

## TABLE OF CORRESPONDENCE

Between September 2020 and August 2022, the Chair and Counsel to the Tribunal sent several postal and telecommunications to the PRC and UK government, foreign governments, the United Nations, the BBC and religious institutions on behalf of Uyghur Tribunal.

Table 1 lists the communications grouped according to the recipient and in chronological order (YYYY-MM-DD). The table furthermore lists any replies, if received by the time of publication. Where a reply is available, it follows the initial communication in the compilation of communications below.

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**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi  
Counsel to the Tribunal

E:

28 September 2020

His Excellency Liu Ziaoming  
Ambassador of the People's Republic of China  
to the United Kingdom

LONDON

Dear Mr Ambassador

Re : The Uyghur Tribunal

As you may be aware, an independent Uyghur Tribunal has been set up under the Chairmanship of Sir Geoffrey Nice, in connection with allegations of mistreatment of Uyghur people in the Xinjiang Autonomous Uyghur Region. <https://www.itv.com/news/2020-09-04/being-an-uyghur-muslim-in-china-they-tortured-me-for-hours> <https://apnews.com/1596ae9f225a0c93fb07ac4376bdc924>

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Uyghur Tribunal and in my capacity as Counsel to the Tribunal to seek your assistance and cooperation with the Tribunal.

The Tribunal has declared its remit as follows:

“The commission of genocide against the Uyghurs by the People's Republic of china has been alleged but never properly explored on evidence. Neither has the PRC's account of its actions being for the control of terrorism through re-education or for legitimate management of its population, objectives that can be seen in the actions of other countries never subject to allegations of genocide. This Tribunal will start without assumption or presumption of any kind, review evidence - all of which will be given in public and available from the earliest possible moment on its website - consider all available arguments and reach a Judgment. Citizens, governments and international bodies will then be better able to assess whether obligations to act are identified by evidence carefully and publicly analysed”.

I refer to your last month's interview with BBC (Andrew Marr Show), where you declared that the purpose of detention of Uyghurs is to prevent criminal conduct. The Tribunal would of course be extremely interested to receive evidence regarding the nature of the "camps", their legal structure and power, the treatment of inmates (and voluntary nature of their detention- as alleged). We would also like to invite you, or any representative of PRC, as a person with knowledge of the situation, to testify before the Tribunal.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hamid Sabi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

HAMID SABI  
Counsel to The Tribunal

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi  
Counsel to the Tribunal

E:

1 February 2021

His Excellency Zheng Zeguang  
Ambassador of the Peoples Republic of China

LONDON

Your Excellency,

Independent Uyghur Tribunal

I refer to my previous (yet unacknowledged) correspondence on this matter and would like to bring the following issues to your attention:

All panel members of the Tribunal have now been appointed. Tribunal Members are about to start their work.

The Tribunal is planning to have a four-day evidence hearing in the second week of May 2021 to be followed by a further four-day hearing in September of this year.

It is my responsibility, as Counsel, to collect and collate all available evidence, from both fact and expert witnesses and to submit statements from witnesses to the Tribunal members in a timely fashion *before* the first hearing of evidence. I am also required to submit all evidence that sets out the PRC position in respect of matters into which the Tribunal is inquiring. This evidence is sometimes called 'exculpatory', although that term derives from 'adversarial' court processes and this Tribunal is not an adversarial process, as you know. All those working on the Tribunal are aware of recurring statements – in the press, on TV and radio and even from senior politicians - adverse to the PRC. None of us working for the Tribunal, nor the Tribunal Members, endorse any of those statements and are interested only in any having access to *evidence* that *may* underly them for the Tribunal Members to reach a fair, balanced, and objective Judgment. We understand how the PRC might not be inclined to recognise the work that this Tribunal is doing but invite you to give serious thought to providing the Tribunal with material as suggested below.

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

I attach a schedule listing the evidence we hold setting out the PRC position ('exculpatory' for convenience) that has become publicly available. The list may not be complete as we do not have access to the internal State documents of the PRC. I would appreciate it, if you consider the list to be incomplete or otherwise insufficient, to provide me with such *other* relevant documents, from expert and fact witnesses, books, learned articles TV and radio programmes etc. that set out the PRC position are prepared to testify before the Tribunal as soon as practical.

I have already submitted this list to the Tribunal Members and am planning to submit a further list by end of February 2021. Would appreciate if you assist in achieving this deadline.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hamid Sabi', written in a cursive style.

Hamid Sabi  
Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal

Encl.

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi  
Counsel to the Tribunal

E:

24 March 2021

His Excellency Zheng Zeguang  
Ambassador of the Peoples Republic of China

LONDON

Your Excellency

I refer to my letter of 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 (copy attached - yet unacknowledged) and comments attributed to you and your Government saying the allegations of mistreatment of Uyghurs in West China are a “pack of lies”.

As indicated in my previous letters, on behalf of the Tribunal, my colleagues and I are collecting and collating all publicly available documents (and other evidence such as video clips etc.) as well as evidence proffered by human rights organisations and Uyghur and Kazakh activist groups and organisations outside China for presentation to the Tribunal in its forthcoming hearings.

We have yet to receive any evidence from your Government supporting its position including on the suggestion that allegations by the US, the EU and the UK are a “pack of lies”.

Sir Geoffrey Nice, QC, Chairman of the Tribunal, asks me - on behalf of all Tribunal Members - to urge you to make good use of the opportunity offered by the Tribunal to have the position of the PRC made public by oral evidence. The Tribunal is aware that its task of assessing evidence and applying universal values to the findings of fact it may make must take account, to the extent possible, of the PRC's position; your arranging for that position to be given in evidence direct to the Tribunal is the best guarantee of that position being considered. The Tribunal starts with no presumptions or assumptions of any kind and will reach its Judgment on the basis of evidence presented to it and nothing else.

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
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Please be informed that the Hearings of the Tribunal has now been postponed to 4-7 June to make more possible the giving of evidence by witnesses in person in London. Please let me know **by no later than 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021** whether your Government intends to participate in these proceedings and if so by what means.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hamid Sabi', with a small mark to the right.

HAMID SABI  
Counsel to the independent Uyghur Tribunal

Encl.

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
E: removed

13 May 2021

His Excellency Zheng Zeguang Ambassador  
of the Peoples Republic of China

postal address removed  
London postal code removed

Your Excellency

I refer to my previous letters including the last one dated 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021, for which I have yet to receive a courtesy of reply or acknowledgement.

Two days after the receipt of my letter, urging your Government “to make good use of the opportunity offered by the Tribunal to have the position of PRC made public by oral evidence”, on 26<sup>th</sup> March your Government imposed sanctions against nine individuals and four entities, including Sir Geoffrey Nice, the chairman of the Tribunal and the Uyghur Tribunal itself. The Foreign Ministry spokesperson accused those sanctioned of “maliciously” spreading lies and disinformation.

The Tribunal has not made any statement and has made no findings of fact. The Tribunal will hold its first hearings in early June and a second hearing in September 2021. Only after hearing all the evidence and reviewing all the documents, can the Tribunal reach its determination on the matters within its remit.

Once again, I invite your Government to present any evidence, supporting or clarifying its position to the Tribunal. The only way that your Government would be able to stop “spreading lies and disinformation”, would be to disclose, openly and transparently, to all those interested, including the members of the Uyghur Tribunal, the reality of the situation in Xinjiang and allow international experts and investigators to visit the camps and interview, freely, the inmates.

The effects of sanctions remain unclear but will have no impact on the Tribunal’s impartiality and ultimate judgment. I draw your attention to the press release of the Tribunal dated 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021:

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Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
E: removed

“The sanctions imposed by PRC will not affect the work of the Tribunal and will not be held against PRC by the Tribunal in reaching an independent judgment.”

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hamid Sabi', written in a cursive style.

HAMID SABI  
Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
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Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
E: removed

17 June 2021

His Excellency Zheng Zeguang Ambassador  
of the Peoples Republic of China

postal address removed  
London postal code removed

Dear Mr Ambassador

I refer to my earlier letters of 1<sup>st</sup> February 24<sup>th</sup> March and 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021 for which I have not received a reply or acknowledgement.

I am glad to inform you that the Tribunal held a four-day public hearing in Church House, London from 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021. In total 38 witnesses testified before the Tribunal of which 24 were fact witnesses and the rest experts and investigators. The hearings were open to the public and the proceedings were live streamed on YouTube and other social media channels and watched across the world.

It is unfortunate that the People's Republic of China (PRC) has failed to accept the Tribunal's invitation to submit evidence supporting the PRC's public stance relating to allegations of violations of international law in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) or challenging the evidence of fact and expert witnesses in a public forum.

The Tribunal has scheduled a further hearing in Church House, London from 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021. On behalf of the Tribunal, once again I invite the Government of the PRC to submit all and any evidence in its possession, custody or care in connection with or related to: the alleged arrest and detention of individuals of Uyghur Kazakh and other Turkic minorities in XUAR; the conditions in the prison camps, detention facilities and re-education establishments, including lists and name of detainees; the reason for incarceration of the aforementioned individuals; the applicable judicial process for arrest and incarceration; and, finally, the expected date of release of the detainees from such institution. To the extent that your Government maintains that all the detainees in the camps have voluntarily entered camps or detention facilities, any relevant evidence and documentation indicating the consent of detainees would be welcome.

