall of Senators was exhibited to the delegates.
- Ms. Rebiya Kadeer also visited the Egyptian Embassy to discuss religious repression in East Turkestan, and asked the attendees to raise more awareness regarding these issues.

- Ms. Rebiya Kadeer then met with officials from the Australian Foreign Ministry.

<http://www.uvshurcongress.org/News/News.asD?ItemID=188085150&mid=-2139923529>

- The Sydney Morning Herald published an article on the activities of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer in its daily newspaper on February 21. This article described the early life of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer as a businesswoman and introduced Uyghur history. Her accusations of Chinese government violations of human rights, deprivation of religious freedom, eradication of ethnic identity, customs and language of the Uyghur people in order to assimilate the entire Uyghur nation, were highlighted. The article also discussed the PRC authorities' revenge activities on Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, such as the sentencing of her children to 9 years in prison as she accepted the position of president of the WUC. <http://www.uvshurcongress.org/News/News.asD?ItemID=1349286314&rcid=-768458094&Dcid=1110134820&cid=-768458094>

• To welcome the visiting WUC delegation led by Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, the Eastern Turkestan Association in Australia organized a large welcoming party in San Giorgio La Molar Community Hall in Adelaide. More than 400 people attended this party. During this event, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer discussed her experiences in notorious Chinese prisons, the poor situation of the Uyghurs in East Turkestan, her awareness-raising campaigns for the Uyghur issue, and her future plans. After her speech, the General Secretary of the WUC, Mr. Dolkun Isa, and Mr. Alim Seytoff made reports on their work. This event played a very important role to motivate the Uyghur Diaspora in Australia to support the global Uyghur human rights campaign.

<http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?itemID~1203821041&mid-2139923529>

- A meeting with officials of the South Australian Government was convened in the Adelaide Convention Center on February 24. More than 200 participants including the WUC delegation led by Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, government officials, members of parliament, and the local Uyghur Diaspora attended this meeting. South Australian Justice Minister, Mr. Michael Atkinson, made a speech and expressed a warm welcome to Ms. Rebiya Kadeer. He said that he would raise the Uyghur issue to the South Australian parliament and will exert his effort for the Uyghur cause. Member of the South Australian parliament, Ms. Lindsey Simmons, also expressed her sympathy and support for the situation of the Uyghur people.
- The WUC delegation visited the South Australian parliament at the invitation of the local parliamentarians on February 26. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer made a report on the situation in East Turkestan, its history, and some urgent issues. More than 300 Uyghur demonstrators, who wore traditional Uyghur clothes, staged a demonstration in front of the parliamentary building to protest against the human rights violations by the Chinese government.
- A special women's party was organized by Uyghur women living in Adelaide. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer attended as the guest of honor, and called Uyghur women to participate actively in the political activities. <http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?itemID~143355606&mid-2139923529>
- After finishing their visit to Adelaide, the WUC delegation returned to Sydney on February 27, and began their visit to the New Wales State parliament. Here, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer made a comprehensive report on the 60 years of Chinese communist repression in East Turkestan. She also met with number of parliamentarians such as Mr. Mrlan Cohen, Sonia Hornerty, Andrew Faser, and appealed to them to support Uyghur asylum seekers. Member of Parliament, Mr. Mrlan Cohen, made a speech on Uyghur issues in a general meeting of parliamentarians, and proposed an 8- term draft resolution to the parliament. During her visit to the parliament Ms. Rebiya Kadeer was interviewed by many journalists. <http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?itemID~73597012&mid-2139923529>
- On the afternoon of February 27, the WUC delegates visited the Peace Foundation of the Australian University. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer made a speech on the situation in East Turkestan and answered questions raised by experts in the foundation. The foundation awarded Ms. Rebiya Kadeer for her advocacy and efforts for the rights of the Uyghur people.
- A press conference attended by more than 100 people was held in the Australia branch office of Amnesty International on February' 28. In the press conference, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer made a comprehensive report with |

	<p>plontx of tacts on the situation in Fast Turkestan, ami appreciated AEs etVort towards the Uyghur human rights campaigns over the years. After the press conference. Ms. Rebiya kadeer was interviewed by many prestigious media outlets, such as SBS. ABC, New lira newspaper, etc.</p>
2. February 2008	<p>A conference on "The Truth about Eastern Turkestan" organized by the Euro-Asian Union Foundation was held in Istanbul. More than 200 people including WUC vice president and head of the Eastern Turkestan Education and Cooperation Foundation, Mr. Seyit Tiimtiirk, Mr. 1 lay rulluh Ffendigill FtTendi, leaders of Azerbaijani civil society, members of the Green Moon Association, scholars on the Uyghur issue, and professors attended this meeting. On one side of the meeting hall, photos describing the torture methods used on Uyghur political prisoners by Chinese interrogators were display ed. A 30-minute documentary on Uyghur history and the current situation in East Turkestan was presented to the participants. Head of the Euro-Asian Union Foundation, Mr. Shaban Gulbahar, and Mr. Seyit Tiimtiirk gave opening speeches and answered questions about East Turkestan, hup: www .u\ uhurconeress.orti/ iv/News.asp?ItemID= 1204300531 &mid=-2130923529.</p>
28 February 2008	<p>A live talk show on Kosovo and East Turkestan was broadcasted by Turkish TV 5. Vice president of the WUC, Mr. Seyit Tiimtiirk. and the researcher at the Turk - Asian Strategic Research Center. Mr. Janer Sanjaktar, joined this program. Ms. Seyit Tiimtiirk answered questions about the history and current situation of East Turkestan. hup:/Vwww .uvahirconeress.org/uv/News.asD?ItemID=1 124986305&mid=-2139923529</p>
3 March 2008	<p>Spokesman of the WUC Mr. Dilshat Rishit issued a press statement regarding the opening of the General Assembly of the Chinese National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Congress. He called on these PRC government organs to adopt concrete resolutions dealing with the issues of "self- determination of all ethnic groups". He also restated that the principles of Self- determination allow peoples and nations to have a role in international affairs and calls for respect for their choices and aspirations. Mr. Dilshat also called the Chinese government to perform its duties as a member of the UN, and to respect the human rights and rights of self-determination of the Uyghur people. His statement was published by the Taiwanese central news agency, Chinese language newspapers in the U.S., and was also broadcast by RFA. http://www.uvehurconeress.org/&U v/News.asD?ItemI D= 1204652931 &mid=-2139923529</p>
In March 2008	<p>The leading Australian TV broadcaster, SBS, aired a program on the situation of the Uyghur people and on the visit of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and her fellow WUC delegates to Australia last month. httpD://www.uvehurconeress.org/uv/News.asD?ItemID=-1950676374&inid=-2139923529</p>
6 March 2008	<p>A conference on "Sources of Chinese Foreign Policies and a Lesson for the Future" was held at the University of Amsterdam. Professor Wouter.G G. Werner at the Faculty of Law, a number of other scholars, journalists, students, and lawyers</p>

	<p>attended the conference. Academic discussions were held on Chinese foreign policy" issues. The head of the WUC Youth Committee, Mr. Behtiyar Shemshedin, also attended this meeting.</p> <p>http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/news.asD?ItemID=1204914673</p>
8 March 2008	<p>The WIJC Women's Committee made a statement to greet Uyghur women on Women's Day on March 8. The Eastern Turkestan Union in Europe (ETUE) organized a party to celebrate the achievements of Uyghur women. http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/news.asD?ItemID=879320164</p>
8 and 11 March 2008	<p>The WIJC issued two press releases on March 8 and 11 March to condemn the Chinese authorities repeated allegations against Uyghurs of "terrorist plots". It's not the first time that the Chinese authorities have tried to find an excuse for its overwhelming repression on the Uyghur people by blaming them with terrorism. The WUC called on the international community to pay close attention to what is going on behind scenes.</p> <p>http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/news.asD?ItemID=939671240</p>
In March 2008	<p>The WUC issued another statement and called on the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to urge the Chinese government to respect Uyghur culture and exert efforts for its proper preservation. The statement also stressed that the IOC should not stand by while the Uyghur culture is being extinguished by the PRC government.</p> <p>http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/news.asD?ItemID=1496532695</p>
In March 2008	<p>UNESCO announced 2008 as "The Year of Mahmud Kashgari". In order to commemorate this year, the WUC planned number of activities. Vice president of the WUC, Mr. Seyit Tiimturk, organized a joint conference in collaboration with Turkish state run TV broadcaster, TRT, the University of Erciyes, and the Culture Center of Kayseri. Scores of professors and students at Erciyes University attended this conference.</p> <p>http://www.gokbavrak.com/Turkestan.asD?inc=haberdetav&numara=977</p>
12 March 2008	<p>General Secretary, Mr. Dolkun Isa, issued a statement on behalf of the WUC to respond to the Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman, Chin Gang, who claimed in a press conference that "Ms. Rebiya Kadeer cannot represent the Uyghur people". In his statement Mr. Isa showed that Ms. Rebiya Kadeer is the generally accepted leader of the Uyghur people inside and outside of East Turkestan, and reaffirmed that the Uyghur people have the right to determine their own leader. http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/news.asD?ItemID=1919918609</p>
12 March 2008	<p>In collaboration with UNPO, the head of the WUC Youth Committee, Mr. Behtiyar Shemshedin, met with a member of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Dutch parliament and a representative of the Dutch Workers Party (PVDA), Mr. Van Dam. Mr. Behtiyar made a comprehensive report on the Uyghur women's issue, religious freedom and political prisoners.</p> <p>http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/news.asD?ItemID=1205364156</p>
In March 2008	<p>After the brutal crackdown on the Tibetan uprising by the Chinese government, massive protests erupted all over the world. The WUC made a statement to call Uyghur organizations to support Tibetan demonstrations and to mobilize</p>

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<p>In March .00\$</p>	<p>Responding to the call of the WUC. Uyghur organizations around world organized 1 number of activities to strongly condemn the brutal Chinese repression in Tibet, and to show their support and solidarity to the Tibetans who share the same fate as the Uyghurs. Several joint anti-Chinese demonstrations in collaboration with Tibetan organizations in Washington, Munich, Oslo, Sweden, and Canada were organized during March. Http: www.uNuhureoneress.org UN news.asp'. 'l tendP 1205850765 http: w ww.uviihureonsircss.org UN new s.asp'. 'l tern 11 7 1205057588 http: Nvww.uvehurconeress.oru C\ news.asp'. 'ltemll) 1206587878</p>
<p>22 March 2008</p>	<p>A Newruz celebration party was organized in Oslo by the Norwegian-Uyghur Committee. A brief report on the work of the Committee in the last few years was presented. Former leaders of the Committee and other members with excellent achievements were awarded prizes during this party, http: www.u\eluirconeress.org Uv/news.asp?ltemlD= 1206385486</p>
<p>20 March 2008</p>	<p>The opening ceremony for the establishment of the “Free Asia Peace and Democracy Organization” sponsored by the Tibet movement was held in France. Representatives of the WUC in France, Mr. Ekper Yusup, Kerim Hatiwaji, and Ms. Nurgul, together with representatives of the French Democratic Party, Social Party, French Youth Organization, Taiwanese, Vietnamese and Laotian organizations, members of the French Academy for Political Sciences, and many journalists participated in this ceremony. A joint demonstration was also staged. Member of the French Social Party and Minister, Ms. Jaqueline, made a speech during the demonstration to criticize Chinese policies in East Turkestan and in Tibet. httpD://wwNv.u\ ehurconeress.orsi/U v/news.asp?l tend D= 1206568095 httpD://wNvw.youtube.com/watch?v=iLv5VAssWvA httpD://NVNvw.youtube.com/Nvatch?v=w7acAFhMVA http://wwNv.uvehurconeress.org/Uv/new s.asp?ltemlD= 1206386452</p>
<p>23 March 2008</p>	<p>Aiming to enhance the friendship between Uyghur communities, to preserve the cultural identity of the Uyghur Diaspora in Europe, and to display the colorful Uyghur culture to the Europeans, a large-scale celebration event called “Newruz in Europe 2008” was organized in Munich by the East Turkestan Union in Europe (ETUE). More than 500 people including members of the German political parties, leaders of international human rights organizations, officials of foreign diplomatic missions in Germany, local Uyghurs, and Uyghurs from Norway, Sweden, and Belgium attended this fascinating event. http://www.uvehurconeress.org/Uv/news.asp?ltemlD=548401985</p>
<p>24 March 2008</p>	<p>The WUC and the Eastern Turkestan Union in Europe (WUC) organized a joint demonstration on Marian Plaza in Munich to protest against the start of the torch relay from Greece to Beijing. Uyghurs from Kazakhstan, Kirgizstan, Norway, Sweden, and Belgium who participated in the Newruz celebration on the preceding day also attended the demonstration. http://www.uvehurconeress.org/Uv/news.asp?lteml D=913901632</p>

24 March 2008	As part of its campaign to boycott the 2008 Beijing Olympics, the WIJC and the Eastern Turkestan Union in Europe (ETUE) launched a daily demonstration program, which began on March 24, which will continue until the opening of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. In this program, Uyghurs will stage demonstrations on a daily basis and distribute flyers and booklets on the human rights situation in East Turkestan. They will also collect signatures for a petition.
25 March 2008	The German TV broadcaster ZDF made a program on the human rights situation of the Uyghur people. The interviews filmed with the vice chairman of the WUC executive committee, Mr. Abdul Hakim Idris, and demonstrators on March 25 were included in this program, which aired on ZDF's "Heute Journal" program.
23-24 March 2008	Nearly a thousand Uyghur women in the East Turkestan city of Hoten went to the streets to demonstrate against Chinese repression on religious freedom. Chinese paramilitary forces arrested more than 500 Uyghur women on the same day and began further arrest campaigns by conducting house-to-house searches. A spokesman of the WUC issued a statement to call on the international community to raise concerns on the situation in East Turkestan. In his speech, Mr. Dilshat Rishit also indicated the strong desire that the Uyghur issue should form an important part of the agenda at the UN Human Rights Council, and should be discussed at the international level. http://www.uvehurcongress.org/uv/news.asp?ItemID=1515001002
1 April 2008	On April 5, 1990, thousands of Uyghur peasants started an uprising against the Chinese communist dictators in the East Turkestan city of Baren and demanded rights for the Uyghur people. The Chinese government responded to their rightful claims with machine guns and an overwhelming number of paramilitary troops, who killed hundreds of innocent people and arrested thousands more in the following days. On March 23 to March 24, a group of demonstrators consisting of nearly a thousand Uyghur women, who went to the streets of Hoten, one of the larger cities in East Turkestan, appealed to the Chinese government to respect their ethnic traditions and to give them the right to practice their religion freely, were also subjected to a brutal crackdown by the Chinese authorities. Chinese police forces arrested almost 700 Uyghur women on the first day of the demonstration and declared a state of emergency. The security forces consequently began a massive house-by-house search across the city and arrested even more innocent people, who were merely alleged to have participated in the demonstration. On April 1, the WUC called on all Uyghur organizations to organize campaigns to inform the world about the Hoten event and to raise concerns on the fate of those Uyghur women who were arrested during the demonstration. http://www.uvehurcongress.org/uv/News.asp?ItemID=-104468883&mid=-2139923529
1 April 2008	Ms. Rebiya Kadeer published an article in the New York Times and expressed her views on current issues in Tibet and in East Turkestan. In her article, Ms. Rebiya pointed out that the peoples of Tibet and East Turkestan share the same fate under the Chinese regime, they are both victims of Chinese mass immigration policies, they are suffering both economical and social, religious, and linguistic discrimination, and they are both nations angry about Beijing's policies and the Chinese communist regime, which is the main cause of their sufferings. She also stressed that if the PRC authorities would like to be a responsible member of the

	<p>international organizations, then they suddenly sit down at the negotiating table with representatives of the Tibetan and East Turkestan's people, in order to settle the disagreements between them peacefully.</p> <p>http://www.rfa.org/uyghur/news/2008/14/01/tibet-uyghur-mesilisi-simple.html</p>
3 April 2008	<p>The Olympic Torch arrived on its 4th stop of Istanbul, after it began in Athens. Prior to the Torch Relay's journey in Turkey, the WUC had arranged protest activities through its branch office in Istanbul. On the day of the official Torch Relay in Istanbul, a number of Uyghur organizations in Turkey came together and launched a large-scale joint demonstration against the 2008 Beijing Olympics. More than a thousand Uyghurs and Turks from Ankara and Istanbul joined this demonstration. Although demonstrators tried to extinguish the Olympic Flame during the torch relay, they were failed because of the heavy security presence. This event was broadcast live on TV and radio by a number of mainstream media outlets, such as CNN and BBC.</p> <p>http://www.uyghurcongress.org/News.asp?ItemID=1207336819&mid=-2139923529</p>
5 April 2008	<p>In order to commemorate the 18th anniversary of the Baren uprising and the recent demonstration of Uyghur women in Hoten on March 22 and March 23, and to boycott the Beijing Olympics, Uyghurs in Germany staged a demonstration in Munich. Hundreds of people including Uyghurs, representatives of human rights organizations, and German and Greek sympathizers of the Uyghur cause joined this demonstration, which was jointly organized by the WUC and the Eastern Turkestan Union in Europe (ETUE). A number of leaflets on the situation in East Turkestan, the Baren uprising, and the recent women's demonstration in Hoten were disseminated. Representatives of human rights organizations and the Tibetan movement made speeches during this event.</p> <p>http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1207484763&mid=-2139923529</p>
7 April 2008	<p>Protests and demonstrations against the Beijing Olympics rapidly increased all over the world in recent days. This could be seen especially after the Olympic Torch Relay began its journey. The relay of the Chinese Olympic Torch faced tremendous challenges posed by protestors from all corners of the world. The WUC joined scores of these protests by mobilizing its affiliated organizations around the world towards the same goal of boycotting the Olympic Games of the dictator China. On April 7, the Olympic Torch arrived in Paris. Here, it was welcomed with fierce protests by opponents of the Beijing Olympics. WUC affiliate organizations in the Netherlands, France, and Germany joined this huge rally against the Torch Relay in Paris. Representatives of NGO's, Uyghur and Tibetan organizations made speeches during the rally. A large number of the international media reported on this event.</p> <p>http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1207703894&mid=-2139923529</p>
6-9 April 2008	<p>The 5th Congress of the International Movement for Democracy was opened in Kiev, Ukraine. Mr. Alim Seytoff, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the WUC, and General Secretary of the WUC, Mr. Dolkun Isa, attended this conference on behalf of the WUC. Ukrainian President, Mr. Victor Yushchenkov,</p>

Activities Report of the WIK- (Jiniiriy-I)ecmber 2008;

	<p>and his wife, and former president of Peru, Mr. Alejandro Toledo were introduced at the conference and made opening speeches. More than 500 human rights and democracy advocates, members of parliament, politicians, experts, representatives of human rights organizations, and journalists also participated in this meeting. Participants were divided into three commissions to undertake group discussions during this 3-day meeting. One of the commissions was about the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and was mentored by representatives of the WIJC and the International Human Rights Centre in Kazakhstan. Mr. Alim Seytoff delivered a report on the SCO and its negative effect on the human rights and democracy situation in the central Asian region. Mr. Dolkun Isa met with many human rights and democracy activists during the meeting and introduced the Uyghur human rights situation in East Turkestan.</p> <p>http://www.uvehurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1207703894&mid=-2139923529</p>
7 April 2008	<p>After the completion of its journey to Kazakhstan, Turkey, the U.K. and France, the Olympic Torch reached the coast of North America, and began its journey in San Francisco on April 7. Once again the opponents of the Beijing Olympics gathered together and launched massive demonstrations against the Torch Relay. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and the Uyghurs in the United States also joined these protests in San Francisco. Here, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer met with famous Hollywood figure Mr. Richard Gere as well as other leaders of the Tibetan movement, and held discussions on the Uyghur and Tibetan causes.</p> <p>http://www.rfa.org/uvehur/xewer/tepsili_xewer/2008/04/09/rabive-eere-kokbavraq/?simple=1&ItemID=278084417&mid=-2139923529</p>
9 April 2008	<p>Representatives of the Amnesty International Australian branch, the WUC, the Australia Eastern Turkestan Association, and the Tibetan movement gathered at Martin Palace, in the city centre of Sydney, to boycott the upcoming Beijing Olympics. Under the motto of “Worshipping for Peace”, this event was attended by more than 500 people including journalists from leading Australian media and attracted many visitors. Representatives of these organizations made speeches and addressed their arguments to the public. Leaflets on the human rights violations against the Uyghur people in East Turkestan were disseminated during this event. After the rally, the Australia Eastern Turkestan Association was interviewed by number of Australian TV and radio journalists.</p> <p>http://www.uvehurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1207857216&mid=-2139923529</p>
10-13 April 2008	<p>At the invitation of the Rafto Foundation in Norway, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and Mr. Alim Seytoff made a visit to Norway, where they attended a conference on “China: Human Rights & The Beijing Olympics” in the Norwegian city Bergen. A number of speeches were made during the conference on how the Chinese authorities have broken their promise and have escalated human rights violations during its preparations for the Olympic Games. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer gave a comprehensive report on the Uyghur human rights situation and pointed out that the PRC government is stepping up its continuing pressure on the entire Uyghur population on the pretext of improving the security situation during the Olympic Games, and showed some very hard and discriminatory policies, which were adopted by PRC</p>

	<p>authorities \ cr\ recently. She was intorviewed by a number of Norwegian TV, radio and newspaper journalists alter the conference. On April 10. the offficial Norwegian TV ehannel. NRK1. broadcast documentation on the Uyglnrs and their situation in blast Turkestan and an interview with Ms. Rebiya Kadeer. During her Norwegian \isit. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer also met with some members of the Norwegian Parliament and made speeches at some universities.</p>
U April 2008	<p>At the invitation of the president of the Chinese National People's Congress, Wu Bang Guo, a Turkish Parliamentary delegation consisting of b members led by Mr. Koksai l'optan. the president of the Turkish National Congress. paid a visit to the PRC from April 6 to 12. As the delegation came back from their China visit, the vice president of the WUC, Mr. Seyit Tumtiirk. Mr. 1 lay rullah, chairman of the WUC Committee for Internal Revision went to meet the delegation in order to get informed about the recent situation in bast lurkestan. During the meeting on April 14 in the Turkish National Congress, Mr. Koksai and Ms. Salman Kotan, both members of this delegation, made a briefing on their recent trip to China. WUC delegates also informed these members of parliament of recent Chinese policies which are being implemented in East Turkestan.</p> <p>imp: www.rfa.org/uu/hur/xewerler/tepsili_xewer/2008/04/16/xitav-turkive-uvahur/?simole=1</p>
20 April 2008	<p>A General Assembly of the Executive Committee of the WUC began in Berlin. Members of the Executive Committee from United States, Canada, Australia, Norway, Switzerland. Holland. Kazakhstan. Kirgizstan. Germany, Sweden, France and Turkey attended the meeting on behalf of the Uyghur organizations in their countries. Mr. Dolkun Isa. General Secretary of the WUC, made an annual report on work in last year. Major discussions were held about plans and programs concerning the Beijing Olympics boycott.</p> <p>http://www.uvehurconress.org/Uv/News.asp?itemID=1208788597&mid=-2139923529</p>
21 April 2008	<p>A press conference was held at the Holiday Inn Hotel, after the opening speeches of the Guests of Honor to the Uyghur Leadership Training Seminar. A total of 21 TV, radio and newspaper journalists from leading Gentian media such as DPA, ZDF, Satl, BBR Info, WDR, DW, Berliner Daily, DPR, and EPD reported on this conference. Scores of officials of the German federal government, heads of European and German human rights organizations, experts, and politicians attended the opening ceremony.</p> <p>http://www.uvehurconress.org/Uv/News.asp?itemID=1783637554&mid=-2139923529</p> <p>http://www.netzeitune.de/Dolitik/ausland/985177.html</p> <p>http://www.welt.de/berlin/article1923272/Uieuren_werfen_China_kulturellen_Voel_kermord_vor_.html</p> <p>http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,2144.3290904.00.html</p> <p>http://www.efbv.org/chinakamDaene/Dressemit.php?id=1304</p>
20-24 April 2008	<p>The Uyghur Leader Training Seminar on Human Rights and Democracy sponsored by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), the UNPO and the WUC was opened at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Berlin. Representatives of Uyghur organizations in the United States, Australia, Kazakhstan, Kirgizstan, Germany, France, Norway, i</p>

	Switzerland, Sweden, Belgium, Holland, and Turkey attended this 3-day seminar. During the seminar, leaders of international human rights organizations, experts on human rights activities and international law gave lectures in their specialized fields. On the last day of the seminar, the trainees also visited the Committee for Human Rights at the German Parliament and the parliament itself. http://www.uyghurcongress.org/1_Jy/News.asp?ItemID=1208854165&mid=2139923520
23 April 2008	Participants of the Second Uyghur Leadership Training Seminar staged a demonstration in front of the famous Brandenburg Tor. Representatives of human rights organizations, lecturers at the training seminar and local human rights advocates joined this demonstration. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, member of the Italian Parliament, Mr. Marko Perduca, General Secretary of the UNPO, Mr. Marino Busdachin, gave speeches on Uyghur human rights issues at the demonstration. http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1209158343&mid=2139923529
	2139923529
23 April 2008	According to the agenda of the Second Uyghur Leadership Training Seminar, Uyghur representatives visited the German Parliament. They were warmly welcomed by members of the Human Rights Subcommittee of the German Parliament, Mr. Rainer Buscher and Ms. Angelika Graf. They gave a brief introduction on the work and functions of the Subcommittee, and mentioned the human rights situations in East Turkestan. After Ms. Rebiya Kadeer reported on the situation of Uyghurs in East Turkestan and expressed her hopes to the German government, the Uyghur representatives raised their questions to the committee. Then Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, Mr. Dolkun Isa, Mr. Seyit Tiimtiirk, Mr. Asqarjan and UNPO General Secretary, Mr. Marino, met with Member of Parliament from the German governing party, the CDU, Mr. Holger Haibach, and president of the Green Party, Ms. Claudia Roth. During the meeting, the delegation raised Uyghur human rights issues and appealed to the German government to do more to raise awareness among the EU states towards the Uyghur human rights situation. http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1209216200&mid=2139923529
	2139923529
26 April 2008	The Uyghur Association in Switzerland and the local Tibetan organization staged a joint demonstration against the Beijing Olympics in front of the Swiss Parliament building. Members of the Swiss Parliament, human rights advocates, members of the Tibetan government-in-exile, and many observers attended this demonstration. In their speeches, speakers at the demonstration stressed that it is not only the Tibetan people who are suffering under Chinese communist rule, but it is also the Uyghurs who are also being oppressed under Chinese dictatorship, a fact which has not received enough attention by the international community. http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1209323131&mid=2139923529
	2139923529
23 April 2008	The Second Uyghur Leaders Training Seminar ended successfully with a ceremony on the evening of April 23. Shortly after the end of the seminar, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and her husband, Mr. Sidik Hajji Rouzi, who is also the chief advisor to the WUC, and vice president, Mr. Asqarjan, went to the German city of Göttingen, where they met with the Mayor, Mr. Wolfgang Meyer, on April 24.

	<p>Ms. Rebiya Kadeer made a speech on the Uyghur human rights situation to more than 100 German university students. On the same day, she also gave interviews to a number of local and national journalists and answered their questions on Uyghur issues.</p>
15 April 2008	<p>Ms. Rebiya and her colleagues gathered in the German city of Giessen, where she met with the Mayor, Ms. (ierba Weigel Greilich, and held press conference. In answering diverse questions about Uyghurs posed by journalists, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer discussed the issues of the 1 A glint detainees in Guantanamo. Later in the day, she also attended a ceremony organized by the municipal government, which aimed to introduce the biography of Ms. Rebiya Kadeer to new readers. This ceremony was mentored by vice Mayor, Ms. Cicda Weigel-Greilich, and attracted more than 400 visitors.</p>
26 April 2008	<p>A large-scale demonstration against the 2008 Beijing Olympics was staged in the German city of Nurnberg. More than 1000 Uyghurs, Tibetans and Germans joined this protest. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer made a speech to the demonstrators. A number of journalists from the German media reported on this event.</p>
27 April 2008	<p>After returning to their home countries, the Uyghur leaders, who attended the Second Uyghur Leadership Training Seminar in Berlin, began to spread the message and the spirit of the seminar. The Norwegian-Uyghur Committee gathered on April 27. The President of the Norwegian Uyghur Committee, Mr. Semet Abla, and Mr. Nighmet Tursun informed the members of the Committee about important aspects of this 3 day training seminar. http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/Nevvs.asp?UemID=1565920716&mid=2139923529</p>
29 April 2008	<p>A joint conference on human rights and the 2008 Beijing Olympics was held at the Bavarian Parliament in close collaboration with the Bavarian parliamentary group of the Green Party, Amnesty International's German branch, International Human Rights Organization's German branch, Journalist without Frontiers' German branch and the WUC. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer was invited as a guest of honor to this conference and she made a speech to the attendants. Members of the European Parliament, leaders of human rights organizations were also among the guests. A group of Uyghur artists performed Uyghur songs and dances during the conference. http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1209928126&mid=2139923529</p>
26 April 2008	<p>The Eastern Turkestan Foundation in Holland, and the UNPO organized a joint demonstration against the Beijing Olympics. It was staged at the Dutch Parliamentary Palace in The Hague. Uyghurs in Holland, members of UNPO joined in the demonstration. There was extensive media coverage from major TV, radio and newspaper journalists during this event. Demonstrators disseminated thousands of leaflets on the situation in East Turkestan. http://www.uyghurcongress.org/tjv/News.asD?ItemID=1209499574&mid=2139923529</p>
In April 2008	<p>As a result of its comprehensive work on media relations, many local and international media outlets in Germany broadly covered the WUC's Second</p>

	<p>Uyghur 1.coders 1 raining Seminar in Berlin. <a href="http://www.uvi'hurc<>Mi'rccs.ortj'/Dc/PressRclease.asD?ItemID - I2368l()337&mi<l1096144499">http://www.uvi'hurc<>Mi'rccs.ortj'/Dc/PressRclease.asD?ItemID - I2368l()337&mi<l1096144499.</p>
30 April 2008	<p>In order to honor and to appreciate those who have been supporting the Uyghur human rights and democracy campaign over the years in Australia, the WUC's Australia representative, Mr. Hussein Hessen, invited numbers of Australian government officials, including members of the Australian Parliament, government Ministers, human rights advocates, experts in politics, and some social figures to a dinner party in Sydney. yUv/News.asp?ItemID= 1209992120&mid=-2139923529">http://www.uvuluircoimress.on>yUv/News.asp?ItemID= 1209992120&mid=-2139923529</p>
3 April 2008	<p>The WUC issued a press statement to strongly condemn the Chinese government for their violent crackdown on the peaceful protest of Uyghur women in the Hoten prefecture of East Turkestan. http://www.uvuhurconiress.ortj'/De/PressRelease.asD?ItemID=1207299573&mid=1096144499</p>
29 April to 5 May 2008	<p>General Secretary of the WUC, Mr. Dolkun Isa, paid a visit to Japan and attended a conference on "The Human Rights Situation in China". At the Japanese Parliament on April 30, Mr. Isa addressed the issues of Uyghur human rights violations by the PRC authorities. More than 400 people including Members of the Japanese Parliament, leaders of Japanese political parties, high ranking officials, experts, representatives of human rights organizations, and journalists from the Japanese media attended this conference. The human rights situation in Tibet and in East Turkestan was the main topic of the meeting. Participants were very impressed by the report made by Mr. Dolkun Isa. He met with former Japanese Prime Minister, Mr. Shinzo Abe, and former foreign minister, Mr. Taro Aso, during the conference. During the talks, Mr. Dolkun Isa appealed to Japanese leaders to raise Uyghur human rights issues at the upcoming visit of Chinese Prime Minister, Hu Jintao. He also mentioned the case of the Uyghur scholar Tohti Tuniyaz, who came to Japan to seek a PhD degree, was arrested on his trip to East Turkestan, and was sentenced to 11 years in prison. Ms. Shinzo Abe promised to raise these issues when he meets with Chinese leaders. In fact, Mr. Shinzo Abe did mention these issues in his talk with Hu Jintao on April 8. Mr. Shinzo Abe also sponsored a team that will lead the efforts for the release of the Uyghur scholar, Mr. Tohti Tuniyaz. Mr. Dolkun Isa's trip to Japan was regarded as one of the most important steps to the raising of awareness of both the Japanese people and the Japanese government towards the Uyghur human rights issue. http://www.uvuhurconeress.ore/Uv/News.asD?ItemID= 1210176456&mid=-2139923529.</p>
In April 2008	<p>Mr. Dolkun Isa attended several meetings with the Uyghur community in Japan and discussed ways of introducing Uyghur issues to the Japanese public and the Japanese government more effectively. Possibilities and benefits of the establishment of a Uyghur Japanese Association were also the main topics of these discussions. Finally, they decided to initiate a committee of 7 members, who will lead efforts for the establishment of a Uyghur Association in Japan. After a few months of effective working, the committee founded the Japanese-Uyghur Solidarity Association in Japan on June 15. Former representative of the WUC in</p>

	<p>Committee, Mr. Behliyar, vice president of the Eastern Turkestan Union in Europe, Mr. (Jsmunjnn, attended a conference titled "Opening the World Order to the de Facto Stales" at the European Parliament. This conference was jointly sponsored by UNPO, Alliance of Liberal Democrats in Europe IALDE), Non-Violent Radical Party, Taiwan Democracy f oundation f 1 DP) and the government of Abkhazia, and more than 200 people participated including representatives of those international organizations, members of the Luropan Parliament, politicians, experts and journalists. In her speech, Mr. Kebiya Kadeer addressed the situation in East Turkestan. Mr. Gram Watson, president of the ALDE said that he felt very proud to see Ms. Kebiya Kadeer once again at the European Parliament. Ms. Kebiya Kadeer, Mr. Erkin Alptiken, and Mr. Dolkun Isa held talks with Members of the European Parliament and held a press conference with journalists. http://www.uvuhurcormress.onz/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1211018777&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>16-19 May 2008</p>	<p>The 9th Congress of the UNPO opened at the European Parliament. On behalf of East Turkestan, Ms. Kebiya Kadeer, Mr. Erkin Alptiken, Mr. Dolkun Isa and Mr. Behtiyar Shemshedin attended the congress. After the opening speech by the General Secretary of the UNPO, Mr. Marino Busdachin, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer delivered her speech as a guest of honor. In her speech, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer addressed the situation in East Turkestan after the Chinese invasion in 1949, and stressed the importance of strengthening the role of the UNPO. In addition to the 62 members of the UNPO, a number of members of the European Parliament, politicians, and journalists also attended this event. A 2-year working report of the UNPO and a brief review on the current situation of those unrepresented nations was made during the Congress. Uyghur delegates also held talks with members of the European Parliament and leaders of international organizations and addressed the issues of East Turkestan. At the end of the Congress, a new round of leadership for the UNPO was democratically elected. Mr. Dolkun Isa was once again elected to the UNPO presidency. http://www.uvuhurconeress.onz/Uv/News.asD?ItemID=1211020255&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>25 May 2008</p>	<p>A forum on Azerbaijan and the Turkic language-speaking people organized by the Azerbaijan Culture Center was opened in the German city of Cologne. Writers, thinkers, Turcologists, journalists attended the forum. They presented academic papers on the political, economic, social and cultural situations in central Asian countries and especially on the difficult situation of those Azerbaijani Turks living in Iran. Member of the Executive Committee of the WUC, Mr. Koresh Omer, attended the Forum on behalf of the WUC and presented a report on East Turkestan and its people. http://www.uvizhurcongress.ore/Uv/News.asD?ItemID=1211829959&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>30 May 2008</p>	<p>Regardless of all the promises to improve the human rights situation in China made to the International Olympic Committee prior to their Olympic Bid, the PRC authorities has adopted even stricter policies and regulations to limit more civil liberties and stepped up human rights violations all across China. On May 30, the WUC called all affiliated organizations and all Uyghur people to raise the awareness of the international community to the happenings in East Turkestan and organize demonstrations especially during the Olympic Torch Relay's presence in</p>

