



ON MARCH 8 , " STAND UP" 8 MINUTES FOR UYGHUR WOMEN

We are the families of women from East Turkestan whose mothers, wives, children and sisters were held in concentration camps and no news has been heard from them. We call out to you from deep pain, hardship and darkness. We would like to share with you our hope for a solution that we need, with a conscientious approach.

The systematic human rights violations by the Chinese administration against East Turkestan Muslims are in the category of genocide and crimes against humanity according to international law. The "Concentration Camps", which are the terrible centers of systematic crime of our time, have now attracted the attention of all the peoples of the world. The crimes against women in East Turkestan have been proven with evidence in the reports of official and non-governmental organizations and have come before the United Nations and world parliaments in the following categories.

- **Torture, Cruelty and Abuse:** There are women of all ages in the concentration camps, from girls aged 12-13 to those in their 80s. In prisons, detention centers and concentration camps, women are subjected to physical and psychological torture, and this torture is carried out systematically according to the testimonies of victims who somehow survived. Beating, hair-cutting, starvation and thirst, attacking religious belief, humiliation, prohibition of speaking, insulting dignity, neglecting health and cleanliness, torture methods such as being forced to stay in unhygienic environments, deprivation of treatment, violation of body privacy, being naked, chaining to a chair or bed for a long time, applying electric shocks, assault on maternity and pregnancy, sexual abuse and rape are the torture methods reported to date. Some of the women die or become disabled during these tortures. It is stated that the number of women who died in the concentration camps reached thousands.

- **Sexual Abuse and Rape:** Rape and sexual assaults on East Turkestan women in prisons and concentration camps are horrendous. In the camps, Han Chinese police officers choose the women they want and can sexually assault them. As evidenced by the testimonies of survivors of the camps, East Turkestan women, because of their ethnic origins, Uyghur, Kazakh, Turkish ancestry and being Muslim, are subjected to violence to their bodies during sexual assault and rape and are exposed to rape with objects. Not only in concentration camps, but also women who are placed in homes and forced to share the same bed are also exposed to rape.

- **Indoctrination:** Women who survived the concentration camps, Chinese booklets praising the Chinese Communist Party were distributed to everyone in the camps, and women were asked to read and memorize it, that they are constantly recited in Chinese and played anthems, "Long live Xi Jinping! We love China! The Chinese Communist Party is good." declares that it is necessary to say the statements. It is stated that some women who cannot sing the marches because they do not know Chinese are subjected to torture, and memorizing with this fear turns into a complete torture.

- **Arbitrary detention and arrest:** It is known that many women of various ages and professions are arbitrarily detained in the Chinese Concentration Camps by the Chinese administration, and there are many professors, teachers, writers, doctors, artists, and women from various business and professional groups among those detained. Those held in concentration camps, which have a prison-like detention practice, are held without being charged with any crime or being subject to any trial, and it is known that their relatives are prohibited from applying to state institutions and searching, and their relatives are also detained when they ask. There are women and girls who have been kept this way for years. Among those who wrote this letter to you and called their families, there is an older sister who has been searching for her sister for 4 years without any trace, a child who has been searching for her mother for years, and a father who has been searching for his 17-year-old daughter for many years without getting anything. We are thousands of victims in this way.

- **Forced Labor, Compulsory and Slave Labor:** Uyghurs were taken from their cities regardless of age or gender and were forced to work in remote areas under harsh conditions, while the concentration camps were turned into a complete slave labor system. According to research, it has been determined that more than 80 thousand people, consisting of Uyghurs and Kazakhs from East Turkestan, were transported to the factories in the inner regions of China in just these two years from 2017 to 2019. It has also been revealed that more than 80 of these factories are in the supply chain of well-known global brands. International organizations estimate that millions of people were transported from East Turkestan to China as slave labor.

- **Contraception, Forced Abortion and Sterilization:** East Turkestan women are exposed to birth control practices, forced abortion and sterilization interventions in a way that will design the planned and demographic structure according to the Chinese policy. There are women who lost their lives during these interventions, became disabled or were devastated due to psychological traumas. While many babies are put to death, mothers are deprived of their right to give birth to their babies.

- **Twin Family/Relatives Project:** With this project, Chinese officials or men are forcibly placed in the homes of East Turkestan families, and these people, on the one hand, control the whole family life and are forced to be together with women in the family without their consent. Such reckless mass practice of privacy has been rare in human history.

- **Forced Marriage:** The marriage of Muslim women from East Turkestan to Han Chinese is a project implemented under pressure by the Chinese Government. East Turkestan girls either accept this marriage or are taken to a concentration camp.

- **Violations of Freedom of Faith:** Muslim East Turkestan people are subjected to systematic violations of their freedom of belief, including the practice of prayer, fasting, the prohibition of the Qur'an etc.

Despite the fact that China can no longer hide all the violations that it has hidden until recently, even though it has completely banned uncontrolled communication, somehow the concentration camps and what happened are now deciphered. When we look at the data obtained and explained above, it is obvious that all these constitute the crime of systematic destruction of a people, namely "genocide" defined in international law, rather than being described as intense and individual violations. The victims of these crimes are "women" in the most painful and painful way. According to the data of reputable organizations, two out of every five people held in concentration camps are women. Our loved ones and families are among them. We have been waiting to meet them with terrible fear and desperation every day without hearing from them for years.

On March 8, 2022, International Women's Day, we invite all women of the world to stand up and draw attention, regardless of their religion, race or language, to stop the persecution of East Turkestan, Uyghur and other ethnic origin women and to draw attention to these crimes committed by the Chinese administration. This stance is primarily a call for the closure of the unlawful and inhumane "Chinese Concentration Camps", which are places

of systematic crime, for the prevention of crimes against East Turkestan women by China, and for the release of women and children.

As women from all walks of life, lawyers, academics, politicians, parliamentarians, journalists, housewives, businesswomen, athletes, artists, NGO representatives, activists, workers, civil servants, teachers, doctors, etc. from various professions and countries, this March 8th, we draw the attention of the whole world. Attracting Uighur women and wherever we are on March 8, we want to stand up and carry out an activity for the women who were held in the camps for 8 minutes that day.

We need your support in order to be a voice rising from all over the world on March 8, so that we can be reunited with our loved ones and for the liberation of suffering Uyghur women. We invite you and all sensitive women in your country to support, STAND UP for the tortured women who await rescue in the camps for 8 minutes on March 8, 2022.

We wish all women living in the world to be free and safe,
Best regards

Chinese Concentration Camp Victims Platform

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