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Finally, as you are aware, your Government has been accused of the crime of genocide by various state and non-state actors including in resolutions passed by sovereign parliaments such as the UK Parliament. State officials such as Anthony Blinken the US Secretary of State and his predecessor, Mike Pompeo, have also accused the PRC of genocide against Uyghurs in XUAR. The Tribunal is required by its mandate to investigate these claims, among others, and will do so after thorough and meticulous investigation of all the available evidence: both inculpatory and exculpatory. In this regard the Tribunal's work will be greatly assisted if your Government were to disclose internal documents of both the PRC and the CCP in connection with the matter arising in this letter.

Following the first set of public hearings by the Tribunal in June 2021 the Tribunal notes the statements made by the relatives and a neighbour of some of the witnesses who had testified before the Tribunal. The Tribunal extends an invitation to them to attend the Tribunal's next Hearings in September of this year. We would invite your Government to confirm that they are at liberty to travel to the UK if they so wished. The Tribunal's primary concern is the impact on the wellbeing of the witnesses who gave evidence to the Tribunal Hearings and to the relatives and a neighbour of those witnesses who appeared at the PRC conference.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hamid Sabi', written in a cursive style.

HAMID SABI  
Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
E: removed

11 August 2021

His Excellency Zheng Zeguang Ambassador  
of the Peoples Republic of China

postal address removed  
LONDON postal code removed

Dear Mr Ambassador

I refer to my earlier letters of 1<sup>st</sup> February 24<sup>th</sup> March 13<sup>th</sup> May and 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021 for which I have not received a reply or acknowledgement.

I am writing this letter at the direction of the Chairman and Members of the Uyghur Tribunal to address the questions raised by the Tribunal Members.

The Uyghur Tribunal Members, mindful of evidence heard in June 2021, have been provided with advance detail of some of the evidence to be heard between 10 and 13 September 2021, including, for example, evidence set out in reports of Amnesty, Human Rights Watch (HRW) and NewLines.

The Tribunal has noted the several statements made by parliaments and one government from around the world in the last year concerning commission of genocide by the PRC. Proof of genocide requires, among other things, proof of an intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such.

The Tribunal will *not* rely on opinions of experts, report writers, politicians, or anyone else on any *final* questions it has to decide including, for example, on the issue of possible genocidal intent.

In all circumstances the Tribunal respectfully asks the following questions of the Government of the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) through the PRC's Ambassador in London. It continues to hope that the PRC will accept invitations sent by Counsel to the Tribunal, Mr Hamid Sabi, to the PRC Ambassador in London to attend the Tribunal hearings or to engage in other ways with the Tribunal and urges the PRC to recognise that answering the following questions will greatly assist the Tribunal in its work.

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
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GENERAL

1. What is the overall purpose underlying present and recent treatment of the Uyghurs of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR)?
2. Is it intended by the PRC and CCP to eliminate Uyghurs as an identifiable ethnic group, in whole or part?
3. Is it intended to reduce differences in manner of living between Han Chinese and Uyghurs and other ethnic groups in the XUAR?
4. What is intended by restrictions on religious observance by Uyghurs and other Muslims by closing, removing, or changing use of mosques?
5. How many mosques, shrines and other religious places have been closed or destroyed since 2014?
6. What is intended by putting people showing signs of, or suspected of, religious observance into detention camps?
7. How many people in XUAR are registered as, or recorded as, practising Islam now; and how many were recorded in 2010 and 1990?
8. Is the overall intention to eliminate Islam in the PRC?
9. How many schools are there in XUAR where Islamic study is available in 2000, 2010, 2015, 2020?
10. Is there an official policy on the placement of Han Chinese citizens into Uyghur Households?
11. What is the purpose of the Integrated Joint Operating Platform (IJOP) application?
12. How many people have been convicted of violent terrorism or extremist criminal behaviour in XUAR since 2014?

BIRTH CONTROL AND ABORTION IN THE COMMUNITY

13. What legal powers are there under the law of the PRC to allow women to be persuaded against their will to undergo abortions?
14. Is there any law of the PRC limiting the stage of pregnancy at which abortions can be performed?
15. Are there laws, subordinate legislation, protocols etc. regulating the ways in which government officials are permitted to persuade women to undergo abortions?
16. Are there laws, subordinate legislation, protocols etc. regulating the ways in which government officials are permitted to terminate the life of a new-born child, born following an unauthorised pregnancy?

ADOPTION AND ORPHANAGES

17. How many children are there now in the orphanages or residential/boarding schools in the XUAR. Can figures please be given for the growth in the number of orphanages or residential/ boarding schools in the XUAR to be compared with the growth of number of orphanages or residential/ boarding schools in the rest of PRC?

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Are the growth figures in the number of orphanages in the XUAR different in comparison to the rest of PRC? And if so, why??

18. Are the parents of all the children in orphanages or residential/ boarding schools dead?
19. What is the purpose of the residential/boarding school network?
20. Have the parents of the children in the residential/boarding schools consented to the removal of their children from their family homes?

**DETENTION / RE-EDUCATION CENTRES**

21. How many detention/re-education centres are there in XUAR?
22. How many detention/re-education centres were in XUAR in 2014?
23. How many citizens of the PRC have been detained in these centres:
  - a) On average since 2014?
  - b) Now?
24. What is the percentage distribution of ethnic groups; Uyghurs, Kazakhs, and other minority groups of the XUAR in detentions centres:
  - a) On average since 2014?
  - b) Now?
25. How many foreign nationals/ dual nationals are presently in the XUAR detention centres.
26. Please identify Law of the PRC, subordinate legislation, protocols etc. that regulates circumstances in which citizens can be taken into detention centres.
27. Are people taken into detention without court hearings or other formal judicial process but simply by executive action of government officials? Are the detainees entitled to challenge or appeal the executive decision to detain them? Is such challenge or appeal heard by a competent court?
28. Are there records of the reasons for citizens being sent to/taken to detention centres?
29. Are these records provided to those sent to/taken to detention centres?
30. Are these records available following release from detention to those who have been detained?
31. What law of the PRC, subordinate legislation, protocols, etc. allows those in detention to be required to speak only in the Chinese language?
32. What law of the PRC, subordinate legislation, protocols etc. allows those in detention to be forbidden from using their own language?
33. What law, other than the law of the PRC generally, regulates conduct of life within detention centres?

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PUNISHMENT OF THOSE IN DETENTION CENTRES

34. What law allows those in detention centres to be punished at the direction of those running detention centres?
35. What are the laws/rules etc that determine whether a citizen in detention should be punished and by what means of punishment (for example by use of the 'Tiger Chair' (for image see HRW Report of 13 May 2015 'Tiger Chairs and Cell Bosses'))?
36. Why is the Tiger Chair used regularly at interrogations?
37. Who in any detention centre has the power to determine use of the Tiger Chair for those made to sit in the chair?
38. Are records kept of reasons for use of the Tiger Chair and of how long people are in the Tiger Chair and of other methods of punishment used?
39. When those detained are put into the Tiger Chair - sometimes for prolonged periods without even access to a lavatory - is its purpose punishment or restraint?
40. Are the detention centres monitored by close circuit cameras (CCTV)?
41. Are such monitoring systems available in the rooms where Tiger Chairs are installed? If not, why not?
42. Is there a preferment system for guards and other officials seeking employment in prisons particularly those housing female inmates?
43. What protections are in place within the penal system to ensure the safety of female prisoners particularly against sexual violence?
44. There has been reports of widespread and systematic rape and sexual abuse of the female prisoners in the detention camps in XUAR. Have the PRC judiciary investigated these allegations? Are there any records of such investigations? How many perpetrators of rape and sexual abuse in the detention camps in XUAR have been brought to justice since 2016?
45. What qualifications do released inmates receive from the educational camps and is successful completion of the curricula a precondition for release?

TREATMENT OF THOSE DETAINED IN DETENTION CENTRES

46. Evidence has been given of unsanitary and cramped conditions in detentions centres, including of there being insufficient space for detainees to lie down to sleep, buckets for urination, restrictions on frequency of defecation with bodily functions to be performed in sight of other detainees and of CCTV cameras. Is this evidence correct?
47. If so, why are conditions as described in evidence? Are they part of an overall policy of punishment or are they designed for some other purpose? If so for what purpose?

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**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

RELOCATION WITHIN THE PRC - POPULATION STATISTICS

48. Is there an official policy of relocating Uyghur and other minorities either within the Uyghur region or elsewhere in mainland China for the purpose of labour?
49. Is there an official policy of under-reporting the Uyghur population in XUAR? If so, what is the purpose of such under-reporting. Is it correct that the State officials are required to produce a false report, reducing the actual number of Uyghurs by 75% so that the official figures would only represent a quarter of the actual population?
50. Does there exist a "Red Book" (at least since 2006) setting out the PRC policy for such under-reporting? Can a copy of the Red Book be made available to the Tribunal?

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hamid Sabi', is written over the typed name.

HAMID SABI  
Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi  
Counsel to the Tribunal  
E: removed

22 November 2021

His Excellency Zheng Zeguang Ambassador  
of the Peoples Republic of China 49-51  
postal address removed  
LONDON postcode removed

Dear Mr Ambassador

Re : UYGHUR TRIBUNAL

I refer to my previous letters inviting you to participate in the proceedings of this Tribunal, for which I have not received a courtesy of reply or acknowledgment.

As you are aware, the Tribunal held a second hearing in September (10-13<sup>th</sup>) in Church House, London. The absence of your Government's representative in those proceedings were noted.

The Tribunal is expected to hand down its judgment on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021 in a public session at Church House. As always you are welcome to attend.

