

**What Are the Myth of Uighurs People in China vs the facts?**

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## What is the Myth of Uyghur People in China vs the Facts?

Many people might not be aware of who the Uyghur people are or what they have been going through in the recent years. Uyghurs are Muslim minority in China. Chinese officials claim that they are reeducating Uyghurs by teaching them Chinese as well as vocational skills. However, that is not the case. The truth is China accuses the Uyghur people of being terrorists. They take people who claim they are going to question them or kidnap them and place them in camps. The school that appears on the news is actually a prison. China also splits families and force them to eat food that are forbidden for Uyghurs or little food in order to stay alive.

China accuses the Uyghurs of being terrorists because some Uyghurs joined Islamic terrorist organizations and mistreated the Chinese authorities. In most countries, the religion of Islam is identified with terrorists. If they see women wearing the hijab or men wearing thobes and having big beards, they think they are dangerous. They assume that all Muslims are terrorists, and they punish innocent people. According to *Injection* magazine (2020), "China became the target of many terrorist acts, for which the Chinese government blamed Uyghurs." Some Uyghurs joined terrorist groups while all the other innocent Uyghurs were punished. According to Abdelfattah and Arablouei (2021), a young Chinese girl asked Abduweli Ayub, who's a Uyghur man, if he was Osama Bin Laden. She thought this because he is different from most Chinese people in appearance. He then tries to convince the young girl that he is not Osama Bin Laden. Bin Laden was from Afghanistan and was behind the September 11<sup>th</sup> attack. Ayub is Uyghur and a professor at a university. Ayub (2021) also discusses how Chinese people misunderstood Uyghur. He has stated that "it's due to ignorance;" they are unaware that they are innocent, but the events of September 11<sup>th</sup> have changed their perspective. And in their minds,

the Uighurs represented terrorists. This supports what I said earlier, because China is punishing innocent individuals rather than those who should be punished.

In addition, China said that their “schools” for Uighurs people offer training and education. However, school is supposed to be your choice if you want to learn something, and no one should ever be forced to learn. But, as seen in the footage that was hacked from police computers, it clearly does not appear to be a school. The BBC report (2022) shows what China calls “schools” is actually a camp. China is attempting to "brainwash the Uighurs" by keeping them in camps. According to Jon Rogers (2021) Gulzira, who spent 15 months in the camps stated, "We will brainwash you because you have a problem with your ideas." Religion is wrong for you and making Uighurs disbelieve their chosen religion. Additionally, they will repeat it daily to serve as a reminder. As reported by BBC News (2019), Rakhima Senbay, who spent more than a year in the camps, recalls being cuffed for weeks and being struck with an electric baton because she had WhatsApp on her phone. She also discusses how China views school and how showing images of happy Muslims dancing and studying is not true. She said, “I’ve experienced it myself in the camps.” Senbay said, the Chinese police warned us ahead of the visits, and they would say, “if any of you speak out, you will be taken to a more horrible place than this.” So, everyone was scared and did what the China police had told them, including dancing, and singing. This shows that what China calls school is not a choice and the fact that they are claiming it is a school to display the world happy Muslim students is absurd because nowadays most people just believe anything they see or hear without actually knowing if it's true.

Further, China accuses Uyghur parents of being terrorists without giving evidence. In my opinion, no one should be called a terrorist without evidence or just because they are Muslim. However, the truth is we have seen on Sky News how families were separated, and detained. On Sky News (2022), a Uyghur girl describes how her family members were arrested, disappeared, and that their texts were the last thing she received from them. CBS News (2022) also shows parents displaying photographs of their sons, daughters, nephews, grandchildren, and other family members. They found out that they had been put in an orphanage and a boarding school to make the children forget their identities and to force them to learn Chinese. As well Ted Regencia (2020), shows Meripet, a mother who left her four children with their family to visit her father, found out that her four children had been taken away. She believes they have been placed in an orphanage. She hasn't heard anything from them since. She stated, "I feel horrible that they will not grow up with me and there hasn't been a day in which I haven't cried." This means China views Uighurs parents as terrorists because they are taking their children away from them and placing them in public schools and orphanages to make them forget who they are and where they come from.

Furthermore, the Chinese government has denied the BBC's claims that Uighurs are arbitrarily detained in the region. However, the BBC News cannot be misleading about something that they have not investigated. The BBC's news (2022) features 3,000 Uighurs photos. Who appeared to be terrified, with sad expressions, and tears in their eyes. Which cannot be fake pictures, and when the BBC (2020) tried to get evidence from the Uighurs camp. They were commanded to stop recording, questioned, and followed. The reporter pointed out on the camp map that something else had been built next to the camp. Which is a textile factory and the days after it was completed. It shows that people were transferred from the camp to the textile

factory. China claims that those places are for job creation, but when the BBC attempts to record something, they are told to stop. This shows that China is hiding something else, because if they are telling the truth, the news is fake. Why not allow the BBC to record what they are lying about? The prison, the people they detain, and the way they treat them. They cannot because if they do, their true face will come out.

Moreover, China forced Uighurs to consume pork in order to grow the Xinjiang farm. But, no one should ever be compelled to eat anything they can't or don't want to. In Islam, it is forbidden to eat pork and drink alcohol. The Chinese force Uighurs to consume pork because they are Muslim and chose to follow their religion. According to Rogencia (2020) Sayragul Sautbay, who was released from the re-education camp. Talks about how they were forced to eat pork every Friday and if they don't, they will get punishment. Friday is a holiday for Muslims, so the China government choose the day deliberately. And she said that she had "emotions" every time she tasted meat. When you eat something that you are not supposed to eat, or you do not like to eat you will always have guilty feelings and a lot of emotions. She also said, "When you sit in a concentration camp, you do not decide whether to eat or not to eat. In order to be alive, we had to eat the meat served to us." This shows that the China government are forcing Uighurs people to eat things they do not want or cannot eat.

In conclusion, China accuses all Uighurs of being terrorists. Just because some Uighurs joined a terrorist group, China claimed that the school they sent them to give them training and education. However, as the BBC showed, that is untrue. China says the BBC have fake news, but they were simply showing the world what China is doing to Uighur's; China claims parents of Uighurs are terrorists, so they just take their children away and put them in orphanages and

public schools to make them forget who they are and the Uighurs that are in the camps. China forces Uighurs to do or eat what they do not like, and as a Muslim who can freely practice my religion, when I hear such news, I feel sad and dreadful because there are people who cannot practice their faith. And it matters to me since I am also Muslim and understand their anguish. Therefore, you may be someone who can practice their religion peacefully, but the Uighurs cannot, and they face punishment if they do. You may have learned something new about the situation, or you may have already known it. Keep them in your prayers. In the end, China claims that the report is untrue. Is this statement accurate or false?

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