L	<p>East Turkestan from June 25 to June 27. The WUC also decided to launch a protest with the "Freedom Torch" relay, which paralleled the Chinese Olympic Torch relay in East Turkestan.</p> <p>Htp: ww v\ u\ sihireoni'ress.org/Uv/No\vs.asp?llomllV -2038515961 tVmid--- 2139923529</p>
1° Ma> 2008	<p>In close collaboration with international organizations in Canada, the Uyghurs in Canada staged a demonstration under the slogan of "Olympics and the Crimes against Humanity Cannot Coexist". Members of Tibetan, Vietnamese, Sudanese and Burmese communities in Canada and representatives of international human rights organizations joined this protest. In his speech during the demonstration, Mr. Memet Tohti restated that China is a country that did not sign the international human rights treaty, and called on the international community to exert pressure on China to sign those internationally accepted human rights conventions, http://en.epoehlimcs.com/news/8-5-19/70798.html</p>
In May 2008	<p>For the secure passage of the Olympic Torch across the East Turkestan, the Chinese authorities lightened security measures through mass arrests of innocent Uyghurs, who were merely suspected to be a threat to the Torch Relay. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and Mr. Dolkun Isa issued statements in this regard and strongly condemned the PRC government of increasing the pressure on Uyghurs in East Turkestan by using Olympic security as a pretext. These press releases attracted considerable media attention. The AFP press agency for example, published an article called "Torch Relay worsens Chinese crackdown: Uyghur Leaders" based on the press statements of WUC leaders.</p> <p>http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/05/05/2235807.htm</p>
In May 2008	<p>Spokesman for the WUC, Mr. Dilshat Rishit, issued several press releases and accepted interviews regarding the Beijing Olympics and the position of the WUC on these issues. In his statements, he clearly stated the worsening human rights situation of the Uyghur people in East Turkestan and reaffirmed that the decision by the International Olympic Committee to grant the PRC the honor of hosting the 2008 Summer Olympics was wrong.</p> <p>htID://www.ntdtv.com/xtr/b5/2008/05/07/al37532.html#Dhoto.</p>
29 May 2008	<p>The Eastern Turkestan Education and Cooperation Foundation in Istanbul organized an exhibition on Uyghur culture. Books and photos about Uyghurs were displayed. Mr. Hayrullah Effendi attended on behalf of the WUC, and made a speech on the threatened Uyghur culture in East Turkestan under the Chinese regime. More than 500 visitors came to see this exhibition.</p> <p>http://www.gokbaYrak.com/Turkestan.asD?inc=haberdetav&numara=1048</p>
29-30 May 2008	<p>The General Assembly of the 17th International Muslim Nations Congress hosted by the Economical and Social Research Center (ESAM), attended by more than 170 delegates including members of parliament, leaders of political parties, experts, ministers, and representatives of international organizations from 37 countries, was opened in Turkey. Mr. Seyit Tunturk on behalf of the WUC delivered a report on the religious persecution of the Uyghur Muslims in East Turkestan.</p> <p>http://www.eokbavrak.com/Turkestan.asD?inc=haberdetav&numara=1044</p>

25 May 2008	Mr. Seyil TOMlOrk gave a IV interview to ZIGANA TV and answered diverse questions on Uygwlwrs and the Beijing Olympics. litp://www.gokhayrak.com/1 uikeslan.asnVinc haherdctav&numara=1042
4 June 2008	A semi-formal meeting on the “European Union and China Dialog: Tibet and its Inlluenee on Sino-Europcan Relations” was attended by Members of the European Parliament, the Chinese diplomatic mission to Brussels, Representatives of Taiwan in the EU, some human rights organizations and number of university professors, and was held in the European Parliament. Mr. Memtimin Omer participated on behalf of the WIJC. Participants reviewed recent unrest in Tibetan regions and analyzed the possible inlluenee of Tibet-China conflicts on Sino-EU relations. By reporting on East Turkestan and Uyghur human rights issues to the participants, Mr. Memtimin Omer pointed out that the current situation in East Turkestan and with Uyghurs is the same as with the Tibetan people. http://www.iYgluircongress.org/Uv/News.aspVlteml D= 1212619817&mid=-2139923529
10 June 2008	A spokesperson for the WUC issued a press statement and fiercely condemned the PRC authorities of stepping up its oppression against the Uyghur people by using the Olympic Games as a pretext. In his statement, Mr. Dilshat described the situation in Urumchi and in Kashgar, where the Olympic Torch will be paraded in the next few days, and where the Chinese authorities are using harsh policies to limit the fundamental freedom of Uyghurs in order to “guarantee Torch Relay Security”. Some examples of these harsh policies are the prohibition of marriage ceremonies, funeral ceremonies, public gatherings and forced “patriotic education” on Uyghur children around the Torch Relay season in East Turkestan. The Chinese authorities have already prohibited citizens in Urumchi and in Kashgar from opening their windows while the Olympic Torch passed through their area. http://www.rfa.org/uvahur/xewerler/u\ ghur/dua-uvehur-besimi-06102008182735.html?encodina=latin
11-16 June 2008	Ms. Rebiya Kadeer visited Canada and met with Canadian government officials and Members of Parliament. She attended a meeting hosted by Amnesty International in Toronto and met with the Canadian Uyghur Association. She discussed with the Canadian officials the current situation in East Turkestan and the Uyghurs, the newly adopted policies by the Chinese government to restrict even more freedom of the Uyghurs, the Hussein Celil case, and the issue of the Uyghur detainees in Guantanamo. Canadian Culture Minister, Ms. Jesin Peni, accompanied Ms. Rebiya Kadeer on all her meetings with the Canadian Members of parliament and government officials. http://www.rfa.org/uvchur/xewerleiVteDsili xewer/rabive-kanada-zivaret-06142008025754.html?encoding=latin
13 June 2008	The WUC released a press statement to condemn a newly adopted policy by the Chinese authorities of strengthening the forced “anti-separatism ideology and patriotism” education on Uyghur children. In the statement, the WUC criticized the PRC authorities of imposing brainwashing on Uyghur youth in order to prevent them from embracing their religious and national identity. http://www.rfa.org/uvchur/xewerler/uvghur/diiq-xuar-osmurler-06132008171628.html/storv main?encoding=latin

<p>In Juno 2008</p>	<p>In outer to commemorate the 1 .000¹¹ anniversary of the birth of the famous Uyghur scientist Mahmud kashgari. and to deepen the knowledge of Uyghur children about this famous Uyghur scientist, the WUC and the East Turkestan Union in Europe (ETUE) organized a joint celebration titled "2008- The Year of Mahmud kashgari, knowledge Contest for Uyghur Youth", The year 2008 was named as "The Year of Mahmud kashgari" b> UNSCO in order to honor this Uyghur scientist and his achievements nearly 1.000 years ago. Scores of Uyghur children from across Germany came to join this contest with their parents. Before the beginning of the contest, the life and achievements of Mahmud Kashgar were recalled and a brief introduction was made on his famous work "Turkic lillar Diwani" (Encyclopedia of Turkic Languages). Competitors were divided into two groups based on their ages (group A between 7 and 11: group B between 12 and 14). 150 normal questions and 30 special questions were asked. At the end, the winners were awarded at three levels. Business owners of several Uyghur restaurants such as Taklimakan. Nur Fast Foods, Sutuq Boghra Fast Foods, Karawan Fast Foods and Omit Super Market financially sponsored this event, litn: w w w ,u\ ghurcongress.org Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1563600494&mid=2139923529</p>
<p>17 June 2008</p>	<p>As the WUC was planning and mobilizing all of its affiliate organizations around the world to hold large scale protests against the Olympic Torch Relay in East Turkestan front June 25 to June 27. the Chinese authorities secretly changed the schedule of Torch Relay to June 17, without making any prior official announcement until June 15. Nevertheless, the WUC and the East Turkestan Union in Europe (ETUE) exerted joint efforts and organized a demonstration on the same day in which the Olympic Torch was being paraded in East Turkestan. Representatives of the Society for Threatened Peoples in Germany, Turkish human rights organizations, and sympathizers of Uyghurs joined this demonstration on the Karlsplatz in Munich. Mainstream German media such as "Sueddeutsche Zeitung" (South German News) reported on this event. http://www.uv2hurconeress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=392842819&mid=2139923529</p>
<p>9-16 June 2008</p>	<p>In order to raise the awareness of the Japanese people and the Japanese government towards Uyghur human rights issues and to strengthen the friendship between Uyghurs living in Japan, the vice president of the WUC, Mr. Seyit Tiimturk, paid a visit to Japan. During his visit, Mr. Seyit met with former Prime Minister, Mr. Shinzo Abe, and some Members of the Japanese Parliament including Mr. Nishura Shingo. He gave a report on the current Uyghur human rights situation in East Turkestan. The Financial Times of Japan and one of the famous Japanese cultural program broadcasters Fukura organized an interview with Mr. Seyit Tiimturk. http://www.rfa.org/uYghur/xewrcrler/tepsili xewer/duq-vapon-shinzo-abi-061 82008044250.html?encoding=latin.</p>
<p>21 June 2008</p>	<p>The East Turkestan Union in Europe (ETUE) opened its annual meeting in Frankfurt. Leaders of the WUC and the ETUE including Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, Mr. Asqarjan, Mr. Dolkun Isa, and Mr. Ablimit Tursun attended the meeting. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer made the opening speech. An annual report on the work and achievements of the ETUE was delivered to the participants. Journalists who were invited to the meeting asked questions on work of the WUC and the ETUE.</p>

	<p>hlli»://www.iiYuliurconj»ress orj>/l Jy/News.a.sp?llcmll)--266541607&mkJ - 2139923529</p>
21 June 2008	<p>A human rights conference organized by the Brandenburg office of the governing party the CDU opened in the Cicrman city of Cottbus. More than 200 people including the head of the human rights mission of the German government, Mr. Gunter Nooke, representative of Amnesty International, Mr. Peter Frank, Mr. Jorge Vazque, a human rights advocate from Cuba, representative of the International Movement for l ibel, Mr. Kai Muller, Falun Gong representatives, and local residents of Cottbus attended this event. Vice president of the ETUE, Mr. Umit Agalii, Mr. Tursun Muhammad and Mr. Gheyur Qurban participated on behalf of the WUC. WUC delegates presented reports and disseminated leaflets about the Uyghur human rights situation in East Turkestan.</p> <p>http://www.uYi'hurconnress.on»/Uv/News.asD?ItemID=1214815403&mid=-2139923529.</p>
25 June 2008	<p>The Norwegian-Uyghur Committee organized a demonstration in Oslo to protest against the human rights violations against the Uyghur people by the Chinese government, especially the recent deterioration of human rights conditions since China was granted to host the Olympic Games. More than 100 people including Uyghurs, local Norwegians, representatives of human rights organizations such as the chairman of the “House of Freedom Foundation”, Mr. Maria Dale, and the head of the local Tibetan organization, Mr. Chongdak Korenmu, participated in this demonstration.</p> <p>http://www.uvehurconerress.ore/Uv/News.asD?ItemI D= 1214634865&mid=-2139923529</p>
In June 2008	<p>Organized by the WUC, more than 250 Uyghurs from Germany, Holland, Belgium and France staged a joint demonstration in front of the headquarters of the European Union in Brussels. The demonstration protested against the harsh policies of the PRC authorities to repress the Uyghur people around the Olympic games. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and the president of Human Rights without Frontiers (HRWF), Mr. Willy Fautre, made speeches on the human rights situation of the Uyghur people. A number of press agencies including local media in Brussels, Reuters, the press office of the European Union, the Chinese language edition of the Epoch Times, Falun Gong News, Taiwan Central Press Agency, etc. reported on this event. After the demonstration, the WUC delegation led by Ms. Rebiya Kadeer visited EU headquarters and met with Members of the EU Parliament. During talks with MPs, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer discussed the worsening human rights conditions of the Uyghur people in East Turkestan inflicted by the Chinese authorities around the Olympic Games.</p> <p>http://www.uvnhurcomiress.ore/Uv/News.asD?ItemID=1214566778&mid=-2139923529</p>
24 June 2008	<p>The WUC and the German branch of the International Society for Human Rights (ISHR) organized a joint press conference for Ms. Rebiya Kadeer in the German city of Cologne. More than 20 TV, radio and newspaper journalists reported on this conference.</p> <p>http://www.ishr.ore/press/Detailansicht.384+M57b307a875d.0.html</p>

<p>25 June 2008</p>	<p>The WUC organized a large-scale demonstration in Munich on June 25 against the worsening human rights violations against the Uyghur people by the Chinese government during the Olympic and the Torch Relay periods in East Turkestan. This demonstration took place on Marien Palace and attracted many tourists http://www.uighurcongress.org/News.asp?ItemID=12118201&mid=2139925529</p> <p>At the invitation of the Committee for the Celebration of the 850th birthday of Munich, the WUC arranged a cultural event in order to introduce the Uyghur culture to the visitors who came to participate in this big celebration. On that day, Uyghurs in Munich prepared many sorts of delicious Uyghur foods, wore traditional Uyghur clothes, and presented unique aspects of the Uyghur culture. Imp: www.uighurcongress.org/News.asp?ItemID=1214823893&mid=2139925529</p>
<p>16 June 2008</p>	<p>The WUC issued a press statement titled "The Olympic Games - Political Games" and unveiled recent Chinese policies to terrorize the Uyghurs by stepping up "strike hard" campaigns. The WUC also appealed to European leaders to boycott the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics. http://www.uighurcongress.org/En/PressRelease.asp?ItemID=1213640973&mid=1096144499. http://news.creaders.net/headline/subject_details.php?nid=347504&id=439284TW&et=clnk&cd=90&sl=hk</p>
<p>29 June 2008</p>	<p>The Second General Assembly of the Australian Uyghur Committee (AUC) was opened in Sydney. Representative of the WUC in Australia, Mr. Hussein Hessen, made an opening speech and reported on the recent work of the WUC and the AUC. He also pointed out some mistakes, which were made in the past and discussed possible solutions and necessary improvements for the future work of the organizations. At the end, the participants elected 7 members for the new round of the Executive Committee. Mr. Hussein Hessen was once again elected as the president of the AUC. http://www.uighurcongress.org/News.asp?ItemID=1214937124</p>
<p>9 July 2008</p>	<p>The Chinese security forces stormed a house where a number of Uyghur youth came for a religious gathering on July 8 in Urumchi. As a result of an indiscriminate firing in the gathering by the police, 5 Uyghurs were shot to death immediately and 15 others were arrested. On the same day of the bloody raid in Urumchi, the Kashgar regional government organized an open court session, attended by more than ten thousand local residents, and sentenced 5 Uyghurs to death by immediate execution and gave another 15 Uyghurs different prison sentences. The WUC made an immediate press statement on July 9 in this regard, and strongly condemned the barbaric acts of the Chinese government on the eve of the Olympic Games. http://www.rfa.org/enGLISH/news/uvahur/shootinc-07102008090534.html http://www.uighurcongress.org/UY/News.asp?ItemID=774501828&mid=2139923529</p>
<p>In July 2008</p>	<p>After the bloody events in Kashgar and Urumchi, the WUC mobilized all affiliate</p>

organizations (<> protest against the Chinese government's actions. Supporting the call oillie WUC, several Uyghur organizations held demonstrations in a number of European countries.

In Munich, Germany

The WUC and the Mast Turkestan Union in Mu rope (ETUE) organized a joint demonstration on July 12 in Munich. In addition to the Uyghur participants from Munich, leaders of a number of local human rights organizations joined the demonstration in the Karlsplatz, in the city center of Munich. In his speech to the crowd during the demonstration, the Secretary General of the WUC and the president of the ETUE, Mr. Dolkun Isa, pointed out that the current events in Kashgar and in Urumchi once again clearly showed the degree of the worsened human rights situation of Uyghurs despite the fact that the Beijing Olympic Games were one month away. The Munich chief of Human Rights Organization, Mr. Jiirgen Tliirak, also stressed in his speech that the latest hard strikes by the Chinese government in Kashgar and Urumchi are clear evidence to prove that the Chinese government has no right to host the Olympic Games. Leaflets on the latest events in these regions were disseminated to the public during the demonstration. <http://www.uvghurconeress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1216046426&mid=-2139923529>.

In Frankfurt, Germany

The Frankfurt branch of the ETUE demonstrated in Hauptiwache Street in Frankfurt on July 12. More than a thousand leaflets on East Turkestan and the Uyghurs, their history, culture and the human rights violations by the Chinese authorities were disseminated. <http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1215958386&mid=-2139923529>

In Sweden

The Uyghur Swedish Association and the Uyghur Education and Friendship Association organized a protest in front of the Chinese Embassy in Stockholm on July 13. In their speeches, the head of the Uyghur Swedish Association, Mr. Abdushukur, and a spokesman of the WUC, Mr. Dilshat Rishit, pointed out the continuing human rights violations of the Uyghur people by the Chinese government even on the eve of the Olympic Games. <http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1216066062&mid=-2139923529>

In Norway

The Uyghur-Norwegian Association demonstrated on July 13 in the capital Oslo. Uyghurs from Oslo and neighboring cities came to join the demonstration. Many spectators were attracted to join as many Uyghur parents brought their children with them. These kids showed strength and courage and disseminated leaflets about recent events in East Turkestan. http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1216138703&mid=-2139923529_

20-23 Jul\ 2008	<p>After months of preparations, at the request of the International Uyghur Human Rights and Democracy Foundation (IUHRDF), the WUC' successfully launched a training seminar for Uyghur women on democracy, human rights and international law in Munich. With generous financial support from Nil), the IUHRDF's women's training seminar succeeded in close collaboration with the WUC' and the Greens Parliamentary group in the Bavarian Landtag. Secretary General of the WUC, Mr. Dolkun Isa. and the Vice president of the WUC, Mr. Asqarjan, led the all preparation work for the seminar. Uyghur women representatives from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey, the U.S., Canada, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, France, the Netherlands, and Japan participated in the seminar. During the 3 day training, the participants received specialized lectures from professors, experts, leaders of international human rights organizations, and members of the German/Bavarian parliament on various topics including democracy, human rights, international law, women's rights and the empowerment of women, etc. They were also provided opportunities to exercise their knowledge in special training sessions, communicate each other, and share experiences. The WUC also invited all trainees together with lecturers to a joint evening party prior to the beginning of the course on July 20, in order to provide them with an opportunity to meet each other and build broader social networks. On the first day of the training sessions, the WUC and the Greens Parliamentary group in the Bavarian Landtag jointly organized a press conference. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, the head of the Green group, Ms. Margareta Bause, and Mr. Ulrich Delius from the Society for Threatened Peoples answered questions raised by journalists regarding the women's seminar, the Uyghur human rights situation, and the Beijing Olympic Games. During the seminar, they gave reports on the recent activities of the WUC and disseminated Uyghur and English language flyers. On the last day of the training seminar, the participants of the Uyghur Women's Seminar visited the offices of the WUC and received a guided tour of some of the historic sites in Munich.</p> <p>http://www.derwesten.de/nachrichten/politik/2008/7/21/nevs-63762583/detail.html</p>
26-27 July 2008	<p>The Turkic Speaking Peoples Festival was celebrated in Montreal, Canada. A group of Uyghur delegates from the WUC Youth Committee led by Mr. Behtiyar Shemshedin attended this event. The WUC delegates set up a symbolic "Uyghur House" to demonstrate Uyghur culture. The "Uyghur House" was decorated with pieces of traditional Uyghur culture such as traditional Uyghur clothes and musical instruments. Photos depicting the Uyghur political situation were also exhibited. In addition, the Uyghur delegates presented the visitors with delicious Uyghur food and performed traditional Uyghur musical dances.</p> <p>http://www.Uyghurcongress.org/News.asp?ItemIDK333826915&mid=-2139923529.</p>
13 July 2008	<p>In order to hold the celebration of the 850th birthday of Munich city and to showcase the ethnic diversity of this European metropolis, the Munich Foreigners Council sponsored a cultural event and provided a platform to demonstrate the diverse culture of the various ethnic groups in this city.</p> <p>The ETUE actively participated in this event and exhibited Uyghur culture to spectators. They prepared distinguished Uyghur foods and generated some income by selling it to the curious public. Uyghur music and dance were performed and</p>

	<p>attracted many visitors. http://www.uvnews.com/uvnews.asp?ItemID=652101067&mid=-213992.1529</p>
29 July 2008	<p>U.S. President George W. Bush received the democratic leader of the Uyghur people Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and some other prominent personalities of the democratic movements around the world including Mr. Wei Jingsheng, Mr. Harry Wu, Mr. Sasha Gong and Mr. Bob Lu in the White House. It was the second time that President Bush received Ms. Rebiya Kadeer. The President's meeting with the prominent Uyghur leader, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, and the expression of his concerns for the Uyghur human rights situation at such a time when the Chinese authorities had fiercely stepped up its crackdown on Uyghurs by using the pretext of "Olympic Security", brought to the Uyghur people much courage and strength. During the meeting, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer appealed to the President to raise the Uyghur human rights issue to his Chinese counterpart, Hu Jintao, in his future talks during the Beijing Olympic Games.</p> <p>http://www.rfa.org/uvchur/xewerler/tepsili_xewer/bush-rabive-xanim-aqsaravda-07302008033542.html http://newsbusters.org/blogs/mark-flinkelstein/2008/07/29/nvt-blasts-bush-chinese-human-rights-same-day-prez-meets-activists</p>
24 July 2008	<p>Leaders of the WUC in Germany met with German intellectuals at Marcan restaurant in Munich. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, Mr. Asqarjan and Mr. Dolkun Isa attended the meeting and introduced Uyghur history, culture, and the current political situation of the Uyghur people. Local Uyghur artists performed Uyghur music and dance during the event, which was attended by 50 people including lawyers, doctors, journalists, and some politicians from German society. http://www.uvnews.com/uvnews.asp?ItemID=1724156430</p>
In July 2008	<p>The WUC made several press releases regarding the Uyghur Women's Seminar sponsored by the UHRDF and a number of other future activities.</p> <p>http://www.uvnews.com/uvnews.asp?ItemID=1775204576&mid=1096144499 http://www.uvnews.com/uvnews.asp?ItemID=1216387199&mid=1096144499 http://www.uvnews.com/uvnews.asp?ItemID=2098234995&mid=1096144499</p>
In July 2008	<p>The Chinese security forces intensified their crackdown on the Uyghur people as the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games approached. According to a report on the local government website of Kizilsu Kyrgyz Autonomic sub region in East Turkestan, somebody hanged Ms. Rebiya Kadeer's icon in the city center of Artush. After this incident happened, the Chinese police launched a mass house-by-house search in order to find the responsible party, and arrested hundreds of innocent people</p> <p>http://www.xinhuanet.com/kz/2008-07/11/content_13794526.htm</p> <p>On another government website, further "strike hard" campaigns were reported in the Gholja region. The report said that during the recent campaigns, the local police force detained 1,500 Uyghurs, and further house-by-house search operations still continued.</p>

<p>1</p> <p>1</p>	<p>utp www IV\iyn v icw asp?ul 102(>9</p> <p>\n l ast Vurkestan based website cited the official accounts of the Chinese uithorities which said that 52 religious practicing centers were destroyed right alter lie implementation of the new IN adopted tough regulations over religious occasions >> the goN eminent around the OKmpie period, uip: www.xipeace.civ whmi 2008-07 lb content 15855510.htm</p> <p>In this regard, the WUC issued a press statement to criticize the arbitrariness of the Chinese government. and appealed to the international community to raise concerns regarding the Uyghur human rights situation.</p> <p>http://www.ghurcongress.org/News.asp?ItemID=1217602813&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>4 August 2008</p>	<p>The Xinhua News Agency reported a bloody incident on August 4, where 16 Chinese People's Armed Police died in Kashgar city. The WUC has tried to establish contacts within East Turkestan in order to get the truth on this incident. But all these efforts failed because of a strict information blockade by the Chinese authorities, later, it was learnt that Chinese paramilitary troops introduced military control in the city of Kashgar and began a house-by-house search and conducted arbitrary detentions.</p> <p>On the same day, the WUC made an immediate statement to condemn any kind of violent action. It stressed that violence is not the way to solve problems. The statement also pointed out the need to resolve existing conflicts between the Uyghurs and the Chinese government through mutual dialog and other peaceful means.</p> <p>http://www.uvahrcongress.org/News.asD?ItemID=1217923865&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>5 August 2008</p>	<p>To introduce a new book published by the Austrian Agenda Publishing House based on the story of disappeared prominent Chinese lawyer, Gao Phishing a press conference called "China: On The Eve Of Olympic Games and the Human Rights Situation" was convened at the Demel Hotel in the Austrian capital of Vienna. Mr. Umit Agahi and Mr. Gheyur Qurban attended the conference on behalf of the WUC. Mr. Umit Agahi gave a report on the Uyghur human rights situation in China and answered questions raised by journalists. During their stay in Vienna, the Austrian TV broadcaster, ORF2, also interviewed the WUC delegates. At 10:00 p.m. the same day, this program was aired on national TV. In addition, journalists from various Austrian media such as "Kurier", "Der Standard", "Die Press" etc. reported on Uyghurs and the activities of the WUC.</p> <p>http://www.uvehurcongress.org/News.asD?ItemID=1218033197&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>4-5 August 2008</p>	<p>An international conference on "Asia and Democracy in China" was convened in the Japanese capital of Tokyo. Leaders of many prominent international human rights organizations, representatives of Chinese democratic movements, Chinese writers and intellectuals, a number of Members of Parliament, and representatives of East Turkestan, Tibetan and Inner Mongolian organizations attended this conference.</p>

	<p>The vice president of the WIJC, Mr. Seyit Kimturk, and the president of the Uyghur Association in Japan, Mr. Ilham Mahmud, participated on behalf of the WIJC. In his report at the conference, Mr. Seyit Ifimtlirk pointed out the Chinese government's efforts to label all Uyghur democratic and human rights activism with "terrorism" and described examples of iron handed oppression by the Chinese government on the Uyghur people. Letters were sent to the conference by the Speaker of the U.S. Senate, Ms. Nancy Pelosi, and by 11 is Holiness the Dalai Lama were read to the participants.</p> <p>http://www.rfa.oru/uvuhur/xcwerlcr/tepsili_xewer/yaponivede-uvuhur-mesilisi-08072008004932.lit ml/slorv main?encoding~latin</p>
<p>In August 2008</p>	<p>Although the PRC government made promises to improve the human rights situation in China before the international community, as soon as they were granted the honor to host the 2008 Olympic Games, the PRC authorities did not make positive improvements with regard to its human rights record. Quite contrary, the human rights situation in China has worsened. In this regard, the WUC called on its affiliate organizations to organize demonstrations and other kinds of peaceful protests on the day of the opening ceremony of the 2008 Beijing Olympics.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">In Germany</p> <p>A joint demonstration by the WUC, the Society for Threatened Peoples, Supporting Tibet Groups, and the Falun Gong movement was held in front of the Chinese embassy on August 7. TV and radio journalists from Germany, Switzerland and Italy reported on this demonstration. Live pictures were aired on the German broadcaster, ARD. To express discontent over human rights situation in East Turkestan and in Tibet, the Society for Threatened Peoples submitted a petition with 10,000 signatures to the Chinese embassy. But the Chinese embassy rejected the petition. The participants from the WUC Mr. Asqarjan, Mr. Dolkun Isa, Mr. Ablikim Idris, and Mr. Tursun were interviewed by a number of TV, radio and newspaper journalists. It became an important news topic of the day for many media outlets.</p> <p>http://www.uvehurconeress.ore/Uv/News.asp?ItemID= 1218180513&mid=-2139923529</p> <p>The ETUE demonstrated against the Beijing Olympics on August 8 on Karlsplatz in Munich. This demonstration attracted many spectators and journalists from various media including local TV, radio and newspapers. The spokesman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the European Parliament Mr. Bemt Passelt gave a speech during the demonstration. He called on the Chinese authorities to halt their assimilation policies towards the Uyghur people. He also addressed the fact that the Chinese government cannot establish a long lasting peace in the region if they don't stop imposing hostile politics on the Uyghurs. In addition, he restated this stance on the Uyghurs in his role as a Member of the European Parliament. The vice president of the WUC Mr. Asqarjan, president of the WUC, Mr. Dolkun Isa, vice president, Mr. Tursun, also made speeches during the event.</p> <p>On the same day, in collaboration with the WUC and Supporting Tibet Groups, another demonstration against the Beijing Olympics was held on Marienplatz in Munich. Leaders of the Supporting Tibet Groups and the vice president of the</p>

I VI T. Mr. Vursun. made speeches during the demonstration, leaflet and booklets published by the WUC were disseminated to the participants and spectators, <http://www.wuc.org/News.asp?ItemID=1218206928&mid=2139^23520>

In Sweden

In collaboration with the Uyghur Swedish Committee and the Mongolian Swedish Committee, a joint demonstration against the Beijing Olympics was held in front of the Swedish Parliament on August 7 in Stockholm, Sweden. Demonstrators expressed discontent about human rights violations in East Turkestan, Tibet and Inner Mongolia around the time of the Olympic Games in China. They appealed to the Swedish parliament to express concern regarding the situation and exert pressure on the Chinese authorities.

<http://www.wuc.org/News.asp?ItemID=1218206928&mid=2139^23520>

In Canada

A demonstration against the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics was staged in front of the Chinese embassy on August 7 in the Canadian capital of Ottawa. Headed by Member of the Canadian Parliament, Mr. David Kilgore, scores of demonstrators from Uyghur, Tibetan, Mongolian organizations and their sympathizers, the Falun Gong movement, and local Sudanese joined this demonstration. Member of the Canadian Parliament, Mr. Irwin Cotler, especially mentioned the Uyghur human rights situation and the case of the Uyghur Canadian Hussein Celil in his speech. Mr. Irwin pointed out the illegal imprisonment of this Canadian citizen, and called on the Chinese authorities for his immediate release.

Another demonstration was staged in front of the Chinese consulate on August 9 in Vancouver, Canada. Scores of Uyghurs, Tibetans, Mongols, Falun Gong practitioners, and leaders of some international human rights organizations joined this demonstration. Demonstrators shouted slogans to protest the worsening human rights situation in the East Turkestan, Tibet and Southern Mongolian regions.

In the U.S.

A joint demonstration was held in front of the Chinese embassy on August 7 in Washington D.C. It was attended by more than 200 demonstrators including Uyghurs, Tibetans, Chinese democrats, Taiwanese, representatives of international human rights organizations. In her public speech, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer condemned the Chinese authorities for breaking its own promises made to the international community, for imposing tougher restrictions on the freedom of Uyghurs, and for stepping up its "strike hard" campaigns and oppression. She stressed that the Olympic Games in China has brought the Uyghur people nothing but suffering. The director of the Asia-Pacific branch of Amnesty International, Mr. T. Kumar, representative from the Journalists Without Borders, Ms. Elisa Bermudez, representative of the Tibetan movement, Mr. Doma Norbu, and Taiwan Representative, Ms. Iris Xu, also contributed speeches during the demonstration, and condemned the gross human rights violations in China.

http://www.rfn.orj0iyjdinr/xcwerlcr/lcpsili_xewer/washinutonda-namavish-080708-08082008053_106.htm /storv mainVncodinu latin

In Japan

Organized by Ilic Uyghur Association in Japan, a demonstration was held in front of the Chinese embassy on August 3 in the Japanese capital, Tokyo. More than 500 participants including Uyghurs, Tibetans, Mongols and Japanese sympathizers joined this demonstration. Prior to this demonstration, the vice president of the WIJC, Mr. Seyit Tumturk, made a special trip to Japan in order to coordinate preparations. Although the Uyghur Association in Japan is newly established, in close collaboration with the WUC, the organization held a very successful demonstration.

http://www.rfa.oru/uvuhur/xewerler/tepsili_xewer/vaponda-namavish-08052008102229.html/storv_main?encodinu=latin

In Turkey

The East Turkestan Education and Cooperation Association organized a large demonstration on August 8 in the Turkish capital, Ankara. More than 400 demonstrators including Uyghurs in Turkey, Members of the Turkish National Parliament and Turkish nationals joined the demonstration. Mr. Seyit Tumturk read the press statement of the WUC to the public. During the demonstration, an unexpected accident happened. One Uyghur demonstrator, Mr. Memet Tursun, set himself on fire during the demonstration to express his discontent with the Chinese oppression in East Turkestan. Turkish police came to control the fire and took Mr. Memet Tursun to hospital.

http://www.rfa.org/uvuhur/xewerler/tepsili_xewer/turkive-namayish-ozige-otqoyush-08082008184601.html/storv_main?encoding=latin

In Norway

The Norwegian Uyghur Committee demonstrated in front of the Chinese embassy on August 8 in the capital Oslo. In addition to Uyghurs demonstrators, scores of Tibetans, and members of the Falun Gong movement joined the demonstration. Leaflets about the Chinese oppression of the Uyghur people and brief information on Uyghur history were disseminated.

In Australia

The Uyghur Australian Association and the East Turkestan Union in Australia jointly hosted a football match for Uyghur teenagers from August 8 to August 9 in Millburn, Australia. The stadium was decorated with East Turkestan flags and placards with slogans against the Beijing Olympics. In addition to the Uyghurs in Millburn, more than 100 Uyghurs from neighboring cities such as Adelaide came to Millburn with special buses for the match.

On the same day, another group of Uyghurs together with Tibetans and members of some international human rights organizations demonstrated in front of the Chinese embassy in Sydney.