At the request of the Counsel, the Tribunal is holding a short, half day hearing in London on 27<sup>th</sup> November, to hear further evidence that has been proffered by the Counsel. These were not available to the Counsel before the close of the second hearing on 13<sup>th</sup> September.

The hearing will be public and can be attended in person or remotely. You are hereby invited to participate in this event. Please let me know whether you are interested to do so and I will provide you with details and time and place of the hearing.

Further, should your Government wish to submit any evidence to the Tribunal, this will be the last opportunity to do so. The Counsel will be pleased to arrange for the introduction of any evidence or representation made by your Government to the Tribunal.

Respectfully



Hamid Sabi  
Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal

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UT Administration Limited  
postal address removed, London postal code removed

Company No. 12888236

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

6 January 2021

Right Honourable Dominic Raab, MP  
Foreign Secretary  
House of Commons  
London postode removed  
email removed

Dear Foreign Secretary,

We write on behalf of the Uyghur Tribunal hoping that it may be possible for us to meet you in the very near future to discuss how the UK government can help the Tribunal in its work. Evidence held by the government - whether favourable or unfavourable to the PRC in respect of the allegations the Tribunal is to consider - will be invaluable.

FCDA minister Nigel Adams has made clear in the House of Commons on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020 that there may be, as a minimum, real interest in the workings of the Tribunal. We hope that that interest can be manifested further by active support for, and the provision of evidence to, the Tribunal.

The Tribunal is the only body, so far as known, working to assess the allegations being made about the PRC's treatment of Uyghurs on the basis of evidence presented in public. It would be most unfortunate if evidence exists that could help with difficult questions the Tribunal will consider but that is, for whatever reason, not made available.

We will make ourselves available at short notice to meet, virtually or in person.

Yours sincerely



Sir Geoffrey Nice, QC  
Chairman  
email removed

Lord Anderson of Ipswich, KBE, QC  
email removed

cc Nigel Adams MP email removed  
Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon email removed

## UYGHUR TRIBUNAL - AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL

Nigel Adams, M.P.  
Minister for Asia  
Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office.

Friday, 23 April 2021

Dear Minister,

I listened to yesterday's debate on genocide of the Uyghurs with interest. I noted the several speeches that encouraged your government to support the work of the Tribunal. They made it understandable that you should mention our private meeting of the day before, in which you had expressed yourself as warmly welcoming the work of the Tribunal.

The nine Tribunal Members, whose summary CVs were included in my Briefing Note for Wednesday's meeting, will be able to determine all issues before them when properly directed as to the law, as they will be.

There is now an interest, common to members of the public, parliamentarians and governments around the world, to know *with certainty* what, if any, criminality is involved in what is happening to the Uyghurs and other Muslim groups, including Chinese-born ethnic Kazakhs, in Xinjiang. The Tribunal is the only body – informal but quasi-judicial as it is - dealing with this on the basis of public hearings of available evidence. The Tribunal already holds a very great amount of relevant evidence but is aware that governments have information and evidence of immense value that is at present unavailable to the Tribunal. Reports of diplomats to the PRC back to their respective governments – including reports by UK diplomats to *our* government – are bound to contain evidence-backed opinions on the purpose of actions, and on the intent generally, of the PRC and CCP towards the Uyghurs and other minority Muslim groups. Evidence of purpose and intent is essential to assessment for any crime of the element of *mens rea*, proof of which is essential to determination of criminality.

I urge you to arrange for such material – and any other available relevant evidence - to be provided to the Tribunal *immediately* in order for it to do its work and to serve the public, who need *certainty* about these issues to discharge duties that arise for individuals, organisations, businesses etc. that interact with the PRC.

I need hardly add that if criminality is revealed – the Tribunal has formed no conclusion of any kind at this stage, of course - then identifying that criminality may lead to lives being saved that might otherwise be lost.

There is no plausible reason for *not* providing this information/evidence and I look forward to hearing that cooperation with the Tribunal will allow *all* evidence to be made available forthwith.

We will, of course, be asking other countries with whom we have been in contact – especially those that have already pronounced on genocide of the Uyghurs in some way - to be similarly forthcoming.

Consistent with our policy of complete openness this letter must enter the public domain.

Your sincerely

Geoffrey Nice  
Chairman Uyghur Tribunal

Copy:  
Right Honourable Dominic Raab, MP Foreign Secretary



Foreign, Commonwealth  
& Development Office

**Nigel Adams MP**  
Minister of State for Asia

postal address removed

London  
postcode removed  
telephone number removed

Geoffrey Nice  
Chairman Uyghur Tribunal

[www.gov.uk/fcdo](http://www.gov.uk/fcdo)

Our ref: MC2021/10372

Your ref:

19 May 2021

Dear Geoffrey,

Thank you for your letter of 23 April, regarding the Uyghur Tribunal and your request for relevant evidence, including diplomatic reporting, to support its work.

As you are aware, the FCDO is following the work of the Uyghur Tribunal closely, and recognises its potential to draw further international attention to the serious human rights violations taking place in Xinjiang. We welcome all rigorous and evidence based initiatives aimed at increasing understanding of the deeply concerning situation faced by Uyghurs and other minorities in the region.

As I outlined in our meeting on 21 April, the Government's long-standing policy is that a determination of genocide or other international human rights crimes is for a competent court, rather than for governments or non-judicial bodies. As a result, we are unfortunately, not in a position to provide direct evidence, testimony or official support to the Tribunal. In respect of diplomatic reporting, there is an additional constraint, in that such material is classified information, and by its nature is not available for public release.

I note that there is a very considerable body of open source evidence relating to human rights violations in Xinjiang, which underpins the Government's understanding of the situation in the region. I trust this will provide a good basis upon which to proceed with your work.



Yours  
Nigel Adams

**Nigel Adams MP**  
Minister of State for Asia

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
E: removed

6 May 2021

The Rt Honourable Priti Patel, MP  
Home Secretary  
House of Commons  
LONDON postcode removed

Dear Home Secretary

Re : The Uyghur Tribunal

I am writing this letter as Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal set up at the request of World Uyghur Congress under the chairmanship of Sir Geoffrey Nice, QC.

The Tribunal is mandated to investigate, without fear and favour, the allegations that People's Republic of China is committing genocide and crimes against humanity against its civilian population involving Uyghurs, Kazakh and other Muslim minorities in West China. Human rights organisations estimate that over 1,200,000 Uyghurs are kept in detention camps simply because of their ethnic origin or religion under very harsh conditions. Allegations of rape, sexual abuse and torture are rampant among camp survivors.

Over the last six months the Counsel Team has collected and categorised over 2,000 on the Tribunal's database, one of the largest collections of such evidence. Also, hundreds of witnesses were interviewed, and some 35 witnesses (fact and expert) were selected for the first round of hearing scheduled from 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at the Church House, Westminster in London. A second set of hearings is scheduled from 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September at the same venue.

24 eyewitnesses (appearing in the attached schedule with their details) have been invited to give evidence before the Tribunal. They have all submitted written statements to the Tribunal. They all require visas to be able to travel to London and attend the hearings.

On behalf of the Tribunal, I can confirm that these are genuine witnesses, and they have all suffered physical and/or mental torture inflicted upon them by the officials of the Chinese State.

The Tribunal will be responsible for the travel costs as well as accommodation and lodging of the witnesses. The Tribunal will also cover the costs of Covid tests for the witnesses.

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
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It is crucial for the Tribunal and by extension the general public that will be following the work of the Tribunal through media and social networks to hear the live evidence of these witnesses during the forthcoming hearings in June.

The Tribunal's work has been appreciated and supported by the Government Ministers. The Foreign Secretary and FCDO Ministers including Lord Ahmed of Wimbledon have been briefed as to the Tribunal's work. The British Parliamentarians while condemning (unanimously) China for genocide, paid tribute to the Tribunal's work.

I would appreciate if your Department considers granting pre-approval for grant of visas on an expedited basis to the witnesses listed in the attached schedule. They reside in Turkey, Holland, Sweden, France, Germany, Norway, U.S.A., and Kazakhstan.

Respectfully submitted



HAMID SABI  
Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal

Encl.



Foreign, Commonwealth  
& Development Office

**Nigel Adams MP**  
Minister of State for Asia

postal address removed

London  
postcode removed  
telephone number removed

**Email:**

**email address removed**

Mr Hamid Sabi  
Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal

postal address removed  
London  
postcode removed

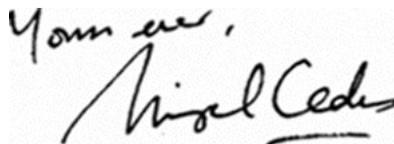
Our ref: MC2021/10790  
Your ref:  
19 May 2021

Dear Hamid,

Thank you for your correspondence of 26 April requesting pre-approval of visas for witnesses of the Uyghur Tribunal.

As I understand my officials have already conveyed to members of the Uyghur Tribunal team, the FCDO is not in a position to pre-approve visa applications in order to expedite them. UK Visas and Immigration, under the oversight of the Home Office is responsible for the visa application process and decision-making. The FCDO is unable to influence the outcome of visa decisions, which are taken in strict accordance with the immigration rules.

I will continue to follow the work of the Uyghur Tribunal with interest.



Yours  
Nigel Adams

**Nigel Adams MP**  
**Minister of State for Asia**

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Respond to:  
E: removed

27 May 2021

The Secretary Of State

postal address removed

LONDON postcode removed

Dear Secretary of State

The Uyghur Tribunal

I am the Chair of the Uyghur Tribunal formed at the invitation of the World Uyghur Congress to investigate and subsequently come to a determination on whether the People's Republic of China (PRC) is committing crimes against its Uyghur and other Turkic minority populations, including genocide and/or crimes against humanity.

