

**Mr. Xi Jinping
President of the People's Republic of China
Zhongnanhai
Xichangan'jie
Xichengqu, BEIJING SHI - 100017
People's Republic of China**

Luxembourg,2019

Dear President,

Having been alerted by ACAT-Luxembourg, a human rights organisation affiliated to FIACAT, an international NGO in consultative status with the UN, I wish to draw your attention to the dramatic plight of

Guligeina Tashimaimati,

an Uyghur inhabitant of Yili, Xinjiang Province. According to many credible sources of information, the Uyghur community is currently facing unprecedented repression. Since 2016, individuals from this Muslim community, largely represented in the Uyghur Chinese region of Xinjiang, have been arbitrarily incarcerated in 'reeducation centers', where they are subjected to inhuman and degrading treatment, including forms of brainwashing.

On 26 December 2017, Guligeina Tashimaimati left the airport of Senai in Malaysia, where she was studying, to go to China and visit her family in Yili. Having initially maintained contacts with friends in Malaysia, she suddenly 'disappeared' a few weeks after her arrival in Yili. Since then, nothing has been heard from her. It is strongly suspected that Guligeina Tashimaimati was arbitrarily arrested and incarcerated in a camp, prison or other detention centre, solely because of her Uyghur origins, as has happened to many others.

The People's Republic of China took part in the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and is a Party to the UN Convention against Torture. These texts prohibit all forms of discrimination based on religion or ethnic origin, and all acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The People's Republic of China is bound by these obligations.

I therefore call on you to ensure that:

- Guligeina Tashimaimati is protected against any act of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;
- her place of detention is disclosed and that her family and lawyer have access to her;
- she is immediately released;
- all centres used to arbitrarily detain Uyghurs and persons of other ethnic minorities, are closed without delay;
- all arrests and detentions of people based solely on their ethnic or religious backgrounds cease.

I thank you for the attention you will give to this concern.

Yours respectfully,

Name:

Address:

Signature