In August 2008	<p>The committee on religious affairs of the WUC made a statement to condemn the recent Chinese regulations on Uyghur Muslims, which attempted to further restrict their religious freedom and fasting during the holy month of Ramadan.</p> <p>In the statement, the Uyghurs in East Turkestan were encouraged to stay tough and strengthen unification among the community.</p> <p>Imp: www.unhcr.org/refugees/news/2008/08/2139923529</p>
[16-17 August 2008	<p>Arranged by the WUC and the IUF. The vice president of the ETUC, Mr. Tursun, and the president of the France Uyghur Committee, Mr. Fakper Yusup, attended a conference on "China after the Olympic Games", which was sponsored by the president of French Supporting Union Association. Ms. Marianna, and the prominent Chinese democrat. Mr. Wei Jingsheng, in the French capital, Paris. Chinese democrats and experts held broad discussions on the human rights situation during the post-Olympic period in China. In his briefing, Mr. Tursun pointed out the existing issues of Uyghurs, such as the heavy handed "strike hard" campaigns on the Chinese authorities, the steady eradication of the Uyghur language, forced birth control on Uyghur women, the mass transfer of Chinese immigrants, the forced transfer of Uyghur girls to inner Chinese cities, and the fierce crackdowns on any kind of dissident activities, etc.</p> <p>http://www.uighurcongress.org/News.asp?ItemID=1219354237&mid=-2139923529</p>
17 August 2008	<p>Together with Mr. Wei Jingsheng and Ms. Marianna, the Uyghur delegates visited the French city of Nantes and met with His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Uyghur delegates discussed with His Holiness the China-Tibet dialog and the future of the Uyghur issue.</p> <p>http://www.uighurcongress.org/News.asp?ItemID=1219354237&mid=-2139923529</p>
21-22 August 2008	<p>In collaboration with the Clingendael Institute for International Relations, the UNPO launched its training program for a new generation of young human rights activists in The Hague, the Netherlands. Mr. Gheyur Qurban from the WUC, Mr. Eli Jalalidin, and Mr. Yalqun Yarmat from the East Turkestan Union in Holland attended this 2-day training seminar.</p> <p>http://www.uighurcongress.org/News.asp?ItemID=1219403526&mid=-2139923529</p>
In August 2008	<p>Spokesman of the WUC, Mr. Dilshat Rishit, issued a press statement regarding the recent arbitrary detention campaigns by the Chinese government in the Kashgar region. In his statement, Mr. Dilshat Rishit condemned the PRC authorities for arresting more than 100 Uyghurs alone in the Kashgar region, and the absence of any evidence or judicial process. He called on the Chinese authorities to halt such arbitrary detentions and to release all innocent people.</p> <p>http://news.trendaz.com/?show=news&newsid=1275747&lane=EN</p>
8 August 2008	<p>In a close collaboration with Mr. Fedie, a radio journalist from channel K in Switzerland, the Swiss Uyghur Association introduced the Uyghur human rights situation in East Turkestan in the form of a Q & A radio program.</p>

Activities Report of the W(I' (Jiimity-December 2008)

pO August 2008	<p>liie Swiss Uygliur Committee, the Swiss 'libel f riendship Association, and local I 'tilim Ciong groups organized a joint conference "The Other Side of the Medal'/' m the Swiss capital Merit. The Swiss human rights activist Ms. 1 Infer gave a briefing on the Uygliur human rights situation. Leaflets and booklets were disseminated. Uygliur food and a musical performance especially attracted the participants.</p> <p>http://www.uvuliurconurcss.org/Uv/Ncws.asD?flcmf)-l 220211300&mid=-2I3W2.J529</p>
1 In September 2008	<p>Condemning the I'KC authorities for its renewed "strike hard" campaigns against the Uygliur people, using the recent unrests around the Beijing Olympic Games as a pretext, the WUC sent an urgent request to 150 Members of the European Parliament, the President of the German Parliament, 16 members of the German Human Rights Commission, the German President Mr. Helmut Kohler, and Chancellor Ms. Angela Merkel. The WUC appealed to the leaders to express concern regarding the mass arrests of Uyghurs by the Chinese authorities, and urged the German government, the German parliament and the European parliament to prevent further human rights violations against the Uyghur people in China.</p> <p>http://www.rhi.orti/uvuhur/xewerler/tepsili xewer/dua-uehur-xeliaara-iemivet-09022008202528.html?encoding=latin</p> <p>hurcoimress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1220463038&mid=-2139923529">http://www.uvt>hurcoimress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1220463038&mid=-2139923529</p>
In September 2008	<p>Regarding the tougher regulations imposed by the Chinese authorities, which were recently adopted during the Muslim fasting period and aimed to even further restrict the religious freedoms of Uyghurs, including free fasting, the WUC spokesman, Mr. Dilshat Rishit, made several statements to condemn the Chinese authorities for its policies.</p>
1 7 September 2008	<p>The Committee for Religious Affairs of the WUC organized an Iftar dinner, which was attended by members of the Uyghur and Turkish communities in Munich.</p> <p>The Committee made a brief report on the worsening situation in East Turkestan during the Holy Ramadan period.</p> <p>http://www.uvghurconuress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1 2208783 82&mid~2139923529</p>
1 8 September 2008	<p>During the Iftar party given by the U.S. Department of State, Ms. Rebiya ^{^a(^er} met with Secretary of State Ms. Condoleezza Rice. In the ^{.n^ell!@'} . Condoleezza Rice expressed her concerns for the Uyghur human rig i s^{s_enceof} and for her children, who were jailed by the Chinese authorities as an ac against Ms. Rebiya Kadeer. ^{^n./ivapiti-}</p> <p>http://www.rfa.org/uehur/xewerler/tepsili xewer/amerika-ramazat09092008185949.html?encodinP=latin</p> <p>----- T " on September 10 in</p>
1 12 September 2008	<p>During a speech given to the "cadres mobilization ^{n_ienceof u{onomOUS Reg'onial} Urumchi, the governor of the "Xinjiang V^s ^movements since 1990 a* government", Nur Bekri, described all Uyghur ^{res!s!an^} ^{deer.} In this regard, the "terrorist", and attacked the character of Ms. Re</p> <p>CJ=-I</p>

1	the W IV and Ms. Robiya Kadeer.
1*5 September 2iX>S	<p>In collaboration with the Estonian Academy of Sciences and the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organizations (UNPO), a conference on “ The Baltic Countries and Population Transfer from the examples of Tibet” was convened at the Estonian Academy of Sciences, in Estonia. It was attended by Members of the Estonian Parliament, former Ministers, researchers from the academy, university professors, students, and members of international human rights organizations. Chief Advisor to the WUC, Mr. Erkin Alptiken, and the secretary General of the WUC, Mr. Dolkun Isa, also participated in the conference and gave reports on the current situation of the Uyghur people. Printed reports and booklets prepared by the WUC and the Uyghur American Association (UAA) were given to the participants. A resolution calling on the Chinese authorities to halt its population transfer policies to the East Turkestan, Tibet and Inner Mongolia' regions was adopted, http://www.uhconsiress.org/News.asp?ItemID=1483776446&mid=2134423529</p>
20-21 September 2008	<p>The UNPO presidency meeting was convened in the Estonian capital, Tallinn. Mr. Erkin Alptiken and Mr. Dolkun Isa attended this meeting on behalf of East Turkestan. Participants visited the Estonian Parliament during the meeting. The Uyghur delegates held discussions with the Estonian Parliament and delegates from Supporting Tibet groups. In addition to the members of the UNPO presidency, the vice president of the Estonian Parliament, Mr. Jiiri Ratas, the head of the Supporting Tibet Groups, Maleksei Lotman, former Prime Minister, Mr. Mart Laar, Mr. Silver Meikar, Mr. Lauri Vahtre, and Mr. Kent Marti Vahter took part in the discussions. Mr. Dolkun Isa met with former Prime Minister, Mr. Mart Laar, individually and introduced him to the Uyghurs and their situation. He also presented Mr. Prime Minister with several materials on the Uyghur issue. In November 2000, the 3rd General Assembly of the Uyghur Youth Congress convened in Estonia and the current Estonian President, Mr. Toomas Hendrik, who was the Foreign Minister at that time received Mr. Alptiken and Mr. Dolkun Isa. http://www.uvuhur.com/ress/ora/UV/News.asp?ItemID=1222177745&mid=2139923529</p>
19 September 2008	<p>The Japanese TV broadcaster TBS TV came to Munich and made a special documentary with Mr. Dolkun Isa and several other members of the WUC on the Beijing Olympics and current situation of the Uyghurs.</p>
1 October 2008	<p>With a special resolution, the WUC declared the National Day of the PRC as a Day of Mourning for the Uyghur People. On October 1 each year, the WUC coordinates Uyghur organizations around the world to organize various protest activities.</p> <p>The WUC called on Uyghur exile organizations to organize protests against the human rights violations perpetrated on the Uyghur people under Chinese rule on the eve of the 59th National Day of the PRC, and the 53rd anniversary of the establishment of the so-called “Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region”. http://www.uvuhur.com/ress/ora/UV/News.asp?ItemID=222251302&mid=2139923579</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-Responding to the call of the WUC, Uyghur organizations in Germany, the United</p>

	<p>Sliilos, Canada, Sweden, Norway, and Turkey held demonstrations in front of the Chinese embassies in their home countries. Uyghurs in central Asian countries such as Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan also convened press conferences to discuss the current human rights situation of the Uyghur people in Hast Turkestan.</p> <p>http://www.rfa.org/uyghur/xewerler/tepsili_xewcr/dc-namavish-xitav-elchixana-10012008182948.lit.ml7ncoding.latin</p> <p>http://www.uvuhureongre.ss.org/Uv/Ncws.asp?ItemID-I223053483&mid=-2139923529</p> <p>http://www.uyghurcongress.orR/Uv/News.asD7ItemID-I223313066&mid=-21.3992.3529</p>
<p>5 October 2008</p>	<p>The WUC and the East Turkestan Union in Europe (WTUE) jointly organized a celebration for the Ramadan festival in Munich together with the local Uyghur community. President of the ETUE and the General Secretary of the WUC, Mr. Dolkun Isa, warmly greeted the community and delivered his best Ramadan wishes. During his speech, Mr. Dolkun Isa especially mentioned the worsening situation of religious freedom in East Turkestan, where the Chinese authorities notably stepped up its repression on the religious activities of the Uyghur peoples especially during the Ramadan period.</p> <p>http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1223456945&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>8 October 2008</p>	<p>On October 7, judge of the District Court in Washington, DC, Ricardo Urbina, ordered the release of the Guantanamo Uyghurs to the United States. The next day, on behalf of the Uyghur people, the WUC made a statement to support the court's decision and to express their sincere gratitude to those people and organizations that were closely concerned with the fate of the Uyghurs in Guantanamo. In its statement, the WUC also stressed that this fair decision gives new hope to the people of East Turkestan, and that it has definitely increased the respect of the Uyghur people towards the American people and their fair justice system.</p> <p>http://www.uvehurcongress.org/En/news.asp?ItemID=449753629&rcid=-768458094&pcid=1110134820&cid=-768458094&mid=-2139923529</p> <p>http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asD7ItemID=1223499152&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>15 to 20 October 2008</p>	<p>A Culture Festival of the Turkic Speaking People was celebrated in the Turkish city of Karakuk. More than 250 delegates from 22 Turkic speaking countries joined the festival. A delegation of the WUC led by Mr. Hayrullah also attended. Colorful art performances that showed the unique cultural specialties of different Turkic speaking nations were exhibited during the festival. Mr. Hayrullah called on the Turkic nations to pay attention to China's policies of assimilation targeting the Uyghur language and culture.</p> <p>http://www.gokbavrak.com/Turkestan.asp?inc=haberdetav&numara=113</p>
<p>15 to 20 October 2008</p>	<p>Mr. Seyit Tiimtiirk, vice president of the WUC, paid a visit to Japan. During his visit, he met with Members of the Japanese Parliament, Japanese politicians and researchers, representatives of number of international human rights organizations, and Tibetan, Inner Mongolian and Taiwanese organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A conference on "Human Rights in East Turkestan, Tibet and Inner

	<p>Mongolia" was convened on October 18 at the Tokusoku University. Mr. So> it Tiimtiirk and Mr. Ilham Mahmud, the president of the Uyghur Association in Japan, were invited to the meeting as the guests of honor.</p> <p>Mr. Se> it Tiimtiirk presented the human rights situation of the Uyghur people in Hast Turkestan during the meeting. In addition to the Uyghur, Tibetan and Inner Mongolian delegates, a number of university students, Chinese democrats. Taiwanese. Members of the Japanese Parliament, representatives of international human rights organizations also attended this conference. This meeting played an important role in the promotion of the Uyghur issue, especially among Japanese intellectuals, http: www.iiokbaMak.com Turkestan.asp.'inc hahcrdciaiv&numara=1 111</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On October 19, Mr. Se> it Tiimtiirk met w ith representatives of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce in Nagoya. • On October 21. at the inv itation of the Organization for Industrial and Cultural Advancement (OISA), Mr. Seyit Tiimtiirk and Mr. Ilham Mahmud gave presentations on Uyghur history' and the current situation. A hot debate on Sino-Japanese relations was held with Japanese intellectuals following the presentations.
<p>23 October 2008</p>	<p>In collaboration with the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO). the WUC submitted a special report to the United Nations in the framework of the UN Convention Against Torture (CAT) with regard to the wide spread practice of torture and ill-treatment in East Turkestan. This report was accepted by the UNCAT Committee and subsequently published on its official website.</p> <p>http://vvvvw2.ohchr.onz/emilish/bodies/cat/docs/ntios/UNPO WUC China cat41.pdf</p> <p>f http://wvww.uvahurconaress.ora/En/news.asD?ItemID=84573733 I&rcid=-768458094&Dcid= 1110134820&cid=-768458094&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>29 October 2008</p>	<p>The vice president of the WUC, Mr. Seyit Tiimtiirk, gave an interview to Mr. Ismail Ozdemir, a journalist from a well-known monthly political magazine in Turkey, "Kudu Seslenis", and discussed the East Turkestan issue, Sino-Turkish relations, and the work of the WUC. This interview was published in current edition of the magazine.</p> <p>http://www.2023haber.com/haber detav.oho?haberid=1 1644</p>
<p>30 October 2008</p>	<p>National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) awarded a prize to the Uyghur scientist Mr. Erkin Sidik and honored his extraordinary contribution to leading space telescope technology. In this regard, the WUC made a statement to congratulate Mr. Erkin and praised his contribution to scientific advancement. The statement also highlighted the widespread discrimination by the Chinese authorities in scientific and research work, which has always impeded the advancement of many talented Uyghur scientists in China.</p> <p>http://www.uvehurcongress.om/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=2109740299&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>1 November</p>	<p>In his Japan visit. His Holiness the Dalai Lama received Mr. Ilham Mahmud, the</p>

2008 representative of the WUC in Japan and the president of the Uyghur Association in Japan, at the Koyal Paris Hotel in Tokyo. Mr. Ilham Mahmud presented his Holiness with developments in the Uyghur issue in Japan. Discussions on the future of Uyghurs and Tibetan issues were held during the meeting. <http://www.gohhayrak.com/Uyghuristan.asp?link=berdclay&numara=1117>

6-11 November 2008 The 11th Session of the United Nations Committee Against Torture (CAT) meeting was convened from November 3 to 21 at the UN in Geneva. The CAT reviewed the situation of torture and ill treatment in China from November 6 to 11. A WUC delegation consisting of Mr. Dolkun Isa, Mr. Gheyur Durban, and Mr. Abdurrahman Almas a victim of cruel torture practices in a Chinese prison- attended CAT's China review.

On November 6, delegates from 16 NGO's including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Human Rights in China, Tibetan organizations, Falun Gong movements, NGOs from Hong Kong and Uyghurs organizations gathered at the AI office in Geneva to discuss strategies and issues concerning the UN session.

In the afternoon of November 6, the 10 members of the CAT Committee received the delegates of NGOs at the UN Office in Geneva and listened to their reports and opinions. On behalf of the WUC, Mr. Gheyur presented the torture and ill-treatment situation of Uyghur political prisoners detained by PRC authorities.

On November 7, during the official meeting of the CAT review on China, Li Baodong, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the PRC to the United Nations Office in Geneva made an official report on China's implementation of the UN Convention Against Torture. After the report, members of the CAT subsequently raised many critical questions to the Chinese delegation with regard to their report, which are either totally ignored in the report or were stated very vaguely in terms of accounts on individual cases of torture. The members of the CAT Committee raised four issues based on the information provided by the WUC delegation in the preceding NGO session.

In the presence of more than 50 people, including delegates of NGOs, UN observers, members of the CAT, the final meeting of the China review within the framework of the Convention Against Torture was convened on November 11. The Chinese delegation answered the questions which were raised by the members of the CAT on November 7. Unfortunately, the answers by the Chinese delegation disappointed the members of the CAT and all other observers as the Chinese delegation was still avoiding the facts. The Chinese delegates tried their best to divert public attention from serious human rights violations in the Chinese law- enforcement system. Rather than giving a full account on the general or individual cases of torture and ill treatment, the delegation intentionally wasted time by teaching the Committee members about Chinese law.

In afternoon, the WUC, Tibet Organizations and Human Rights in China organized a joint press conference in the UN Press Hall regarding the CAT Committee's China review. Journalists from BBC, Reuters and other news media attended the conference.

As a result of the close collaboration with various NGOs during the CAT review- on *

	<p>China, the Uyghur issue became an important topic. The WUC delegation actively engaged in lobbying efforts with the members of the CAT and also paid close attention to publicize the Uyghur issue during the event.</p> <p>http://www.uyghurxewerler.com/2008/02/20/20080220a-0b.html?encodimi=latin</p> <p>http://www.china.org.cn/public/content/press/region/05fid78080&item%51ld7</p> <p>SOU</p> <p>http://www.unpo.org/content/view/full/88b5185/</p> <p>http://www2.ohchr.org/emilish/bodies/cat/docs/neos/UN%20WUC%20China%20eat41.pdf</p>
<p>\$ November 2008</p>	<p>Commemorating the two East Turkistan Republics established on November 12, 1933 and November 12, 1944, a cultural event was organized with the joint effort of the WUC and the ETUE. By recalling the history of the establishment of these Republics, colorful art performances were staged during the celebration, hup:</p> <p>www.uyghurcongress.org/News.asp?lcmID=-1962288246&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>12 November 2008</p>	<p>The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) had declared the 2008 as the Year of Mahmud al- Kashgari. Since then, many events have been organized in many places of the world to honor this great Uyghur scholar.</p> <p>In cooperation with Gazi University in Turkey, the East Turkestan Culture and Cooperation Association organized an event to celebrate the Year of Mahmud al- Kashgari and to commemorate the two East Turkestan Republics. President of Gazi University, Professor Roza Ayhan, chairwoman of the Faculty for Literature, Professor Serna Ozonder, Professor Ahmer Bican Ercilasun, and Professor Fatih Kiriscioglu presented papers on Mahmud al-Kashgari and the East Turkestan Republic.</p> <p>On behalf of the WUC, vice president Mr. Seyit TiimtUrk and the vice General Secretary, Mr. Erkin Emet, made speeches on the current situation of the Uyghur people in East Turkestan.</p> <p>More than 300 people, including students and teachers from Gazi University, and local spectators attended this event.</p> <p>http://www.eokbavrak.com/Turkestan.asD?inc=haberdetav&numara=1122</p>
<p>15 October 2008</p>	<p>The mouthpiece of the Chinese government, the Xinhua news agency, published an article about the WUC on its website to undermine the organization by labeling it as a terrorist organization and tried to prove is “links” with the East Turkestan Islamic Movement, and to distort the facts about the mission of the WUC. A spokesman for the WUC subsequently made a statement to slam the government’s false accusation.</p> <p>In his speech, Mr. Dilshat restated that the WUC is an organization which complies with all the regulations and laws of the country in which they reside, and which pursues its goals with peaceful and democratic means within the framework of international law. Fie also reaffirmed the WUC’s total rejection of all kinds of</p>

	<p>terrorist activities. http://ncws.xiiliuanel.com/i'lobc/2008-11/14/content I0357525.htm</p>
15 October 2008	<p>After the story of Arzigul lursun, a Uyghur woman pregnant with a six-month-old baby facing a forced abortion at the hands of the Chinese authorities, was aired by RI A's Uyghur service, the WUC paid urgent attention to the issue and appealed for help from the governments of democratic countries and international human rights organizations.</p> <p>WUC spokesman Mr. Dilshat Rishit condemned the Chinese government and appealed to the international community to rescue the life of this unborn baby.</p> <p>As a result of active and effective involvement of many parties to this issue, Ms. Arzigul Tursun was exempted from a forced abortion. But the parents of Arzigul are still living under the pressure of the local authorities. http://www.daiivuan.com/i'b/8/1 I/15/n2330082.htm</p>
15 October 2008	<p>The Uyghur Committee in Sweden gathered in Stockholm to review the work of the organization in the past two years and to elect its new leaders. After a democratic election, Ms. Maynur was elected as the new president of the Committee. On behalf of the WUC, spokesman Mr. Dilshat Rishit observed the election and reported recent WUC's activities to the public. As a very important organization of the WUC, the Uyghur Committee has been made an enormous effort to introduce the Uyghur issue to Europe.</p> <p>http://www.uvehurconeress.ora/Uv/News.asD?ItemID=I226917925&mid=-2139923529</p>
16 October 2008	<p>The East Turkestan Association in Australia commemorated the establishment of the two East Turkestan Republics in Adelaide. In addition to more than 300 Uyghurs, Members of the Australian Parliament, including Mr. Markel Atkinson, Mr. Tony Zappiya, Mr. Francis Bedford, Ms. Lindsey Simmons, Mr. Wendi Chikkarlo, and Mr. Greg Kelly also joined this event. On behalf of the WUC, Mr. Hussein Hessen, the president of the East Turkestan Association in Australia, made the welcoming speech and reported on recent WUC activities. During the event, a football match for the "Australia Uyghur Football Championship" was held among Uyghur youth in Australia. FC Adelaide was champion, FC Melbourne was second,, and FC Sydney was third.</p> <p>http://www.uvshurconeress.ore/Uv/Nevs.asD?ItemID=1227212079&mid=-2139923529</p>
20 November 2008	<p>On behalf of the WUC, General Secretary Mr. Dolkun Isa wrote a letter to the newly elected chairmen of the German Green Party, Mr. Cem Ozdemir, and Ms. Claudia Roth, to sincerely congratulate their success in the election, and to appeal to them to continue their concern for the situation of the Uyghur people.</p> <p>The German Green Party has long paid close attention to the human rights situation of the Uyghur people. The former head of the Green party and the former Foreign Minister of Germany, Mr. Joshka Fisher, raised the Uyghur human rights issue for first time at the UN Human Rights Committee in 2002 during his time in office. Furthermore, the newly elected president of the Green Party and Member of the German Parliament, Ms. Claudia Roth, Member of the Green Party and Member of</p>

	<p>the Gciuuu Parliament, Mr. Volker Hock, received Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and other \\l o' leaders and showed their sympathy and support for the Uyghur cause. Mr. \\olker Hook also addressed the Uyghur human rights issue at the German Parliament on Human Rights Day in 2007.</p> <p>Mr. IVlkun Isa recalled all of this support to them and expressed sincere gratitude on behalf of the Uyghur people. He also hoped for the continuity of this support in the future.</p> <p><u>U)05A:mid—21>>923529">Imp: w ww.ux o.huroon»ress.or>a UN Ncws.asp.Miom1P-57P2(> U)05A:mid—21 >>923529</u></p>
25 November 2008	<p>In attendance with board members of the WUC Executive Committee from the USA. Canada. Turkey. Norway, Australia, Kazakhstan, Cermany, and Belgium, the WUC secretariat organized a teleconference with regard to the Third General Assembly of the WUC and the Seminar on “Bast Turkestan- 60 Years Under the Communist Chinese Regime”, which will be organized with the generous support of NED.</p> <p>Alter broad discussions, the board members decided to organize the Seminar from May 18 to 19, 2009. and to hold the Third General Assembly of the WUC from Mas 20 to 25. 2009 in Washington.</p>
u December 008	<p>An international conference “Human Rights in China- After the Olympic Games and Before the Universal Periodic Review (URP)”, jointly sponsored by the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE). Human Rights Without Frontiers yHRWB). and the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, was convened on December 2 at the European Parliament in Brussels.</p> <p>Vice president of the ALDE, Mr. Szenti Ivanyi, and vice president of the European Parliament (EP). Mr. Edward McMillan Scott, presided over the meeting. During the conference, the president of the ALDE, Mr. Graham Watson, Member of the EP Mr. Marco Cappato, and member of the EP Human Rights Observation Committee on China, Mr. Helga Triigel, pointed out the human rights violations against the Uyghur people of East Turkestan and of Tibet as they mentioned the human rights situation in China.</p> <p>In addition to the Members of the EP, scores of representatives of international human rights organizations, human rights activists, and experts also attended the conference. Delegates from Amnesty International, International Human Rights Federation, Human Rights Watch, China Aid, Solidarity China, Uyghur and Tibet organizations gave reports on various concerns.</p> <p>Mr. Dolkun Isa presented the Uyghur human rights situation during the conference. As he mentioned the violations of the political, cultural, economic, and religious rights of the Uyghur people, and the mass transfer of Chinese immigrants to East Turkestan, Mr. Dolkun Isa stressed the worsening trend in these fields especially after the Olympic Games. He appealed to the international community to pay attention to the revenge acts of the Chinese government after the Olympic Games, which had already caused the mass arrest of tens of thousands of innocent Uyghurs and even a series of executions in the name of “fighting terrorism”. He also</p>

	<p>discussed (lie issue of Hie Uyghur human rights situation with members of (he European Parliament. http://Avwww.turkish16ium.com/content/2008/12/07/human-rii'hts-in-china- - eon fercnce-at-lhe-eu-parl lamente/ http://www.iuyhuiC(uiqress.org/lvn/news.asr)?ItemMX228488524&rcid 8036885 65 Ape id 1 1 I0l34820&cid 803688565&mid -2139923529</p>
<p>9 December 2008</p>	<p>As the traditional Muslim festival Hid al-Adha approached, the WUC issued a statement to congratulate the Uyghur community. In the statement, the WUC called the Uyghur Diaspora not to forget their brothers and sisters in Hast Turkestan who cannot freely enjoy the festival because of increasingly tough religious repression by the PRC regime. The statement also calls on the Diaspora to cherish the democracy they enjoy in free nations.</p> <p>During the Hid period, the Committee for Religious Affairs of the WUC mobilized the Diaspora to collect financial aid in order to help those needy families in East Turkestan and within the Diaspora.</p> <p>http://Avwww.uvahirconiiress.ora/Uv/News.asD?ItemID=1 22875902 l&mid=-2139923529</p>
<p>10 December 2008</p>	<p>Commemorating the 60^h anniversary' of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the WUC called on all Uyghur organizations around the world to organize activities on December 10. On this day, following the call of the WUC, there were scores of events organized by Uyghur organizations around the world.</p> <p>A demonstration organized by the WUC and the ETUE was staged in front of the Chinese Consulate in Munich. Mr. Dolkun Isa made a speech during the demonstration and condemned the Chinese government's violations of the human rights of the Uyghur people.</p> <p>http://Avwww.uvehurconeress.ore/Uv/News.asD?ItemID=1 229076107&mid=-2139923529</p> <p>Together with Tibetans, Vietnamese, Burmese, Tamils, Chinese democrats, and Taiwanese, the Uyghur Association in France organized a joint activity to commemorate the 60^h anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.</p> <p>A press conference was also organized during the event. Mr. Ekper, president of the Uyghur Association in France, presented the Uyghur issue during this event.</p> <p>http://Avwww.uvahirconeress.ore/Uv/News.asD?ItemID= 1228852614&mid=-2139923529</p> <p>Mr. Kakhraman Khojamberdi, the vice president of the WUC, convened a meeting in Almaty, Kazakhstan. The contents and the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights were introduced to the more than 150 attendants during the meeting. Mr. Kakhraman Khojamberdi made a report on the recent activities of the WUC.</p> <p>http://Avwww.uvahircongress.orc/Uv/News.asD?ItemID= 1229017347&mid=-2139923529</p> <p>In Istanbul, the East Turkestan Culture and Cooperation Association, the East Turkestan Youth Organization, and East Turkestan Emigrants Union jointly staged a demonstration in front of the Chinese Consulate. The Turkish media broadly publicized this event.</p>

	<p>http://www.eokbavrak.com/Turkestan.asp?inc=haberdetav&numara=1134</p>
12 December 2008	<p>"Kultur Bazaar", a cultural exchange forum jointly sponsored by the office of the deputy Major of Munich, Mr. Hep Monat/der, and the Munich based South-North Forum, was opened in Munich.</p> <p>Performers from migrant communities in Munich, such as Brazilians, Mexicans, Peruvians, Madagascans, Siberians, South Africans, and Afghans presented colorful art performances during the event. On behalf of the Uyghur community in Munich, a group of Uyghur dancers organized by the EIUE presented unique pieces of Uyghur culture to the participants. In addition, the ETIJK also exhibited materials on the history and current situation of the Uyghur people in East Turkestan.</p> <p>http://www.churconsiress.org/News.asp?itend=1229264025&mid=2139023529</p>
17 December 2008	<p>In a public trial in Kashgar, the local People's Middle Court sentenced two Uyghurs to death with immediate execution. On the same day, the spokesman of the WUC, Mr. Dilshat Rishit, gave interviews to various media. He harshly condemned the Chinese government's 'arbitrary' execution of Uyghurs without proper trial and justice.</p> <p>http://www.newcenturxnews.com/Article/china/200812/20081217224210.html</p>
22 December 2008	<p>A photo exhibition and a discussion forum on "East Turkestan and the Chinese Repression" were opened at Canakkale Onsekiz Mart University in Turkey. A number of historical documentations on East Turkestan and its people were presented to the participants. This event attracted more than 300 teachers and students of the university. Mr. Seyit Tumturk presented a report on the current situation of the Uyghur people in East Turkestan, and answered questions from the students.</p> <p>http://www.eokbavrak.com/Turkestan.asp?inc=haberdetav&numara=1144</p> <p>http://www.eokbavrak.com/Turkestan.asp?inc=haberdetav&numara=1146</p>
23 December 2008	<p>After the German Foreign Ministry made a statement to express their consideration to accept some of the Guantanamo inmates, the WUC immediately wrote to the German Federal Government and Bavarian Government to appeal to them to accept some of the 17 Uyghurs in Guantanamo.</p>
20-23 December 2008	<p>Accompanied by the deputy Head of the Executive Committee of the WUC, Mr. Abdul Hakim Idris, a group of journalists including Ms. Carolina Emcke from the German Time Magazine (Die Zeit), visited Albania to interview the 5 Uyghurs who were released from Guantanamo in 2006. This interview was then published in the December 31 edition of the Die Zeit magazine under the title "Was vom Traum Blieb (What Remains as a Dream). It played a positive role in preparing public opinion on accepting the Uyghurs in Guantanamo to Germany.</p> <p>http://www.zeit.de/2009/02/1Jipurpn</p>
23-24 December 2008	<p>In order to raise awareness of countries towards the Uyghur human rights issue during the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of China at the UN Office in Geneva in February next year, to persuade the countries to raise the Uyghur issue during the</p>

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	<p>official meeting, and to seek the possibilities of accepting the Uyghurs in (iianlanamo in some of European countries, the WUC wrote to almost 60 embassies of foreign countries in Uermany, which included all EU countries and member countries to the UN Human Rights Commission, and requested an appointment.</p>
29 December 2008	<p>Dr. Resat Dogru, a member of the Turkish parliament, addressed the issue of the worsening human rights situation of the Uyghur people in East Turkestan to the Turkish parliament, and called on the Turkish government to pay attention in this regard. Mr. Seyit Tumtiirk later visited Mr. Resat Dogru to express the sincere appreciation of the Uyghur people and updated him with the recent situation of Uyghurs in East Turkestan. http://www.uok bavrak.com/Turkestan.asp?inc=haberdetav&numara=1 157</p>

January- February 2009

1 January 2009	<p>Ms. Rebiya Kaidir sent a New Year Message on behalf of the WUC to celebrate with the Uyghur people the New Year of 2009. In her statement, by recalling the significant events that happened in East Turkestan and in Tibet in the previous year in parallel to the notable events around the globe, she highlighted major human rights abuses, among others, the lightening up of arbitrary detention and persecution of innocent Uyghurs and Tibetans by Chinese authorities and the creation of human rights crises across China. She hoped that 2009 would be a prosperous year with significant changes and improvements in the fields of human rights, democracy and peace in the world. In addition, highly appreciated the increasing awareness of the international community towards the Uyghur issue as a result of continuous efforts of the Uyghur organizations around the world, and the establishment of an even closer relationship between governments, parliaments of several democratic nations and prominent international human rights organizations. Ms. Rebiya Kaidir also hoped that this kind of close collaboration would be further developed and even further strengthened in 2009. http: www.uvghurcongress.org/News.asD?ItemID=1230741425&mid=-2139923529</p>
1 January 2009	<p>Promoted by the WUC, Uyghur organizations in the U.S., Canada, Germany, France and Belgium organized special events to celebrate the New Year. In addition to the colorful entertainment during the celebration, activities of the WUC and local Uyghur organizations were reported to Uyghur community members. http://www.uvghurcongress.org/News.asD?ItemID=1231082745&mid=-2139923529</p>
6-13 January 2009	<p>In late December 2008, in the quest for support for the Uyghur issue during the United Nations (UN) Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in early February 2009, and in an appeal, especially to EU countries, to accept some of the Uyghurs in Guantanamo, the WUC had sent letters to embassies of several countries in Berlin, including all European Union (EU) countries, members countries of the UN Human Rights Council (HRC), and Members of the German Parliament to request an appointment to meet with the WUC delegation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the lobbying efforts of the WUC to raise the Uyghur human rights issue at the UNHRC's UPR meeting on China, a WUC delegation consisting of Mr. Dolkun Isa, Mr. Gheyur Qtirban, and Mr. Nurmemet visited Berlin and held several meetings with representatives of foreign embassies in Berlin, Members of the German Bundestag, high ranking officials of the German Federal Foreign Office, and representatives of prominent international human rights organizations. From January 6 to 13, the WUC delegation met either ambassadors or heads of the human rights council of embassies such as Portugal, Canada, the Philippines, Turkey, Japan, Sweden, Norway, Bolivia, Azerbaijan and France. • During the meetings, the WUC delegation broadly discussed the current

	<p>Uyghur luinan rights situation with representatives of foreign embassies, submitted to them well established documents on various aspects of human rights abuses of the Uyghur people, and sincerely appealed to their governments to support the Uyghur cause by raising the human rights issue of the Uyghur people in the upcoming UPR session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the meeting at the German federal Foreign Office, the WUC delegates held a discussion with the Heao of the Fast Asia Division, Mr. Ithomas WricBnig, and his assistant, Mr. Roland Seeger, about the recent worsening trends in the human rights situation of the Uyghur people. Furthermore, the delegation also visited the German Bundestag and met with a parliamentary working group headed by Mr. Arnold Vaatz, Member of the German Bundestag and Deputy Chairman of the Christian Democratic Parliamentary Group, Mr. Michael Leutert, Members of the German Bundestag and Members of the Human Rights Council of the German Bundestag. • During their campaign in Berlin, the WUC delegation also visited the offices of the Society for Threatened People, Tibet Support Group in Germany, and Amnesty International. During the discussions with their representatives, the delegation exchanged views on how to strengthen inter- organizational ties and collaboration in 2009. http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1231442027&mid=-2139923529 http://www.iivghurcongress.org/Uv/News.aso7ItemIDH232116765&mid=-2139923529
6 January 2009	<p>Mr. Dilshat Reshit, spokesperson of the WUC, answered questions from journalists of the Voice of America regarding the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. He addressed the worsening human rights situation during and after the Olympic Games period, especially the harsh crackdown of peaceful opposition and the dramatic increase of mass arrests of innocent Uyghur people, which is also clearly seen in China's official statistics published in 2008. According to those statistics, published in November 2008, 1,300 individuals were detained during the Olympic period and a total of 1,154 individuals were officially charged. http://www.voanews.com/chinese/w2009-01-06-voa38.cfm</p>
8 January 2009	<p>Mr. Seyit Tiimturk, vice president of the WUC, and Mr. Hayrullah Efendigul Effendi, Revisor, met with former Turkish State Minister, Mr. Omer Dincer, and Ms. Senol Bal, Member of the Turkish Parliamentary Commission for Human Rights. By updating them on the recent developments in the human rights situation of the Uyghur people, the Uyghur delegates submitted WUC's special stakeholders report for the UN UPR on China and appealed to the Turkish government to raise the Uyghur human rights issue during the upcoming UPR session in Geneva. http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp7ItemIDH231681030&mid=-2139923529</p>
10 January 2009	<p>Writing to the Australian government, Mr. Hussein Hessen, president of Uyghur Association in Australia and the Australian representative of the WUC, appealed to the relevant authorities in Australia to accept some of the Guantanamo Uyghurs.</p>

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7-11 January 1	\ delegation consisting of a number of members of the Bavarian Parliament and the Munich Municipal Government visited Bosnia ller/egovina. Mr. Asqarjan, the vice president of the WUC, was among the delegation. During the trip, the delegation visited the Bosnian Interior Ministry, Education Ministry, the Mayor of Sarajevo. Municipal Government officials, religious groups. Non Governmental Organizations (NGO), and universities. By meeting with intellectuals and government officials. Mr. Asqarjan introduced the parties to the Uyghurs and the Uyghur human rights situation. http://ww.w.UN.ehurconeress.ore1\"News.asp'JltemlD=1231697137&mid=-2139923529
27 January 2009	Ms. Rebiya kadeer and the chairman of the WUC Executive Committee, Mr. Alim Seytoff, attended a hearing on the human rights situation in China at the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission. They informed the committee on the recent developments of the Uyghur human rights situation in China, http://w\\w.rla.ora/mahur/xewerler/tepsili xewer/rabive-amerika-guwaliq-01282009034135.html?encodine=latin
20-30 January 2009	After the U.S. President Barack Obama took office and signed the presidential executive order to close Guantanamo prison, the Uyghur issue once again attracted large media attention from around the world. Scores of journalists came one after another to the WUC offices in Munich to interview the WUC, including vice president. Mr. Asqarjan. The list below illustrates some of the German media outlets which came to WUC's Munich office and published articles on the Guantanamo Uyghurs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On January 20: by Ms. Sylvia Wasserman, journalist from Deutsche Welle. Her article was published on Deutsche Welle's "Politic Direct" program. • On January 20: by Ms. Pauline Tillman, journalist from Bayerisches Femsehen TV. The interview was published on the "Abendrundschau program. • On January 28, by Bayern 3 Radio. • January 30, by Bayerisches Femsehen TV, on the "Jugen Program" • On January 30, by ARD TV, on "Panorama" • On January 29, by Mr. Frank Nordhausen Berliner Zeitung
30 January 2009	Mr. Asqarjan visited Berlin and met with Mr. Gunter Nooke, the Human Rights Special Envoy of the German government. While appreciating Mr. Gunter Nook s continued awareness towards the Uyghur human rights situation, Mr. Asqarjan updated him on the current situation of the Uyghur people. Furthermore, Mr. Asqarjan discussed the issue of the Guantanamo Uyghurs and the upcoming UPR session at the UN Office in Geneva. He submitted to Mr. Gunter Nooke WUC s UPR Report and appealed to the German government to raise the Uyghur human rights issue at the UN UPR meeting.
26 January to 12 February	A Brief Report on the WUC's Efforts for the UPR Meeting on China at the UN

2009

The UN I(R's 4th UPR Meeting was convened from February 2 to 13, 2009, at the UN in Geneva. Being an important inelianism to review the human rights situation in countries, this UPK meeting has a significant role. Under the framework of the UPR, the PRC's human rights record will be questioned in front of the representatives of all UN member stales. The PRC's human rights record was scheduled to be reviewed on February 9 and 11, 2009.