Since the Tribunal's formation in September last year, it has amassed a significant body of evidence (totalling tens of thousands of pages) from a wide range of open and non-open sources.

The Tribunal will hold two public sets of Hearings in London, at which up to 70 fact and expert witnesses will be heard, the first of those will be held on the 4th-7th June of this year.

As you will be well aware it is not possible to bring these allegations to a formal court including the International Criminal Court or the International Court of Justice, which is why this Tribunal has been formed. We have no doubt that it is the right of all citizens of all countries to have answers to these questions; of such immense gravity.

I am fully aware of the responsibility that this places on this Tribunal and accordingly with the assistance of Baroness Kennedy (one of the UK's foremost advocates) and Mr Paul van Zyl (previously Secretary to the South African Truth Commission) I have assembled a panel (see below) of what I believe is of the highest calibre; in terms of probity and of course of intellectual capability. This is of utmost importance given the complexity of the matter before us.

The Tribunal is impartial in every sense; it is not an advocacy group but will simply deal with the evidence and only the evidence. It has indeed sought evidence on multiple occasions from the PRC.

You and the President have indicated that you believe that what is occurring is a genocide. We understand that there exists an analysis which formed the basis of such beliefs. This, together with any further evidence would be of great assistance to the Tribunal if you were prepared to share it with us - it of course would be treated according to the rules of evidence.



Sir Geoffrey Nice QC

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Respond to:  
E: removed

cc Mr Hamid Sabi: Counsel to the Tribunal (previously corresponded with you).

The Uyghur Tribunal Panel

SIR GEOFFREY NICE (CHAIR) Led the prosecution of Slobodan Milosevic, former President of Serbia at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. Barrister since 1971 and part time judge. Chaired the China Tribunal.

DAME PARVEEN KUMAR Emeritus Professor of Medicine and Education at Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London.

AMBREENA MANJI. Professor of Land Law and Development at Cardiff University.

TIM CLARK. formerly senior partner at a leading City of London law firm; board member of number of leading corporates, charities and think tanks.

RAMINDER KAUR. Professor of Anthropology and Cultural Studies at the University of Sussex

DAVID LINCH. Professor of Haematology at University College London.

AUDREY OSLER. Professor of Education at the University of South-Eastern Norway and Professor Emerita of Human Rights Education and Citizenship at the University of Leeds. Sometime expert to the Council of Europe, the European Commission, and UNESCO.

CATHERINE ROE. Former British diplomat. Board member of a number of foundations and organisations.

NICHOLAS VETCH. London based businessman and formerly member of the China Tribunal.

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
E: removed

Nigel Adams MP

Minister of State for Asia

postal address removed

LONDON postcode removed

Dear Minister

Thank you for your letter of 19<sup>th</sup> May and for setting out the Government's/FCDO's position so clearly.

I have discussed its contents, and this reply, with Members of the Tribunal. We all find your letter in part concerning.

There is an apparent lack of logic in the Government's position which could deprive citizens of the UK and elsewhere of information they *need* in order to make proper evidence-based decisions about the PRC, with which they may interact in many different ways.

The policy of having genocide and other international human rights crimes only ever determined by a 'competent court' - when it is known that there is at present no such court with jurisdiction - may serve to shield the PRC.

Article 1 of the 1951 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide amounts to an imperative to act on Contracting Parties (to include the UK since January 1970) where they 'confirm that genocide, whether committed in time of peace or in time of war, is a crime under international law **which they undertake to prevent and to punish**' (emphasis added). In light of this, should any country that may be committing genocide be saved from another country acting in accordance with Article 1 of the Convention by that other country shielding from its citizens material demonstrating some or all of the elements of genocide? Surely not. The duty of Contracting Parties to act in accordance with this undertaking must import a duty to seek out information on genocide - a duty to know.

Without a court to determine the issue of genocide or other international human rights crimes, the evidence-based Tribunal is a forum to which the Government should be able to turn for guidance on whether any of these crimes - including genocide - is being committed. The Tribunal's Judgment will only be improved - maybe very significantly - by provision of information it holds, and which may be particularly valuable for proof, *or disproof*, of genocidal intent or of intent for other crimes. Information held by the

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
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including our own have readily inferred genocidal intent from material in the public domain. The Tribunal may be much more rigorous in its approach to proof than parliaments around the world and will take no account of these Parliamentary proceedings, being acutely aware of a duty not to reach any conclusion about genocidal or other intent without sufficient evidence. Thus, my pressing the request for information, hoping the Government may reconsider.

Government policy, as expressed, does not render it *impossible* to assist the Tribunal when it is doing what Government wants in its welcoming of 'all rigorous and evidence-based initiatives aimed at increasing understanding of the deeply concerning situation faced by Uyghurs and other minorities in the region'.

Release into the Tribunal's hands, and thus into the public domain, of valuable evidence that the Government holds, will be bound to serve a public good in several ways, including to meet the human rights concerns you have as well as to help the Government perform its duty under the Convention.

Forgive this further request, reflecting incomplete knowledge, but might a member of your staff help with explaining whether, as a matter of law, *all* diplomatic reporting has to be classified? If so, into which category must it fall? And how can it be released from classification (apart from material classified as 'official' which can readily be released, I think) in the public interest.

We are, of course, approaching other governments which we believe hold material of potential value to the Tribunal's work and will mention all attempts to obtain materials from governments, including the PRC in my opening address on 4<sup>th</sup> June.

Consistent with the Tribunal's, and my, policy of complete openness, the Tribunal may seek parliamentarian backing for our arguments in favour of the government disclosing material it has. I am reluctant to approach MPs or Peers directly this close to the hearings and Luke de Pulford may liaise with Parliamentarians on the Tribunal's behalf.

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
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Can I thank you for recognition of work being done by the Tribunal and acknowledge your welcoming of evidence based initiatives generally. This may assist substantially with requests for visas for witnesses of facts who we hope may come to London to give evidence in person.

Your sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Geoffrey Nice". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'G' and 'N'.

Geoffrey Nice  
Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Chair Uyghur Tribunal



Foreign, Commonwealth  
& Development Office

**Nigel Adams MP**  
Minister of State for Asia

postal address removed  
postcode removed  
**Tel: removed**

**Email:**  
**fcdo.correspondence@fcdo.gov.uk**

**www.gov.uk/fcdo**

Sir Geoffrey Nice  
Chairman, Uyghur Tribunal  
postal address removed  
London  
postcode removed

Our ref: MC2021/13453  
Your ref:  
28 July 2021

Dear Sir Geoffrey,

Thank you for your correspondence of 21 May and 28 June regarding the Uyghur Tribunal. I am writing to respond to both of your letters.

On 21 May, you enquired as to whether all diplomatic reporting is classified. HMG information assets, including diplomatic reporting, may be classified into three types: OFFICIAL, SECRET and TOP SECRET. An explanation guide, including details on how we determine what falls into each category, is online:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-security-classifications>.

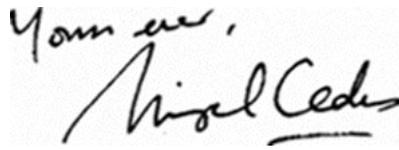
You also enquired as to how information may be released from its classification for public release. The Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act) makes provision for the disclosure of information held by public authorities, including information held by the FCDO. Any information requested will be considered for public release in line with the FOI legislation. However, we cannot guarantee that the material you seek will be released following an FOI request as, for instance, sensitive material can be withheld under one or more FOI Act exemptions.

Your correspondence of 28 June raised a number of other points regarding the Government's engagement with the Uyghur Tribunal, as well as our wider policy on genocide determination.

I would like to assure you that the Government's long-standing policy that any judgment on genocide is a matter for a competent national or international court has not prevented us from taking robust action on Xinjiang. The UK has led international efforts to hold China to account, imposed sanctions on four Chinese officials and one entity, and announced robust domestic measures to help ensure that no UK organisations are complicit in the human rights violations occurring in Xinjiang.

However, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss these points with you in further detail. I would therefore like to offer a meeting with our Director for North East Asia and

China, Rupert Ainley, which I hope will provide an opportunity for an open conversation about the points that you raise. If that would be of interest, please contact email removed to arrange a suitable time.

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light background. The signature reads "Yours as," followed by "Nigel Adams" in a cursive script. The name "Nigel Adams" is written in a fluid, connected style.

**Nigel Adams MP**  
**Minister of State for Asia**

Hamid Sabi  
Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal  
Email removed

20<sup>th</sup> August 2021

*By email:*  
[Information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:Information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk)  
*Henry Wells [email removed]*

## **URGENT**

20 August 2021

Dear Sirs,

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST BY THE UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**

This is an urgent Freedom of Information request by the Uyghur Tribunal (incorporated as UT Administration Ltd). A substantive response is requested by **3 September 2021**.

#### **Background**

The Uyghur Tribunal is an independent, quasi-judicial body established in September 2020 under the chairmanship of Sir Geoffrey Nice QC. Its purpose is to investigate allegations of mistreatment of Uyghurs and other Turkic minorities in the Xinjiang region by the government of the People's Republic of China (PRC). The allegations include genocide and other crimes against humanity. The Tribunal is wholly independent.

