

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 17/30/00

5 July 2000

Further information on UA 305/99 (ASA 17/59/99, 5 July 2000) - Ill-treatment/medical concern/unfair trial

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA      Rebiya Kadeer, Uighur (f)  
   Ablikim Abdiriyim, Uighur, her son  
   Kahriman Abdukirim, Uighur

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Rebiya Kadeer's appeal against her eight-year sentence will reportedly be heard on Thursday 6 July. Her health is believed to have deteriorated severely, partly because of the punishments she has received in prison, and she is now reported to be very ill.

On 2 and 3 July prison officials apparently asked her family for 5000 yuan (approximately US\$600) to take her to hospital. Few details are available about her health and it is not known which hospital she will be taken to.

Rebiya Kadeer's lawyer has not been allowed to visit her in prison, but has reportedly been told to attend court on 6 July for an appeal hearing. If her sentence is upheld she will reportedly be transferred to a women's prison known as Prison No.2, in Baijiahu, in Urumqi county.

Rebiya Kadeer's family have not been allowed to visit her since she was detained in August 1999. On 1 November 1999 prison officials asked them for money so that she could be taken to hospital for a check-up, but gave no details. The family have been allowed to take money and clothing to the prison for her, but not food. They have received regular reports that she is ill, and have asked several times that she be taken to hospital. Rebiya Kadeer herself has asked many times to be taken to hospital but all requests have been refused. She has reportedly sometimes been kept in her cell for several days on end.

Rebiya Kadeer was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment for "providing secret information to foreigners" on 9 March 2000. The trial was held in secret at the Urumqi City Intermediate People's Court. The verdict describes the "secret information" as copies of the newspapers *Kashgar Daily*, *Xinjiang Legal News*, *Ili Daily* and *Ili Evening News*. All four newspapers are publicly available and it is hard to see how the information they contain could constitute "state secrets". Rebiya Kadeer was also accused of having in her possession a list of 10 people "suspected of having a connection with national separatist activities" when she was detained in August 1999 on her way to meet a member of a United States Congressional Research delegation.

There has been no recent news about Ablikim Abdiriyim or Kahriman Abdukirim.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English, Chinese, Uighur or your own language:**

- calling on the Chinese authorities to use the appeal hearing on 6 July 2000 as the opportunity to release Rebiya Kadeer, particularly in view of her ill-health;

- expressing serious concern at the reports that she is in very poor health and that her family have been asked to pay large sums of money for her to receive medical care;
- expressing concern that she did not receive a fair or open trial and calling for her immediate and unconditional release;
- continuing to call for the immediate and unconditional release of Ablikim Abdiriyim and Kahriman Abdukirim.

**APPEALS TO:**

Premier of the People's Republic of China

**ZHU Rongji** Zongli

Guowuyuan

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Beijingshi 100032

People's Republic of China

**Fax:** + 8610 6 520 5316 / 467 7046

**Telexes:** 210070 FMPC CN or 22478 MFERT CN

**Telegram:** Premier Zhu Rongji, Beijing, China

**Salutation:** Your Excellency

Chief Procurator of the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Regional People's Procuratorate

**MAIMAITI Yusufu** Jianchazhang

Xinjiang Weiwuer Zizhiqu Renmin Jianchayuan

Wulumuqishi

Xinjiang Weiwuer Zizhiqu

People's Republic of China

**Telegram:** Chief Procurator Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Regional People's Procuratorate, Wulumuqi, Xinjiang Weiwuer Zizhiqu, China

**Salutation:** Dear Sir

**COPIES TO:**

Chairman of the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Regional People's Government

**ABDULAHAT Abdurixit** Zhuxi

Xinjiang Weiwuer Zizhiqu Renmin Zhengfu

2 Zhongshanlu

Wulumuqishi 830041

Xinjiang Weiwuer Zizhiqu

People's Republic of China

**Telegram:** Chairman Regional People's Government, Wulumuqi, Xinjiang Weiwuer Zizhiqu, China

**Salutation:** Dear Chairman

and to diplomatic representatives of the People's Republic of China accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 16 August 2000.