The UPK meeting is the most important and efficient way to push the Uyghur human rights issue on to the international agenda, and the WUC defined clear goals in this regard and set all related work as top priority. The WUC carried out the following actions:

1. A special report on the universal human rights situation of the Uyghur people, prepared in close collaboration with the WUC and Uyghur American Association (UAA), was submitted to the UN High Commission for Human Rights (UNOHCHR). Alongside other stakeholders report's by several NGOs, the WUC's report was published on the official website of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). <http://lib.ohchr.org/HRBodies/UPR/Documents/Session4/CN/WUCUHRP CHN UPR S4 2009 WorldUyghurCongressAndUvghurHumanRightsProject JOINT.pdf>
2. The WUC and the UNPO jointly prepared a special report on the universal human rights issues of Uyghurs, Tibetans and Mongols. It was previously submitted to the OHCHR and listed on their official website. <http://lib.ohchr.org/HRBodies/UPR/Documents/Session4/CN/UNPO CHN UPR S4 2009 TheUnrepresentedNationsandPeoplesOrganization.pdf>
3. The Islamic Human Rights Commission (IHRC) also submitted to the OHCHR a special report on the religious freedom of the Uyghur people. This report was listed on the OHCHR's official website available at the following link: <http://lib.ohchr.org/HRBodies/UPR/Documents/Session4/CN/IHRC CHN UPR S4 2009 TheIslamicHumanRightsCommission.pdf>
4. Prominent international human rights organizations like Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and Human Rights without Frontiers made a point of raising the Uyghur human rights situation in their UPR reports submitted to the OHCHR. <http://lib.ohchr.org/HRBodies/UPR/Documents/Session4/CN/HRW CHN UPR S4 2009 HumanRightsWatch.pdf>
<http://lib.ohchr.org/HRBodies/UPR/Documents/Session4/CN/AI CHN UP R S4 2009 AmnestvIntemational.pdf>
<http://lib.ohchr.org/HRBodies/UPR/Documents/Session4/CN/HRWFI CH N UPR S4 2009 HumanRightsWithoutFrontiersInternational.pdf>
5. The WUC also prepared a list of 14 questions, which are expected to be raised to the PRC delegation during the upcoming UPR session UNOG by countries on behalf of the WUC. Together with other UPR reports, the WUC delegates submitted this list to the ambassadors of countries during lobbying efforts in Berlin and in Geneva.

cv In early November 2008, the WUC sent a communication detailing the responsibilities of all local Uyghur organizations and requesting them to:

(H Arrange meetings with the ministry of foreign affairs in their home countries, members of governmental and parliamentary human rights commissions, and UN Representatives on the Uyghur issue, submit WUC's reports, and appeal to governments to raise the Uyghur issue during the upcoming UPR session on China.

(2) Take action to reach representatives of foreign embassies in their country, communicate the WUC's appeals, and explore the possibilities of whether the country would raise questions on Uyghur human rights issues to the Chinese delegation.

7. As a result, Uyghur organizations in Germany, Turkey, Holland, Norway, the USA, Canada, Australia and Belgium managed to meet with a number of officials in the ministry of foreign affairs of their home countries. Members of Parliament and their Working Groups on China, and representatives of some foreign embassies.

8. Led by Mr. Dolkun Isa, a WUC delegation visited Berlin from January 6 to 13, 2009 for lobbying activities. (For more details please see above).

9. After a great deal of preparation, the WUC launched key activities in Geneva for the upcoming UPR session. Together with Ms. Agnes Vienna, program coordinator of the UNPO, Mr. Dolkun Isa made considerable lobbying efforts from January 25 to February 12 among scores of representatives of diplomatic missions in Geneva. Among those 35 countries, there were member countries to the UNHRC, neighboring countries of China, and scores of democratic countries in the western hemisphere. They were:

Belgium, Slovakia, Korea, India, Estonia, Sweden, Greece, Denmark, Malaysia, the Czech Republic, Finland, Canada, the United States, Switzerland, Chile, Ireland, Germany, Holland, Japan, Indonesia, Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, the United Kingdom, Nigeria, Pakistan, Algeria, Portugal, France, Turkey, Guatemala, Italy, Australia, Norway, Jordan and Austria.

Among the persons met during the talks, there were Ambassadors, Premier Representatives, Vice Representatives, Human Rights Consuls and Secretaries for Human Rights Affairs of the diplomatic missions in Geneva. The WUC team presented reports on serious human rights abuses of the Uyghur people by the PRC authorities, increased arbitrary detentions during and after the Beijing Olympic Games, the harsh crackdown of peaceful opposition by Uyghurs, and several urgent issues which need to be immediately addressed and raised in the upcoming UPR session. They also submitted reports and questions prepared by the WUC and the UNPO on those issues.

10. During the UPR meeting on China on February 9, a joint demonstration by the WUC and Tibetan organizations was staged in front of the UN Office in Geneva. <http://www.nyghircoimress.org/Uv/Ncws.a.sp?llcmlD=1234346414>

11. The UPR on China was the first review of China's human rights record under the new IJN mechanism, which came to effect in 2006, after the UN Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR), was replaced by the UN Human Rights Council (IHNHC).

Under this new mechanism, 192 countries in a 3-hour long UPR meeting will review the human rights records of individual countries. China's human rights record was scrutinized between 9:00 to 12:00 on February 9, 2009. After the head of the Chinese delegation, Li Baodong, reported on China's human rights situation, every country was allowed to give a 2 minute long oral statement on this report. According to the regulations, countries should register themselves prior to the UPR session. During the China review, a total of 115 countries registered to make an oral statement. But, because of time constraints, only 60 countries were able to give statements on China.

Among those countries which made oral statements on China's human rights record, Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Holland, Sweden, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, Italy, Austria, Japan and some Latin American countries made critical remarks.

http://lib.ohchr.org/HRBodies/UPR/Documents/Session4/CN/A_HRC_WG64LIICHNF.pdf

In addition, countries which couldn't make an oral statement during the meeting because of time constraints, including Denmark, Norway, Latvia and Liechtenstein etc, made their criticism towards the human rights situation in China by submitting written statements through the UN Human Rights Council. http://www.upr-info.org/IMG/pdf/ADVANCE_QUESTIONS_TO_CHINA.pdf

Among those issues raised by the above countries either through oral or written statements, there were the issues of widespread torture in the Chinese judicial system, the death penalty, extra-judicial detentions, minorities issues, religious freedom, the rights of Uyghurs and Tibetans, media freedom, civil liberty, and safety of human rights defenders and lawyers, etc. They also called China to implement the UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (UNICCPR) which China signed in 1998. Furthermore, there were some questions on China's new plan to improve its human rights record, which will be implemented in 2009.

12. From 15:00 to 17:50 on February 10, a meeting was convened between international human rights organizations including the WUC and several UN committees, such as the UN Committee on Civil and Political Rights (UNCCPR), the UN Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (UNCESCR), the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial

Discrimination (CURD), the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEI)AW'), the UN Committee Against Torture NCAT), the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child rl VRO, and the UN Committee on the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families (UNCMW).

The Chinese go\eminent sent a large delegation of 52 people, including high-level officials from the Chinese Foreign Ministry the People's Supreme Court, and the Supreme People's Procuratorai, the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of State Security, and the State Administration for Religious Affairs, etc.

As the WUC team met w ith representatix es of countries in Geneva, they were told that Chinese government officials had met with representatives of 192 countries and tried to get their support during the UPR session, or at least to hinder them front raising objections to China's human rights record, by inviting them to luxury' dinners. It was also a fact that the Chinese delegation exerted pressure on those representatives not to raise the issues of human rights violations against Uyghurs and Tibetans.

During the UPR meeting, once the speech of the Chinese delegation, Chief Li Baodong, ended, representatives of third world countries such as Pakistan, Sri Lanka. Saudi Arabia. Cuba. Algeria. Venezuela. Yemen and Vietnam etc, highly praised China's human rights record. Some countries, on the other hand, chose to keep silent and smartly avoided angering China. But the diplomatic tricks of the Chinese government are not always so effective especially when it comes to the democratic western countries, which put the values of democracy and human rights first.

Another thing which drew broad attention during the meeting was that the Chinese government had distributed specially prepared, luxury-packaged propaganda DVDs titled "Xinjiang is a good place" to the representatives of countries. The Chinese government tried to mislead the public by decorating its brutalities in East Turkestan and on the Uyghur people.

Despite the disappointing fact that the number of countries which praised China s miserable human rights record far more exceeded than those who have the courage to raise objections, still countries like the Czech Republic, Australia, Japan, Canada, and Switzerland all made special oral statements on the Uyghur human rights situation. In addition, the United Kingdom, Denmark, Sweden and Norway etc. raised the issues of the Uyghur people by sending their questions to the Chinese delegation through the UNHRC. Nevertheless, with the help of those countries, the Uyghur issue was raised at a large-scale official UN meeting for the first time

As a result of lobbying efforts and months long active engagement with the UPR process, a total 9 countries raised the Uyghur human rights issue through different means at the UPR meeting on China. It marks a major success that is a milestone for the Uyghur international human rights campaign.

http://www.uvghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1234981449_

<http://www.unpo.Org/content/view/9158/81/>



<p>Mr. Dolkun Isa met with the following Missions at the UN during WUC lobbying activities in Geneva:</p> <p><i>January 26, 2009</i> Mr. Ingo Brauwers Deputy Permanent Representative, Consul General, Permanent Mission of Belgium</p> <p><i>January 27, 2009</i> Mr. Anton Pinter Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Slovak Republic</p> <p>Mr. Kim Pil-woo Counselor, Permanent Mission of Korea</p> <p>Mr. Amit Mukerjee Permanent Mission of India</p> <p><i>January 28, 2009</i> Ms. Annely Kolk Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of Estonia</p> <p>Mr. Olivier Fink Deputy Regional Coordinator, Far East Directorate of Political Affairs, Foreign Ministry of Switzerland</p> <p>Ms. Anna Mattei Asia Desk Officer, Human Rights Policy Section Directorate of Political Affairs, Foreign Ministry of Switzerland</p> <p><i>January 29, 2009</i> Mr. Marios Lyberopoulos Counselor, Permanent Mission of Greece</p> <p>Mr. Lars Volck Madsen First Secretary Human Rights, Permanent Mission of Denmark</p> <p>Malaysia Mission</p> <p>Ms. Petra Ali Dolakova Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of Czech Republic</p> <p><i>January 30, 2009</i> Ms. Eva Heikkila Secretary, Permanent Mission of Finland</p> <p>Mr. Terry Cormier Minister and Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Canada</p> <p>Mr. Jeffrey Heaton Second Secretary, Permanent Representative of Canada</p>
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	<p>February .v ?()W Ms Anna Chambers Permanent Mission of the United States of America</p> <p>February 4, 2009 Mr. Mans Molandev Permanent Mission of Sweden</p> <p>Mr. Paroli Permanent Mission of Chile</p> <p>Ms. Amy Ardel Permanent Mission of Ireland</p> <p>Ms. Anke Konrad First Secretary. Permanent Mission of Germany</p> <p>February 5, 2009 Mr. Sieben Human Rights Councilor, Permanent Mission of Netherlands</p> <p>Mr. Akio Isomata Minister. Permanent Mission of Japan</p> <p>Ms. Indoly Permanent Mission of Indonesia</p> <p>Ms. Semra Secretary, Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan</p> <p>Mr. Fadil Addadi Counselor, Permanent Mission of Afghanistan</p> <p>February 6, 2009 Mr. Nwoso I Feanyi Permanent Mission of Nigeria</p> <p>Mr. Queiros, Ms. Sara Permanent Mission of Portugal</p> <p>Mr. Emmanuel Rousseau Human Rights Counselor, Permanent Mission of France</p> <p>Mr. Ali Oner Er Bey Permanent Mission of Turkey</p> <p>Guatemala mission</p> <p>Mr. Roberto Nocella Counselor, Permanent Mission of Italy</p>
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	<p>Mr. Heines Permanent Mission of Norway</p> <p>Mr. Cihealan Qudah Third Seeretary, Permanent Mission of Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan</p>
<p>4-5 February 2009</p>	<p>For years, the WUC has been actively communicating with officials of the German government and the Bundestag in order to discover if Germany would accept some of the Uyghurs in Guantanamo. After the U.S. President Barack Obama signed the executive order to close the Guantanamo prison camp, the future of the Guantanamo Uyghurs once again became a widely discussed topic in Germany. In this regard, the WUC leaders have made following efforts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On February 4, the issue of the Guantanamo Uyghurs was specially discussed during a parliamentary meeting of the Bavarian Landtag. Vice president Mr. Asqarjan made a comprehensive report to the more than 200 Members of the Bavarian Landtag on the situation of the Uyghur people and the Guantanamo Uyghurs and answered their questions in this regard. Alter hours of discussions, the Parliament decided to seriously consider the option of accepting some Uyghurs in Guantanamo as long as the United States government officially submits a request to the German Federal Government. • Another heated discussion was held at the Munich Municipal Government meeting on February 5. Mr. Asqarjan has also made a speech on the Uyghur issue. At the end of the discussion, all factions of the German political parties within the Municipal Government made a unified decision to accept the Guantanamo Uyghurs in Munich. This decision was later submitted to the German Chancellor, Madam Angela Merkel, together with a brief written and signed by ^lr. Christian Ude, the Major of Munich. http://www.uvehurconeress.ora/Uv/News.asD?ItemID=1235681345&mid=-2139923529
<p>5 February 2009</p>	<p>Every year on February 5, the WUC commemorates the Ghulja demonstration, when hundreds of Uyghur youth went to the street and requested the Chinese government to give freedom, democracy and human rights to the Uyghur people. Like previous years, the umbrella organizations around the world organized several activities to commemorate this historical event.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">In Washington, USA</p> <p>A demonstration organized by the Uyghur American Association (UAA) was staged in front of the Chinese embassy. During the demo, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer made a speech to criticize human rights abuses of the Uyghur people by Chinese authorities.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">In Munich, Germany</p> <p>Organized by the East Turkestan Union in Europe, the Uyghurs in Munich</p>

protested at a famous tourist site in Munich city-Iho Knrlsplatz Slnchus. More than 1 .000 leaflets on the Ghulja massacre ami the situation of the Uyghur people were disseminated to spectators.

In Oslo, Norway

fhc Norwegian Uyghur Association organized a demonstration in front of the Chinese embassy in Oslo.

In Brussels, Belgium

The Belgian Uyghur Association and the East Turkestan Union in Holland jointly demonstrated in front of the European Parliament in Brussels. Demonstrators called on the European Parliament to exert pressure on the Chinese government to stop its repressive policies towards the Uyghur people.

In Ankara, Turkey

The East Turkestan Culture and Solidarity Association organized a protest in front of the Chinese embassy in Ankara. Representatives of human rights organizations and a number of Turkish politicians joined the demonstration. Demonstrators **laid** a dark wreath at the Chinese embassy.

In Toronto and Vancouver, Canada

The Uyghur Canadian Association staged demonstrations simultaneously in front of the Chinese consulates in Toronto and Vancouver.

In Stockholm

The Swedish Uyghur Association organized a demonstration in front of the Chinese embassy in Stockholm on February' 1.

<http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1234035854&mid=-2139923529>

In Frankfurt, Germany

On February 7, members of the East Turkestan Union in Europe in Frankfurt gathered in Frankfurt city center to commemorate the Ghulja event. They disseminated hundreds of leaflets on the Ghulja massacre and the human rights situation of Uyghurs in East Turkestan to the public. <http://www.uyghurcongress.org/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1234123380&mid=-2139923529>

In Tokyo, Japan

Organized by the Japan Uyghur Association, more than 120 people including Uyghurs in Tokyo, members of human rights organizations and sympathizers of Uyghurs staged a demonstration in Shinbuya district in Tokyo. Journalists of several Japanese medias outlets interviewed Mr. Ilham Mahmut, president of t >

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	<p>association. http://www.uvuhorcorwcss.ori/Uy/N)4:ws.asD71temlI)=1234276X04A'fTãH - 2139923529</p>
7 February 2009	<p>Supported by the local authority for culture of the Swedish city of Malmo, an exhibition of Swedish photographer, Mr. Peter, on real scenes of Uyghur life was shown from January 17 to February 17. During his visit to East Turkestan a few years ago, Mr. Peter took many photos from the life of the local Uyghur people. He organized several photo exhibitions in many cities in Sweden. This time, a special briefing on the situation of the Uyghurs was added to the exhibition program. Invited by the local authority for cultural affairs of Malmo and Mr. Peter, Mr. Dolkun Isa, who was leading the UPR lobbying efforts of the WUC in Geneva, went to Malmo and attended the exhibition. Mr. Dolkun Isa introduced a brief history of the Uyghur people and their current situation. He also met with Swedish parliament members, such as Mr. Otto von Arnold, who were attending the exhibition, and discussed the Uyghur issue with them.</p>
9 February 2009	<p>A Uyghur-Tibetan joint demonstration was staged in front of the UN Office in Geneva, where the UPR meeting on China was convening and at which the representatives of 192 countries were attending. More than 150 Tibetans, Uyghurs in Switzerland and from Munich joined this demonstration. Mr. Dolkun Isa made a speech during the event and stressed the importance of strengthening the cooperation between Tibetans and Uyghurs while both nations are suffering tremendous human rights abuses in China. Demonstrators warmly welcomed his speech. http://www.uvehurconeress.ore/Uv/News.asp?ItemID=1234346414&mid=-2139923529</p>
11 February 2009	<p>Written by Deutsche Welle (DW) journalist Mr. Oleg Zinkowskij, an article titled "The Uyghurs are demanding support in Berlin" was published on the DW website. This article traced the history of the establishment of the WUC, its activities, and its leaders, including Ms. Rebiya Kadeer. A short analysis and discussion was made on the Uyghur issue. http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0..3290904.00.html</p>
13 February 2009	<p>Aimed to promote Uyghur culture, the East Turkestan Youth and Culture Association organized a "Day of Knowledge and Culture" in Istanbul. More than 400 people including leaders of all Uyghur organizations in Turkey and representatives of some Turkish organizations attended this event. Mr. Murat Ayden, the head of the District Government of Zaytun Burnu, made an opening speech for the ceremony. Uyghur music and dance were performed. http://www.eokbavrak.com/Turkestan.aso?inc=haberdetav&numara=1188</p>
18-20 February 2009	<p>Accompanying Ms. Gudrun Dometeit, a journalist from the German political magazine "Focus", Mr. Asqarjan made a trip to Albania. An interview with the Uyghurs in Albania, who were released from Guantanamo a few years ago, was written and later published in a comprehensive report. http://www.focus.de/politik/ausland/ueuren-seltsame-odvssee-um-die-welt-aid-375889.html</p>

<p>19 February :oo9</p>	<p>At the invitation of the Turkish Solidarity Association in the U.K., Mr. Lner Tohti, the WUC representative in the UK. attended a conference in London and made a report on the "Human Rights in Last Turkestan". http://www.cokkurak.com/Turkestan.aso?ine=hnbcrdctuY&mimarn~1192</p>
<p>20 February :i\w</p>	<p>Mr. Sc> it TihmOrk, the vice president of the WUC, and Revisor, Mr. Ilayrullah Lfendigiil, met with the President of the Turkish Parliamentary Human Rights Commission, Professor Zefer Uskul. The delegation gave updates on the Uyghur human rights situation and submitted special reports prepared by the WUC. They also urged the Turkish Parliament to send a parliamentary delegation to Last Turkestan to review the human rights situation. http://www.cokhavrak.com/Turkestan.asp?inc=haberdetav&numara=1194</p>
<p>26 February 2009</p>	<p>A conference on "Mahmud Kashgari and Last Turkestan" was convened in collaboration with the University of Lrciyce and the Last Turkestan Culture and Solidarity Association. Vice chairman of the Lreiyes University Professor Metin Hulagu and WUC vice president. Mr. Soy it Tiimtitrk, made opening speeches. Valuable academic discussions on the great Uyghur scientist Mahmud Kashgari and Last Turkestan were made by a number of scholars during the event, lino: www.fiockba\ rak.com/Turkestan.asD?inc=haberdetav&numara=1199</p>
<p>2-28 February 2009</p>	<p>Scores of German and international journalists interviewed Asqarjan and other WUC leaders in February; These interviews were later broadly publicized through TV and radio programs, newspaper articles. Such broad media coverage effectively facilitated awareness-raising towards the Uyghur issue among audiences.</p> <p>The following is a short list of the media coverage in this period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On February 2: On "Antenna Bayern" radio A newspaper article by Mr. Gerda Frey in the "Abend Zeitung" A newspaper article by Ms. Maier Albang in the "Suddeutsche Zeitung" A program by BBC Berlin journalist, Mr. Kerstin Fischer • On 3 February: On "Deutschland Radio Kultur" http://www.dradio.de/dkultur/senduneen/interview/913871/ • On 4 February: On "Kontroverse", a TV program run by "Bayerisches Femsehen" On a radio program on "Radio Gong" • On 5 February: A newspaper article by Mr. Rafael Poch-de Feliu, in Spanish newspaper, "La Vanguardia" • On 6 February: A newspaper article titled "Seltene Einigkeit im Stadtrat (A Rare Agreement in the Municipal Council)" by Ms. Maier Albang, in the "Suddeutsche Zeitung"

	<p>http://www.stic(I(lciitschc.dc/inucncl!cn/719/45_7380/tcxf/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 12 February: A magazine article titled “Guantanamo Gcfangenc: Neue Heimat MOnchen (Guantanamo Prisoners: A New Home in Munich)” by Mr. Merlind Theile, in the “Her Spiegel” magazine. http://www.spiceel.dc/politik/dcutschland/0.1518.606055.00.html • On 13 February: A newspaper article titled “Von Guantanamo nach Bayern (From Guantanamo to Bavaria)” by Mr. Simone Herz, in the “Passauer Neue Pressc” http://www.pnp.de/nachrichten/artikel.php?cid=29-23066764&Ressort=pol&Auseabe=&RessLane=&BNR=0 • On 22 February: A news article by Mr. Alexander Marguier, in the “Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung” • 23 February: A radio program on “Bayern 2” http://www.br-online.de/aktuell/landtae-2uantanamo-ueuren-ID_1233740262783.xml
<p>3-6 March 2009</p>	<p>Ms. Rebiya Kadeer paid visit to Berne, Switzerland and met with high-level officials from the UN Human Rights Council, the Swiss Foreign Ministry and the Swiss parliament. http://www.rfa.ore/uvehur/xewerler/tepsili_xewer/rabive-xanim-shiwetsarive-03052009013833.html?searchterm=None</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On March 3, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and Mr. Asqaijan met with Ms. Julian Burger, Coordinator of the Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Unit at the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and Ms. Christina Chung, Program Officer at the OHCHR, and reported on the Uyghur issue. • On March 4, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer met with high-level officials for the Swiss Parliament and the Swiss Foreign Ministry. During talks, by reporting the human rights situation of the Uyghur people, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer appealed to the Swiss government to receive some of the Uyghurs in Guantanamo. • During her visit to Switzerland, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer gave interviews to Swiss media such as Tribune and Zuricher Zeitung. A press conference was also held on March 5 with journalists from Swiss TV, radio and print media.
<p>7 March 2009</p>	<p>18 human rights organizations in Sydney staged a joint demonstration with more than 1,000 people for the upcoming “Women’s Day”. The Australia Uyghur Association joined this demonstration. They distributed thousand more flyers on the difficult situation of Uyghur women in East Turkestan, where they are suffering</p>

	repressive policies by the Chinese authorities, such as forced sterilization, second-hand diseases, and forced transfer to inner Chinese cities for slave labor, etc ' http >\\east Turkistan.ore.au/u\ ewer/200'>0107001 htm
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I S M.uvh .WO	The \ DC's Committee for Women s Affairs issued a press statement regarding ' Women's Day By celebrating the Uyghur women for International Women's Day ' the statement calls on the international community to pay attention to the tragic situation those Uyghur women and children are facing, http: www.uvuhurcongress.ort U\ News.asp'. 'ItemID=1236444616&mid=-2139923529
6 March 2009	Mr. Pablo Morales, an \ja/eera correspondent in Spain, visited the WUC's Munich office and filmed a special I V interview with Ms. Rebiya Kadeer. who was examining the work of the WUC in Germany. Mr. Asqarjan and Mr. Dolkun Isa.
6-8 March 2009	Ms. Jodi Breisler. a journalist from Deutsche Welle Radio English Language Broadcasting, paid a \isit to the WUC Secretariat in Munich. During her visit, she held several interviews w ith Ms. Rebiya kadeer. Mr. Asqarjan, Mr. Dolkun Isa and a number of members of the local Uyghur Diaspora, in order to make a radio program on the situation of the Uyghurs in Guantanamo and the universal human rights situation of the Uyghur people. Deutsche Welle Radio later broadcast her program on March 29. http: www.uv 2hurcongress.ort2.dJv/'News.asp?ItemID=1236444616&mid=-2139923529
10-14 March 2009	Mr. Peter Braaksma. an independent researcher from Holland, visited the NVUC Secretariat in order to collect more materials for his new book about Uyghurs and their situation. Previously, Mr. Peter Braaksma met with Ms. Rebiya Kadeer at her Washington office in December 2008 and recorded an interview. This time, he interviewed Mr. Dolkun Isa and a number of people from the local Diaspora to explore the situation of the Uyghur people through their experience in East Turkestan. During his time in Munich, the WUC provided full assistance to his work.
10 March 2009	Mr. Stephen de Tarczynski, a journalist from the Inter Press Service, interviewed Mr. Memtimin Ala, member of the WUC Executive Committee and the General Secretary of the Australia Uyghur Association. A newspaper article titled "Q&A: Gitmo Uyghurs Highlight a Complex Ethnic Problem" was later published based on this interview. http://www.iDnews.net/news.asp?idnews=46041
11-12 March 2009	The 3 rd General Session of the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) was convened from 27 March 2 to 27, in Geneva. Representing the WUC, Mr. Dolkun Isa carried out the following activities: http://www.unpo.ore/content/view/9356/85/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Dolkun Isa attended a conference on "China's Deteriorating Human Rights: Will the World Fall with It?" which was organized in collaboration with Interfaith International and UNA San Diego.

	<p>The following topics were discussed during the conference:</p> <p>60th Anniversary of Communist Rule in China / Tibet / East Turkestan 50th Anniversary of the Tibet Uprising 20th Anniversary of the June 4 Massacre 10th Anniversary of the Persecution of Falun Gong 20 years of the West's engagement policy UNUPR praise of China's human rights record A Financial Crisis Rooted in the Moral Crises of Ignoring Human Rights</p> <p>The following participants made speeches:</p> <p>Mr. Dolkun Isa (Secretary General, WUC) Mr. Tseten Samduq Choekyapa (Representative of H.H. Dalai Lama) Mr. Jian Zhang, Student Leader during the June 4 Massacre Mr. Willy Faute, Founder of Human Rights Without Frontiers Ms. Flaiyan Wang, a victim of Chinese repression Dr. Chen Shizhong, President of the Conscience Foundation</p> <p>In his speech on the 60th Anniversary of Communist Rule in East Turkestan, Mr. Dolkun Isa described the systematic repression by Chinese communist rulers in East Turkestan and especially highlighted the urgent situation that the Uyghur people have faced in recent years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On March 12, Mr. Dolkun Isa attended a conference on the rights of the child organized by the UN in Geneva. Participants reviewed the implementation of the UN Covenant on the Rights of the Child among all countries. Mr. Dolkun Isa raised issues such as the discrimination against Uyghur children, deprivation of the right to receive mother language education, denial of religious education, and assimilationist education policies, wherein Uyghur children are transferred to inner Chinese cities to receive basic education in Chinese, etc. Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Tibet uprising, the Tibetans in Switzerland together with Uyghurs in Geneva staged a joint demonstration in front of the UN Office in Geneva. Mr. Dolkun Isa made speech during the demonstration.
<p>18 March 2009</p>	<p>Organized by the Uyghur Association in Japan, a conference on "Devastation of the Chinese Nuclear Tests on the Silk Road and the Japanese Role" was convened in Tokyo. More than 250 people including Japanese experts, doctors and representatives of human rights organizations attended this meeting. Mr. Takada Jun, author of the newly published book "Nuclear Tests in China", spoke and showed evidence of the damage done by Chinese nuclear tests in the Uyghur homeland. Mr. Enver Tohti, WUC representative in the U.K., gave a report on the "Adverse Effects of Chinese Nuclear Tests in East Turkestan on the Health of the Uyghur People" at the conference. As a former doctor specializing in cancer, Mr. Enver Tohti had seen many cases which directly resulted from nuclear pollution. By presenting hard facts he has collected, Mr. Enver Tohti reaffirmed that the extraordinary high rate of cancer among Uyghurs is directly a result of these nuclear tests in East Turkestan.</p>

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wing a traditional folk festival of the Uyghur people, Newruz is celebrated by the
l >ghur Diaspora across the world with a variety of activities organized by local
Uyghur communities.

- On March 22, the WUC and the East Turkistan Union in Europe (ETUE) jointly organized a Newruz celebration party in Munich. By briefly reporting on the work of the WUC and the ETUE in the past year, Mr. Dolkun Isa appreciated the moral and financial support of the Uyghur Diaspora, local Uyghur children, who performed to the public during this event. prepared colorful entertainment.
<http://www.nghureongress.org/News.asp?itemID=1237844598>

- Uyghurs in Norway celebrated the Newruz festival in Oslo on March 21.
- The Australian Uyghur Association organized a Newruz party in Sydney on March 21. Together with community members of the Uyghur Diaspora in Australia, visiting WUC leaders Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and Mr. Asqarjan were attended this event and briefed on activities of the WUC.
http://www.rfa.org/uehur/xewerler/tepsili_xewer/awstralivede-nowruz-032420090bl92S.html
- Uyghurs in Holland celebrated the Newruz festival in Amsterdam on March 22.
- In France, the Uyghur community in Paris celebrated Newruz on March 22.
- The Swedish Uyghur Community organized a Newruz party on March 21 in Stockholm
- In the U.S., the Uyghur American Association (UAA) organized a Newruz celebration party on March 22.
<http://www.meshrep.com/wforum/viewtopic.php?t=15446>
- Hosted by the Istanbul Mayor, a large-scale Newruz celebration took place on March 21 on Sultan Ahmed Plaza in Istanbul. www.rfa.org/iiyphur/xewerler/tepsili_xewer/istanbulda-noruz-Q12520Q9082300.html

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students' activity was organized in Sydney between middle school students who have different cultural backgrounds. The senior Uyghur students it Sydney middle schools represented the Uyghur by wearing traditional clothes, performing Uyghur music and introducing event. More than 2,000 students attended
www.easrtnrl.esmn.com/xewer/2089032500A

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An appeal was submitted to the President to raise the issue of the Uyghur people's rights. The WUC appealed to the President to raise the issue of the Uyghur people's rights.

	<p>when he meets with Chinese president, Hu Jintao, and urged the Chinese government to stop its damaging policies, such as denial of economic prosperity to the Uyghur people, assimilation of the entire national by destroying its cultural identity and language, implementation of terror over the Uyghur people by arbitrai detention, and an unfair judiciary.</p>
<p>16-26 March 2009</p>	<p>Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and Mr. Asqarjan made paid visits to Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney. The Uyghur communities in these Australian cities warmly welcomed them. Several meetings were organized between WUC leaders and community members of Uyghur Diaspora during their visit. WUC leaders made reports on the activities of the WUC in recent years and updated preparations regarding the Third General Assembly of the WUC in Washington in May. Ms. Rebiya Kadeer spoke to the Diaspora and especially highlighted the ever-increasing attention of the international community towards the Uyghur issue as a result of the firm commitment and continuous efforts of the WUC.</p> <p>WUC leaders met with a number of Australian politicians including Members of the Australian Parliament, and government officials. During the talks, by briefing the current situation of the Uyghur people, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer appealed to the Australian government to accept some of the Uyghur in Guantanamo and to provide financial support for the Uyghur human rights campaign.</p> <p>On March 21, they also attended Newruz celebrations, which were organized by the East Turkestan Association in Sydney. During the WUC leaders visit to Australia, several Australian and Turkish media outlets interviewed Ms. Rebiya Kadeer and published articles. ! 732988859">http://www.uvehurconeress.com/Uv/News.asD7ItemI>! 732988859</p>
<p>30 March 2009</p>	<p>The WUC issued a press statement and harshly condemned the Chinese authority's very recent crackdown on Uyghur dissidents in East Turkestan's Hoten region, where they sealed off religious schools under the pretext of not having "Official Registration", and put dissidents into custody simply because the authority deems them as a "security threat". After this statement was published, a number of international media referred to it in their news reporting. http://www.eoole.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeaM5hB5ePuveOYee-B-u7tI85iruVPeD978BKTG0 http://epochtimes.com/eb/9/3/30/n2479657.htm</p>

WDC's Submission to the UN Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council

4th Session of the UPR Working Group,

February 2009

In this submission, the World Uyghur Congress and the Uyghur American Association (Uyghur Human Rights Project) provides information under the general guidelines for the preparation of information. The report was compiled and completed in Hawaii upon a visit of Rebiya Kadeer to the University of Hawaii during the conclusion of the Olympics in Beijing. The report is submitted on 1 September 2008.

The Uyghur people have faced systematic and severe human rights violations since contact and through waves of settlements by the Han Chinese in their homeland of East Turkestan.

For centuries and specifically since the mid-October 1949 invasion by the People's Liberation Army under Wang Zhen. The Peoples Republic of China (PRC) instituted practices and policies to discriminate against Uyghur people and decrease the possibility for Uyghur exercise of the right to self-determination. Through every phase of occupation and organized denial of human dignity and equality, the Uyghur people resisted and reestablished East Turkestan to perpetuate the culture, language and continued existence of the ethnic Uyghur people as a collective identity.

For the previous 60 years, the PRC has coordinated a campaign of coercion and cultural desecration while continuously adopting international declarations enshrining human rights. From the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including numerous international human rights conventions, the PRC has adopted and ratified the international instruments. However, the rights have never been realized in the daily lives. In fact, life has worsened at the hands of the ruling authorities of Han descent from Beijing. This report will examine the actual violations of specific articles of these international instruments but also document the main challenging threats and continued gross human rights violations undermining the continued existence with dignity and equality of Uyghur society.

The Uyghur people maintain the fundamental freedom of right to life without discrimination able to perpetuate a unique culture in the face of growing persecution. The PRC continues to take advantage of current world trends from economic globalization to the war on terror to continue its illegal and immoral campaigns to dismantle the core of the Uyghur culture. Under the guise of economic progress, the PRC denies the language resulting in erosion of identity and discrimination in employment. Also, the PRC transfers young women destroying the family and future generations. Under the secrecy of security, the PRC eliminates Uyghur leadership through intimidation and imprisonment with techniques of torture to destroy the democratic aspirations recognized in rule of law and human rights.

The three areas requiring immediate attention are promotion and protection of Uyghur language, defending the survival of Uyghur women's rights and the family, and protecting basic dignity denied in the war on terror.

The renaming of the Uyghur traditional sites is only the beginning. Language replacement covers the entire spectrum of society from television reports to textbooks gradually eroding Uyghur language. The rationale for denying the human right is defended with the benefits of modern education of science and technology denying the intrinsic worth of Uyghur culture.