This request follows recent correspondence between the Sir Geoffrey Nice and the Minister for Asia, Nigel Adams MP. At a meeting arranged by the Minister on 10 August 2021, the Director of the FCDO's North-East Asia and China Department, Rupert Ainley, advised that the appropriate route to obtaining the information described below would be a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

#### **The request**

**Name of requesting organisation:** UT Administration Ltd

**Information sought:**

- All reporting by UK diplomats to the PRC;
- All other material held by the UK Government;
- Created or received between 1 January 2015 and the present day;
- Relating in whole or in part to the situation of Uyghur, other Turkic or other minority Muslim populations in Xinjiang;
- Existing in physical or electronic form; and
- To include:
  - information on President Xi's and/or the PRC Government's intentions towards those populations;

- Any material shared by the US State Department relating to allegations of genocide in the PRC, or to China's alleged treatment of its Uyghur population;
- Material from the Japanese Government originating from around March 2021 and mentioned in an article on the Kyodo News website.

**Form of receipt:** The Tribunal wishes to receive the information in electronic form, where possible.

**Suggested word searches (see Appendix)**

### **The potential importance of the information**

The Tribunal is the only mechanism in place, or envisaged, that will deal in a public, evidence-based way with this issue of international importance. Whilst China has signed and ratified the Genocide Convention, it has entered a reservation against the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice, and it is not a party to the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court.

The information sought could improve significantly the Tribunal's ability to get to the heart of what is happening in Xinjiang. Without the evidence, its work will be more difficult than it needs to be.

The diplomatic reporting and the US and Japanese reports are likely to contain evidence and analysis of relevant actions and intentions on the part of the Chinese State authorities. The Tribunal is investigating alleged crimes against humanity. For any crime, evidence of purpose and intent is key to the assessment of *mens rea*, proof of which is essential to determining criminality. The Tribunal's interest in such documents is informed by past experience; diplomatic reporting assisted in the prosecution of Slobodan Milošević, which was led by Sir Geoffrey Nice.

### **Urgency**

The Tribunal will hold its second and final hearings session over four days beginning on 10 September 2021.

If the material is not provided in advance of that session, the Tribunal will be unable to consider it within the context of the other evidence that will be examined at that hearing. This could mean that potentially important evidence would not be placed before the Tribunal in time for its judgment, which is due to be handed down on 9 December 2021.

As such, a substantive response is requested by 3 September 2021 so that the material can be disseminated to and considered by the expert panel determining the questions within the Tribunal's remit.

### **Conclusion**

Nigel Adams MP stated in his letter to the Chairman on 28 July 2021:

*“The UK has led international efforts to hold China to account, imposed sanctions on four Chinese officials and one entity, and announced robust domestic measures to help ensure that no UK organisations are complicit in the human rights violations occurring in Xinjiang.”*

The Tribunal has not reached any conclusion as to the commission of human rights violations in Xinjiang. But it does consider the cooperation requested in this letter to be an important, further expression of the UK’s legal duty to prevent and punish genocide: Article 1 of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, incorporated into domestic law by the International Criminal Court Act 2001.

Such cooperation also complies with the affirmation in the Rome Statute that *“the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole must not go unpunished and that their effective prosecution must be ensured by taking measures at the national level and by enhancing international cooperation.”*

Finally, it is consistent with Article 41(1) of the International Law Commission’s Draft Articles on the Responsibility of States for Internationally Wrongful Acts, which envisages that States shall cooperate to bring to an end through lawful means any serious breach of an obligation arising under a peremptory norm of international law. The Tribunal is approaching other states it believes hold material of potential value to its work, and will mention in its December Opening Statement all attempts to obtain materials from governments, including from the PRC.

We look forward to receiving, urgently, the requested information.

Yours faithfully,

**The Uyghur Tribunal**

UT Administration Company Limited by Guarantee  
Reg. No. 12888236  
Postal address removed  
London postcode removed

## APPENDIX

### Suggested word searches to assist in locating the information

- Uyghur
- Uighur
- Uygur
- Uigur
- Xinjiang
- Turkic
- Kazakh
- Kyrgyz
- Muslim
- Islam
- Vocational
- Re-education
- Reeducation
- Camps
- Internment
- “People’s war on terror”
- Extremist
- Extremism
- Trainee
- Orphanage
- “Residential school”
- “Tiger chair”
- Torture;
- Organ
- Harvesting
- “Birth control”
- Sterilisation
- Mosque;
- Shrine;
- Masjid
- Fasting;
- Ramadan
- “Tea party”
- “Mass graves”
- “Crematorium”
- IJOP
- Surveillance

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
E: removed

31st August 2021

*By email:*

FCDO email address removed

Mr Henry Wells email address removed

**URGENT**

Dear Sirs,

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST BY THE UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**

This is an urgent Freedom of Information request by the Uyghur Tribunal (incorporated as UT Administration Ltd). A substantive response is requested by **9<sup>th</sup> September 2021**.

**Background**

The Uyghur Tribunal is an independent, quasi-judicial body established in September 2020 under the chairmanship of Sir Geoffrey Nice QC. Its purpose is to investigate allegations of mistreatment of Uyghurs and other Turkic minorities in the Xinjiang region by the government of the People's Republic of China (PRC). The allegations include genocide and other crimes against humanity. The Tribunal is wholly independent.

This request follows recent correspondence between the Sir Geoffrey Nice and the Minister for Asia, Nigel Adams MP. At a meeting arranged by the Minister on 10 August 2021, the Director of the FCDO's North-East Asia and China Department, Rupert Ainley, advised that the appropriate route to obtaining the information described below would be a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. A request under FOIA was submitted on 20<sup>th</sup> August. On 31<sup>st</sup> August FCDO declared that the request is too wide to be considered.

The present request is the refined version with a narrower time frame and scope. As the Tribunal's hearings would commence on 10<sup>th</sup> September, we appreciate if this request is attended to as soon as possible with a view to provide the Tribunal with the requested documents.

**The Request**

**Name of requesting organisation:** UT Administration Ltd

**Information sought:**

- All reporting (including diplomatic cables and memos) by the UK diplomats to the PRC.
  - All other relevant material held by the FCDO.
  - Created or received between 1 January 2020 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
  - Relating in whole or in part to the situation of Uyghur, other Turkic or other minority Muslim populations in Xinjiang;
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# UYGHUR TRIBUNAL

## AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL

Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
E: removed

- Existing in physical or electronic form; and
- To include:
  - information on President Xi's and/or State Organs, Agents and officials (including but not limited to the PRC Government and/or CCP official's) intentions towards those populations.
  - Report shared by the US State Department (dated January to mid-February 2021) relating to allegations of genocide in the PRC, or to China's alleged treatment of its Uyghur population.
  - Report from the Japanese Government to the US and four other Governments (including United Kingdom Government) dated mid to late December 2020.

**Form of receipt:** The Tribunal wishes to receive the information in electronic form, where possible.

**Suggested word searches (see Appendix)**

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### **The potential importance of the information**

The Tribunal is the only mechanism in place, or envisaged, that will deal in a public, evidence-based way with this issue of international importance. Whilst China has signed and ratified the Genocide Convention, it has entered a reservation against the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice, and it is not a party to the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court.

The information sought could significantly improve the Tribunal's ability to get to the heart of what is happening in Xinjiang. Without the evidence, its work will be more difficult than in needs to be.

The diplomatic reporting and the US and Japanese reports are likely to contain evidence and analysis of relevant actions and intentions on the part of the Chinese State authorities. The Tribunal is investigating alleged crimes against humanity genocide and other international crimes and serious violations of international law. For any crime, evidence of purpose and intent is key to the assessment of *mens rea*, proof of which is essential to determining criminality. The Tribunal's interest in such documents is informed by past experience; diplomatic reporting assisted in the prosecution of Slobodan Milošević, which was led by Sir Geoffrey Nice.

### **Urgency**

The Tribunal will hold its second and final hearings session over four days beginning on 10 September 2021.

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
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If the material is not provided in advance of that session, the Tribunal will be unable to consider it within the context of the other evidence that will be examined at that hearing. This could mean that potentially important evidence would not be placed before the Tribunal in time for its judgment, which is due to be handed down on 9 December 2021.

As such, a substantive response is requested by 9th September 2021 so that the material can be disseminated to and considered by the expert panel determining the questions within the Tribunal's remit.

We look forward to receiving, urgently, the requested information.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hamid Sabi', is written in a cursive style.

HAMID SABI  
The Uyghur Tribunal

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
E: removed

**APPENDIX**

Suggested word searches to assist in locating the information

- Uyghur
- Uighur
- Uygur
- Uigur
- Xinjiang
- Turkic
- Kazakh
- Kyrgyz
- Camps
- Internment
- "People's war on terror"
- "Residential school"
- "Organ harvesting"
- "crime", "genocide" "concentration" "killing" in conjunction with Uyghurs/ Muslims



Foreign, Commonwealth  
& Development Office

Information Rights Unit  
WH 2.177  
King Charles Street  
London  
SW1A 2AH

Email: [information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk)

[www.gov.uk/fcdo](http://www.gov.uk/fcdo)

Hamid Sabi

email removed

28<sup>th</sup> September  
2021

Dear Hamid Sabi

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUEST REF: FOI2021/22509**

Thank you for your email of 31st August asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

### *Information sought:*

- *All reporting (including diplomatic cables and memos) by the UK diplomats to the PRC.*
- *All other relevant material held by the FCDO.*
- *Created or received between 1 January 2020 to 30th June 2021.*
- *Relating in whole or in part to the situation of Uyghur, other Turkic or other minority Muslim populations in Xinjiang;*
- *Existing in physical or electronic form; and*
- *To include: - information on President Xi's and/or State Organs, Agents and officials (including but not limited to the PRC Government and/or CCP official's) intentions towards those populations. - Report shared by the US State Department (dated January to mid-February 2021) relating to allegations of genocide in the PRC, or to China's alleged treatment of its Uyghur population. - Report from the Japanese Government to the US and four other Governments (including United Kingdom Government) dated mid to late December 2020.*

I can confirm that the FCDO does hold information relevant to your request.

Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit has been specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. For central government the appropriate limit is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one or more persons spending 3 ½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Despite narrowing the timeframe of your previous request (2021/21445), the search terms you have suggested still return a very large number of documents and would

require more than 3 ½ working days to locate, retrieve, extract and subsequently review to ensure that they are appropriate for release. You may therefore wish to further refine your request to enable us to comply with the cost limit. If you choose to do so, we advise that you refine the focus of your request by both reducing the scope of information being requested and narrowing the timeframe significantly. The following link to the [ICO guidance](#) provides advice on how to narrow and refocus an FOI request and how to access information from a public body, which you might find helpful.

Please note that any new request will be given a separate reference number and we will then consider whether we can provide the information requested within the appropriate cost limit. This would of course be subject to the consideration of whether any of the other exemptions under the FOI Act apply.

If you would like to request a review of our decision, or if you wish to make a complaint, please write to the Information Rights Unit at Room WH2.177, King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH, or by e-mail to [information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk). Please note that you have 40 working days from the date of this letter in which to submit a request for an internal review.

You can apply directly to the Information Commissioner. However, the Information Commissioner will not normally make a decision unless you have first exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the FCDO. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF, or online at <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

Yours sincerely,

### **Information Rights Unit**

For information about how the FCDO handles personal information please see our [Personal Information Charter](#)



Foreign, Commonwealth  
& Development Office

**Information Rights Unit**  
WG.75  
postal address removed

London  
postcode removed

**Email: [information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk)**

Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
postal address removed, London  
postcode removed  
email removed

22nd March 2022

Dear Sir Geoffrey Nice QC,

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUEST REF: FOI2022/01847**

I refer to our letter of 22<sup>nd</sup> February saying that we needed more time to consider the balance of public interest in disclosing the information you requested. We are still considering these issues and are not yet in a position to respond. We are working very hard on your request and plan to respond by 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022.

If you are unhappy with the service we are providing or wish to make a complaint, you should write to the Information Rights Unit at the address given below or e-mail [information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely,

**Information Rights Unit**

For information about how the FCDO handles personal information please see our [Personal Information Charter](#)



Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
postal address removed, London  
[postal code removed](#)  
[email removed](#)

8th April 2022

Dear Sir Geoffrey Nice QC,

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUEST REF: FOI2022/01847**

Thank you for your email of 25th January asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

*Separately, you may be aware of FOI requests made by the Tribunal to the FCDO. These have not been dealt with to conclusion and the helpful meeting had by me with an expert at the FCDO did not extinguish those requests. In light of what Ms Milling said in the debate about research the FCDO had available to it the Tribunal now requests immediate access to that research in order to ensure that nothing in it could justify amendment of its Judgment.*

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested.

I can confirm that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) does hold information relevant to your request.

In her speech on 20 January, the Minister for Asia referred to “the research that we have funded” regarding the human rights situation in Xinjiang.

Under section 21 of the Act, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is already reasonably accessible to you. Three research reports that the FCDO has funded, to which the Minister was referring, are available here;

- “Uyghurs For Sale”, published by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute in March 2020 (<https://ad-aspi.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/2021-10/Uyghurs%20for%20sale%20OCT21.pdf?VersionId=zIRFV8AtLg1ITtRpzBm7ZcfnHKm6Z0Ys>)
- “The Architecture of Repression”, published by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute in October 2021 (<https://ad-aspi.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/2021-10/The%20architecture%20of%20repression-v3.pdf?VersionId=.CbKE2OnnI5qKVZbTedTXt9eW3sjflzS>)
- “Criminal Law and Deprivation of Liberty: Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region”, published by The Rights Practice in August 2021

The FCDO has funded further publicly available research, however we consider that disclosure of some of the information concerned (specifically details about the authors' involvement with HMG funded research) is personal data relating to third parties, the disclosure of which would contravene one of the data protection principles. In such circumstances sections 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the data protection principle that personal data should be processed lawfully, fairly and transparently. It is the fairness aspect of this principle, which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. In such circumstances, s40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure. There is, therefore, no public interest test to apply.

In addition, we consider that disclosure of FCDO funding for these reports is exempt from disclosure as its release would prejudice the relations between the UK and China. We acknowledge the public interest in knowing more about the UK government's relationship with China. However s27(1)(a) recognises that the effective conduct of international relations depends upon maintaining trust and confidence between governments. If the United Kingdom does not maintain this trust and confidence, its ability to protect and promote UK interests in China and the wider region will be hampered, which would not be in the public interest. In this case, we consider that the public interest in withholding the information concerned outweighs that in its disclosure.

You will note that we had informed you we were considering section 38 – Health & Safety in relation to the information withheld. We have since found that not to be the case.

The copies of information being supplied to you continue to be protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research you are doing and for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder. Most documents supplied by the FCDO will have been produced by government officials and will be protected by Crown Copyright. To re-use Crown Copyright documents please consult the [Open Government Licence v3](#) on the National Archives website.

Information you receive which is not subject to Crown Copyright continues to be protected by the copyright of the person, or organisation, from which the information originated. You must ensure that you gain their permission before reproducing any third party (non-Crown Copyright) information.

If you would like to request a review of our decision please email us at: [information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk) or write to: Information Rights Unit, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, address removed, London. Please note you have 40 working days to do so from the date of this letter

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may then apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the FCDO. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: address removed or online at: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

Yours sincerely,

**Information Rights Unit**

For information about how the FCDO handles personal information please see our [Personal Information Charter](#)

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Tribunal Chair  
E: removed

The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP  
Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Foreign, Commonwealth  
and Development Office  
postal address removed  
London postal code removed

Dear Foreign Secretary,

I write on behalf of the Uyghur Tribunal, of which I am Chair.

The Judgment of the Tribunal was delivered at Church House Westminster on 9<sup>th</sup> December.

The Judgment can be found on the front page of the Uyghur Tribunal website [www.uyghurtribunal.com](http://www.uyghurtribunal.com).

Tribunal Members either saw livestreamed, or have since reviewed the transcript of, the debate about the Tribunal's Judgment initiated by Nusrat Ghani MP that was held in the House of Commons last Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> January.

Tribunal Members have concerns about the closing speech made by Ms. Amanda Milling, FCDO Minister of State for Asia on behalf of the Government. In that speech Ms. Milling failed to answer any detailed questions from her fellow MPs - of all political parties - about the Judgment.

Ms. Milling was following the approach of the government to recognise no determination about allegations of genocide unless made by a judge. As I am sure you will be aware, this approach - policy/protocol - is hard or impossible to follow given that there is no judge of any national or international legal system who can be activated in order to make such a determination.

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Tribunal Chair  
E: removed

Whether the government's approach is reasonable is, also, not a matter for the Tribunal although the Tribunal is satisfied that it is not in any way prescribed by the Genocide Convention and does not free Contracting Parties to the Convention – such as the UK – from the duty to act *immediately* on determining that there is a serious risk that genocide is or may be occurring elsewhere. Please see, in this regard paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Judgment are footnoted.<sup>1</sup>

In the light of the allegations made so widely and powerfully about alleged suffering of the Uyghurs at the hands of the PRC, and given the duty to act 'at the instant that a Contracting Party (i.e. the UK in this case) learns of, or should normally have learned of, the existence of a serious risk that genocide will be committed', the Tribunal's Judgment should be – and we assume is – of great value to the Government in its *necessary* determination.

There has been no criticism (save only in one instance suggesting more extensive finding of genocide) of the Judgment – but it has been specifically welcomed by a committee of the EU Parliament, by the French Assembly equivalent of an APPG (to whom will be speaking next week), and by a group of senior diplomats in London from European countries.

All of this gives rise to our serious concerns. Why is the UK government not willing to say whether it accepts the Tribunal's findings given how completely they are articulated on evidence all freely available for review? If the UK government

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<sup>1</sup> One feature of the international legal landscape, relevant whenever genocide is considered, is Article 1 of the Genocide Convention which reads:

'The Contracting Parties confirm that genocide, whether committed in time of peace or in time of war, is a crime under international law which they undertake to prevent and to punish.' The undertaking, to which 152 countries including the PRC, USA, and UK are committed, is an obligation about which the world's highest court, the International Court of Justice (ICJ), has said:

'In fact, a State's obligation to prevent, and the corresponding duty to act, arise at the instant that the State learns of, or should normally have learned of, the existence of a serious risk that genocide will be committed.'

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Tribunal Chair  
E: removed

challenges any word, sentence or statistic of the Judgment why is it not prepared to say so?

Will you, please, say *now and publicly* whether the Judgment of the Tribunal is accepted? If it is not accepted, please say precisely *why* not?

Separately, you may be aware of FOI requests made by the Tribunal to the FCDO. These have not been dealt with to conclusion and the helpful meeting had by me with an expert at the FCDO did not extinguish those requests. In light of what Ms Milling said in the debate about research the FCDO had available to it the Tribunal now requests *immediate* access to that research in order to ensure that nothing in it could justify amendment of its Judgment.

