



Canadians in Support of Refugees in Dire Need
Every Life is Precious

May 19th, 2020
The Honourable Salma Ataullahjan
The Senate, Ottawa.

Dear Senator Ataullahjan,

Re: China's oppression of the Uyghurs in East Turkistan (Xinjiang)

We are concerned regarding the ongoing genocide of the Uyghur people and are writing to you to request your support in urging our Canadian Government to unequivocally condemn these crimes against humanity and publicize the issue and to press China to change.

Many members of the Canadian Parliament and the UN are engaged and are concerned by the gross and systematic violations of human rights amounting to international crimes committed against the Uyghur people. We need to collectively bring together these voices so that meaningful lifesaving action can be taken to stop these atrocities. We are also aware that other international human rights organisations are also contacting members of the Canadian Parliament regarding the forced organ harvesting atrocity.

1. Uyghur atrocity and forced organ harvesting. What Canada and concerned nations at the UN level can do.

- a) The full China Tribunal Judgment¹ was just released and the link is listed below. The Tribunal, chaired by Sir Geoffrey Nice QC, lead prosecutor of Milosevic at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, concluded that crimes against humanity have been committed against Uyghurs. With regard to forced organ harvesting, the Tribunal concluded that forced organ harvesting of prisoners of conscience has been happening in China for a substantial period of time to a very substantial number of victims. Whilst Falun Gong practitioners have been the main organ source, it was stated **that the use of Uyghurs for organs is "obvious"**. There is recent evidence that indicates 'young' organs are available upon demand in China. This heightens the concerns that Uyghur organs are being used.

It is important for Canada's Foreign Ministry (Global Affairs Canada – GAC) to review the China Tribunal Judgment and make public comment about this document. It is also important for GAC to inform Canadian Universities and Hospitals which are collaborating with China, or considering collaboration, to be aware of the China Tribunal Judgment and the dangers of being indirectly involved in these crimes against humanity.

Recently the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) stated that they have reviewed the China Tribunal Judgment and will speak with Tribunal Chair, Sir Geoffrey Nice QC, regarding any questions about the Judgment and the China Tribunal's processes and independence. They also stated that they have brought the

¹ https://chinatribunal.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/ChinaTribunal_JUDGMENT_1stMarch_2020.pdf

China Tribunal Judgment to the attention of Universities Australia. We urge Global Affairs Canada to do the same.

The China Tribunal Judgment has also been discussed in the UK House of Lords and, in light of the China Tribunal Judgment, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) recently reported that the World Health Organisation (WHO, which has been characterising China's transplant system as ethical, has informed the FCO that they based their assessment on information provided by the reporting country itself, i.e. China². We would like to know if the WHO has been giving the same 'advice' to Global Affairs Canada?

- b) A number of organisations are currently urging UN Member States to raise the proposal of a Commission of Inquiry into forced organ harvesting in China. Please see letter sent to the Canadian Permanent Mission last year.
- c) Canada's Permanent Mission to the UN should also raise the ongoing abuses against Uyghurs at the UN, which the China Tribunal concluded constitute, under International Criminal Law, crimes against humanity.
- d) More than 1000 North American physicians have demanded an end to the forced organ harvesting. Global Affairs Canada should acknowledge the weight of their professional opinion.
- e) In combatting organ trafficking and transplant tourism, we observe that Bill S-240 has been reintroduced in the present Parliament in the Senate as Bill S-204. <https://www.parl.ca/LegisInfo/BillDetails.aspx?Language=E&billId=10604425> First reading was December 10th, 2019. We call for it to be enacted by both Houses as soon as possible.

China Tribunal Judgment:

https://chinatribunal.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/ChinaTribunal_JUDGMENT_1stMarch_2020.pdf

2. Demand that the concentration camps holding >3 million Uyghurs be closed

China has closed schools, movie theatres and even prisons, but they have not closed the concentration camps during the COVID-19 crisis. It is inhumane to forcibly detain people for their religious beliefs and separate them from their children for no other reason but their belief in God. These camps have imprisoned > 3million Uyghur people against their will and the very poor conditions of the people with lack of toilets, water, food are unacceptable especially now during the COVID-19 pandemic. The children who are being held in camps separated from their parents are undergoing immense and devastating hardship.

Canada should lead during this crisis and ask the UN to demand an immediate release of the children and their families

3. Forced labour: Thousands of Uyghur people are being forced to work in factories in cities in China

These factories are linked to the supply chains of major worldwide brands while the Chinese people are in lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Uyghur people are being forced to work in these factories with 24-hour surveillance, semi-military management and continued enforced indoctrination. They are separated from their families. Many Canadian

² <https://hansard.parliament.uk/Lords/2019-07-25/debates/341A8E55-95DE-4689-8023-E0D5DDCCC254/ChinaOrganHarvesting>

Uyghurs are rightfully claiming the possibility of their family members and relatives among those forced laborers in those facilities.

Recently the Australian Strategic Policy Institute released a comprehensive report titled "Uighurs for Sale" detailing how more than 80,000 of those held in camps have been forced to work in factories throughout China (80,000 being a conservative figure).

We need to ban importation of products made by forced labour in China from the 83 companies which are listed in the recent report.

4. Canadians are unable to contact relatives in Xinjiang.

Thousands of Canadians have been unable to contact their parents and relatives for more than three years because of communication cut off by the Chinese Government. What can the Canadian Government do to support the Uyghur diaspora in Canada who have missing relatives in Xinjiang? It would be of great benefit if the immigration process would be made easier for the Uyghur community enabling family members to re-unite and for Uyghur students to come to Canada to study.

We are most appreciative of your time and commitment in standing up for the rights of the oppressed and persecuted.

Establishing a bipartisan platform in the Parliament of Canada for information sharing and discussion has become very important as new information is emerging daily. There needs to be discussion and hearings in the Foreign Affairs Committee to update the situation and to discuss these problems in seeking a solution as urgently as possible as lives are being lost daily.

Many thanks,
Sincerely,

Aliya Khan MD
Irene Turpie M.B:Ch.B
Hussam Fakir DDS
David Matas
Peter Goodspeed
Hugh Doherty
Anas AlKassem MD
Fozia Alvi MD
John Packer LLM
Mehmet Tohti

cc. Hon. Peter MacKay, Hon. Andrew Scheer, Hon. Marilou McPhedran, Hon. Leo Housakos, Hon. Thanh Hai Ngo, and MPs - Hon. Anita Vanderbeld, Hon. Iqra Khalid, Hon. Omer Alghabra, Hon. David Sweet, Hon. Sven Spengemann, Hon. Brian Masse, Hon. Salma Zahid, Hon. Gagan Sikand, Hon. Garnett Genius.