The foundation for the language policy is reflected in the ideology of the Han government supremacy suffocating Uyghur identity. Based on centuries of stereotypes, China claims that Uyghur are inferior, culturally backward and lazy. The PRC policies guarantee Uyghur are second class citizens in their own homeland. The disparaging view of the Uyghur people is marginalizing Uyghur for generations to come through the monolingual educational system being set up today.

The arrow of assimilation is the "bilingual" education policy that cuts the tongue out of the collective Uyghur culture. This program buries the Uyghur language marginalizing Uyghurs in the educational system with the goal of eliminating it as a language of instruction.

All of the agreements with the establishment of the autonomous region are only on paper yet not in the reality of the people living under harsh conditions violating human rights. The right to be educated in one's own mother tongue according to the Compulsory Education Law is being violated and Uyghur language is being marginalized. Even where there is more than 90% Uyghur people such as in Khotan, all classes will be taught in Chinese before the next report of the UPR is due for the PRC. From the top rings of education and government policies, the monolingual program is making its way all the way down to preschools in the immediate future. There are threats of trouble if parents don't agree to send their children to Chinese language schools. There are also economic conditions where parents that send their children to Chinese schools receive a subsidy. Beyond the corporate world and the classroom, the Uyghur language is banned in dormitories and even the playground of the preschools.

Results of these policies result in increasingly repressive political environment. Language is the seed for stability and human security in East Turkestan. An immediate reversal of the current policy is necessary for human rights in the region.

There are also "Xinjiang classes" in the PRC cities that remove Uyghur students from their cultural environment with the aspiration of "political thought training" not academic training. One indication of the true intent is the prohibition of speaking Uyghur even in the dormitories with an on site monitor. The number of such programs is increasing dramatically expanding every year suffocating the students to live their own culture through speaking their own language and living in one's homeland.

This is also carried out to an even larger extent with young Uyghur women in slave standard factories removing them from their families and communities. While many of the programs previously mentioned have violated the human rights of Uyghur people, the transfer of women illustrates the trend of the PRC to always find new mechanisms to destroy the Uyghur culture.

The PRC central directive applies intense pressure incorporating intimidation, deception, pressure and threats from Beijing to break apart the creation of future families by focusing on traditional Islamic cultural strongholds to transfer women to substandard working conditions very far from their traditional homelands across the PRC.

Families have documented the intentional targeting of marriage aged Uyghur women and the intimidation of fathers of families for the daughters participation in the program. When the women arrive they face inhumane working conditions in substandard systems of slavery masquerading as government factory programs promoting economic progress. All of the promises of salaries and sendees do not exist. Women are forced to work for 24 hours straight. These economic imperialism conditions reflect plantations outlawed in earlier centuries in many colonizing countries. From tactics of fear to terrible force, more and more girls are taken from their families and transferred. The officials use promises of luxury or punishment if women are not willing to participate. Yet the result is impoverished young women facing even worse living conditions than the lack of economic opportunities offered to Uyghur in East Turkestan. It is a prison for women with economic gains for the PRC to produce cheap exports for the global economy.

Beyond the obvious economic and social rights violation of the women, there are also broader violations in the larger Uyghur society. When people protested the policy they were identified as terrorists and targeted for arrest and torture. This fits into the larger policy of harassment and human rights violations toward Uyghur people in their own homeland.

This is just the latest wave of population transfer. What is most insidious is not only is the PRC bringing Han in as in the past but actively siphoning off the young to leave their homeland too. In 1955, Uyghurs made up 74.4% of the total population and Han Chinese only 6.1%. Today it is almost evenly divided with Uyghur making up 45% and Han 41%. Even more alarming is this statistic doesn't include the massive number of PLA soldiers, security forces and the recent migration of the migrant population for farming traditional Uyghur land. With the introduction of the most recent population transfer of Uyghur women, the Uyghur will be a minority in their own homeland. Human rights must be honored.

The most insidious human rights violation is the rise of "Islamophobia" in the PRC. The PRC exploited the horrible terrorist attacks of 9/11 to create a reign of terror and torture against the Uyghur people in their own homeland and to vilify the Uyghur in the court of global public opinion using the global war on terror to intensify the repression of Uyghur leaders.

While the PRC is on record only days prior to 9/11 noting there is no terrorism there, the government has framed East Turkestan as part of the international terrorism struggle. The PRC has even been bold enough to claim that there were terrorist camps in operation justifying raids on Uyghur leaders whose only crime was standing up for basic human rights being respected in their homeland. The increased crackdown has linked Uyghur to the international rise of Islamophobia. Even Amnesty International has documented the tens of thousands of people detained and sentenced to death by the authorities. There are massive systematic roundups with follow up rallies of mass sentencing and even public executions. The Uyghur arrested during these sweeps face extremely cruel forms of torture.

Even Canadian citizens visiting their spouse's families in neighboring countries haven't been able to escape the wave of Islamophobia and terror targeting Uyghur people. Huseyin Celil is

just one ease of human rights violations denying basic diplomatic and legal protections as well as enduring extreme torture.

The Islamophobia activities of the PRC are aimed toward silencing and creating a heightened sense of repression toward Uyghur people. Any (Jyghur who stands up or speaks out faces the most egregious human rights violations. Rebiya Kadeer is an example. She served six years in prison. The torture didn't end there though as the PRC targeted her children for her continued resistance as a human rights defender. Her sons Alim and Ablikim have been beaten in front of their children and endured great pain in prison for Rebiya Kadeer's continued involvement in human rights efforts.

The main human rights violations of the UN CRC, CEDAW, ICESCR and CAT: Uyghurs desire for the realization of rights enshrined in international instruments.

Convention on the Rights of the Child

The Uyghur children are facing extreme and systematic discrimination in the current educational and governance system of China. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has initially scratched the human rights violations for young Uyghurs growing up in their own homeland at the hands of the policies. There are many recommendations that would change the direction of the discrimination to one of guaranteeing basic rights recognized in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). At the fortieth session, various important issues were raised relating to the recognized abuses by the Committee. The Uyghurs would like to have followup information but also plan to recognize the rights relating to indigenous children and youth in the UN CRC specifically art 17, 29 and 30.

The first steps would be to follow up with requested information and more importantly actions to reverse the lack of respect for Uyghur children.

Updated information is necessary for the government to provide to the UN Human Rights Council. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child highlighted specific areas of concern. The CRC noted the Chinese government should provide in basic data and statistics item A on disaggregated data on budget allocation and trends focusing specifically on item 2(g) focusing on "programmes and services for children belonging to minority groups." The information concerning para 5 and 7 focusing on disaggregated data on ethnic minorities such as Uyghurs focusing on health in para 5 specifically para (a) rates of infant and child mortality; (b) rates of immunization; (c) rates of malnutrition; (d) children infected with and/or affected by HIV/AIDs; (e) adolescent health, including early pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), abortions, mental health and suicide, drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse: and (f) percentage of health professionals working in health-care services for children. Also para 7 with reference to right to education focusing on (a) rates of literacy, below and over 18 years; (b) rate of enrollment in pre-primary schools, primary schools and in secondary schools; (c) percentage of children completing primary and secondary education; (d) number and percentage of dropouts, repetition and retention; (e) number of children in private schools and (f) ratio teacher per children and number of children per class.

The Uyghurs note the system of denying the history of the Uyghur people in the textbooks as well as denying the language of Uyghurs to be spoken directly increases the rate of social ills in health and education.

The Uyghurs are extremely concerned on para 6 focusing on specific protection measures affecting Uyghur girl child and young women in relation to (a) involved in sexual exploitation, including prostitution, pornography, trafficking and the number of children provided with access to recovery and recovery assistance. This is vital in connection with information regarding the transfer of young Uyghur women, especially recovery to return home to the East Turkestan.

Concerning general measures of implementation, the Uyghurs demand the ensuring of Uyghur children is guaranteed full opportunities to develop knowledge about their own language and culture. The Uyghurs are eager to know about distribution and dissemination of the Convention and the state party report and in efforts made to provide training, awareness of the convention and on human rights in general, to children, parents, teachers, social workers and other professionals working with and for children in all parts of the state party. The Uyghurs demand the right to actively participate and also to distribute the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Uyghur. Also Part II where China was requested to provide copies of the text of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Uyghurs would want to provide the CRC if not already done so and secure the distribution without retaliation or further human rights abuses.

The Uyghur agree with the list of major issues specifically item 1 focusing on nondiscrimination for ethnic minorities living in East Turkestan. Also item 3 focusing on freedom of religion in mainland China as Uyghur are denied this very right. Also item 10 access to education and specifically item 15 the situation of children belonging to ethnic minorities and the implementation of the Ethnic Regional Autonomy Act. If this autonomy act is similar to the one being violated at its very core today, the Uyghur demand one that reflects Uyghurs current disparity in social measures of dignity'. The Uyghurs would propose a consultation and creation of autonomy acts that respect the principles of the CRC in this area as well as other international instruments China has ratified.

The Uyghur also believe a national human rights institution would be vital that included ethnic minorities as full members to ensure ethnic minorities' representation and genuine participation.

CEDAW

Concerning the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), there are items in the list of issues and question with regard to the consideration of periodic reports that relate directly to the violations of women's rights in Xinjiang, China. At the thirty-fifth session, many points were raised by the Committee.

As noted by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, the Uyghurs are deeply concerned about the "double discrimination" Uyghur women face. Concerning the list of issues mainly trafficking and exploitation of prostitution specifically para 6 and 7, the Uyghurs are concerned with the recent deception, pressure and threats relating to the phenomenon of the transfer of young Uyghur women to Eastern China from their homeland based on a new policy recruiting the girl child and young women that was not in full swing as it currently is when China last reported. Uyghur are extremely concerned and recommend more than the description in detail of the efforts undertaken to address this issue of internal trafficking of women. The current policy adds to the already recognized problem

of internal trafficking. China must respond to the allegations noted in the Uyghur Human Rights Project report of February 2008.

The Uyghur are also concerned about stereotypes and educations specifically addressing the double discrimination of being Uyghur and also woman in China. The Uyghur women are denied basic rights due to perpetuation of stereotypes against women predominantly Uyghur women based on historical and cultural discrimination. New school textbooks must accurately reflect the Uyghur history, culture and language instead of the current textbooks making Uyghur invisible in their own homeland.

Also the area of employment is important. Uyghur people are denied employment opportunity. Uyghur women face double discrimination in this area. It is essential to provide information and more importantly programs to ensure the economic empowerment of women. It is also necessary to eradicate current policies that don't allow Uyghur women employment opportunities. This is closely related to the area of the report focusing on rural women. The loss of land through transfer and confiscation even makes the situation more alarming concerning agricultural employment opportunities for Uyghur women.

ICESCR

The economic, social and cultural rights of the Uyghur people are essential to restore the full dignity of the Uyghur. Under the international Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recognized list of issues that relate to Uyghur rights.

The main issue and core important article is common article 1 of the ICCPR and ICESCR. The Committee noted and asked about to what extent is non-violent advocacy for self-determination by the officially recognized ethnic minorities - such as Uyghurs considered lawful under the State party's legal regime? The Uyghurs have been nonviolent in their advocacy since the initial policies in the region. The Uyghur are extremely concerned about the use of the war on terror to deny the right of self-determination. The review of the articles of ICESCR is very important as they outline the violations facing Uyghur people. During the previous review of China under the ICESCR more attention was paid to the Tibetan cause although Uyghur face similar discrimination under the articles listed raising concern by the committee such as Art 2.2 non-discrimination specifically para 8 on the systematic and institutional discrimination in the fields of employment, health care, education, housing and public representation.

The areas specifically cited concerning specific provisions of the covenant relating to article 6 and 7 focusing on the right to work is important and the right to just and favorable conditions of work relates specifically to Uyghurs falling in the economic prosperity. There are open signs that would not be tolerated in any society in the modern age noting Uyghurs need not apply for employment in windows of stores and businesses. The importance of article 15 is crucial. While mention focused on Tibetan and Mongol prefectures it is essential to apply the same standard to Uyghur. The measures to preserve and perpetuate the indigenous culture in the Uyghur homeland are important. Also specifically para 46 mentioned specifically the enjoyment on the right to freedom of religion as a dimension of cultural rights specifically mentioning the Uyghur people. Uyghurs are not only denied the option to the full realization of economic, social and cultural rights. But Uyghurs are arrested and detained for practicing their religious practices under their culture.

CAT

The Uyghur people are extremely concerned about the rights protected under the UN Convention Against Torture, the situation is so dire that the Uyghur insist the only measure that could curb the rabid abuse would be immediate ratification of the optional protocol. One of the other immediate actions that China must take would be the immediate release of prisoners of conscience for exercising their basic rights, the children of Rebiya Kadeer must be released unequivocally.

The Uyghur people have faced persecution since the initial contact. There has been intensification with the global war on terror, the PRC is in violation of Islamophobia along with the rising number of countries using the tragedy of 9/11 for own personal gain to intensify security crackdowns in their country.

CONCLUSION

This UPR report is hopefully a beginning of a genuine dialogue that would improve the human rights situation in East Turkestan to initiate a period of peace and prosperity for all. If the human rights recommendations are implemented children, women and families would be able to build a community that would flourish with these small freedoms reversing decades of discrimination. We encourage the governments of the world through this UPR process to do their due diligence in protecting and promoting human rights in East Turkestan. East Turkestan desires what all people want — respect of religion not an excuse to be vilified with Islamophobia and protection of its vulnerable segment of society to reach their full potential and live in peace not exploitation for economic gains.

We humbly submit this information so the UN Human Rights Council can fulfill its mandate and human rights in East Turkestan can be improved.

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

REPORT FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE COMMITTEE AGAINST
TORTURE IN ADVANCE OF THEIR SESSION ON THE FOURTH
PERIODIC REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

3 - 21 NOVEMBER 2008

The Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO) has prepared this report in collaboration with the World Uyghur Congress (WUC) for the consideration by the Committee Against Torture (CAT) on the eve of their session on the fourth periodical report submitted to it by the People's Republic of China (PRC) in line with the provisions as laid down in the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (hereafter "the Convention"). This report particularly focuses on the Muslim Uyghur population of East Turkestan (Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, XUAR), considering the fact that minorities are at larger risk within the PRC of being subjected to torture¹. The embracement of Islam makes the Uyghur population a simple scapegoat under the justification of the "war on terror".

Article 1 - definition of torture

Despite recommendations made by this very committee, which have been echoed by the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (hereafter "the Special Rapporteur"), the PRC has yet to bring their national law in accordance with the definition of torture within the Convention. A particular list of offenses has been deemed to relate to or result in torture, however, no overarching definition has been provided, leaving room for interpretation and loopholes for those that wish to do harm.

Article 2 - preventive measures - and Article 10 - education and information With regards to the measures that the PRC is to take in order to prevent the occurrence of torture, it has become evident that law enforcement officers and other governmental officials burdened with the duties of maintaining public order are not sufficiently trained and penal measures against those that do inflict torture are not sufficiently in place^{1 2}. A culture of oppression thrives in detention centers, police stations and prisons in XUAR and torture as a means of racial discrimination is not sufficiently prevented. Even if the national legislation has laws and regulations in place with the aim of eradicating and criminalizing practices of torture, the implementation on the local level is severely lacking. Strengthening of the regional institutions and addressing flawed procedures can improve the dire situation.

¹ The authors of this report subscribe to the definition of torture as has been laid down in Article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman of Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

² For more information on the lack of criminalization of torture, please see that paragraph on Article 5 of the Convention.

Article 3 - cvtiulition in the face of torture

Apart from ha\ me. an obligation under the Convention to prevent nationals front being extradited to states where the> upon extradition may faee torture, the PRC itself has instigated an active policy of forcefully returning Chinese nationals, even if they have received refugee status or asylum in another state. Upon return in the IRC national minorities, such as l \ghurs. are facing a severe risk of being tortured as a form of punishment in addition to sentencing those forcefully returned persons to long jail sentences of alleged crimes, usually relating to 'subverting state power*', 'separatism*', 'undermining the unity of the country*' or involvement in the illegal communication of 'state secrets'. Unfortunately, the PRC is not solely responsible for such acts, as other stales, particularly those that arc part of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), willfully cooperate with such practices even in the face of torture.

Perhaps the most well publicized ease of such force repatriation is Mr. Huseyin Jilil³, an ethnic Uyghur who had obtained Canadian citizenship a Her being recognized as a refugee in 2001. When visiting family in Uzbekistan. Mr. Jilil was detained in March 2006 and extradited by Uzbekistan to the PRC in June of the same year, without contacting the Canadian authorities. I hroughout his detention. PRC officials denied his requests for consular assistance by the Canadian *corps diplomatique*. Testimonials of Mr. Jilil reveal that in the first two weeks of his detention in the PRC he was deprived of sleep and food and that he regularly received threats to his life if he refused to sign an official document, which was later to be used as his 'confession*' to the charges against him for 'plotting a split of the country' and 'joining a terrorist network*'. Even though, the Convention states that 'confessions' obtained under torture cannot be admissible in a court of law as evidence, Mr. Jilil was conv icted for these alleged crimes on the basis of this document. On 2 February 2007 Mr. Jilil faced trial and despite continued requests from his side, Canadian officials were not allowed to attend the trial. On 10 July 2007 Mr. Jilil's life imprisonment sentence was finalized, as the regional court rejected his appeal.

Article 4 - criminalizing torture

Over recent years, the PRC has adapted its national laws in order to criminalize torture. However, UNPO believes that most of these legislative changes have been made in regards to heavily publicized events. As such, these pieces of legislation are very particular as to method and person and as such do not encompass complete criminalization of torture. The status quo seems to have lead to a national legislation in which torture is a criminal offense only in certain cases and inflicted by certain (groups of) people, which is conduct inconsistent with the Convention.

One example torture which is not criminalized and rarely prosecuted in the PRC is forced abortion. In particular relation to the Uyghurs, forced abortion is used as a tactic of maintaining and even decreasing the population size. Since 1984, the PRC has carried out a coercive birth control and forced sterilization policies amongst the Uyghurs. Since then, under the pretext of ensuring a steady growth in "minority population", "improving the quality of minorities", and "eliminating economic inequalities", the PRC has launched a series of extensive birth control and forced sterilization campaigns all over Eastern Turkestan targeting Uyghur women. Officially, the one child policy only applies to the ethnic nationalities with a population of over 10 million in PRC. With a population of 8.6 million, the Uyghur are regarded as a "minority nationality" in their land and are in theory not subject to the

³ Also known as Huseyin Celil.

provisions of family planning legislation in PRC. Much in practice, the birth control and sterilization policies have been actively promoted and encouraged by the PRC government in the towns and villages of Eastern Turkestan. Clearly such policies are not only discriminatory, but also inflict severe suffering both mental and physical - upon the victims. In fact, little action can be taken by Uyghur women as the system for complaints and remedies is also heavily discriminatory and those who do press charges or complain usually face imprisonment with elevated chances of being tortured when incarcerated.

In addition, the Special Rapporteur has indicated that the *Re-education through Labor* (RTL) constitutes a violation of the human rights to personal liberty and as such constitutes a form of inhumane and degrading treatment or punishment, which can even be considered mental torture, particularly in the light of the fact that RTL is used as a discriminatory punishment. Persistent reports have indicated that maltreatment is rampant in RTL facilities and that in particular ethnic minorities - such as the Uyghurs - are often targeted within these facilities. Furthermore, ethnic minorities are more often sentenced to serve time in such facilities for minor crimes than other Chinese citizens.

Article 11 - systematic review

Despite obligations under the Convention to conduct a systematic review of civil servants and their procedures with regards to suspects and detainees, reports received by UNPO indicated that such review - if conducted at all - is sincerely lacking. The bedrock for this lack of implementation is the lack of independence within the Chinese judicial system. Police, the office of the prosecutor and courts are functioning under the supervision of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and are as such not operating independently. In addition, reports from abuse and ill-treatment in the RTL facilities, as well as the lack of responsiveness from the PRC with regards to the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur in regards to the RTL, leads to suggest that these facilities are not subjected to regular intervals of independent review.

Article 12 - 14 impartial investigation

Due to the lack of impartiality within the Chinese judicial system, no investigations have been conducted to verify the use of torture within the borders of the PRC. This has been confirmed by continued reports that UNPO receives of death penalty in custody in several state institutions, these include RTL facilities, police detention centers and prisons. Many of these deaths are the result of poor treatment and torture while in custody. One of the latest examples is the death of Mutallip Hajim a wealthy Uyghur jade trader and philanthropist. In January 2008 Hajim was taken into custody by police in Hotan. On 3 March 2008 Hajim's body was returned to his family. Police instructed his family to bury him immediately and inform no one of his death. Hajim was thirty-eight at the time of his death. Occasional reports in the Chinese media suggest that on rare occasions, perpetrators are punished for such violations, but in many more cases documented by networks of Uyghur human rights activists other NGOs, official investigations hardly take place and perpetrators are met with impunity. When an investigation does take place it does not meet the Convention's requirement.

Article 15 - exclusion of evidence obtained through torture from any proceedings

The Criminal Procedure Law (CPL) does not prohibit the use of confessions obtained through torture or poor treatment as evidence before the courts as required by the Convention. While revision of the law has been discussed, within China's legislature, the National People's Congress to this day has not introduced new laws that would explicitly prohibit the use of

torture. The OHCHR has been amended over the years and should guarantee people no longer to be confronted with torture this is not the case. In several recent cases documented by UN HRC, courts have ignored allegations made by defendants that they were subjected to torture or other ill-treatment in police custody. Most of these perpetrators enjoy impunity for their acts. The widespread use of torture in East Turkestan is confirmed by numerous reports based on interviews with Uyghur refugees who suffered torture.

Critical Situation of Uyghur Asylum Seekers

East Turkistan, also known as the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of China, lies in the heart of Asia. The current territorial size of East Turkistan is 1,626,000 square kilometers (635,000 square miles). East Turkistan borders with China and Mongolia to the east, Russia to the north, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Afghanistan to the west, Pakistan and India to the south, and Tibet to the southeast.

East Turkistan is the homeland of the Turkic speaking Uyghurs and other Central Asian peoples such as Kazaks, Kyrgyz, Tatars, Uzbeks, and Tjarks. According to the official surveys the population is 19.05 million by the end of 2002. The official numbers are, Uyghurs at 45.2 percent and the Han Chinese at 40.6 percent, with the Muslim Kazakhs running at 6.7 percent, Chinese accounts say the total population in 1949 was 4.33 million, of whom 75.9 percent were Uyghurs, 10.2 percent Kazakhs and only 6.7 percent Han Chinese.

Uyghur culture has evolved as a result of significant confluence of geographical, historical and religious factors over a two thousand year period. Geographically, the Uyghurs have always been at the very center of eastern and western cultures. Originally nomadic their settling at the hub of the historic Silk Road routes which ran through present day East Turkistan brought to them the eastern and western influences of China, Europe, North Africa, Russia, India and other areas, all going into a fantastic melting pot that became the Uyghur culture of today.

Manchu Empire invaded East Turkistan in 1876. After this invasion, East Turkistan was given the name Xinjiang, which means “New Territory,” and it was annexed into the territory of the Manchu Empire on November 18, 1884. This new name has been re-used since 1955 as Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region after the People’s Republic of China (PRC) annexed it.

Before the Communist Chinese military annexation of East Turkistan in 1949, the Uyghurs were successfully able to establish two independent East Turkistan: first in 1933 and later in 1944. But these independent republics were overthrown by the military intervention and political intrigues of the Soviet Union. In 1949 the Chinese Nationalist government (KMT) was defeated by the Chinese communists. After that, East Turkistan fell under Chinese Communist rule.

With the collapse of Soviet Union in 1991, the clouds of Cold War disappeared, giving birth to a number of independent countries such as Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan in the neighboring territories of East Turkistan. The Uyghurs were encouraged by the independence of their cultural brothers across the border. Their long-suppressed dream of having an independent, free, and democratic nation of their own, found new source of energy and hope. As a result, several Uyghur political organizations seeking self-determination, democracy and human rights for Uyghur people were formed almost all of these organizations have peacefully engaged in political, religious as well as cultural activities.

However, China, instead of listening to the legitimate grievances and demands of the Uyghur people, has violently suppressed Uyghur people’s peaceful activities. China has attempted to destroy Uyghur

The Uyghur's social, cultural, and spiritual life by severely cracking down such activities. At present, the entire Uyghur is living under a psychological trauma as a result of China's harsh and violent political campaigns that devastated Chinese society during the 1960s have been tormenting Uyghur people even after China made a major stride towards economic reform. Under different names such as "counter-revolutionary", "local nationalist", "separatist", "illegal religious figure", "fundamentalist" and "terrorist." China has been destroying the fabrics of Uyghur nation. Uyghur elites, intellectuals have been persecuted, large number of Uyghur youth have been arbitrarily arrested, jailed, and executed under all kinds of bogus charges. And some of them mysteriously disappeared.

Since the terrorist attacks of 9/11, the Chinese authorities have changed their tactics to attack the Uyghur people by taking advantage of the US led global war against terrorism. The Chinese authorities have intensified their suppression on peaceful Uyghur dissident and labeled them "terrorist" or "terrorist groups." Claiming China a victim of terrorism, the Chinese authorities implemented heavy-handed policies arresting, torturing and executing peaceful Uyghur activists as "separatists, extremists or terrorists."

Consequently, a number of Uyghurs have escaped China and fled to neighboring countries. Some of them escaped by using fake documents. Some of them escaped by crossing the dangerous mountainous routes which lead to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Nepal. However, in spite of the harsh reality they faced at the hands of the Chinese authorities, and in spite of the difficult and risky long journeys, once these Uyghur escaped to the neighboring countries, they are being forcibly returned to China upon Chinese demands. So far, not a single neighboring country has ever offered asylum to a single Uyghur refugee. In fact, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Nepal and Russia forcibly returned peaceful Uyghur activists to China, violating the international law of non-refoulement, where most of these extradited Uyghur were summarily executed upon return. This is absolutely against the principle of the UN Charters and relevant international human rights conventions.

The forcible repatriation of Uyghur refugees has increased especially after the formation of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) which groups China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. Because of this, the political activities of the Uyghur people in Central Asia have been greatly pressured in all these countries. Uyghur asylum seekers in both Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan face an ever-present risk of being detained by the police as "illegal immigrants", which puts them in greater danger of being forcibly returned to China. According to Amnesty International, Kazakhstan may have forcibly returned around 20 Uyghurs and Kyrgyzstan around 50 Uyghurs in recent years. But the exact number is impossible to determine.

Kazakhstan

The Kazakhstan government forcibly returned Mamut Memet, Passim Mekhpir, and Iliac Cordon to China in February of 1999. Upon their forcible return to China, all of them were summarily executed, even though they were all peaceful activists who had participated in a peaceful demonstration against the Chinese repression of Uyghurs in February 1997.

In late 2001, two Uyghurs, Amat Memet (aged 21) and Turban Abbas (aged 27), both students from Yerkes county, Kashgar prefecture, went missing in Kazakhstan. We believe they have been forcibly returned to China. They had fled from East Turkistan in August 1999.

Critical Situation of Uyghur Asylum Seekers

In April or May 2003, Abdulkakhar Idris, a Uyghur asylum seeker reportedly "disappeared" in Almaty, Kazakhstan. We believe he is forcibly returned to China.

On May 2006, the Vienna-based International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights said Yusuf Radar Tohti and Abdulkadir Sidik, asylum seekers went missing in Kazakhstan after being released from a pretrial detention centre, where they had been held on accusation of possessing false passports and information of "an extremist character."

Kyrgyzstan;

The Kyrgyzstan government followed the same policies of the Kazakh government.

On 23 May 2002, two Uyghurs, Memet Sidik (or Mamet Sidik) and Memet Basin (or Mamet Basin) were reportedly handed over to China by the Kyrgyz authorities. (ETIC report 2003, 5 Sept 2003, p.13, quoting Kyrgyz news agency)

On 31 March 2004, it was reported in the official Chinese media that two men, Rahmutulla Islamic and Darken Yakut, both Uyghurs from Urumqi, had been executed after being transferred to China from Kyrgyzstan in July 2002. (Xinhua, 30 March 2004)

In 12 March, 2001, three Uyghurs namely Ahmer Gunmen, Brahman Elmo, Esker Tohti, were sentenced to death and Ali Masum was sentenced to 25 years imprisonment by the supreme court of Kyrgyzstan.

On 31 December 2002 in the Kyrgyz capital, Bishkek, three Uyghurs, Ablimit, Tohti Nina and Kayser Jalap were reportedly sentenced to 16, 17 and 25 years in prison respectively for forming an "unlawful East Turkistan organization" and "illegal possession of weapons."

In addition to these Uyghurs, Kyrgyzstan has covertly extradited a dozen Uyghurs to.

Pakistan;

In May 1997, Pakistan extradited 12 Uyghur political asylum seekers to China where they were summarily executed upon return. Most of these Uyghurs were young teenagers who fled to Pakistan in pursuit of spiritual wisdom and a freedom from political and religious persecution.

Pakistani Government has returned Ilham Tohti (born in November 15, 1971), Abdul Latin Abdulkadir (born in Feb, 1972) Enver Davit in April, 2002 to China.

Abdulwahab Tohti and Muhammad Tohti Metrozi, two ethnic Uyghur nationals, had gone missing on 16 July 2003 in Rawalpindi, northern Pakistan. Muhammad Tohti Metrozi was recognized as a refugee by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in December 2002. He was awaiting resettlement to Sweden and was due to travel there at the beginning of August 2003. They were secretly detained for three days by the Pakistani Intelligence Bureau in Rawalpindi and then deported them to China.

Critical Situation of Uyghur Asylum Seekers

Uyghur political prisoner Ismail Samed was executed on February 8, 2007 in Urumchi. Samed was 37 years old at the time of his execution, was sentenced to death in October 2005 on charges of "attempting to split the motherland" and other charges relating to the alleged possession of firearms and explosives. He fled to Pakistan in February 2007 following a peaceful demonstration in Cilmija, Xinjiang which was brutally suppressed by Chinese security forces, resulting in hundreds, and possibly thousands, of deaths and injuries. Samed was deported from Pakistan to the PRC in 2003. The day before his execution. Samed's wife and two young children, aged 6 and 7 years, were allowed to visit him to say their goodbyes. He told them that he had been tortured in prison, and that he was innocent of the charges against him. He informed them that he had been studying law in Pakistan at the time he was detained and extradited by Pakistani authorities.

Nepal and India;

From May 2000 to April 2002, a total of 16 Uyghurs fled China and arrived in Nepal in pursuit of refugee status. All of them had been peaceful activists in East Turkistan that Chinese state security apparatus ordered them to be arrested due to their political activities. Although their case was accepted by UNHCR in Nepal, and they were waiting for resettlement. But after China's intervention, Nepal returned Shaheer Ali, Abdulla Satar, and Abdulhakim to China in February 2002. Among them Shaheer Ali was executed after upon return to China from Nepal. (According to a report on the official Chinese website www.tianshan.net on 21 October 2003). We don't know what happened to other two persons since then. Has him Ali was returned to China by Nepal in May 2002. We were told that he was being tortured in Urumchi. According to credible sources, he too may get a death sentence. 7 of the 12 asylum seekers who had stayed in Nepal crossed into India and sought political asylum. Among them 4 asylum seekers have been resettled in Sweden by UNHCR, but other 3 are still waiting for resettlement.

Conclusion;

The Chinese government aggressively tracks and hunts down Uyghur political activists who are critical of China's repressive policies imposed upon the Uyghur people, especially after 9/11. The Chinese authorities intend to silence the voice of the Uyghurs in exile in order to hide their gross, systematic and wide-spread human rights violations in East Turkistan. For that purpose, China pressures its neighbors to extradite Uyghur political activists who have fled to these countries, such as Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Russia, Pakistan and Nepal. Unfortunately, all of these states forcibly return Uyghur political activists back to China where they either face long sentence or summary execution without a just or fair trial. By forcibly returning these Uyghurs, China's neighbors violate the international law of non-refoulement and other international human rights and refugee conventions.

Therefore, the World Uyghur Congress urges the international community, the United Nations, the European Union and the United States to pressure China's neighbors to respect international law and do not forcibly return Uyghur asylum seekers and refugees to China. We believe that UNHCR plays the most important role in protecting and facilitating the resettlement of Uyghur refugees around the world.

A “Life or Death Struggle” in East Turkistan: Uyghurs face unprecedented persecution in post- Olympic period

A Report by the Uyghur Human Rights Project
Washington, D.C.

A “Life or Death Struggle” in East Turkistan: Uyghurs face unprecedented persecution in post-Olympic period

September 4, 2008

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The Uyghur Human Rights Project (CHRP) is extremely concerned that, following the Olympics and amidst the turmoil in East Turkestan (also known as Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, or XUAR), Uyghurs living in the region will be subjected to an unprecedented level of persecution. Uyghurs throughout East Turkestan experienced widespread detentions and restrictions on freedom of movement prior to and during the Olympics, and official rhetoric by high-level regional authorities indicate that these measures will only intensify in the post-Olympic period. Reports of widespread arrests and detentions of individuals throughout East Turkestan have indicated that a massive clampdown on Uyghurs has already begun.

This report will examine recent accounts of harsh security measures in East Turkestan following a series of violent attacks in August; the security tactics that resulted in the broader persecution of Uyghurs during the Olympics and in the months leading up to the Olympics, in the name of anti-terrorism; and background on the persecution of Uyghurs in the name of the war on terror. It will then provide a set of recommendations to the Chinese government and the international community on how to preserve human rights in East Turkestan.

A series of three attacks targeted Chinese security forces and government agencies in Kucha and in Kashgar and nearby Yamanya in the first half of August. Reports indicate that a more recent incident occurred in Peyzawat [in Chinese, Jiashi] County near Kashgar on August 27, in which two unarmed Uyghur policemen were killed and at least two other Uyghur policemen were critically wounded in a knife attack.¹ This incident was followed by reports that six of the suspected assailants in the August 27 attack and a previous attack were shot to death, and local residents' accounts indicate the six suspects were shot after surrendering."

A "life or death struggle" was announced by Xinjiang Party Secretary Wang Lequan on August 14, following the first three attacks. In a speech, Wang stated that security forces must "stick to a strategy of seizing the initiative to strike preemptively, closely guard against and attack separatist sabotage by the three forces and never allow our enemies to gain strength."^{2 3} In addition, recent media reports have cited evidence of Chinese government plans to crack down with military pressure in East Turkestan in the coming months, including a report stating that "the enhanced military action would begin immediately after the Olympics end on the 24th, when the world's attention will no longer be focused on China's human rights record".⁴ A new report from the Hong Kong-based Information Center for Human Rights and Democracy states that around 200,000 public security officers and armed police have been mobilized in East Turkestan to "prevent terrorist attacks" on China's National Day, observed on October 1.⁵ The group also cites official orders allowing for the family

¹ Police Killed in New Xinjiang Clash, *Radio Free Asia*, August 28, 2008.

² Police in China shoot dead 6 suspects in Xinjiang, *Associated Press*, August 30, 2008.

³ China faces life or death struggle say Communists, *Times Online* (UK), August 14, 2008.

⁴ Harsh Chinese Crackdown Coming in Xinjiang, *Asia Sentinel*, August 15, 2008.

⁵ Security stepped up in Xinjiang for National Day, *South China Morning Post*, August 28, 2008.

members and even neighbors of suspected terrorists to be punished, in areas such as Kashgar and I lotan.⁶ If this report is accurate, it represents the largest mobilization of security forces in East Turkestan since forces were mobilized in early April 1990 to quell the Iaren uprising.⁷

Wang, a I Ian Chinese member of the Politburo, has served as Party Secretary of the XUAR since 1994. His tenure as provincial Party chief has already far exceeded the 10-year term limit stipulated by the Party. Wang has presided over a period of political repression and extremely rigid social controls for (Jyghurs in East Turkestan, and has spearheaded a drive to blur the distinction between peaceful dissent and terrorism in the region.

Political Consultative Committee head Zhu Hailun stated at a televised news conference on August 18 that government forces must "Strike Hard" at the three evil forces [terrorism, separatism, and extremism], and mobilize the masses to guard against these forces at all levels of society.⁸ "Strike Hard" campaigns are used by Chinese officials in East Turkestan to stifle political dissent, and they have been utilized as an effective tool in the latest wave of repression against Uyghurs, including "Strike Hard" campaigns launched in recent months in the cities of Ghulja and Artush.