All Tribunal correspondence is or will be published on the Tribunal's website in accordance with its policy of complete openness.

This is a matter of such importance that I believe it warrants your personal attention and I, and my vice chair, would welcome the opportunity of attending a meeting with you.

Yours sincerely

Geoffrey Nice QC

[email removed](#)

24<sup>th</sup> January 2022



Foreign, Commonwealth  
& Development Office

**Rt Hon. Amanda Milling MP**  
Minister for Asia and the Middle East

address removed

London  
postcode removed

**Tel: removed**

**Email:**

**[www.gov.uk/fcdo](http://www.gov.uk/fcdo)**

Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
address removed  
London  
postcode removed

Our ref: MC2022/01680

23 March 2022

Dear Sir Geoffrey,

Thank you for your letter of 24 January on behalf of the panel you chaired, which concluded that genocide is occurring in Xinjiang. I am sorry for the delay in responding to you.

As I made clear in Parliament on 20 January, the Government is appalled by the human rights situation in Xinjiang, and welcomes the important contribution that the panel made to building international awareness and understanding of the human rights violations occurring there. I know that FCDO officials followed the panel's work closely.

As you will be aware, it remains the long-standing policy of the British Government that any determination of genocide is a matter for a competent court or tribunal, rather than for governments or non-judicial bodies. Our position on this matter, which is fully consistent with our obligations under the Genocide Convention and the Rome Statute, has not changed in response to the panel's findings.

However, as our actions have demonstrated, the Government's policy on genocide determination in no way undermines our resolve to lead international efforts to address the egregious human rights violations occurring in Xinjiang.

I am proud that the UK was the first country to step up to lead a joint statement at the United Nations on China's human rights record in Xinjiang. Since that first statement in 2019, which was supported by 23 countries, we have worked tirelessly through our global diplomatic network to broaden the international coalition of countries calling out China's actions. Our leadership has sustained pressure on China to change its behaviour, and consistently increased the number of countries speaking out. Most recently, we helped to secure the support of 43 countries for a joint statement on Xinjiang at the UN Third Committee in October 2021. The Foreign Secretary also expressed her deep concern about the situation in Xinjiang in an address to the UN Human Rights Council on 1 March.

We have also used our Global Human Rights sanctions regime to impose asset bans and travel freezes on senior Chinese actors responsible for enforcing China's repressive policies in Xinjiang. These measures were coordinated with the US, Canada and the EU in unprecedented joint action. Taken together, we represent over 1/3 of global GDP, sending a powerful message to the Chinese government that the international community will not turn a blind eye to such serious and systematic violations of basic human rights.

We have also led the way in tackling forced labour in global supply chains. Domestically, we have introduced new guidance for businesses on the risks of doing business in Xinjiang – supported by a programme of Ministerial engagement – and announced enhanced export controls, as well as the introduction of financial penalties under the UK's pioneering Modern Slavery Act. We are also working closely with international partners to ensure a coordinated approach to this complex issue. Under our G7 Presidency in 2021, G7 Leaders committed to working together to ensure that global supply chains are free from the use of forced labour.

The Government also consistently raises our concern about the situation in Xinjiang directly with the Chinese authorities at the highest levels. The Prime Minister raised it in a telephone call with President Xi on 29 October, as did the Foreign Secretary in her introductory call with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on 22 October. I personally raised the situation with the Chinese Ambassador to London in our meeting on 15 December.

I am also aware that your letter contained a request for information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act. This request will be handled separately in line with our usual FOI processes.

I hope that this makes clear the importance that this Government attaches to standing up for the rights of Uyghurs and other minorities in Xinjiang, as well as our commitment to taking robust action to hold China to account for its actions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Milling', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**Rt Hon. Amanda Milling MP**  
**Minister of State for Asia and the Middle East**

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Chair to the Tribunal  
Email removed

3 August 2022

The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss, MP  
Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs  
Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Dear Ms Truss,

The Uyghur Tribunal that I chaired delivered its Judgment on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

It found Torture, Crimes against Humanity and Genocide proved beyond reasonable doubt to have been committed by the PRC against Uyghurs.

The Genocide finding, it should be remembered, was not of mass killing but:

'Paragraph 190: Accordingly, on the basis of evidence heard in public, the Tribunal is satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the PRC, by the imposition of measures to prevent births intended to destroy a significant part of the Uyghurs in Xinjiang as such, has committed genocide.'

The Judgment was debated at some length in the House of commons on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and the unanimous resolution of the House' included:

'That this House notes that the December 2021 Uyghur Tribunal's judgment in London found beyond reasonable doubt that the People's Republic of China was responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity and torture in the Uyghur region .....

I wrote to you on the 24<sup>th</sup> January asking if you accepted the Judgment of the Uyghur Tribunal and, if not, to say why not. I proposed a meeting.

A reply was received from Ms Milling, Minister for Asia and the Middle East dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022, which referred to the government's policy of having genocide determined by a competent court (there is, of course, no court able to make such a determination in present circumstances). She did not reply to my proposal for a meeting with you.

The Judgment has been considered and approved or accepted by parliaments and professional bodies around the world and has not been challenged by anyone as to its accuracy (except in a purely perfunctory way by the PRC itself).

UYGHUR TRIBUNAL  
AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL

Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Chair to the Tribunal  
e: [Imfrevni@homefil.co.uk](mailto:Imfrevni@homefil.co.uk)

Are you prepared now to say publicly that you - and any government you may lead - will accept that Genocide has been proved to have been committed by the PRC against the Uyghurs?

Will you now commit to meet with the Tribunal if made Prime Minister, with a view to learning about its Judgment and acting upon it.

Yours sincerely  
Geoffrey Nice

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Nice", enclosed within a thin blue rectangular border.

Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Chairman, Uyghur Tribunal

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL

Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Chair to the Tribunal  
email removed

3 August 2022

Rt Hon Rishi Sunak, MP House of Commons LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dear Mr Sunak,

The Uyghur Tribunal that I chaired delivered its Judgment on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

It found Torture, Crimes against Humanity and Genocide proved beyond reasonable doubt to have been committed by the PRC against Uyghurs.

The Genocide finding, it should be remembered, was not of mass killing but:

'Paragraph 190: Accordingly, on the basis of evidence heard in public, the Tribunal is satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the PRC, by the imposition of measures to prevent births intended to destroy a significant part of the Uyghurs in Xinjiang as such, has committed genocide.'

The Judgment was debated at some length in the House of commons on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and the unanimous resolution of the House' included:

°That this House notes that the December 2021 Uyghur Tribunal's judgment in London found beyond reasonable doubt that the People's Republic of China was responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity and torture in the Uyghur region.....'

I wrote to Liz Truss as Foreign Secretary on the 24<sup>th</sup> January asking if she accepted the Judgment of the Uyghur Tribunal and, if not, to say why not. I proposed a meeting.

A reply was received from Ms Milling, Minister for Asia and the Middle East dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022, which referred to the government's policy of having genocide determined by a competent court (there is, of course, no court able to make such a determination in present circumstances). She did not reply to my proposal for a meeting with Liz Truss.

The Judgment has been considered and approved or accepted by parliaments and professional bodies around the world and has not been challenged by anyone as to its accuracy (except in a purely perfunctory way by the PRC itself).

UYGHUR TRIBUNAL  
AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL

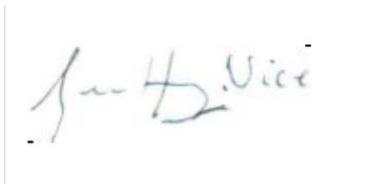
Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Chair to the Tribunal

"

Are you prepared now to say publicly that you - and any government you may lead - will accept that Genocide has been proved to have been committed by the PRC against the Uyghurs?

Will you now commit to meet with the Tribunal if made Prime Minister, with a view to learning about its Judgment and acting upon it.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sir G. Nice", enclosed within a thin blue rectangular border.

Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Chairman, Uyghur Tribunal

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi  
Counsel to the Tribunal  
E: removed

21 May 2021

Ian Ross Esq  
Executive Officer to the Deputy High Commissioner

postal address removed  
AUSTRALIA

Dear Mr Ross

Re : The Uyghur Tribunal

I am writing as Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal, chaired by Sir Geoffrey Nice, QC. The Tribunal was set up at the request of World Uyghur Congress to investigate allegations of genocide and crimes against humanity said to have been committed by the People's Republic of China against the Uyghurs, Kazakhs, and other Turkic minorities in West China.

Sir Geoffrey and I had the privilege of attending a video conference with the Deputy High Commissioner Bryce Hutchesson on 13th May 2020 regarding the judgment of the China Tribunal on Forced Organ Harvesting from the Prisoners of Conscience, also chaired by Sir Geoffrey.

As Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal, my colleagues and I are required to collect and collate all the evidence, including evidence supporting the position of the People's Republic of China, in relation to these allegations. The Counsel team have created a database of over 2,000 documents and has interviewed eyewitnesses and experts in this field. A four-day hearing has been scheduled from 4th to 7th June 2021, in Church House, Westminster where 24 fact witnesses, and 15 experts will testify before the nine Members of the Tribunal. A second hearing is scheduled for 10-13<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

We have approached the Governments of the United States, United Kingdom and Japan requesting any evidence in this regard.

We would appreciate if through your good offices, we can pose the same question to the Australian Government.

