

Subcommittee on International Human Rights of the
Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International
Development

My name is Ainiwa Dilinuer (aka Dilnur Anwar). I am an asylum seeker in Canada. My asylum application number is L010212274 and my UCI is 1118590344.

I am a Uyghur holding a Chinese passport.

I came to Canada from Turkey on January 22nd, 2019 and my current address is 9209 Airlie App 6 LaSalle Quebec, postal code: H8R 2A7.

As explained in detail below, I am in such a critical situation that I humbly ask the Canadian government to seriously consider what I am about to explain while determining or processing my case.

I live with my 10-month-old daughter, Nurjahan, here in Canada while my husband and my 2 kids live in Turkey.

I was born on October 23, 1982 in Kashgar of East Turkistan (Xinjiang of china). I started school in September 1988 and I had been excluded by my Chinese classmates and teachers in my school, so I moved to another school in September 1989. After I graduated high school, I was admitted to University of finance and Economic. Uyghur language was completely banned at University so I finished my studies with Chinese. Although I am fluent in Chinese, as I am Uyghur so I had a hard time finding a

job. From June 2006 to June 2007, I worked as a temporary employee for 300 RMB. I have been an official employee since 2007 but I have been banned from praying and cover my head. Therefore I quit my job in January, 2010 and started my own business with my Father in February, 2010. Police always came to our company and search and made a trouble for us, they oblige us submit information every employers for them. Another, since 2009, China has tightened its control over the Uyghurs. Each month, he was forced to submit information about us family members and Police were also required to obtain permission to move to another city and Our house was searched at any time.

I married in August 29, 2006. My daughter was born on November 2, 2009, second one was born August 27, 2011, and my son was born May 27, 2013. My husband was dead in a traffic accident on July 14, 2014.

I remarried in January 2016 and One day, a friend of mine who was working in the Office of Birth Control called me that I would have to pay a fine bill of 17 thousand RMB for my unborn son and I would have to abort the baby otherwise face criminal punishment. Since University I wish to built a library for Uyghur children, so I collected a lot of books, books about Uyghur history, culture and Islam ... etc. by that time, the Chinese government had begun to punish those who kept these kinds of books and. Except for, the Chinese government announced that all Uyghur children had to live in school all day

and night and they were going to be separated from their parents. Parents could only see their children once week and The Uyghur language was completely banned from education. For these reasons, I obliged to leave my motherland and I came to Turkey May 13, 2016. After I left, my husband divorced me for fear that the Chinese government would arrest us as an excuse for me. Before I came to Canada I received news about he had been dead but had no information about a reason.

In April 2017, I received a message from a family member saying both of my parents had been taken away by the Chinese police and that they would not be released until I went back and that I had to return to China within 48 hours, and if I didn't, the Chinese embassy or consulate in Turkey would arrest me and send me back to China and if that was the case, I would face more severe punishments. When I asked why this all was happening, I was told that soon after I left China, the Chinese police started bugging my parents with all kinds of questions and threats. During this period, the police confiscated my daughter's passport and took my parents to the police station several times for questioning. Therefore, according to the police, I had to return to China to receive "training" so that my relatives would be left alone. It was reported by then that the Chinese government had ordered that any Uyghur returning to China from abroad was going to be put in concentration camps for indoctrination. It was also known by then that any Uyghur who had returned to China after receiving the kind of information that I had received was being put a black bag on

their head at the airport and sent to a concentration camp. Some of these people died after being tortured in the concentration camp. I became worried and scared for my son who had been born in Turkey without any paperwork except for a birth certificate because without any paperwork I was not going to be able to either take him with me back to China or leave him in Turkey. A week later, I received a message from my father, through someone, saying that no matter what, I should never go back to China and that I should “study hard” despite any difficulties. Ever since then, I have never heard from my parents and my 2 kids ever again. To save them, I tried giving testimony to various international news organizations, with myself demanding the Chinese government to release them. Up until January 2019, I also kept requesting the Turkish government to help me, but they kept refusing my request because I was a Chinese citizen. They even refused to give my Turkey-born son any paperwork, not to mention a citizenship. I was working for the Uyghur Academy based in Turkey for a period of time in 2018 during which I became a target of the Chinese government because of my work for the Academy that focused specifically on Uyghur testimonies. I, along with my coworkers, received threats and there was this fear that Uyghurs were going to be turned over to the Chinese government as the Chinese government was intensifying their efforts to convince the Turkish government to hand the Uyghurs living in Turkey to the Chinese. It so happened that the Turkish government started handing some Uyghurs over to

China. There were women and children among those handed over. The Academy suggested that I should leave Turkey, for I was living in Turkey holding a Chinese passport. My husband, Telet had also not been able to return to China since 2014 because of the fact that he had refused to work for the Chinese government as their spy. As a result, he was forced to divorce his wife who was back in China. When we got married, his parents and an older brother of his were in a concentration camp. We tried applying for a marriage certificate but could not get one because they told us to go to the Chinese embassy or consulate for verification. When we called the Chinese consulate, they told us to better go back to China to get verified. Therefore, we got married without legal documentation, but only according to Islamic marriage practice called Nikah by an Imam or clergy man. My husband's passport had expired. My son had no passport and my daughter did not get a visa. So, I had no choice but to come to Canada pregnant and alone leaving my 9-year-old daughter, my 2-year-old son and my husband in Turkey. I had American visa, so I left Turkey to USA. As I know Canada is a democratic country which stands up for human rights, for who is against dictatorship and persecution and grants refuge for those seeking it, so I came to Canada from USA and sought an asylum.

After I left Turkey, I arranged my kids to be taken care of by a caretaker as they were unable to take care of themselves and also because my husband had to work. It has been 17 months since we parted. Ever since then, both my daughter and son

have become extremely quiet and isolated. The kids are becoming depressed nowadays. I gave birth to my daughter, Nurjahan here in Montreal on July 12th, 2019. She is now 10 months old and has never met her father and 2 siblings. 20 days after I arrived in Canada, I received phone calls urging me to contact the Chinese consulate. I reported it to the local police. I also received information about how my relatives in China had been forced to contact me to convince me to return to China and that I should never make contact with anyone in my family in China. Due to all this pressure, I have been taking medication for the past 3 months and as a result, I am getting increasingly depressed. I have been advised to seek psychological treatment instead of taking medication, but given all the existing facts, I am nowhere near pulling myself together to do so. I am separated from my family and nothing seems to be helping.

Therefore, I sincerely ask the Canadian government to help me and reunite with my husband and 2 kids soon!

Sincerely,

Ainiwa Dilinuer

2020-07-13