Traditionally, "Strike Hard" campaigns in East Turkestan are known to exacerbate Chinese government authorities' tendency to over-state the seriousness of a perceived crime. "Strike Hard" campaigns are generally typified by arbitrary punishments, accelerated judicial procedures and an increased use of the death penalty.

Information obtained by UHRP indicates that ongoing security measures have targeted and will continue to target large numbers of Uyghur civilians, including many not suspected of involvement in any crime, in contravention of Chinese law and international law. In addition, UHRP is concerned that such measures may be accompanied by torture and other forms of state-sponsored violence. Uyghurs in government custody frequently suffer from physical abuse and other forms of severe maltreatment. Torture and forced confessions are an extremely prominent feature of most Uyghurs' experiences at the hands of the police and judiciary in East Turkestan. As UN Special Rapporteur Manfred Nowak stated following a visit to East Turkestan in 2005, documented torture allegations from China have included "a consistent and systematic pattern of torture related to ethnic minorities, particularly Tibetans and Uighurs, political dissidents, human rights defenders, practitioners of Falun Gong, and members of house-church groups."⁹

⁶ *Ibid*

2004 more information on

Baren Uprising see Violent Separatism in Xinjiang, *James Milliard.*,

Use an Iron Fist to Strike Hard Against Destructive Activities" [Yong tiede shouwan yanli daji jixu huodong], *Xinjiang Daily*, August 19, 2008.

Special Rapporteur on Torture highlights challenges at end of visit to China, United Nations Press Release, December 2, 2005.

DHRP is also gravely concerned about the reported detention of children, which has already been reported to have occurred following the recent attacks. IJIIRP is also concerned that many of those detained in security sweeps have been denied or will be denied access to proper legal counsel.

"Some of my worst fears about the Chinese government's intent to use security as an excuse to detain innocent Uyghurs, including children, are now being realized," said Uyghur freedom movement leader Rebiva Kadeer. "While I knew the Chinese government was capable of such a massive crackdown, I hoped I would never see repression on such a broad scale."

A report issued recently by the organization International Campaign for Tibet (ICT) documents the existence of a similar crackdown in Tibet, following March 2008 demonstrations that were largely peaceful. Tibetan areas remain closed off to foreign reporters and most overseas tourists.^{10 11 12} Disappearances, detentions and severe religious restrictions have been widespread throughout Tibet since March.¹¹ As the report observed, "Hu Jintao's leadership... has imposed a brutal crackdown that owes more to the political extremism and paranoia of the Maoist era than to a 21st century would-be superpower."¹¹

Children targeted

According to information obtained by UHRP, following the attacks in Kucha and Kashgar, 160 Uyghur youths who were living and studying religion in a Hui Muslim area in Yunnan Province were arrested by police dispatched by the Public Security Bureau in East Turkestan. The youths, ranging in age from 8 to 14 years old, were brought to Urumchi and held in Bajiahu Prison. When the parents of these children asked authorities for their release, 10 of the children were released after their parents paid 20,000 Yuan each, and the children of those parents who could not afford such a sum are still being detained. The parents of the 150 children remaining under detention have been told by police that the children will be brought to court and sentenced for the crime of participating in "illegal religious activities".

According to Radio Free Asia (RFA), the new village police chief of Misha village stated that the eight-year-old son of a woman suspected in the Yamanya attack was being held in police custody, together with the suspect's 50-year-old mother, as the suspect herself remained at large.¹³ "We have her eight-year-old son in custody," RFA quoted new Misha village police chief, Mamet Ali as saying. "We also have Amangul [her mother] in custody... Anargul is a key person for us to arrest the others. That is

¹⁰ *Tibet at a Turning Point: The Spring Uprising and China's New Crackdown*, Washington: International Campaign for Tibet, 2008.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² *Ibid.*, p. 2.

¹³ Radio Free Asia, *op. cit.*

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why we have her son.”^{14 15} The R1 A report also quoted Misha village's propaganda chief as saying "In Misha village alone, about 2,000 people including 500 mag., 300 armed police, and 400 government employees and paramilitary had been to search for suspects in the I'eyzawal attack (also suspected in the Yamanya attack).

Family members and associates of alleged attackers detained, including 10- month old baby

UHRP has learned that the family members of Hhmetjan Tohti, who was killed during the attack in Kucha, have reported that his 10-month-old baby was taken by police to an undisclosed location. Mr. Tohti's wife, Bumeryem, the mother of the baby, was also killed in the attack. Local authorities have refused to disclose information about the baby's whereabouts to Mr. Tohti's relatives, and are maintaining their innocence of any crime related to the attacks. Tohti's 60-year-old father Tohti Tay, his mother, his younger brother Musajan, and recently Memet Tohti and his sister have also been arrested. Memet Tohti's sister released, but the present situation of the other family members remains unclear.

UHRP has also learned that police have also reportedly detained Bunoy's sister, a businesswoman who was running a supermarket "Bavin" in Kucha. All of her 30 employees were also arrested. Despite the fact that the sister and her employees have maintained they had no connection with Kucha, they are still being held in local detention centers.

Security sweeps throughout Kucha and Kashgar

According to other reports received by UHRP, the deputy commander of the Public Security has set up a special working group in Kucha and Kashgar. More individuals have been reportedly arrested in these sweeps, and numerous others have been temporarily held in local government buildings in several villages.

Very dense checkpoints have reportedly been set up by the police on the main streets of each village in the Kucha area. UHRP has documented the presence of armed vehicles and the People's Armed Police Units in Kucha and Kashgar. The Associated Press stated that "authorities declared martial law" in Kucha after the attacks.

Local residents are reportedly forbidden from traveling freely from one town to another. According to local residents, there are 5-6 checkpoints on the main road to the county center of Kucha. In addition, local law enforcement officials in the area to check each individual who is traveling.

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15 Official: 2 attackers in western China were women, *Associated Press*, August 11, 2009

mosque for prayer, or, Also, those who pray secretly in their homes have reportedly also been targeted for "political examination".

UURP has also learned that residents of Kucha state that following the August 10 attack in the city, all employees of different restaurants in Kucha's Old City were arrested. CHRP estimates the total number of employees arrested to be in the range of 200 to 300.

One of the people arrested in the sweeps in Kucha County is Adil Qarim, who is the imam of a local mosque. Qarim maintains that he had no connection to the recent attacks, but one of the attackers attended the mosque he leads. The local court of Kucha County has reportedly sentenced Adil Qarim to life in prison.

Additional information indicates that throughout Kucha, all young people who have traveled abroad before have been rounded up and detained. This was reported to have begun during the Olympics, but intensified after the start of the Olympics.

Internet access has reportedly also been heavily restricted in Kashgar following the attacks in the city.

Detentions in Korla

According to UHRP's information, all non-resident Uyghurs in the city of Korla have been detained, and have been told that they will be released after the Beijing Olympics are over. UHRP has no information to indicate that these Uyghurs have been released from detention. The detention of non-resident Uyghurs in Korla began following the attacks in Kucha on August 10.

Heavy security in Urumchi

Local residents have reported the presence of armored vehicles in the regional capital of Urumchi, including in front of the Rebiya Kadeer department store. Employee IDs are required to be shown by those employed in the vicinity of the department store. In addition, numerous detentions have also been reported to have occurred as part of security sweeps in Urumchi.

Uyghurs pushed out of Beijing

The crackdown on Uyghurs also spread beyond East Turkestan to areas of the PRC outside the region. The Bloomberg News Service stated that Uyghur residents of Beijing complained of "being pressured to leave" the city¹⁶, and numerous media

¹⁶ Olympic Terror Clampdown Targets Beijing Uyghurs After Attacks, *Bloomberg News Service*, August 18, 2008.

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reports have stated that Uyghurs and Tibetans were not allowed to stay at hotels or guesthouses in Beijing prior to and during the Olympics.

Stepped up executions in 2008

UHRP has received information that, since the beginning of 2008, the sentences of many Uyghurs who have been given death sentences with a two-year reprieve have been changed to regular death sentences, and they have been executed traditionally throughout the People's Republic of China (PRC), individuals given a death sentence with a two-year reprieve who have exhibited "good behavior" have had their sentences commuted to life in prison (according to Chinese law, such sentences should be commuted to life unless the prisoner commits a crime during the reprieve period and is subsequently tried and convicted of that crime.) Up to several hundred Uyghurs who had been given two-year reprieve sentences may have been executed since January 2008, according to UHRP's information. These individuals had been held at prisons throughout East Turkestan, and may have been comprised of both political criminals and common criminals.

Urumchi raid; executions in Kashgar

On July 9 in Urumchi, five young Uyghurs were shot and killed without warning in an unjustifiable show of force on an alleged "religious extremist" Uyghurs were executed in Kashgar after their sentences were read in an audience of 10,000 Uyghurs forced to attend a mass rally. No evidence, however, has been put forth to support officials' allegations that these Uyghurs were involved in terrorist activities.

Passport confiscation

UHRP has learned that in the run-up to the Olympic Games, Uyghurs' passports almost universally confiscated throughout the PRC, and it is unclear when passports will be returned. Residents of East Turkestan have indicated that Turkestan passports were confiscated in the spring of 2008. Officials in Xinjiang confirmed they had confiscated the passports of Uyghurs in June, after an action was taken to prevent them from making a pilgrimage to Mecca. Religious authorities were taken immediately following an announcement by Wang Lequan that he was launching a crackdown on "illegal pilgrimages".

Torch relay ^{17 18 19 20}

¹⁷ China intensifies crackdowns before Olympics, *Toronto Star*, after mass sentencing rally,

¹⁸ Five Uyghurs killed in raid in Urumchi; Uyghurs executed in Kashgar *Uyghur Human Rights Project*, July

¹⁹ China Confiscates Muslims Passports, *Radio Free Asia*, June 27, 2008.

²⁰ *Ibid.*

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A heavy security presence accompanied the passage of the Olympic torch in East Turkestan in June 2008, including police checks of vehicles, numerous snipers and warnings to residents to stay inside their buildings with their windows shuttered.²¹ UHRP has learned that a seal was reportedly placed over the windows of Uyghurs' homes along the torch route, and these Uyghurs were told that if the seal were found to be broken, they could be charged with a crime. Uyghurs were also told to keep watch on their neighbors in these areas, and to report any suspicious activity.

The same sources informed UHRP that Uyghurs in the cities hosting the torch were told to avoid contact with foreigners, especially foreign journalists. Government authorities in East Turkestan vetted the small number of Uyghur participants and spectators involved in the torch relay, warning that the government would reprimand any Uyghurs who discussed topics perceived as sensitive with members of the press. These Uyghurs were told that, if they disobeyed the warnings, they could be charged with the crime of "revealing state secrets".

March protests in Hotan

Government authorities clearly hoped to project an image of harmony and unity along with the torch relay, and prevent any public displays of dissent among local Uyghurs. But peaceful protests against systematic violations of human rights, such as a demonstration of hundreds of Uyghur women in the city of Hotan in late March,²² exposed discontent among Uyghurs, contrary to government propaganda.

Speaking at a news briefing following the attack in Peyzawat, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang told reporters "People of various ethnic groups coexist in harmony and equality, and the situation in Xinjiang is generally good."²³ Qin went on to say "This has nothing to do with any alleged persecution or oppression of the Uighur people."²⁴

Uyghur residents of East Turkestan indicated that the death of a prominent local businessman and philanthropist while in custody had been one of the motivations behind the Hotan demonstration.²⁵ Other demands cited include dissatisfaction over a proposed ban on headscarves in the city, together with calls for an end to the government-sponsored torture of Uyghur dissidents.²⁶

Religious repression

²¹ Heavy security for Xinjiang relay, *BBC News*, June 15, 2008.

²² China Confirms Protests by Uighur Muslims, *New York Times*, April 3, 2008.

²³ 2 Chinese policemen killed, 7 wounded in Xinjiang, *Associated Press*, August 28, 2008.

²⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵ Uyghurs Protest in China's Remote Xinjiang Region, *Radio Free Asia*, April

²⁶ *Ibid.*

The closure of at least one mosque has been reported in recent months²⁷, and the destruction of another mosque was apparently due to parishioners' refusal to post Olympics slogans on its walls.²⁸ ²⁹ Uyghur imams were ordered to undergo "political education" regarding the Olympics. In addition, the World Uyghur Congress has stated that East Turkestan authorities plan to hold a 40-day 'Strike Hard' campaign in September, coinciding with the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

Ghulja Massacre of 1997

The Chinese government has a history of using security threats in East Turkestan as a pretext for much broader crackdowns on human rights in the region. On February 5, 1997, thousands of Uyghurs, mostly young men, took to the streets of Ghulja and marched to the Ghulja Municipal Government offices. They were demanding equal treatment, religious freedom, and an end to racial discrimination. Armed paramilitary police confronted the unarmed demonstrators with batons, tear gas and high-pressure water sprayed from fire trucks. Eyewitnesses report that Chinese police fired indiscriminately into the crowd, killing as many as 30 Uyghur demonstrators and wounding more than 100 on the spot.

In the period immediately following February 5, 1997, thousands of Uyghurs were detained on suspicion of participating in the demonstration. In some cases, family members of those who had participated were also detained. Dozens and possibly hundreds of Uyghurs were executed, some in public, following summary trials. Many others were sentenced to lengthy prison terms including life on charges of 'hooliganism'. Other people simply disappeared, and are assumed to be either in prison or dead, their remains disposed of without their families being informed. Reports indicate that hundreds of Uyghurs suspected of involvement in the Ghulja demonstrations were executed between 1997-1999.

Political persecution of Uyghurs in the era of the "war on terror": persecution from 2001-2008

Over the past seven years, using "terrorism" as a justification, Beijing has undertaken a renewed, systematic, and sustained crackdown on all forms of Uyghur dissent. As is common in the PRC justice system, those arrested in these campaigns frequently suffer from physical abuse and other maltreatment while in government custody. In addition, they are often subject to nontransparent trials and denied access to independent counsel. Convictions are regularly obtained on the basis of forced confessions extracted through torture. Security forces target Uyghurs who express any type of dissent as they "strike hard" against the "three evil forces" of separatism, terrorism, and extremism." Reminiscent of the Chinese proverb "killing the chicken to

²⁷ Chinese Muslims cower under secret police crackdown, *Telegraph*, August 5, 2008.

²⁹ Uyghur Mosque Demolished, *Radio Free Asia*, June 23, 2008.

Exiles claim China planning crackdown on Xinjiang during Ramadan, *Monsters and Critics*, August 19, 2008.

scare the monkey these activities are calculated to send a strong and intimidating message to the Uighur population.

Since 2001. Amnesty International has documented that, under these types of campaigns, "tens of thousands of people are reported to have been detained for investigation in the region, and hundreds, possibly thousands, have been charged or sentenced under the Criminal Law; many Uighurs are believed to have been sentenced to death and executed for alleged "separatist" or "terrorist" offences."^{30 31} According to a scholarly paper from a 2001 Ministry of Justice compendium, one out of eleven convicted Uighurs are in prison for "state security crimes."¹

It was reported in April 2007 that the Xinjiang and Tibet Working Groups had been established specifically to handle Uighur and Tibetan separatism. Luo Gan, Secretary General of the Central Political and Legislative Committee, leads the Xinjiang Working Group, with Vice Premier Hui Liangyu and Central Political Bureau member and XUAR Party Secretary Wang Lequan acting as deputy group leaders.³² All three are widely seen as holding hard-line views.

In addition to the two working groups, the State Ethnic Affairs Commission announced in March 2007 the creation of a new mechanism to monitor the activities of certain ethnic groups, especially Uighurs and Tibetans, in order to "deal with emergencies resulting from ethnic issues."³³ According to Dainzhub Ongboin, vice director of the Commission, the monitoring group represents "a major step in the central government's efforts to develop the country's ethnic minorities." However, one stated goal of this "development method" is to "clamp down on ethnic separatism so as to safeguard ethnic unity, social stability, and national security."^{34 35}

Uighurs who are arrested during "security" sweeps often suffer in government custody.³³ Amnesty International has documented a number of extremely cruel forms of torture used by PRC authorities, including "severe beating and kicking; the use of electric batons; the use of handcuffs, shackles or ropes to tie prisoners in positions which cause intense pain; and exposure to extreme cold or heat."³⁶ Other torture methods used in East Turkestan are "unidentified injections which cause the victim to become mentally unbalanced or to lose the ability to speak coherently; the insertion of

³⁰ People's Republic of China Uighurs fleeing persecution as China wages its "war on terror", *Amnesty International*, July 2004; <http://web.amnesty.org/library/index/engasal70212004>.

³¹ Devastating Blows: Religious Repression of Uighurs in Xinjiang, *Human Rights Watch*, April 2005. p. 72.

³² Uighur Canadian Sentenced to Life on "Terrorism" Charge, *UHRP*, Apr. 19, 2007.

³³ China to Monitor Ethnic Relations, *Xinhua*, March 30, 2007.

³⁴ *Ibid.*

³⁵ 2006 World Report, *Human Rights Watch*, January 2006.

³⁶ Torture Campaign Leaflets, *Amnesty International*, August 1, 2000. See also Gross Violations of Human Rights in the Uighur Autonomous Region, *Amnesty International*, London: Amnesty International, 1999.

pepper or chili powder in the mouth, nose or genital organs; and the insertion of horse hair or wires into the penis.”

Recommendations for the Chinese government

""Cease terror-related security clampdowns aimed at the broader Uyghur population. ""Immediately release all Uyghur individuals who were detained without evidence of criminal culpability.

""Provide a detailed accounting of all individuals' detention, as well, as the charges against them.

**Allow access to East Turkestan for independent human rights experts, such as United Nations officials, to investigate reports of human rights abuses and terror allegations.

**Release evidence of all recent terror allegations.

""Return passports to Uyghurs that were confiscated in violation of Chinese law. **Revisit and acknowledge failed minority policies, particularly in East Turkestan and Tibet.

""Recognize that harsh treatment will not help to achieve security of China proper. ""Provide channels for legitimate grievances to be heard in East Turkestan.

Recommendations for the international community

""Call upon the Chinese government to end repressive security measures aimed at the Uyghur population in East Turkestan.

** Urge PRC authorities to initiate negotiations with Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, Uyghur democracy leader, to peacefully resolve the East Turkestan issue.

""Call upon the Chinese government to conduct transparent judicial processes in regard to cases involving Uyghurs.

""Call upon the Chinese government to produce evidence of terror allegations against Uyghurs and the presence of contacts between Uyghurs and global terror networks. ""Establish a group of experts to independently assess any evidence produced by the Chinese government to prove terror allegations against Uyghurs and the presence of contacts between Uyghurs and global terror networks.

""Send representatives to East Turkestan to investigate human rights abuses and Chinese government allegations

""Enforce compliance by the Chinese government to international human rights obligations through the treaties bodies system at the United Nations.

Who are the Uyghurs?

Uyghurs (alternatively spelled Uighurs, Uygurs) are an ethnically and culturally Turkic people living in East Turkestan, called the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region in Chinese, a vast area constituting one-sixth of the total land area under the control of the People's Republic of China. Uyghurs have a rich cultural history going back almost 4,000 years. Before embracing Islam in the tenth century, Uyghurs believed in Buddhism, Manichaeism, and Nestorian Christianity. Today, Uyghurs practice a moderate form of Sufi Islam and lead predominantly secular lives.

East Turkestan has a long and distinctive history, enhanced by its position along the Silk Road, bridging mainland China and the ancient Arabic, Persian and European cultures to the west. Today, the population of approximately 19 million includes several Turkic-speaking Muslim ethnic groups, of which the Uyghurs, numbering more than eight million, are the largest.

Uyghurs in East Turkestan have struggled for cultural survival in the face of a government-supported influx of Chinese migrants, as well as harsh repression of political dissent and any expression, of their distinct identity, however lawful or peaceful. As a result of Chinese government policies, the percentage of ethnic Chinese in East Turkestan has grown from four percent in 1949 to more than 40 percent at present, constituting some 7.5 million people.

Reports from East Turkestan document a pattern of abuse including political imprisonment, torture, and disappearances. With only a few extremely rare exceptions, Uyghurs continue to be the only population in China consistently subjected to executions for political and religious offenses. Mosques are summarily closed and the Uyghur language is banned from use in schools. Uyghurs are subjected to compulsory unpaid labor on infrastructures, such as oil or gas lines to transfer East Turkestan's resources to mainland China.

Persecution of Uyghurs in the Era of the “War on Terror”

October 16, 2007

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Over the past six years, PRC officials have maneuvered to use the concept of “terrorism” as a justification for their repressive treatment of Uyghurs in East Turkestan¹ (also known as Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region or XUAR) and to intimidate Uyghurs who have fled China. This report documents that the PRC government has:

- Placed tremendous emphasis on the threat of “terrorism” in East Turkestan, without providing credible evidence of a threat.
- Initiated a series of “security” campaigns in East Turkestan that

Use of the term ‘East Turkestan’ does not define a ‘pro- independence’ position. Instead, it is used by Uyghurs wishing to assert their cultural distinctiveness from China proper. ‘Xinjiang’, meaning ‘new boundary’ or ‘new realm,’ was adopted by the Manchus in the Qing dynasty (1644-1911) and reflects the perspective of those who gave it this name. This use of terminology, whether ‘Xinjiang’ or ‘East Turkestan,’ is often compared by Uyghurs to use of the term ‘Tibet’ by Tibetans. That is, Tibetans use the name they choose, and not a translation of the Chinese ‘Xizang,’ meaning ‘western treasure-store.’ Uyghurs also choose to use a name other than the one designated by the Chinese authorities.

have resulted in serious *human* rights abuses.

- Used its influence *within the* Shanghai *Cooperation* Organization to seek the return *of Uyghurs* from *China’s neighboring* countries in violation of international law.
- Attempted to influence overseas Uyghur activists by harassing *their* family members who *remain* in East Turkestan.

I. Questionable Assertions: “Terrorism” as an Excuse for Intimidation and Repression

Shortly after the attacks of 9/11, public statements by PRC authorities signaled the official decision to use *the* “global war on terror” to intensify repression of the Uyghur people. On September 1, 2001, the XUAR Regional Government Chairman Abdulahat Abdurixit said in Urumqi, “By no means is Xinjiang a place where violence and terrorist incidents take place very often,”² and *just a* week before 9/11, XUAR Communist Party Secretary Wang Lequan told a group of Hong Kong investors that “Xinjiang is not a place of terror.”³

Two months later, then Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan stood before the UN and asserted that “East Turkestan terrorist forces have long received training, financial aid and support from international terrorist groups... East Turkestan is... a part of international terrorism and should be resolutely

¹ Bao Lisheng, “Wang Lequan Says That Place of Terror,” *Ta Kung Pao* (Hong Kong), September 3 2001.

³*Ibid.*

fought against.”¹ His speech marked the beginning of a PRC campaign to use the concept of “terrorism” against the Uyghur people of East Turkestan.

Chinese authorities began lobbying for an obscure group known as the East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM) to be labeled as a terrorist organization. Immediately after 9/11, the Bush administration warned the PRC government not to use the event to persecute Uyghurs, refusing to link any Uyghur group to terrorism. Nearly a year later, in August 2002, in an abrupt change in policy, the U.S. government designated ETIM as a terrorist organization.

In making this announcement, the US State Department cited, almost verbatim, the PRC government's accusations against ETIM, and in fact mistakenly went even further than PRC authorities by attributing all of the violent incidents that the government claimed had taken place in East Turkestan in the past decade to ETIM.⁶ This announcement was criticized by several experts at the time.⁷ A few weeks later, on the second anniversary of 9/11, ETIM was placed on the UN terror list.⁸

The move came just in advance of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, leading several independent experts to see the

change as directly related to the impending war. Willy Wo Lap Lam, a prominent China scholar, wrote at the time, “Washington realizes that if it were to sponsor a UN resolution that involves the invasion of Iraq, it will need, at the very least, an abstention rather than a veto from China, one of the Security Council's five permanent members.” In Lam's analysis, “the decision by the U.S. and UN to label ETIM a terrorist outfit could afford Beijing much-needed legitimacy in its campaign to snuff out the entire proindependence and dissident movement in the XUAR- and to Sinicize the region by promoting Chinese culture and encouraging Han Chinese to migrate to Xinjiang.”^{9 10 11}

Official PRC government documents and statements frequently use vague and generic terms such as “East Turkestan terrorist organization” or “East Turkestan terrorist force,” implying that a unified and strong group of terrorists exists.¹¹ Hundreds of official speeches, reports, and news articles discussing East Turkestan use the “terrorist” designation.¹² However, many observers have questioned the legitimacy of these types of PRC government claims. In his comprehensive analysis of violence and “terrorist” groups in East Turkestan, Georgetown University professor James Millward concluded that “the notion of an imminent terrorist threat in Xinjiang or from

⁴ *Statement by Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan at UN Security Council Ministerial Meeting on Counter Terrorism*, November 12, 2001.

⁵ *White House Press Release, President Says Terrorists Tried to Disrupt World Economy*, Shanghai, China, October 20, 2001 and *Press Conference of Ambassador Francis X Taylor*, December 6, 2001.

⁶ James Millward, *Violent Separatism in Xinjiang: A Critical Assessment*, p. 12, p. 27, East-West Center, 2004.

⁷ Erik Eckholm, *U.S. Labeling of Group in China as Terrorist Is Criticized*, *The Washington Post*, September 12, 2002.

^{*} US State Department, *Designation of the Eastern Turkestan Islamic Movement under UNSC Resolutions 1267 and 1390*, September 11, 2002.

⁹ Willy Wo Lap Lam, *Exploiting a Favorable Climate*, *China Brief* Volume 2, Issue 19, September

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ James Millward, *Violent Separatism in Xinjiang: A Critical Assessment*, p. 13, East-West

¹² Nicholas Baccquelin, *Criminalizing Ethnicity: Political Repression in Xinjiang*, *China Rights*

Uyghur groups is exaggerated."¹¹ In April 2007, the U.S. State Department re-assigned ETIM to its list of "Groups of Concern," taking the group off of its terrorist list.¹⁴

The PRC government has also labeled nearly all Uyghur organizations as terrorist groups, regardless of their violent or nonviolent nature. In late 2003, China's Ministry of Public Security released a list that gave the "terrorist" label to ETIM, the East Turkestan Liberation Organization (ETLO), the East Turkestan Information Center (ETIC), and the World Uyghur Youth Congress (WUYC).¹⁵ With the temporary exception of ETIM, none of these organizations have been recognized as "terrorist" by any other country in the world.

On several occasions, the PRC government has raised the specter of terrorism, without providing corresponding evidence. In August 2005, Chinese authorities warned a visiting delegation from the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom that "elements of Al-Qaeda" were targeting them. The Commission later determined that this claim was used to "restrict Commission activities and to monitor its contact with local people not approved by the government."¹⁶ In June 2006, the Chinese diplomatic mission in Pakistan

¹³ James Millward, *Violent Separatism in Xinjiang: A Critical Assessment*, p.31, East-West Center, 2004.

U.S. State Department, *U.S. Designates 43 Terrorist Groups*, April 30, 2007, at <http://usinfo.state.gov/archives/disnlav.html?p=wasfile-2007-04-30&kt=April^N=2007Q4?l12939idYtx;gkgm09128382>

Xinhua, *China Seeks International Support in Counter-Terrorism*, December 15, 2003.

U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom,

Policy Focus China, at [http://www.uscifr.gov/countries/region/eastasia/china/ChinaTerrorismandInternationalLaw](http://www.uscifr.gov/countries/region/eastasia/china/China%20Terrorism%20and%20International%20Law)

claimed that "members of the East Turkestan Islamic Movement" were planning to kidnap senior Chinese diplomats and consular officers in the country. However, no evidence was presented.¹⁷

The most dramatic claim was the announcement that PRC authorities raided on a "terrorist camp" near the village of Kosrap, in the mountainous region of the Pamir Plateau on January 8, 2007. This raid was said to have resulted in the death of 18 and the capture of 17 ETIM members.¹⁸ Dru Gladney, president of the Pacific Basin Institute and an expert on Uyghurs and other Muslims living in the PRC, stated his doubts that ETIM was involved, saying that the organization "dropped out of sight with the death of its reputed leader, Hassan Mahsun," who was killed in 2003 by Pakistani security forces.¹⁹ PRC authorities have yet to provide documentation of this alleged terrorist camp.

II. PRC "Security" Campaigns in East Turkestan: Intimidation, Arrests, Torture, and Executions

Over the past six years, using "terrorism" as a justification, Beijing has undertaken a renewed, systematic, and sustained crackdown on all forms of Uyghur dissent. As is common in the PRC justice system, those arrested in these campaigns frequently suffer from physical abuse and other maltreatment while in government custody. In addition, they are often subject to non-transparent trials and

¹⁷ Daily Times (Pakistan), *Chinese Diplomats Face Kidnapping*,

* Deutsche Presse-Agentur, *Doubt Raised over 'Terrorism' in China's Restive*

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

denied access to independent counsel. Com-
petitions are regularly obtained on the basis of
forced confessions extracted through torture.

Security forces target Uyghurs who express
any type of dissent as they "strike hard" against
the "three evil forces" of "separatism, terrorism,
and extremism." Reminiscent of the Chinese
proverb "killing the chicken to scare the
monkey,"* these activities are calculated to
send a strong and intimidating message to the
Uyghur population. For example, in the fall of
2005, on the eve of the 50th anniversary of the
founding of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous
Region, Luo Gan, China's most senior law
official, in charge of law enforcement for the
Standing Committee of the Politburo, urged
XUAR authorities to prepare for danger and
renew their campaign against separatism.²⁰ Luo
encouraged armed police to "keep improving
their abilities of dealing with emergent events
and fighting against terrorism as well as
increasing combat and defense capabilities."²¹

Since 9/11, Amnesty International has
documented that, under these types of
campaigns, "tens of thousands of people are
reported to have been detained for investigation
in the region, and hundreds, possibly thousands,
have been charged or sentenced under the
Criminal Law; many Uyghurs are believed to
have been sentenced to death and executed for
alleged "separatist" or "terrorist" offences."²²
According to a scholarly paper from a

2001 Ministry of Justice compendium, one out
of eleven convicted Uyghurs are in prison for
"state security crimes." The state-run *Xinjiang
Daily* reported that, in 2005 alone, 18,227
individuals were arrested in East Turkestan for
endangering state security, a jump of 25
percent from the previous year.¹⁴

file heavy-handed nature of the campaigns
can be seen in the case of a poster branded as
"separatist" that appeared in Terem Village in
Yopurgha County of Kashgar in June 2003.
After discovering the poster, local authorities
detained hundreds of Uyghurs, including
two

schoolchildren, on suspicion of writing the
poster, and levied fines on many of those who
they detained.^{23 24 25} After nearly four years,
police are still conducting a full investigation,
hoping to find the poster's author, and have not
returned any of the fines that were collected.²⁶

Security sweeps of Uyghur areas are often
carried out shortly before the Chinese New
Year. For example, in early 2005, on the eve of
the Chinese New Year, more than 700 Uyghur
youths were picked up by local Public Security
Bureau officers in Ghulja City.²⁷ These types of
round-ups are often followed by mass
sentencing rallies, parades of political prisoners
through Uyghur neighborhoods, and public
executions.²⁸ As a result, many Uyghurs view
Chinese New Year as "a

²⁰ *China Daily*, *Leader urges vigilance as celebrations
near*, September 29, 2005.

²¹ *Ibid.*

²² Amnesty International, *People's Republic of China
Uighurs fleeing persecution as China wages its "war on
terror"*, July 2004 available at <http://web.amnesty.org/library/index/engasa170212004>

²³ Human Rights Watch, *Devastating Blows: Religious
Repression of Uyghurs in Xinjiang*, April 2005, p. 72.

²⁴ *South China Morning Post*, *18,000 Uyghurs
Arrested for 'Security Threats' Last Year*, January

²⁵ RFA, *China Detains Uyghurs over Separatist Poster*,
February 4, 2007.

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ RFA, *More than 700 Uyghur Youth detained in the eve
of Chinese New Year*, February 10, 2005.

²⁸ UHRP interview with Uyghur scholar, May
26, 2007.

dreadful season of possible death and destruction, followed by mourning and lamentation."²⁹

The recent establishment of several government organizations suggests that human rights abuses as the result of "security" campaigns in East Turkestan will continue. It was reported in April 2007 that the Xinjiang and Tibet Working Groups had been established specifically to handle Uyghur and Tibetan separatism. Through an analysis of the working groups' members, some Chinese experts predict that the PRC will be adopting an even more aggressive policy towards Uyghurs in East Turkestan.³⁰ Luo Gan, Secretary General of the Central Political and Legislative Committee, leads the Xinjiang Working Group, with Vice Premier Hui Liangyu and Central Political Bureau member and XUAR Party Secretary Wang Lequan acting as deputy group leaders.³¹ All three are widely seen as holding hard-line views.

In addition to the two working groups, the State Ethnic Affairs Commission announced in March 2007 the creation of a new mechanism to monitor the activities of certain ethnic groups, especially Uyghurs and Tibetans, in order to "deal with emergencies resulting from ethnic issues."³² According to Dainzhub Ongboin, vice director of the Commission, the monitoring group represents "a major step in the central government's efforts to develop the

country's ethnic minorities." However, one stated goal of this "development method" is to "clamp down on ethnic separatism so as to safeguard ethnic unity, social stability, and national security."³³

Uyghurs in Government Custody: III- Treatment and Torture

Uyghurs who are arrested during "security" sweeps often suffer in government custody.³⁴ Amnesty International has documented a number of extremely cruel forms of torture used by PRC authorities, including "severe beating and kicking; the use of electric batons; the use of handcuffs, shackles or ropes to tie prisoners in positions which cause intense pain; and exposure to extreme cold or heat."³⁵ Other torture methods used in East Turkestan are "unidentified injections which cause the victim to become mentally unbalanced or to lose the ability to speak coherently; the insertion of pepper or chili powder in the mouth, nose or genital organs; and the insertion of horse hair or wires into the

penis.³⁶

In late 2005, after making his first visit to China, during which he visited prisons in Urumchi, Lhasa, and Beijing, Mr. Manfred Nowak, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture, confirmed that "torture was widespread" in China, especially in East Turkestan and Tibet. Forms of torture he documented included the

²⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁰ UHRP, *Uyghur Canadian Sentenced to Life on "Terrorism" Charge*, Apr. 19, 2007.

³¹ *Ibid.*

³² *Xinhua, China to Monitor Ethnic Relations*, March 30, 2007.

³³ *Ibid.*

³⁴ Human Rights Watch, *2006 World Report*, January 2006.

³⁵ Amnesty International, *Torture Campaign Leaflets*, August 1, 2000. See also Amnesty International, *Gross Violations of Human Rights in the Uighur Autonomous Region*, London: Amnesty International, 1999.

"use of electric shock batons, cigarette burns, guard-instructed beatings by fellow prisoners, submersion in pits of water or sewage, exposure to extreme heat or cold, being forced to maintain uncomfortable positions, deprivation of sleep, food or water, (and) suspension from overhead fixtures by handcuffs."¹⁷ Several released prisoners interviewed for this report confirm that that they faced or witnessed these types of cruel and unusual methods of torture while serving their prison terms.¹⁸

There are many specific examples of the use of these torture methods. In mid-2006, Tudahun Hoshur, a 31-year old trader from Ghulja City, was suspended from a ceiling by his hands, beaten, and denied food for three days for failing to memorize all 45 articles of the detention center's regulations in Chinese.³⁹ Ismail Semed, who was executed on February 8, 2007 for allegedly attempting to "split the motherland," was convicted on the basis of confessions that were likely extracted from two other Uyghur prisoners through torture.⁴⁰ Semed told his wife just before his execution that his confession was coerced through torture.⁴¹

Alim and Ablikim Abdureyim, the sons of prominent Uyghur leader and human rights defender Rebiya Kadeer, were sentenced to seven and nine years in prison respectively. Alim and

Ablikim were severely beaten by police officers on June 1, 2006 after they were detained near Urumchi.⁴² As a result of his beating, Ablikim lost consciousness and was taken to a hospital.⁴³ Alim was detained and tortured, later "confessing" to the criminal and political charges brought against him as a direct result of this torture.⁴⁴

"terrorism in the Spiritual Form"

All manifestations of Uyghur opposition, no matter how peaceful, are in danger of being labeled "separatist" or "terrorist" conspiracies against the government. On January 1, 2002, Uyghur poet Tursunjan Amat was arrested after reciting a poem purported to promote "separatism" at the Xinjiang People's Hall in Urumchi. Soon afterwards, Wang Lequan warned against the danger of "separatist forces" using ideology to attack PRC policies, saying, "The antiseparatist struggle in the ideological field had always been a major battleground without the smoke of gunpowder."⁴⁵ One year later, another Uyghur poet was accused of "attacking" the PRC's policy towards Uyghurs when his recitation of a poem in a Kashgar concert hall was labeled "terrorism in the spiritual form."⁴⁶

According to a Human Rights Watch report, "In January 2002, pressure to follow the official ideological line was explicitly

¹⁷ UN News Service, *Torture, though on Decline, Remains Widespread in China. UN Expert Reports*, December 2, 2005.

