

The PRC's Universal Periodic Review and the Real State of Human Rights in China

Written testimony

Ma Ju, Hui human rights advocate

February 1, 2024

Mr. Chairman, esteemed commission members, thank you for convening this meeting and inviting me to present my testimony.

I am Ma Ju, representing myself, providing a report to the commission on the systematic oppression faced by the Hui Muslim community in China.

Since the establishment of large-scale concentration camps in Xinjiang in 2017, targeting Uighurs and Muslim populations, the persecution of the Hui people across China has escalated.

Based on information disclosed in reports on Xinjiang concentration camps, Muslim groups, including the Hui, Dongxiang, and Sala, are also being detained and subjected to abuse. According to estimates from available data, the number of detained Hui people in Xinjiang concentration camps is not less than one hundred thousand (Report jointly submitted by CHRD and HUIF to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on January 15, 2023).

In the process of cultural and religious extermination, a systematic and planned action has been implemented throughout China. This includes the comprehensive prohibition of any form of religious activity in people's homes, such as Islamic marriage ceremonies, commemorating ancestors, reciting the Quran at home, and forbidding students, government officials, and employees of state-owned enterprises from participating in any religious activities. Moreover, the Chinese Communist Party conducts reeducation training for all religious personnel, selects trustworthy individuals loyal to the Communist Party to serve as imams in mosques, and prohibits anyone who does not express loyalty to the Communist Party from entering religious places. Simultaneously, the Chinese government arrests, suppresses, or imposes comprehensive censorship on any respected figures within the Hui Muslim community.

In this massive campaign of genocide and cultural and religious extermination, confirmed reports indicate that the Chinese government has leveled thousands of mosques across China or subjected them to reform campaigns under the slogan of Sinicizing Islam. They have used extreme and terrorizing methods to suppress anyone daring to resist (NPR: The Plan to Remove a Mosque's Domes in China Sparks Rare Protest), and more related reports. In the process of the demolition in May 2023 of the Najiyang Mosque in Yunnan, all Hui Muslim defenders who went to the mosque were detained. Those who provided me with videos, text information, and images by overcoming the firewall were comprehensively arrested through forceful eviction, secret nighttime arrests, and high-tech tracking. To this day, none of them have been released. In the subsequent demolition of the Shadian Mosque, the Chinese government took more aggressive and meticulous actions, arresting or kidnapping in advance

all possible resisters from Najaying, and used the experiences of those arrested in Najaying to intimidate everyone. Along with my continuous exposure of the Chinese government's atrocities in the international media, the Chinese government's repression against me has gradually strengthened. In July 2023, my uncle called me to announce that I had been expelled from the family and prohibited from smearing China and the Chinese government's good policies under the name of ethnicity or Ma. He warned me that being an enemy of the Chinese government would have no good results.

In the subsequent demolition process, I and Human Rights Watch collaborated with the Financial Times of London to release a report and news on the demolished mosques in China. The shocking data is staggering; one-third of the mosques in Ningxia have been closed or destroyed (Human Rights Watch Report on China: Mosques in Muslim areas closed, razed, and altered). In the recent stage, the main focus has been on the demolition of Hui Muslim cemeteries.

Even as I write this report, the Chinese Communist Party is carrying out transnational repression actions against anyone daring to challenge its policies of genocide, tracking, intimidating in person, and threatening family members through phone calls. None of these actions have been able to stop me from continuing to expose the Chinese government's atrocities. In December 2023, the Chinese government even filed a multi-million-dollar lawsuit against me in a U.S. court, based on fabricated facts, in what seems an attempt to consume my finances and energy, and ultimately to silence me. As the Chinese government is using every available weapon to ravage every resistor in the civilized world, I also invite members of Congress to get in touch with my lawyer, as we fear that U.S. state and federal court systems are not sufficiently aware of what the Chinese government is capable of in this regard.

In the past few decades, all cases have clearly and undoubtedly proven the clear purpose of the Chinese government: to completely destroy anyone or group that does not believe in communism, whether you are a Christian or a Buddhist, a nature worshipper, or an advocate for democracy and freedom.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, thank you to each commission member and friends who care about freedom and human rights. Thank you for listening to the voice of the Hui people in China. May God bless America, bless freedom.

Related Links:

NPR Report: The Plan to Remove a Mosque's Domes in China Sparks Rare Protest

<https://www.npr.org/2023/05/31/1179241485/the-plan-to-remove-a-mosques-domes-in-china-sparks-rare-protest>

Report submitted jointly by the Chinese Human Rights Defenders (CHRD) and Hope Umbrella International Foundation (HUIF) on January 15, 2023: CHRD and HUIF Joint Report

<https://www.nchrd.org/2023/02/chrd-huif-escr-submission-january-15-2023/>

Emily Feng X (formerly Twitter) thread

<https://x.com/EmilyZFeng/status/1664059557075898368?s=20>