



East Turkistan Australian Association is planning a major rally in Adelaide on Saturday 29th September 2018 to Condemn the Chinese Occupation and Genocide in East Turkistan

Press Release—for immediate release

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Under the coordination of East Turkistan Australian Association Inc. and support of other affiliated community groups in South Australia, East Turkistan Community members are planning a mass rally from Adelaide Victoria Square to Parliament House in Adelaide (Assembly at 10:45am at Victoria Square, then March toward Parliament House where Statements and Speeches will be made until 13:00pm) ) on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2018 to condemn the 69 years of Chinese Occupation and endless Genocide Policies in East Turkistan against Uyghur Muslims.

There are over 13 million Uyghurs who identify as Muslim Turkic-speaking people living mostly in East Turkistan, according to the Chinese census. However, the actual figure is much higher than the government’s estimate. East Turkistan was annexed by the Communist Chinese government in 1949 and renamed as Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region in 1955.

The Protest also focuses on the alarming situation of Uyghur and other Turkic Muslims of East Turkistan, where there were more than three million of Muslims where arbitrarily detained in the Mass Internment Camps of Chinese evil State. UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) to [say](#) that it suspected that 1 million Uyghurs are currently being held in a “massive internment camp that is shrouded in secrecy.” ([CERD report](#)). **In the camps, officials seek to brainwash prisoners** to disavow Islam and pledge loyalty to the Communist Party, and torture those who refuse, [eyewitnesses](#) have [said](#). **Arbitrary detentions without charge or trial** are the norm for prisoners in these camps, and ethnic Uyghur [Muslims](#) have been “disappeared” in large numbers. Common “crimes” are “viewing foreign websites, taking phone calls from relatives abroad, praying regularly or growing a beard.” The widespread use of arbitrary detention is also being used as a tool to [force Uyghurs abroad into silence](#).

The situation in the Uyghur homeland has dramatically deteriorated. The detention camps under the label of “re-education” centers were established in almost all part of the East Turkistan. The detention centers have multiplied rapidly in the latter half of 2017 and have literally turned the East Turkistan into a dystopian state. Those Uighurs who are suspected of going against the party’s teachings, being “double faced”, harboring “dangerous ideas”, “religiously suspicious” or being “politically unreliable” are being interned in these centers.

The lives inside these extremely institutionalized centers are horrific—they are being politically terrorized, psychologically abused and morally degraded. With no legal means to defend themselves against forcible confinement in these centers, the Uyghurs are left with no other

devices than relying on their survival instincts. As such, the entire East Turkistan has been deformed into a surveillance state monitored by such cutting edge technologies as facial recognition, DNA profiling and omnipresent security cameras. As a result, the Uyghurs are completely stripped of their right to free movement, free assembly and free expression. Instead, they have further been in more tight corners to lose hope for the future.

The mass rally in Adelaide is a crucial way to shed light on this appalling situation of the Uyghurs in their own ancestral homeland. The message the Uyghurs in Australia would like to convey to the Australian Government and public through these demonstrations is that the operation of the concentration camps is profoundly inhumane and that the lives of the Uyghurs are getting lost in every second in the very eyes of the world. The world is deafeningly silent to a point where it would conflate neutrality with lack of courage to ethically confront the perpetrators. This silence only encourages China to bring more suffering to many innocent Uyghur lives now and to many other peoples in other places in the future. Next time, it will not only be the Uyghurs but others who will fall victim to the autocracies of this unchecked regime anywhere in the world. So the Uyghurs need your care, courage and commitment to stop ethnic cleansing policies of Chinese authorities against Uyghurs.

We also wish to send a message to world that through 69 years of Occupation and Genocide policies, Chinese Evil Regime has carried out countless crimes against humanity in East Turkistan including religious persecution, cultural destruction, ethnic assimilation, political suppression and social injustices. We call for a “**NEVER AGAIN**” and stop China’s crime against humanity.

Together we march for the freedom of Uyghur Muslims of East Turkistan. Freedom for East Turkistan, Freedom for the Uyghurs.

For more information please visit [www.etaa.org.au](http://www.etaa.org.au) .