¹⁸ UHRP interviews with former Uyghur

³⁹ IIRP, *Details Emerge of Uyghur Political Detainee Suffering Torture. Abuse*, June 5, 2006.

⁴⁰ IIRP, *Uyghur Prisoner Executed in Urumchi*, February 9, 2007.

⁴¹ RFA, *Uyghur Activist Executed in China*, February 8, 2007.

⁴² UHRP, *Rebiya Kadeer's Adult Children Severely Beaten in front of Her Grandchildren*, June 1, 2006.

⁴³ *Ibid*.

⁴⁴ UHRP, *Rebiya Kadeer's Son Tortured*, June 23, 2006. and UHRP, *Rebiya Kadeer's Youngest Son "Confesses to Crimes under Torture"*, July 6, 2006.

⁴⁵ Amnesty International, *PRC: China's Anti-terrorism Legislation and Repression in XUAR*, March 22, 2002.

⁴⁶ Christian Science Monitor, *Pressure to conform in China*, September 29, 2003.

extended to include artists, writers, performers, and historians, among others, when Abulahat Abdurixil, the region's chairman, made clear that "all who openly advocate separatism using the name of art" would be purged."⁴⁷ Since that time, official government sources have indicated that "the 'struggle against separatism' is wide-ranging and encompasses all potential dissent and opposition activities, including the peaceful expression of views via poems, songs, books, pamphlets, letters, or the Internet."⁴⁸

As a result of this campaign, many Uyghur writers have been arrested and given lengthy prison sentences. Abdulghani Memetemin, a writer, teacher, and translator, was sentenced to nine years in prison by the Kashgar Intermediate Court in June 2003 on charges of "sending secret state information out of the country."⁴⁹ Memetemin was arrested on July 26, 2002 when authorities discovered he had been translating news articles, forwarding official speeches, and conducting original reporting for the German-based East Turkestan Information Center.⁵⁰

Writer Nurmemet Yasin

Nurmemet Yasin, a well-known Uyghur writer, was sentenced to ten years in prison in 2005 for writing "Wild Pigeon," a fictional story about a pigeon that commits suicide because

it is unable to escape its cage.⁵¹ Shortly after Yasin's story was published in the *Kashgar Literature Journal* in late 2004, he was accused of inciting separatism and arrested by Kashgar police who confiscated his computer, which contained 1,600 poems, commentaries, and stories, as well as an unfinished novel.^{52 53} Kuresh Huseyin, chief editor of the *Kashgar Literature Journal*, was sentenced to three years for publishing Yasin's "Wild Pigeon" in late 2005.⁵⁴

Sitiwaldi (Dilkex) Tiliwaldi, a young Uyghur man from *Ghulja*, disappeared in October 2004 after speaking to Serene Fang, a reporter from PBS who had come to investigate human rights violations against the Uyghur people by PRC authorities.⁵⁴ After an interview about East Turkestan's general situation, Tiliwaldi and Fang were approached by PRC security agents, who questioned and searched them and confiscated the interview tape and other materials.⁵⁵ Fang was deported to the United States. Tiliwaldi's whereabouts remain unknown.⁵⁶

III. The PRC's Campaign Against Uyghurs Outside of China

Two disturbing trends in the era of the "war on terror" are the PRC's use of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to seek the return of Uyghurs from neighboring countries and its attempt to influence overseas Uyghur activists by harassing their

Human Rights Watch. *China Human Rights Update*, February 2002.

⁴⁷ Amnesty International, *PRC: China's Anti-terrorism Legislation and Repression in the XUAR*, March 22, 2002.

⁴⁹ Committee to Protect Journalists, *China: Journalist Imprisoned*, August 3, 2004.

⁵¹ RFA, *China Court Jails Uyghur Editor for Publishing Veiled Dissent*, November 10, 2005.

⁵² *Ibid.*

⁵³ *Ibid.*
⁵⁴ PBS Frontline, *China-Silenced*, January 11, 2005.

family members who remain in East Turkestan.

Shongiuti (Uyghur) Union Organization

In 1996, China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan created the Shanghai Five to resolve border issues remaining after the collapse of the Soviet Union. With the addition of Uzbekistan in 2001, the Shanghai Five became known as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

Since the founding of the Central Asian states in the early 1990s, PRC leaders have feared that these nations, which are culturally and linguistically related to Uyghurs, would sympathize with the Uyghur situation and support their cause. The PRC government views the approximately one million Uyghurs living in SCO countries as a threat, wary that this population might aid Uyghurs in East Turkestan to resist Chinese control of their traditional homeland. PRC authorities have used the SCO to suppress Uyghur opposition in East Turkestan and Central Asia, enlisting support for its attacks on Uyghurs.⁵⁷

In May 2006, during the SCO Summit, member states signed fifteen agreements aimed at strengthening cooperation in the fight against "terrorism."⁵⁸ China has also signed bilateral "anti-terror" agreements with Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Pakistan, as well as several Arab states.⁵⁹

In addition, the PRC has conducted a series of large-scale exercises targeting the "three evil forces of terrorism, separatism, and extremism," together with SCO member states Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan, and SCO observer state, Pakistan.⁶¹ From August 9 to 17, 2007, more than 6,500 troops from SCO countries participated in "antiterrorism" exercises in Urumchi, the capital of East Turkestan, and Chelyabinsk, Russia.⁶¹ This was the first time that the SCO has conducted military exercises inside East Turkestan. The scale of the exercises suggested that they were aimed at controlling and intimidating local populations and not just combating "terrorism."

In a practice that began before 9/11, but that has accelerated in the past six years, SCO member and observer states have assisted the PRC in tracking down Uyghur political activists and extraditing them to China, where they face serious human rights violations, including torture, unfair trials, and execution. In all of these cases, the PRC and its neighboring states are in violation of the principle of non-refoulement under international

⁵⁷ Ariel Cohen, *The Dragon Looks West: China and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization*, Heritage Lectures No. 961, Heritage Foundation, September 7, 2006.

⁵⁸ China Daily, *SCO to Sign Anti-terror Agreements*, May 16, 2006.

⁵⁹ People's Daily, *China, Kazakhstan Issue Joint*

Anti-Terrorism Agreement, December 11, 2002; Xinhua, *Hu Firm on Anti-terror Efforts*, June 15, 2006; PRC MOFA, *China, Russia to Promote Humanistic, Anti-Terror Cooperation*, September 25, 2004; Reuters, *Turkmenistan, China Sign Anti-terror Agreement*, April 4, 2006; Xinhua, *China Ratifies Anti-terror Pact With Pakistan*, August 28, 2006; Xinhua, *China, Arab States Pledge Anti-terror Cooperation*, June 2, 2006.

⁶⁰ Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, *Russia/China: Military Exercises Underscore Growing Ties*, August 5, 2005; China Daily, *Anti-terror Exercise Targets '3 Evil Forces'*, August 28, 2006; BBC, *China-Kyrgyz Anti-terror Exercises*, October 10, 2002; Xinhua, *China, Tajikistan Hold Joint Antiterror Exercises*, September 22, 2006; VOA, *China, Pakistan Hold Joint Anti-Terror Military Exercises*, August 6, 2004.

⁶¹ Xinhua, *SCO to Stage Joint Anti-terror Military Exercise in 2007*, April 26, 2006.

law, which protects refugees from being returned to places where their lives or freedom could be threatened.

In 1999, Kazakhstan forcibly returned Uyghur political activists Kasim Mahpir, Ilyas Xordun, and Zulfikar Mcmet to the PRC, where they were executed.*⁶¹ ⁶² In 2003, Pakistan forcibly repatriated Uyghur activist Ismail Seined to China, where he was executed on February 8, 2007 on charges of “attempting to split the motherland.”⁶³ In the same year, Pakistan also deported Muhammed Tohli Metrozi, a recognized refugee awaiting resettlement in Sweden.⁶⁴ Businessman Osman Alihan was extradited in July 2007, also from Pakistan. On May 10, 2006, Kazakhstan forcibly returned Uyghur activists Yusuf Kadir and Abdukadir Sidik to China, where they are being held in incommunicado detention.⁶⁵

In yet another case, the UNHCR expressed concern that Arkin Sabirov, who disappeared on October 23, 2006, had been secretly deported to the PRC from Kazakhstan.⁶⁶ Criticisms from human rights organizations and international pressure have led to secrecy surrounding the deportation of several Uyghurs. In 2004, Vladimir Bozhko, Kazakh National Security Agency Deputy Chairman, admitted that over a six year period 14 Uyghurs

had been extradited *from* Kazakhstan to Kyrgyzstan and China for their “involvement in Uyghur *separatist* organizations.”⁶⁷

The Case of Canadian Citizen Huseyin Celil

The extradition of Uyghur- Canadian Huseyin Celil *from* Uzbekistan to China in June 2006 is a recent and powerful example of the PRC’s use of the SCO to force the return of an ethnic Uyghur in violation of international law. In early 2006, Celil, a charismatic Uyghur imam and activist who had been granted Canadian citizenship, traveled with his wife to visit her parents in Uzbekistan.⁶⁸

Huseyin Celil

In March 2006, Uzbek authorities detained Celil, reportedly at the request of the Chinese government, and later extradited him to the PRC to face charges of “terrorism,” refusing to recognize Celil’s Canadian citizenship. This act was in direct contradiction to Article 9 of the Nationality Law of the People’s Republic of China, which states that a person loses Chinese citizenship when he or she is naturalized as a citizen in a foreign country.⁶⁹

Celil’s extradition immediately became a major issue in Sino-Canadian relations. Canadian Prime Minister

⁴¹ Amnesty International, *China: Further information on Torture Health Concern/Unfair Trial/Fear of Execution*, June 16, 2000.

⁶¹ RFA, *Uyghur Activist Executed in China*, Feb 8, Amnesty International, *Documented Cases of Uighurs Forcibly Returned to the XUAR*, at <http://www.amnesty.cn/arehives/rcsonrccs/husevin celil/ui ghur forced returns cases.doc>.

Amnesty International, *Kazakhstan: Further Information on Forcible Return/Torture/Death Penalty*, June 27, 2006.

⁶⁶ Institute of War & Peace Reporting, *Kazakhstan Fire for Reported Extradition of Uighur*, December 7, 2006.

⁶⁷ Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, *Kazakhstan Reveals Uyghur Extraditions*, November 16, 2004.

“UHRP, *Uyghur Canadian Sentenced to Life on "Terrorism" Charges*, Apr. 19, 2007.

⁶⁹ *The Nationality Law of the People's Republic of China*, (sponsored by the Supreme People’s Court of the PRC), at

Stephen Harper expressed great concern about Cold's ease when speaking with Chinese President Hu Jintao on the sidelines of the 2006 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting in Vietnam.⁷⁰ Despite this direct and high-level intervention, in April 2007, a Chinese court sentenced Celil to life imprisonment.

According to Celil's sister, in early 2007, while Celil was in Chinese custody, he was tortured and forced to sign a pre-written confession, which he signed only after he was told by prison guards that if he refused he would be "buried alive and disappear without any clues."⁷¹ Celil was also denied the Canadian consular access he was entitled to under Sino-Canadian bilateral agreements." During his official visit to Beijing one week after Celil's sentencing, Canadian Foreign Minister Peter MacKay raised the Celil case with Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi, demanding that Celil receive consular access.⁷³ The PRC denied MacKay's demands.

On July 10, a Chinese high court rejected Celil's appeal in a process that lasted just 15 minutes before the court read a prepared statement nearly identical to a previous court ruling.⁷⁴ During the appeal process, Celil's lawyer was not allowed to defend him.⁷⁵ After the ruling, Foreign Minister MacKay accused the Chinese

government of failing to provide due process in Celil's appeal.⁷⁶

Celil had traveled to Uzbekistan believing that his Canadian citizenship would protect him from Chinese persecution. Celil's Canadian lawyer, Chris Maeleod, believes that the PRC government, by punishing Celil, wished to send a warning to Uyghur human rights activists in exile that it is impossible "to hide behind a Canadian passport or a charter of rights or whatever other document in other countries you may have."⁷⁷ The Celil case remains one of the thorniest issues in Sino-Canadian relations, with Canada continuing to apply pressure for his release before the 2008 Beijing Olympics.⁷⁸*

Targeting Rebiya Kadeer's Family Rebiya Kadeer

Another PRC strategy that is used to intimidate and silence Uyghurs is persecuting activists' family members who live in East Turkestan. An example that illuminates this strategy is the case of Uyghur democracy leader Rebiya Kadeer.

On August 11, 1999, PRC authorities arrested Ms. Kadeer in Urumchi as she was on her way to meet with members of a U.S. congressional delegation. After her trial, she received an eight-year prison sentence for "providing secret

⁷⁰ CBC, *Canadian Diplomacy Taking Tougher Approach: Harper*, Nov. 19, 2006.

⁷¹ The Epoch Times, *Canadian Tortured in Chinese Jail, Family Says*, Feb. 7, 2007.

⁷² Reuters, *China Jails Uighur-Canadian "Terrorist" for Life*, Apt. 19, 2007.

⁷³ The Toronto Star, *MacKay Talks Tough with China*, May 1, 2007.

⁷⁴ Ibid.

⁷⁵ The Globe and Mail, *Celil Appeal Rejected by Chinese Court*, July 10, 2007.

⁷⁶ Can West News Service, *China Violating Due Process by Jailing Canadian for Life, Ottawa Charge*, July 11,

⁷⁷ Ibid.

⁷⁸ The Toronto Star, *Imam's Lawyer Pins Hopes on Olympic Spirit*, July 11, 2007.

information to foreigners."⁷⁹ At the trial, the court presented openly available newspaper clippings as evidence of the "secret information" provided by Ms. Kadeer.⁸⁰ She was incarcerated for nearly six years at Liudaowan Prison in Urumchi.⁸¹ ⁸² On March 17, 2005, when she was released on "medical parole" just three days before U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's official visit to Beijing, Ms. Kadeer became the first Uyghur political prisoner to be freed by the PRC due to international

pressure.⁸²

In order to reduce Ms. Kadeer's influence among Uyghurs by pressuring her into silence after her exile to the United States, PRC authorities began an intense campaign of intimidation against her family members and business associates inside East Turkestan. Two months after her release, government authorities raided Ms. Kadeer's Akida Trading Company in Urumchi, attempted to arrest her second youngest son Ablikim Abdureyim, and arrested company director Aysham Kerim and assistant Ruzi Mamat on unnamed charges.⁸³ Two days later, more than 100 police raided the firm, confiscating fifteen large bags full of documents.⁸⁴ According to Alim Abdureyim, Ms. Kadeer's youngest son, police seized "every single piece of paper, documents, files, everything from our company... therefore, the

government can accuse us of being in any amount of debt *they* wish."⁸⁵

On May 30, a day before the arrival in Urumchi of a U.S. *delegation* affiliated with the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, and two days after Ms. Kadeer was elected as the president of the Uyghur American Association in Washington, D.C., Ms. Kadeer's two sons, Alim and Ablikim, along with her daughter, Rushangul, were detained.⁸⁶ They were warned not to attempt to contact the visiting U.S. delegation and released.⁸⁷

Two days later, on June 1, International Children's Day in China, Public Security agents severely beat Alim and Ablikim in front of their own children and forced Rushangul to call her mother so that Ms. Kadeer would hear the beating of her sons.⁸⁸ After it was clear that Ms. Kadeer had heard her sons' screams, the phone was taken away from her daughter.⁸⁹ After the beatings, Alim was taken to a detention center, Ablikim was admitted to a hospital, and Rushangul was put under an intrusive form of house arrest.⁹⁰ On June 13, Alim was officially charged with tax evasion and "attempting to divide the country," Ablikim on conspiracy to overthrow the government, and Kahar, Ms. Kadeer's oldest son, who a few days later had been transported in handcuffs from

⁷⁹ Amnesty International, *China: Uighur Businesswoman Rebiya Kadeer Sentenced to Eight Years' after Secret Trial*, March 10, 2000.

⁸⁰ Human Rights in China, *Case Profiles - Rebiya Kadeer*, October 17, 2000.

⁸¹ *Ibid.*

⁸² Amnesty International, *China: Rebiya Kadeer Release Welcome, but Tactically Timed*, March

⁸³ *Ibid.*

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*

⁸⁵ RFA, *Xinjiang Police Form Special Unfit for Exiled Dissident's Family*, August 30, 2005.

⁸⁶ UHRP, *Three of Rebiya Kadeer's Children Detained.- Is US Congressional Team Arrive in Urumchi*, May 30, 2006.

"Ibid

⁸⁸ UHRP, *Following Detentions, Formal Charges Brought against Ms. Kadeer's Sons*, June 14, 2006.

***Ibid*

* UHRP, *Son of Rebiya Kadeer Sentenced to Nine Years in Prison on Charges of "Secessionism*, April 17, 2007.

Aksu to Urumchi, was charged with 01 tax evasion.

In early November 2006, prior to her election as president of the German-based World Uyghur Congress (WUC), Ms. Kadeer was warned through a third party that her detained sons would suffer greatly if she were to run for the position. Later that month, the day that Ms. Kadeer was elected as president of the WUC, Alim was sentenced to seven years in prison on charges of tax evasion and fined 500,000 yuan (USD 62,500) and Kahar was charged with tax evasion and fined 100,000 yuan (USD 12,500).⁹¹ Five months later, in April 2007, Ablikim was sentenced to nine years* imprisonment by the Intermediate People's Court in Urumchi on charges of "instigating and engaging in secessionist activities."⁹⁴

Xinhua News, the official PRC news agency, reported that "Ablikim's legal rights were protected during the trial and the information concerning the time and venue of the trial was publicized three days beforehand" and that Ablikim "confessed" to the charges against him during trial.⁹⁵ However, according to his family's understanding, Ablikim was not allowed legal representation, the family was given no advance notice of the trial, and the "confession" was likely the result of torture. In November 2006, reportedly suffering from severe mistreatment, Ablikim^{*91}

was seen being removed on a stretcher from the Tianshan Detention Center.⁹⁶

V. Conclusion

PRC' authorities have made great efforts to silence independent Uyghur voices both domestically and internationally. Repression in East Turkestan stems from the PRC government's inability to address the basic democratic aspirations of the Uyghurs and has resulted in widespread, systematic, and egregious violations of Uyghurs' human rights.

In the era of the "war on terror," the PRC government has justified its repression in East Turkestan by attempting to link Uyghur dissidents and groups to international terrorism. Without presenting any evidence of a genuine terrorist threat, PRC authorities continue to defend the crackdown in East Turkestan in the name of fighting the "three evil forces of separatism, terrorism, and extremism."

The PRC government has used frequent "strike hard" campaigns to target many peaceful expressions of Uyghur identity inside the country, and has been influential in the extradition of Uyghur activists from neighboring countries, after which they are subjected to non-transparent, irregular trials that regularly result in executions. As Uyghurs in exile have become increasingly vocal and successful in exposing the PRC's gross human rights violations in East Turkestan, government authorities have begun to target activists' family members in East Turkestan.

⁹¹ UHRP, *Following Detentions, Formal Charges Brought against U.S. Kadeer's Sons*, June 14, 2006.

Ibid.

¹¹ UHRP, *Rebiya Kadeer's Son Sentenced to Seven Years; Another Fined; Another Feared Tortured*, November 27, 2006.

⁹¹ UHRP, *Son of Rebiya Kadeer Sentenced to Nine Years in Prison on Charges of "Secessionism*, April 17, 2007.

^o Xinhua News Agency, *Xinjiang Secessionist*

⁹⁶ UHRP, *Son of Rebiya Kadeer Sentenced to Nine Years in Prison on Charges of "Secessionism*, April 17, 2007.

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If the PRC wishes to be accepted as a legitimate member of the international community, it must cease the domestic and international campaigns it employs to silence Uyghur voices. The PRC must implement basic human rights, the rule of law, and democratic reforms in East Turkestan in order to be respected in the eyes of the world.

Deception, Pressure, and Threats: The Transfer of Young Uyghur Women to Eastern China

February 8, 2008

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A new People's Republic of China (PRC) policy recruits young Uyghur women from majority Uyghur areas of East Turkestan¹ (also known as the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region or XI'AR) and transfers them to work in factories in urban areas of eastern China. Though official propaganda slogans promote the program as an overwhelmingly positive experience for these women, less than two years after the initiation of the policy, it has already left a history of broken promises and shattered families. Local leaders, who are subject to intense pressure from higher levels of the PRC government, have used deception, pressure, and threats in order to recruit women to participate in the program. Under the policy, thousands of Uyghur women have been removed from their families and placed into substandard working conditions thousands of miles from their homes.

The PRC transfer policy:

- Focuses on southern East Turkestan, a majority Uyghur area that remains a center of traditional Uyghur culture and where the percentage of inhabitants who are Uyghur is presently the highest in the PRC.
- Targets marriage-aged women between the ages of 16 to 25.
- Intimidates the women and their families to compel them to participate in the program.
- Threatens local leaders who do not comply with the policy with removal from their posts.
- Places the young women into inhumane work conditions and with employers that do not honor work contracts.

¹ Use of the term 'East Turkestan' does not define a 'pro-independence' position. Instead, it is used by Uyghurs wishing to assert their cultural distinctiveness from China proper. 'Xinjiang', meaning 'new boundary' or 'new realm', only came into official use in 1884, and reflects the perspective of those in the Qing dynasty (1644-1911) who gave it this name. This use of terminology, whether 'Xinjiang' or 'East Turkestan' is often compared by Uyghurs to use of the term 'Tibet' by Tibetans. That is, Tibetans use the name they choose, and not a translation of the Chinese 'Xizang' meaning 'western treasure-store'.

Photo: Young Uyghur women preparing for transfer to Eastern China, (www.kashi.gov.cn).

This government-sponsored transfer of young Uyghur women must be placed *in* the broader context of the PRC's ongoing cultural attacks and human rights abuses against the Uyghur people. Uyghur religion, a moderate form of Sunni *Islam* that is a vital part of their ethnic identity, has been fiercely suppressed.² The legal system is used as a tool of repression, with arbitrary detentions and torture commonly employed against any Uyghur who voices discontent with the government.³ Charges of "political crimes" and the death penalty have been shown to be disproportionately applied to Uyghurs.⁴ Uyghur women suffer from forced sterilizations and abortions, and corvée labor is still used in East Turkestan's rural areas.⁵

In addition, at the same time that PRC authorities are implementing a transfer policy of young women out of East Turkestan in the name of providing economic opportunities, they are also supporting the movement of huge numbers of Han Chinese economic migrants into the region.⁶ In light of these facts, the transfer policy can be seen as another aspect of Beijing's effort to forcibly assimilate the Uyghur people and undermine the distinct Uyghur culture of East Turkestan.

I. Content and Scope of the Policy

In recent years, the PRC central government has directed all levels of the XUAR government to promote rural to urban migration as a solution to the poverty of the region.⁷ According to PRC statistics, in 2007 around 100,000 people from East Turkestan were working outside of the Autonomous Region, with most of these migrants located in Zhejiang, Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai, and Shandong.⁸ Since the spring of 2006, a significant portion of these migrants have been made up of young Uyghur women recruited into a government program that provides workers for factories in eastern China.⁹

² Human Rights Watch and Human Rights in China. *Devastating Blows: Religious Repression of Uighurs in Xinjiang*, Human Rights Watch, Vol. 17, No. 2, April 2005.

Amnesty International, *Gross Violations of Human Rights in the Uighur Autonomous Region*, London: Amnesty International, 1999.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Ildik Belter Hann, "Work and gender among Uighur villagers in southern Xinjiang," in: *Les Ouigours au XXeme siecle. Cahiers d Etudes sur la Mediterranee Orientate et le Monde Turco-Iranien*, F. Aubin and J.-F. Besson, eds. (1998)pp. 93-114.

Stanely Toops, "The Demography of Xinjiang," in *Xinjiang: China's Muslim Borderland*, ed. S. Fredrick Starr (M.F. Sharpe: Amrmonk, NY, 2004).

See, for example, Urumqi Evening News, *300 Rural Young Women from Xinjiang's Shache County Leave to Work in Shandong*, April 5, 2007. http://www.chinaxinjiang.cn/news/xixw/shii/t20070405_224973.htm

⁸ Xinhua Net, *A Large Number of Minority Farmers from Xinjiang Go Inland to Work*, April 2, 2007. http://www.chinaxinjiang.cn/news/xixw/shii/t20070402_223834.htm

and Xinhua Net, Xinjiang Division, *In 2007 there will be 100,000 people from Xinjiang working to earn money in the Interior*, March 23, 2007. http://www.chinaxinjiang.cn/news/xixw/shii/t20070323_221297.htm

⁹ Xinhua Net, *Xinjiang's First Group of Female Uyghur Workers Return*, April 27, 2007.

http://news.xinhuanet.com/local/2007-04/27/content_6035082.htm

The policy targets women between the ages of 16 and 25 from the heavily Uyghur-populated areas of southern East Turkestan, a region that retains a strong and distinct Uyghur culture.¹⁰ Local leaders, sometimes joined by factory officials, offer the women Chinese language and skills training, and promise attractive salaries and transportation to the factories.¹¹ The official Chinese press has supported the program through a series of articles that cast the program in a positive light, as a way to provide income for rural people and incorporate the women into the “great socialist family” of the Chinese motherland.¹² These types of reports also stress that the program improves the “thinking and consciousness” of the women, improves their manners, and teaches them to be civilized.¹³

Southern East Turkestan's Kashgar Prefecture, an administrative district with a population of around 3.5 million people, more than 89 percent of whom are Uyghur, has been specifically targeted with the transfer policy. Exact numbers are difficult to ascertain, but reports in the state media and front independent investigations reveal the large scale of the program.

Payzawat (Jiashi) County, one of Kashgar Prefecture's 12 administrative sub-regions, is a rural area with a population of 320,000 people, the vast majority of whom are Uyghur. The PRC transfer policy first publicly appeared in this county in April of 2006 with the transfer of 212 Uyghur women to a factory in Haiyan, Zhejiang.¹⁴ In September of 2006, under the same program, another 121 Uyghur women from Payzawat County, all aged from 18 to 20 years old, were transferred to Hangu District of Tianjin.¹⁵ In the first three months of 2007, the number of young Uyghur women transferred out of Payzawat County had already reached 3,000.¹⁶

Transfers of this kind can be documented for nearly every county in Kashgar Prefecture. In March of 2007, 186 Uyghur women were taken from Yengishahar (Yingjisha) County by a standing member of the county's Communist Party Committee to a factory in Pinghu, Zhejiang.¹⁷ Kargilik (Yecheng) County transferred 400 women

Northern Economic Times, *Hanji gives preferential treatment in work to Xinjiang girls*, September 22, 2006. [lit
Jt&m*!\$. 2006-09-22]. available at <http://news.sohu.com/20060922/n245477720.shtml>.

¹¹ Kashgar Prefecture Economic News Center. *Xinjiang Kashgar Speeches at the Tianjin Labor Leading Cadres Symposium (Excerpts)*, April 17, 2007. SrfflW a .Wife
E££??F'f5.§.4-1l\ 4-17-2007], available at <http://www.kashi.gov.cn/Article/200704/2026.htm>

¹² See Xinjiang Economic Report, *Rural Xinjiang Uyghur Girls in Tianjin*, May 15, 2007.
2007-5-15], available at <http://www.kashi.gov.cn/Article/200705/2619.htm> and D.T., “Uyghur Culture Paced with
Endless Campaigns,” *China Rights Forum*, No. 4, December 2007, pp. 100-101.

¹³ Kashgar Prefecture Economic News Center. *Xinjiang Kashgar Speeches at the Tianjin Labor Leading Cadres Symposium (Excerpts)*, April 17, 2007. (JgfiMR, a .Wife
4-17-2007], available at <http://www.kashi.gov.cn/Article/200704/2026.htm>

¹⁴ Xinhua Net, *Xinjiang's First Group of Female Uyghur Workers Return*, April 27, 2007. #ril51ftti&#f
2007-04-27],
http://news.xinhuanet.com/local/2007-04/27/content_6035082.htm

¹⁵ Northern Economic Times, *Hanji gives preferential treatment in work to Xinjiang girls*, September 22, 2006. [4b
IliKH, 2006-09-22], available at
<http://news.sohu.com/20060922/n245477720.shtml>.

¹⁶ Radio Free Asia, *Last Year Labor Force Transfer from Kashgar Reached 240,000*, Mar. 19, 2007.

¹⁷ Jiaxing Online, *186 Xinjiang Girls Become Clothing Workers*, April 19, 2007. [MMIEZic, 186
4f!\$riM UK4\$X, 2007-4-19], available at <http://gxxw.zjol.com.cn/jiaxini'daily/2007/0419/39658.htm>

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to Tianjin in March and April of 2007.¹⁸ ¹⁹ Kona Shhchr (Shufu) County has sent six groups totaling more than 770 people to six different businesses in Tianjin.⁰ At the end of March 2007, Yarkand (Shachc) County sent 300 people to Qingdao, Shandong.²⁰ liarly in 2007, 500 young women from Yarkand County were transferred to work in Qingdao and Zhejiang, as part of an official plan calling for the transfer of 6,000 IJyghur women during the course of the year.²¹

II. Deception, Pressure, and Threats

*Most of (the young women) were forced to come, hut some of their parents were convinced that their daughters would get 2000 yuan (280 USD) a month, and the girls' rooms would be like a hotel, etc. etc... after they came, they learned that everything is totally different*²²

Local officials are under great pressure from higher levels of the PRC government to enforce the transfer policy. Awut Teyip, the head of Number Nine Village in Yarkand county, indicated that the policy originated in Beijing, saying of his efforts to recruit young women from his village, "Our job is to follow central directives without asking any questions."²³ Many officials were told they would be removed from their posts if they refused to recruit women for the program.²⁴ As a result, PRC leaders have used deception, pressure, and threats in the process of recruiting the young women for transfer.

Local leaders tout the program as a means of "providing employment opportunities and generating income" for rural Uyghur families.²⁵ However, reports from these women and interviews with their family members reveal that the financial benefits from the transfers are far less than what is promised.

When they brought us here they said we would receive a fixed payment of 500 yuan (70 USD) per month. But after we came they said we would be paid according to

¹⁸ Kashgar Prefecture Economic News Center. *Xinjiang Kashgar Speeches at the Tianjin Labor Leading Cadres Symposium (Excerpts)*, April 17, 2007. S (◀), E&SFfa&h'fr, 4-17-2007], available at <http://www.kashi.gov.cn/Article/200704/2026.htm>

¹⁹ *Ibid*

²⁰ Urumqi Evening News, *300 rural young women from Xinjiang's Shache County leave to work in Shandong*, April 5, 2007. 300 2007-04-05], available at http://www.chinaxinjiang.cn/news/xixw/shii/t20070405_224973.htm

²¹ Radio Free Asia, *500 Uyghur Girls Transferred to Chinese Provinces*, Mar. 30, 2007.

²² Interview with transferred Uyghur woman number 3, Tianjin, 2007. The interviews used in this report were collected in Tianjin between May and July of 2007 under a joint project organized by the East Turkestan Information Center (ETIC) and the International Uyghur Human Rights and Democracy Foundation (IUHRDF).

Radio Free Asia, *Revealed Secrets: Real Stories of Uyghur Girls Forced to go to Chinese Provinces-Part 1 and It*, June 21 and 22, 2007.

²⁴ *Ibid*

²⁵ Kashgar Prefecture Economic News Center, *Xinjiang Kashgar Speeches at the Tianjin Labor Leading Cadres Symposium (Excerpts)*, April 17, 2007. [MU, (Uft) . ifcftif 4-17-2007], available at <http://www.kashi.gov.cn/Article/200704/2026.htm>

our work. He hod to finish the work they gave us to receive that payment. Hut it was im/xissiNe to finish it on time,^A*

Further problems w ith earnings include salaries that are w ithheld for months as a 'deposit*': garnished wages for medical problems developed on the job; and money deducted for expenses that were to be paid for by others, as promised to the women during recruitment.²

*The company said they paid the government officials for the trip. hut they cut the money front the girls salary. I don 7 know who took that money. The first month, they cut 50 yuan, the second month 10 yuan and (hey will cut this month, too. They will cut until they get a full refund tor their payment/**

Another method used to recruit young women into the program is to pressure people close to the women to convince them to participate in the program. One woman who entered the program explained.

I came here because mv teacher begged me, because the government sent my teacher to convince me.^{2}*

Interviews with several young women transferred under the policy indicated that local officials have often resorted to force in order to recruit women into the program. In an interview with Radio Free Asia. Tursun Barat, the head of Number Eight village in Yarkand County admitted, "We did force the girls to go."^{26 27 28 * 30*} One such woman was transferred to Tianjin:

/ did not want to come. My parents also did not agree, but government officials forced my parents.³¹

In another example, the father of Aynisa Tohti, who was transferred by village officials along with 212 other young women in March of 2007, stated in an interview that he was forced to allow his daughter to leave, a decision for which he feels deep regret.³²

Rural families are threatened with various types of punishments by local officials for resisting the program. For example, leaders of Number Nine Village in Yarkand County threatened farmers with the confiscation of their farming lands and the destruction of their houses if they refused to allow their daughters to participate. In the same village, young women were threatened with the confiscation of their resident

²⁶ Interview with transferred Uyghur woman number 2. Tianjin, 2007.

²⁷ Interviews with transferred Uyghur women, Tianjin. 2007.

²⁸ Interview with supervisor and translator for transferred Uyghur women, Tianjin, 2007

²⁹ Interview with Uyghur woman number 5, Tianjin, 2007.

Radio Free Asia, *Revealed Secrets: Real Stories of Uyghur Girls Forced to go to Chinese Provinces-Part I and II*, June 21 and 22, 2007.

³¹ Interview with Uyghur woman number 1, Tianjin, 2007.

³² Radio Free Asia, *Revealed Secrets: Real Stories of Uyghur Girls Forced to go to Chinese Provinces-Part I and II*, June 21 and 22, 2007.

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registration cards and the denial of marriage certificates if they chose not to enter the program.¹¹

Opposition to the program is not tolerated, in April 2007, at a government conference that brought officials involved in the program together, Shi Dagang, Communist Party Secretary of Kashgar Prefecture, stated, "Transferring the rural labor force is an all-inclusive and major directional policy, closely tied to the future development of our region... Whomever obstructs the Uyghur public from working in the exterior will become the criminal of Kashgar and the criminal of the Uyghur people."¹¹ In July 2007, Uyghur parents peacefully protested against the forced transfer policy in Kucha County of Aksu Prefecture. The protest was forcibly dispersed and local authorities are still searching for its organizers.

III. Workplace Reality

*We call this place a prison. I think that there is no difference between here and a prison.*¹⁶

When the Uyghur women arrive at the factories they discover work hours in violation of their contracts, harsh conditions, and severe limitations on their freedom.

We worked over ten hours every day, and most days we had to work extra. Usually we got off work at 5:00, and then at 6:00 we went back to work again for another shift and worked until 2 or 3 in the morning^{34 35 36 37}

On some occasions the women are made to work 24 hours straight, with no overtime given.³⁸

Food and housing, both promised in the recruitment process, are substandard. A woman describes the situation in one factory:

*In the morning they boiled a little bit of rice with water to give us, and in the evening, one day they would give us just fried cabbage, another day just fried potatoes. It was very dirty, with insects showing up in the food, making it impossible to eat.*³⁹

Housing conditions are not much better:

³⁴ Kashgar Prefecture Economic News Center, *Xinjiang Kashgar Speeches at the Tianjin Labor Leading Cadres Symposium (Excerpts)*, April 7, 2007.

E&SF§, &4¹Cf, 4-17-2007], available at <http://www.kashi.gov.cn/Article/200704/2026.htm>

³⁵ Radio Free Asia interview with official in Kucha County, Aksu Province, July 19, 2007.

³⁶ Interview with Uyghur woman number 6, Tianjin, 2007.

³⁷ Interview with Uyghur woman number 2, Tianjin, 2007.

³⁸ Radio Free Asia, *A Uyghur 'Worker' Girl's Story who was Forced to Flee from China*, Jun. 28. 2007.

³⁹ Interview with Uyghur woman number 2, Tianjin, 2007.

decades, PRC-style development has completely altered the layout of Uyghur *urban* centers which evolved over centuries.

Uyghurs find themselves at an economic disadvantage with respect to East Turkestan's newly arrived Han population. A study of the 2000 census found that "there is a very strong correlation between areas of Han majority and high per capita income" and that this finding "is not just a correlative relationship, but a causal one."⁴⁷ The 1995 industrial census showed that just 2 of 191 managers of large and medium sized businesses in East Turkestan were minorities, and that only around 11 percent of these businesses were located in areas with a majority of ethnic minorities.⁴⁸ Civil service hiring has been shown to be biased against Uyghurs, with the majority of opportunities reserved for Han Chinese.⁴⁹ In other employment areas, such as "professional and technical" jobs, minority employment figures have shown only modest increases, despite East Turkestan's high rate of economic growth.⁵⁰

V. Conclusion and Recommendations

The connection between the transfer of young Uyghur women out of southern East Turkestan and the transfer of Han Chinese into the region does not appear to be coincidental. As already noted, the head of the Communist Party in Kashgar Prefecture views the transfer of young Uyghur women to eastern China as a "major directional policy, closely tied to the future development of our region." Kashgar Prefecture is currently the focus of substantial "re-development," and has recently been linked to the regional capital, Urumchi, by a train connection that has brought thousands of Han Chinese migrants to the area.

As the percentage of Uyghurs in East Turkestan's population decreases annually, it becomes less characteristically Uyghur. While much of this dynamic is facilitated by the in-migration of Han Chinese, the transfer of large numbers of young Uyghur women of child-bearing age out of the region exacerbates the process considerably.

At present, local and central government authorities in the PRC continue to aggressively implement this transfer policy, despite Uyghur resistance to, and resentment of, the program. Continuation of the policy will only further marginalize the Uyghur people and deepen Uyghurs' mistrust of PRC officials, leading to even greater social tensions in East Turkestan.

The Uyghur Human Rights Project recommends that the government of the People's Republic of China:

⁴⁷ David Bachman, "Making Xinjiang Safe for the Han?: Contradictions and Ironies of Chinese Governance in China's Northwest," in *Governing China's Multiethnic Frontiers*, ed. Morris Rossabi (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2004).

⁴⁸ *ibid*

Congressional-Executive Commission on China, *Xinjiang Government Says Ethnic Han Chinese Will Get 500 of 700 New Civil Service Appointments*, April 7, 2005.

⁵⁰ Linda Benson, "Education and Social Mobility," in *Xinjiang: China's Muslim Borderland* ed. S. Fredrick Starr (M.E. Sharpe: Amrmonk, NY, 2004): 190-215.

CHRP Kopy'ti the 1'nwslcr of \ oung l ' > ghur Women to l'astern t 'hina

- ImnK\liaiel> stop the transfer of young Uyghitr women out of Mast Turkestan and allow the return of these women to their homes.
- Compensate the women according to their contracts for work performed and for tra\ el expenses.
- Implement polieies that create local employment opportunities for Uyghur women.
- Punish officials who forced women to be transferred against their will

Uyghur Language Under Attack: The Myth of “Bilingual” Education in the People’s Republic of China

July 24, 2007

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I. Overview of the Report

Uyghur language is under attack in East Turkistan ¹ (also known as the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region or XUAR). In the past decade, and with increasing intensity since 2002, the People’s Republic of China (PRC) has pursued assimilationist policies aimed at removing Uyghur as a language of instruction in East Turkistan. Employing the term “bilingual” education, the PRC is, in reality, implementing a

monolingual Chinese language education system that undermines the linguistic basis of Uyghur culture.² The new “bilingual” education imperative is designed to transition minority students from education in their mother tongue to education in Chinese. The policy marks a dramatic shift away from more egalitarian past policies that provided choice for Uyghur parents in their children’s languages of instruction. In the PRC “bilingual” education amounts to compulsory Chinese language education.

“Bilingual” education in East Turkistan is responsible for:

- Marginalizing Uyghur in the educational sphere with the goal of eliminating it as a language of instruction in East Turkistan.
- Forcing Uyghur students at levels ranging from preschool to university to study in a second language.
- Removing Uyghur children from their cultural environment and placing them into Chinese language “Xinjiang classes” located in inland China.
- Using Chinese language requirements and school mergers to force veteran Uyghur teachers out of the classroom.

¹ Use of the term ‘East Turkistan’ does not define a ‘pro-independence’ position. Instead, it is used by Uyghurs wishing to assert their cultural distinctiveness from China proper. ‘Xinjiang’, meaning ‘new boundary’ or ‘new realm’, only came into official use in 1884, and reflects the perspective of those in the Qing dynasty (1644-1911) who gave it this name. This use of terminology, whether ‘Xinjiang’ or ‘East Turkistan’ is often compared by Uyghurs to use of the term ‘Tibet’ by Tibetans. That is, Tibetans use the name they choose, and not a translation of the Chinese ‘Xizang’ meaning ‘western treasure-store’. Uyghurs also choose to use a name other than the one designated by the Chinese authorities.

² Uyghur is a Turkic language spoken by at least 11 million people, mostly located in East Turkistan, with significant populations also located in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Mongolia, Turkey, Australia, Germany and the United States. It belongs to the southeastern branch of the Turkic language family, a family which has about 200 million speakers in the world. Uyghur, seen as the heir to the Chagatai language that once served as a lingua franca of large parts of Central Asia, today serves as a lingua franca among many minority groups in East Turkistan. See Aricne Dwyer, *The Xinjiang Conflict: Uyghur Identity, Language Policy, and Political Discourse*, Washington: The East-West Center, 2005.

- Taking decisions on language of instruction for Uyghur children out of the hands of parents.
- Increasing tensions between Uyghurs and Han in East Turkistan.

This report begins by reviewing the PRC's language policy commitments under domestic and international law and contrasting these agreements with the reality of East Turkistan's language policy, including the recent push to marginalize Uyghur language education through "bilingual" education. It explores the effects of the Chinese language push on Uyghur students, teachers, and parents, as well as on ethnic relations, placing language policy into the context of other policies of assimilation directed at the Uyghurs. In conclusion, the report recommends that the PRC implement true bilingualism in East Turkistan's schools.

II. China's Language Policy: Theory and Reality

PRC Domestic Law and International Agreements Regarding Language Policy

Before looking closely at the current government policy aimed at removing Uyghur from East Turkistan's schools, it is important to review PRC agreements under domestic and international law with regards to regional autonomy, language policy and education policy. By forcing Uyghur children to study in a language other than their mother tongue, China's government is in clear violation of its own laws and agreements.

When the XUAR was established as an autonomous region of the PRC in 1955, it was given special powers of self-government under the concept of "regional

autonomy". This concept appears in Article 4 of the PRC Constitution and specifically mentions the importance of language:

Regional autonomy is practiced in areas where people of minority ethnic groups live in compact communities...

*... all ethnic groups have the freedom to use and develop their own spoken and written languages and to preserve or reform their own folkways and customs**

The legal framework of "regional autonomy" is spelled out in the Regional Ethnic Autonomy Law. This law establishes the principle that language policy in East Turkistan's schools should be formulated at the local level:

*Autonomous agencies in ethnic autonomous areas decide on educational plans in these areas, on the establishment of various kinds of schools at different levels, and on their educational system, forms, curricula, the language used in instruction and enrollment procedures.^{3 4 **}*

It goes on to guarantee language rights for minority students in the classroom:

³ The PRC Constitution (adopted by the National People's Congress on December 4, 1982 with further revisions in 1988, 1993, 1999, and 2004.) Article 4.

⁴ People's Republic of China Regional Ethnic Autonomy Law, issued by the Second Session of the Sixth National People's Congress on May 31, 1984 (effective October 1, 1984) and amended on February 28, 2001: Article 36. Translation prepared by the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, available at <http://www.cecc.gov/pages/virtualAcad/index.php?showsingle=9507>

*Schools (classes) and other educational organizations recruiting mostly ethnic minority students should, whenever possible, use textbooks in their own languages and use these languages as the media of instruction.*⁵

The rights of ethnic minorities regarding language of instruction are also spelled out in the PRC's Compulsory Education Law, which reiterates the right of minorities to be educated in their mother tongue:

*Schools in which the majority of students are of ethnic minorities may use the spoken and written languages of those ethnic minorities in instruction.*⁶

In the international realm, the PRC is a signatory to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, both of which guarantee minorities protection of their language rights. The Convention on the Rights of the Child, which China signed in 1992, specifically extends language protections to children:

In those States in which ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities or persons of indigenous origin exist, a child belonging to such a minority or who is indigenous shall not be denied the right, in community with other

⁵ *Ibid*, Article 37.

⁶ Compulsory Education Law of the People's Republic of China (Adopted at the Fourth Session of the Sixth National People's Congress, promulgated by Order No.38 of the President of the People's Republic of China on April 12, 1986, and effective as of July 1, 1986) Article 6. Translation prepared by UNESCO, available at http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=12456&URL_DO=DO_PRINTPAGE&URL_SECTION=201.html

members of his or her group, to enjoy his or her own culture, to profess and practice his or her own religion, or to use his or her own language.

PRC Language Policy in Practice in East Turkistan

This new wave is like a new Cultural Revolution for the Uyghurs. In the first Cultural Revolution the Chinese government destroyed the intellectuals. Now they are in the process of destroying the language.^{7,8}

Despite these laws and agreements, the Uyghur language is being marginalized in East Turkistan. Chinese language names are overtaking long established Uyghur place names.⁹ Officials in East Turkistan whose first language is Chinese almost never learn Uyghur, even to a rudimentary level, though they are directed to do so under the Regional Ethnic Autonomy Law.¹⁰ Almost all Uyghur language

⁷ Convention on the Rights of the Child, Adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession by General Assembly resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, entry into force 2 September 1990, in accordance with article 49, Article 30. available at

⁸ Uyghur Human Rights Project interview with Uyghur Professional, May 16, 2007.

⁹ Stanley Toops, "Tourism in Turpan: The Power of Place in Inner Asia/Outer China," *Central Asian Survey*; Vol. 18, No. 3

(September 1999): 303-18. Toops notes that archaeological sights in Turfan are all known by their Chinese names and nearly always presented by Han tour guides who know very little about Uyghur history and always emphasize the high water marks of Chinese

¹⁰ Herbert S. Yee, Ethnic Relations in Xinjiang: a survey of Uygur-Han relations in Urumqi, *Journal of Contemporary China*, 12(36), August 2003, 431- 452.

new spapers. telex tsion reports and textbooks are direct translations of Chinese language materials. Uyghur farmers struggle with Chinese language instructions on fertilizer and pesticide labels, and emergency response centers lack operators with Uyghur language skills.¹¹

this marginalization reflects a disparaging view of Uyghur language and culture that exists at the highest levels of the Chinese government and has informed the move towards a monolingual educational system in hast Turkistan. Although linguists agree that all languages have the ability to be modern, that is to absorb new words and express new ideas based on societal and technological changes, the leading political figure in the region since 1995. XUAR Party Secretary Wang Lequan, justified "bilingual" education policies in this way:

The languages of the minority nationalities have very small capacities and do not contain many of the expressions in modern science and technology, which makes education in these concepts impossible. This is out of step with the 21st Century.^{11 12 13}

This ingrained belief that Chinese language is more "advanced" and more "modem" than minority languages also pervades government thinking on "bilingual" education. Officials often speak of the need to "raise the 'quality' of

minority students" using "bilingual" education, so that minorities can begin to receive the benefits of a "modern education".¹⁴ This Chinese-centered understanding of language leads to many of the problems with the PRC's "bilingual" education push. In the words of one Uyghur interviewee:

With the Chinese view of language, it is very hard to have a situation of equality. If there is no equality, then there is nodignity. If there was equality, then there would be no reason to force people to participate in "bilingual education"^{15*}

111. The Myth of "Bilingual" Education: Compulsory Chinese Language Education Replacing Uyghur Language Education in East Turkistan

Since the mid-1980's China's government has moved in stages towards making Chinese the only language of instruction in East Turkistan's schools. "Bilingual" education in the PRC is the latest andmost extreme example, amounting to compulsory Chinese language education. Over the past five years, government efforts at eliminating Uyghur language schools have accelerated dramatically as compulsory Chinese language education has been expanded at every educational level and every township in East Turkistan.

¹¹ Urumqi Will Strengthen Bilingual Education for 120 Switchboard Operators, *Urumqi Evening News*, April 11, 2007 120 if#W," 2007-4-11].

¹² See Dwyer, *op. cit.*

¹³ *AFP*, March 28, 2002.[FBIS-CHI-2002-0328, March 29, 2002 cited in Nicola Becquelin, *Criminalizing Ethnicity: Political Repression in Xinjiang*, China Rights Forum, No. 1, 2004 p. 7.

¹⁴ See, for example, Xinjiang Analyzes the Difficult Issue of "Bilingual" Education, *Guangming Daily*, December 19, 2005.

2005-12-19].

¹⁵ Uyghur Human Rights Project interview with Uyghur Professional, May 16,2007.

Students in experimental “bilingual” middle school classes numbered 2,629 in 1999. In 2004, there were 35,948 students and by 2005 the number had increased to 145,000.¹⁶ At first, these schools used both Uyghur and Chinese for instruction. More recently Uyghur has been severely restricted at what are ostensibly “bilingual” schools. The ultimate goal of “bilingual” education appears to be to replace Uyghur language instruction with Chinese language instruction in all areas of East Turkistan.

After the XUAR was established in 1955, Beijing pursued a relatively pluralistic minority policy that included support for Uyghur language schools and a flexible attitude about Chinese language education.¹⁷ Subsequently, the harsh cultural restrictions and intense political campaigns throughout China in the late 1950's and 1960's also destroyed the educational system in East Turkistan. After 1978, as China emerged from a period of cultural isolation and turmoil, ethnic groups experienced a period of relative tolerance that resulted in a rediscovery of many cultural practices.¹⁸ In this environment, the education system also recovered and education was available in both Uyghur and Chinese, giving parents the choice of

educating *their children in either language*.¹⁹

The foundations for *compulsory* Chinese education were laid in 1984, when the government set the goal of *achieving full* “minority-Han communicability” in a decade by “strengthening work on *Chinese language* education”.²⁰ In support of this goal, Uyghur language schools began to teach Chinese in *grade three* instead of the first year of middle school, intensive teacher training was *implemented*, and quotas were set for Chinese-language majors at East Turkistan's universities.²¹

With this program moving more slowly than the government wished, “bilingual” education emerged with the formation of a committee to investigate the concept in 1987.²² The policy began to gain serious momentum after a 1992 “Work Conference on Ethnic Language and Writing” named “bilingualism” as the only way to raise the

¹⁶ Outstanding Results of Xinjiang's Promotion of “Bilingual Education”, *Xinjiang Tianshan Net*, December 7, 2005.

[2005-12-7].

¹⁷ Zhou Minglang, “The Politics of Bilingual Education in the People's Republic of China Since 1949”, *Bilingual Research Journal*, 25:1 & 2 Winter & Spring 2001.

¹⁸ See Stevan Harrell, “The Anthropology of Reform and the Reform of Anthropology: Anthropological Narratives of Recovery and Progress in China,” *Annual Review of Anthropology*, No. 30 (October 2001): 139-61.

¹⁹ Uyghur parents adopted different strategies as they sought to preserve the linguistic base of Uyghur culture, while also giving their children the opportunities afforded by Chinese language proficiency. Some parents sent sons to *Chinese* schools and daughters to Uyghur schools. Another strategy was to send the child to a Chinese *school* for the first few years to solidify a knowledge of Chinese and then switch him or her to a Uyghur language school in late elementary school. William C. Clark, “Convergence or Divergence: Uyghur Family Change in Urumqi” (Ph.D. diss., University of Washington, Seattle, 1999) and interviews with Uyghur parents.

²⁰ Eric T. Schluessel. 2007. “'Bilingual' education and discontent in Xinjiang”, *Central Asian Survey* (June 2007) 26(2), 1-27 and Wang A'shu, Meng Fanli, “A Summary of the Development of Bilingual Education Policy for Ethnic Minorities in Xinjiang”, *Journal of Research on Education for Ethnic Minorities*, No. 2, Vol. 17, General No. 73, 2006.[*wm*, 2:17:73,2006].

²¹ Wang and Meng, *op. cit.*

²² Schluessel, *op. cit.*

educational level of minority people. "Bilingual" education was mandated in large technical schools and universities and experimental "bilingual" language classes for minority students were established in Urumchi, Chuguchak (Tacheng), and Turtan. ⁴ At this time, "bilingual" education used both Uyghur and Chinese, though preference for Chinese can be seen in the fact that the "modern" subjects of math and the sciences were taught in this language with all other subjects taught in Uyghur.

The establishment of "Xinjiang classes" in 12 Chinese cities in 1907, provided a new model for compulsory Chinese language education and the marginalization of Uyghur language. "Xinjiang classes" remove top minority students in East Turkistan from their cultural environment and enroll them in classes with Chinese language instruction in high schools in large inland Chinese cities.^{23 24 25 *} Participation in "Xinjiang classes" is not entirely voluntary as one Uyghur parent explained:

Officials will put on hidden pressure. They say, "Your child has been chosen to be sent to a Xinjiang class. If he does not go there maybe you will have

some trouble. maybe your child will have a bad future".^{4f>}

XUAR Party Secretary, Wang Lequan, confirmed that "political thought training", not academic preparation, was the chief goal of these "Xinjiang classes". ²⁷ Officials view training in Chinese as a way to "deepen national feelings" and "strengthen correct political attitudes" as part of a "long term important strategic policy decision... to protect the unity of the motherland and safeguard the nation's long and peaceful order".²⁸

In some of these schools speaking Uyghur is prohibited, even in student dormitories, where pupils are watched by an on site monitor."⁹ Children from one "Xinjiang class" in Qingdao were forbidden to communicate in Uyghur, even when visited by an officially approved ethnic Uyghur journalist. ³⁰ By 2006, "Xinjiang classes" had been expanded from 12 to 26 Chinese cities and had a total enrollment of over ten thousand students.³¹

²³ "Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region Language and Script Work Regulations, The Second Session Minority Language and Script Work Conference", see Wang and Meng, *op. cit.*

²⁴ Wang and Meng, *op. cit.*

²⁵ Su Jiaoji, Circular on the 'Summary of the Meeting on Provincial Inland Xinjiang High School Classes', *Jiangsu Department of Education*, June 6, 2006. [*?mm,*

2006-6-6].

²⁶ Uyghur Human Rights Project interview with Uyghur Teacher, May 23, 2007.

²⁷ The Chief Task of Inland Xinjiang High School Classes is Ideological Political Training, *Online International*, June 24, 2005 [SSli&'/n&WSftfll 2005-6-24].

²⁸ Su Jiaoji, Circular on the 'Summary of the Meeting on Provincial Inland Xinjiang High School Classes', *Jiangsu Department of Education*, June 6,

2006. [*WM,* *mm*)fm 2006-6-6].

²⁹ Uyghur Human Rights Project interview with Radio Free Asia reporter, May 18, 2007.

³⁰ *Ibid.*

³¹ Xinjiang Will Have 5000 Students Attend Inland High Schools This Year, *Xinjiang Daily Net*, February 14, 2007 5000 ifefi*SI#,»»Bm2007-2-14].

The "Xinjiang class" method of instruction, in which minority students are taught almost exclusively in Chinese, has become a model for classes in East Turkistan as opportunities for Uyghur language education are forced out of existence at all levels from university to preschool. Since 2002, with the exception of minority languages and literature, classes at Xinjiang University have been taught solely in Chinese, virtually removing Uyghur as a language of instruction at the region's most prestigious university.³² Local governments have committed to eliminating Uyghur language instruction, even in areas with large majority Uyghur populations. A document released by the Regional Bureau of Education in Khotan, where more than 90% of the population is Uyghur, announced that all classes under its jurisdiction would be taught in Chinese within five years.³³ In Artush, a city in which 80% of the population is Uyghur, all classes will be taught in Chinese by 2012.³⁴ In 2005, the "bilingual" education push was expanded into East Turkistan's preschools.³⁵

"Bilingual" education has been supported through heavy government investment. Authorities have committed 430 million RMB to establish 1,009 Chinese language preschools within the

next five years, with the goal of having 258,000 minority preschoolers *enrolled* in these types of schools by 2010.³⁶ Parents of Uyghur preschool students in Southern East Turkistan's rural prefectures who send their children to Chinese language schools receive a per diem subsidy. This subsidy is not available for the parents of children in Uyghur language schools. Maralbeshi (Bachu) county has allotted 150,000 RMB for every township to establish bilingual preschools.^{36 37} ³⁸ Bashkram, where 95 per cent of the population is Uyghur, recently spent 430,000 yuan to establish a school in which Chinese is the only mode of instruction and speaking Uyghur on school grounds is forbidden.³⁹

School mergers have also resulted in greatly reduced availability of Uyghur language education. This process began in 2004 with the announced merger of 50 Uyghur and Chinese language schools and the directive that in these schools "teaching should be conducted in Chinese language as much as possible".⁴⁰ As a result, Uyghur schools are being merged out of existence all over East Turkistan. For example, in the industrial city of Maytagh (Dushanzi), out of five Uyghur language elementary schools and one secondary

³⁴ PRC Official: Xinjiang University to Teach Major Subjects in Chinese, *Xinhua*, Friday June 7, 2002.

³³ Eric Schluessel, *op. cit.*

³¹ Artush Excited by Chinese Language Studying Fever, *Xinjiang Daily Net*, July 11, 2006. [P?

Mm 0#W, 2006-7-1 lj.

³⁵ Xinjiang Implementing Bilingual Education for Preschool Next Year, *Guangming Daily*, December 12, 2005

Bilft, 2005-12-9).

³⁶ Xinjiang's Bilingual Education Starts with Children, *People's Daily Overseas Edition*, October

10, 2006 ttTMLigatfi. AS B #

³⁷ China: Mandarin Introduced in Uygur Nursery Schools, *South China Morning Post*, February 2, 2006.

³⁸ Bachu Popularizes Rural Bilingual Education Preschools, *Xinjiang Daily*, April 13, 2007 (ESII?)

³⁹ Kazuto Tsukamoto, Bilingual Education Spreads Chinese to Ethnic Minorities, *The Asahi Shinbun*, March 2, 2006.

⁴⁰ China Imposes Chinese Language on Uyghur Schools, *Radio Free Asia*,

school in the WSO's only one Uyghur language elementary school remains. In Shihe/i. hast l urk islands second largest city, school mergers have resulted in the elimination of Uyghur language instruction entirely.^{4*}

In support of the language education push, the government has instituted ■'an intense recruitment campaign and provided monetary incentives to attract teachers whose first language is Chinese, and who are almost always Han Chinese, to teach in East Turkistan's schools.⁴⁷ This is despite the fact that many qualified Uyghur teachers are being laid off due to Chinese language requirements. Though the teacher recruitment drive has been carried out in the name of "bilingual" education, none of the new teachers are required to speak Uyghur.

IV. Effects of "Bilingual" Education in East Turkistan on Uyghur Children

"Bilingual" education in East Turkistan has had devastating effects on Uyghur children. By forcing Uyghur children to study in Chinese, the PRC government is harming their educational development. The method of language immersion as currently practiced in East Turkistan has been shown to result in a poor education for minority students.⁴¹

⁴²⁴³⁴⁴ Well-developed

⁴¹ Uyghur Human Rights Project interview with Uyghur Teacher, May 23, 2007.

⁴² *Ibid.*

⁴³ Xinjiang Analyzes the Difficult Issue of "Bilingual" Education, *Guangming Daily*, December 19, 2005

2005-12-19].

⁴⁴ See Kang Jian, 'If Xinjiang will develop, Chinese-language education must be distributed', *Language and Translation*, No 2, February 2006, pp 63-6 and Arienne Dwyer, 'The texture of tongues:

skills in the mother tongue are linked with high levels of academic achievement and a consensus has formed rejecting the idea that children will "pick up" a foreign language through total immersion. In fact, the added pressure of learning in a second language has repeatedly been shown to have negative effects on a child's development and motivation, which in turn leads to frustration and higher drop out rates.⁴⁵

An ethnically Uyghur former teacher who taught in Chinese in a "bilingual" school for several years noticed the negative effects on his students:

*In class the students must speak in Chinese, then when they go home, they must speak in Uyghur. This gives them a lot of stress. Also, their parents can not help them with their homework. This gives the children more and more stress. In the end, this disturbs their mental development and their educational development. After a while the stress of speaking Uyghur at home and then speaking Chinese at school means that the student loses interest in studying.⁴⁶**

Languages and power in China' in William Saffan, ed., *Nationalism and Ethno-Regional Identities in China*, London: Frank Cass, 1998.

⁴⁵ For research on bilingual education and language learning see James Crawford, *Bilingual Education: History, Politics, Theory, and Practice*, Bilingual Educational Services, 4th ed., 1999; Stephen D. Krashen *Under Attack: The Case Against Bilingual Education*. Culver City, Calif.: Language Education Associates, 1996.; Kenji Hakuta, and Snow, Catherine. 1986. "The Role of Research in Policy Decisions about Bilingual Education." *NABE News* 9, no. 3 (Spring): 1, 18-21.

⁴⁶ Uyghur Human Rights Project interview with Uyghur Teacher, May 23, 2007.

Students also suffer the loss of both qualified teachers and quality instruction. Under the Chinese language push, Uyghur language teachers must pass a standardized Chinese proficiency test in order to continue teaching. Those teachers who are unable to do so, are given a short period of time to improve their Chinese to passing levels.⁴⁷ Some teachers who cannot ultimately pass the test are forced out of the classroom through retirement while others are shifted into non-teaching roles. One Uyghur teacher talked about the situation at his school:

*We had seven Uyghur teachers, but after the change there are only two. All the others are gone. Some are forced to leave. Others are humiliated. One teacher was shifted to be a cleaner at the student dormitory. Another was moved to the application department to do menial tasks like getting water and filing. I do not want to say that these are not important jobs, but after a decade as a teacher, when you become a cleaner, this is a humiliation. These were good teachers!*⁴⁸

Uyghur teachers who do pass a proficiency test are often forced into a situation in which both students and teachers are using a second language:

These teachers come into a class and must speak Chinese. A whole class full of Uyghur children and a Uyghur teacher. But because the teacher does

*not speak Chinese well, the students laugh and ask to be transferred out of the class.*⁴¹

The result is the loss of dedicated teachers. One Uyghur teacher who passed the Chinese proficiency test eventually gave up teaching out of frustration with PRC policy:

I loved my students. They were young with fresh ideas. Even when I was upset, I could go and teach and then one hour later I would feel refreshed. I had lots of students who came from the countryside. Using Uyghur I was able to teach these kids... But, because of the situation, I had to give it up and go do a job that I do not like.^{49 50}

V. "Bilingual" Education in Context

"Bilingual" education in East Turkistan has evolved in an increasingly repressive political environment, as one aspect of a government driven project to assimilate Uyghurs by attacking and diluting their culture. It was conceived around the time of the founding of the post-Soviet Central Asian states in 1991, a turning point in the PRC's view of East Turkistan, when the government began to become obsessed with "security" and "stability" in the region.⁵¹ Since 1996, around the time "bilingual" education policies were first being tested on a wide scale, there have been at least nine "anti-crime" campaigns

⁴⁷ Artush Excited by Chinese Language Studying Fever, Xinjiang Daily Net, July 11, 2006

,«raa«w,2006-7-i i].

⁴⁸ Uyghur Human Rights Project interview with Uyghur Teacher, May 23, 2007.

⁴⁹ Uyghur Human Rights Project interview with Uyghur Reporter, May 18, 2007.

⁵⁰ Uyghur Human Rights Project interview with Uyghur Teacher, May 23, 2007.

⁵¹ Nicolas Becquelin, "Xinjiang in the Nineties", *The China Journal* 44: 2000, 65-90.

in the M AR that have targeted the Uyghur population/*' Since 2001, when "bilingual" education was dramatically expanded, China has used the "war on terror" to suppress any measure of displeasure with the government.^{>3} One interviewee observed:

People who believe in a bilingualism that does not conform to the (Chinese view of things are in danger of being thrown into prison and labeled separatist, or terrorist.^w

In 2004, the year in which a particularly harsh "strike hard, extreme pressure" campaign aimed at repressing "the three evils" of "separatism, extremism, and terrorism" resulted in the arrest of hundreds of Uyghurs, the rate at which "bilingual" education was eliminating Uyghur from East Turkistan's schools increased dramatically.³

Uyghur religion, a moderate form of Sunni Islam that is crucial to their ethnic identity, has been fiercely suppressed.^{52 53 54 55 56} The legal system is used as a tool of repression, with arbitrary detentions and torture commonly used against any Uyghur who voices discontent with the government.⁵⁷ Charges of "political

crimes" and the death penalty have been shown to be disproportionately applied to Uyghurs.⁵⁸ * Uyghur women suffer from sterilizations and forced abortions, corvee labor is still used in rural areas, and the transfer of Uyghurs, especially young women, from East Turkistan to inland China is common/**

While "bilingual" education has been pushing Uyghur language out of East Turkistan's schools and human rights abuses against Uyghurs have increased, Uyghurs have also experienced severe demographic and economic pressures. Han Chinese in-migration, aided by government policies, has been responsible for dramatic changes that threaten Uyghur culture. In 1955, Uyghurs made up 74.7 percent of the total population of East Turkistan and Han Chinese accounted for 6.1 percent.⁶⁰ Today Uyghurs make up 45 percent and Han 41 percent of the population, a number that excludes PLA soldiers, Chinese security forces, and much of the migrant population.⁶¹

As the Han population has increased, they have also received a greater share of the economic benefits from East Turkistan's growth, including economic and employment opportunities not available to Uyghurs.⁶² An ethnic Uyghur

⁵⁸ *Ibid*

⁵⁹ Uyghur Human Rights Project, *Uyghurs and Human Rights: The 50th Anniversary of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region*, September 29, 2005.

⁶⁰ Stanely Toops, *The Demography of Xinjiang, in Xinjiang: China's Muslim Borderland* ed. S. Fredrick Starr (M.E. Sharpe: Amrmonk, NY, 2004).

⁶¹ *Ibid*, and Department of Population, Social, Science and Technology Statistics of the National Bureau of Statistics of China
*t£*4&*£i+w].

⁶² See Bruce Gilley, *Uighurs Need Not Apply. Far Eastern Economic Review*, August 23, 2001.

⁵² Human Rights Watch and Human Rights in China, *Devastating Blows: Religious Repression of Uyghurs in Xinjiang*, Human Rights Watch, Vol. 17, No. 2, April 2005.

⁵³ *Ibid*.

⁵⁴ Uyghur Human Rights Project interview with Uyghur Scholar, May 10, 2007.

⁵⁵ Human Rights Watch and Human Rights in China, *op. cit*.

⁵⁶ *Ibid*

⁵⁷ Amnesty International, *Gross Violations of Human Rights in the Uyghur Autonomous Region*, London: Amnesty International, 1999.

teacher of Chinese speaking Uyghur students remembers:

At job fairs in schools / would go with my students to look for jobs but the signs will say 'we don't want minority people'. I felt ashamed, humiliated. My students, they study hard, but they still have no opportunities, no jobs. So I felt like I was teaching a lie.⁶

A study of the 2000 census lends support to the Uyghur claim of economic discrimination, finding that "there is a very strong correlation between areas of Han majority and high per capita income" and that this finding "is not just a correlative relationship, but a causal one."^{63 64} The 1995 industrial census showed that just 2 of 191 managers of large and medium sized businesses in Xinjiang were minorities and that only around 11 per cent of these businesses were located in areas with a majority of ethnic minorities.⁶⁵ Civil service hiring has been shown to be biased against Uyghurs, with the majority of opportunities reserved for Han Chinese.⁶⁶ In other employment areas, such as "professional and technical" jobs, minority employment figures have shown only modest increases, despite East Turkistan's high rate of economic growth.⁶⁷ For these

reasons many of the most vocal opponents of "bilingual" education are Uyghurs who are fluent in Chinese.

VI. Recommendations: Protect and Support Uyghur Language in East Turkistan

I am not against Uyghurs learning Chinese. Language is an instrument for life. But giving people a choice and pushing people to learn Chinese is different. Teach Uyghur and teach Chinese.⁶⁸

The PRC should immediately end the current policy of eliminating Uyghur language education from East Turkistan and, at a minimum, return to the policy of allowing for both Uyghur and Chinese language education systems. Bilingual education will work only if authorities support schools in which both Uyghur and Chinese are recognized as important regional languages and serious academic classes are offered in both languages.

Government support of Uyghur language would both improve ethnic relations and contribute to economic growth in East Turkistan. Many observers have noted that language issues play a large role in the ethnic tensions of the region.⁶⁹

⁶³ Uyghur Human Rights Project interview with Uyghur Teacher, May 23,2007.

⁶⁴ David Bachman, "Making Xinjiang Safe for the Han?: Contradictions and Ironies of Chinese Governance in China's Northwest," in *Governing China's Multiethnic Frontiers*, ed. Morris Rossabi (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2004).

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶⁶ Congressional-Executive Commission on China, *Xinjiang Government Says Ethnic Han Chinese Will Get 500 of 700 New Civil Service Appointments*, April 7,2005.

⁶⁷ Linda Benson, "Education and Social

in *Xinjiang: China's Muslim Borderland* ed. S. Fredrick Starr (M.E. Sharpe: Amrmonk, NY, 2004): 190-215.

⁶⁸ Uyghur Human Rights Project interview with Uyghur Scholar, May 10,2007.

⁶⁹ Joanne N. Smith, "Making Culture Matter": Symbolic, Spatial and Social Boundaries between Uyghurs and Han Chinese' *Asian Ethnicity*, Vol 3, No 2, September 2002; Gardner Bovington, "The Not-so-silent Majority: Uyghur Resistance to Han Rule in Xinjiang," *Modern China* 28.1 (January 2002): 39-78. See also Dwyer, *op.*

A commitment to Uyghur language on the part of the government would ultimately contribute to the goal of stability by easing an area of serious Uyghur discontent.

A commitment to Uyghur language would also allow China to take even greater advantage of its trade relations with Central Asia. Uyghur is very closely related to Uzbek, and mutually intelligible with the other Turkic languages of Central Asia. In 2005, trade between East Turkistan and Central Asia comprised 40 percent of China's overall trade with the region.⁷⁰ In 2006, this trade amounted to nearly 11 billion dollars and is expected to continue to grow substantially in the future.⁷¹

Many countries have instituted language policies that accommodate two or more languages within one geographic area. Multiple languages are protected under the law and in practice in South Africa, India and Switzerland, for example. In Quebec, the native French-speaking population enjoys special linguistic rights based on their history in the region.

While Uyghur language rights are protected in PRC law and under its international agreements, this is not reflected in reality. China should address the serious problems that exist in the implementation of its “bilingual” education policy.

The Uyghur Human Rights Project recommends that the PRC:

- Stop forcing Uyghur children to be educated in a second language.

⁷⁰ “Xinjiang steps up trade ties with central Asian countries.” *People's Daily Online*, October 18, 2005.

⁷¹ Dr Vladimir Paramonov & Dr Aleksey Strokov, “Economic Involvement of Russia and China in Central Asia”, *Conflict Studies Research Centre, Central Asian Series*, May 2007.

- Respect its own laws and international agreements by allowing for the use of and committing to the protection of Uyghur language.
- Engage local Uyghur leaders in the formulation of a humane and dignified language policy.
- Support the development of the Uyghur language and Uyghur language materials.
- Work to end economic discrimination based on ethnic identity.