Sir Geoffrey, who asked me to make this request, also asks me to apologise to you for it being late and now urgent. I am available to discuss by phone at more or less any time and, if it would help and speed the process, Sir Geoffrey is willing to explain further what categories of evidence could assist to the Deputy High Commissioner (I think Mr Hutchesson may no longer be in post in London) or even the Ambassador.

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi  
Counsel to the Tribunal  
E: removed

It would be of great assistance if your Government can provide the Tribunal with assistance in this respect. I also invite your Government to send an observer to the Tribunal, the proceedings of which can also be viewed live through internet. Please see [www.uyghurTribunal.com](http://www.uyghurTribunal.com).

Respectfully submitted



HAMID SABI  
Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi  
Counsel to the Tribunal

E:

15 February 2021

His Excellency Koji Tsuruoka  
Ambassador  
Embassy of Japan

London

Your Excellency

**Uyghur Tribunal**

I am writing this letter as Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal set up in September 2020 under the chairmanship of Sir Geoffrey Nice, to investigate the allegations of mistreatment of Uyghurs and other Turkic minorities in West China by the Government of the People's Republic of China (PRC). The allegations include of the crime of genocide and of crimes against humanity perpetrated by the PRC or the State officials in China.

In a recent article Kyodo News referred to your Government's sharing information with the United States and other friendly governments regarding the plight of Uyghurs in China.

<https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2020/12/05a93816bf5b-japan-gave-intel-on-chinas-crackdown-on-uyghurs-to-us-britain.html>

The Tribunal would appreciate it if this information can be made available to the Tribunal. If any of the information may be confidential or sensitive, the Tribunal might be able to receive the information on a confidential basis, once explanation is given for not providing it free of confidentiality/protection.

I take this opportunity to offer the compliments of Sir Geoffrey Nice and Members of the Uyghur Tribunal to the Government of Japan.

Respectfully Submitted



HAMID SABI  
Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi  
Counsel to the Tribunal

E: ]

15 February 2021

Anthony Blinken Esq  
Secretary of State

Dear Secretary of State

**The Uyghur Tribunal**

I am writing this letter as Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal, set up in September 2020 under the chairmanship of Sir Geoffrey Nice, QC, to investigate, among others, the allegations of the commission of the crime of genocide by the People's Republic of China (PRC) against Uyghurs and other Turkic minorities in West China.

The Tribunal is an independent, voluntary association. It is not associated with *any* government or political organisation. The Tribunal, which has no powers of sanction or enforcement, will confine itself to reviewing evidence in order to reach an impartial and considered judgment on whether international crimes are proved to have been committed by the PRC.

Secretary Pompeo, in his last day in the office, announced that the PRC was (is) committing genocide against its Uyghur citizens. In your confirmation hearing before the US Senate, and in response to Senator Lindsay Graham, you confirmed Secretary Pompeo's categorisation by stating "That would be my opinion as well".

The Tribunal would be extremely interested to receive:

- a. any analysis by the State Department in its findings on the issue of genocide (as defined by 1948 Convention) against PRC; and
- b. Evidence by yourself or the Legal Adviser of the State Department as to these findings.

Further, should your Government deliver on any of the obligations imposed by the Convention on its finding of commission of the crime of genocide, including, but not limited to, bringing a case against the PRC at the ICJ, the Tribunal might be able to share the evidence that it has collected and collated with your Department.

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi  
Counsel to the Tribunal

E:

The Tribunal is planning to have a four-day evidence hearing in the second week of May 2021 to be followed by a further four-day hearing in September of this year. The hearings will be open to the public and you are encouraged, as above, to provide evidence and/or a witness for the hearings as well as to send an observer to attend the hearings.

I take this opportunity to offer the compliments of Sir Geoffrey Nice and Members of the Uyghur Tribunal to the Government of the United States of America.

Respectfully Submitted



HAMID SABI

Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal

cc: Richard C. Visek, Acting Legal Adviser - Washington

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
E: removed

17 March 2021

Her Excellency Yael Lempert  
Charge' d'Affaires  
Embassy of the United States of America  
postal address removed

LONDON postcode removed

Your Excellency

I am writing this letter as the Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal set up under the chairmanship of Sir Geoffrey Nice QC, to investigate the treatment of the Uyghur Community (and other Turkic minorities) in West China by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

The Tribunal is an independent body composed of nine individuals.

The first Hearings of the Tribunal are set to commence on 4th June in Church House, Central London.

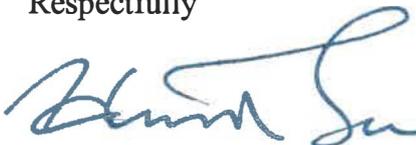
I enclose a copy of the letter dated 15th February 2021 sent to Secretary Blinken on behalf of the Tribunal with a copy having been provided to Richard Visek, Legal Adviser.

I am afraid that so far, no reply or acknowledgment has been received either from the Secretary of State or the office of the Legal Adviser. May I seek the assistance of your good offices to obtain an early reaction to the questions raised in this letter?

Any available evidence of the crime of genocide allegedly committed by PRC against Uyghurs would be extremely valuable to the investigations undertaken by the Tribunal and any assistance in this respect will be much appreciated.

I take this opportunity to offer my compliments to the Government of the United States of America.

Respectfully



HAMID SABI  
Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal

Encl.

**From:** Hamid Sabi  
**Sent:** 26 March 2021 16:24  
**To:** Lee, Che K (The Hague) <email address removed>  
**Subject:** RE: Greetings from US EMB The Hague

Dear Mr. Che Lee

Thank you for your email. I will be glad to meet you virtually next week and share information on the Uyghur Tribunal.

Unfortunately afternoon of 31<sup>st</sup> March would not be convenient but I am available on 1<sup>st</sup> April from 11.30 am to 3.30 pm (London time). Please let me know when it is convenient for you.

Regards

Hamid

**From:** Lee, Che K (The Hague) <email address removed>  
**Sent:** 26 March 2021 16:10  
**To:** Hamid Sabi <email address removed>  
**Subject:** Greetings from US EMB The Hague

Mr. Sabi,

Greetings from The U.S. Embassy in The Hague, Netherlands. I am a political officer here and my colleague Jeffrey Mazur, with whom you spoke with the other day, suggested I reach out to you regarding the Uyghur Tribunal that you are planning. I would be interested in soliciting your thoughts regarding the tribunal and I'd be happy to share any insights I can regarding the Uyghur diaspora in the Netherlands. I would welcome an opportunity for a virtual chat via MS Teams at your convenience next week. My schedule is very flexible April 1 for most of the day but have time after 1400 until 1600 London time on March 31.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

**Mr. Che Lee**

Political Officer

Office of Political and Economic Affairs | U.S. Embassy The Hague postal address removed, The Netherlands

telephone number removed | email address removed

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal E: removed

12 August 2021

Ambassador Kelley E. Currie Ambassador-at-  
Large for Global Women's Issues U.S.  
postal address removed  
Washington, D.C.  
U.S.A.

Dear Ambassador Currie

UYGHUR TRIBUNAL

I write as Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal, a people's tribunal, a UK Tribunal established to investigate China's *alleged* Genocide and crimes against Humanity against Uyghur, Kazakh and other Turkic Muslim populations.

I am asked by the Tribunal Members (Sir Geoffrey Nice and eight others) if you would be willing and able to give evidence to the Tribunal in person or by video link, on Friday 10th, Saturday 11th, Sunday 12th or Monday 13th September.

The Tribunal sits at Church House Westminster.

I understand that you played a role in the US State Department's determination earlier this year (announced by Secretary Pompeo; endorsed by Secretary Blinken) that genocide has been or is being committed by the PRC against the Uyghur people of Xinjiang. The evidence considered in that determination and the argumentation leading to the conclusion about genocide are not in the public domain.

Your evidence - especially if able to identify evidence relied on and route to the determination - will be of very great importance for the following reasons.

The Tribunal will reach its conclusions on the basis of evidence it hears and reads and nothing else. It will not rely on *opinions* of others about issues that are to be final conclusions of the Tribunal Members.

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
E: removed

Initially there was no intention to receive in evidence other reports save to the extent that they identified evidence that the Tribunal *might* be able to use. However, there have been several reports in addition to the US determination: HRW, Amnesty, Newlines (and two from UK Lawyer groups). None of these reports reaches a firm conclusion about genocide and that leaves the US determination - its reasoning in particular - of particular potential value for the Tribunal in performing the task for which it is mandated.

Might you be able to assist?

I am available at all times to discuss by phone, Zoom etc., as would be the Chairman of the Tribunal.

Yours sincerely



HAMID SABI  
Counsel to the Tribunal

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Chair to the Tribunal  
E: email removed

27 July 2022

His Royal Majesty  
King Mohammed VI  
Rabat, Morocco

E:email removed

Your Majesty

Extradition order against Yidiresi Aishan

I am writing this letter as the Chair of the Uyghur Tribunal. The Tribunal was set up in September 2020 at the request of the World Uyghur Congress to investigate the treatment of the Uyghurs and other Turkic minorities in Xinxiang, West China.

The Tribunal held two four-days hearings in June and September 2021 in London and a further significant public online hearing following provision to the Tribunal of PRC document of the highest level of secrecy demonstrating top-down control of the gravest violations of their human rights suffered by Uyghurs in Xinjiang. It heard evidence from over seventy factual and expert witnesses. The Tribunal's judgment was issued on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021, finding China has committed genocide and crimes against humanity against Uyghurs. The Judgment is available here.[Uyghur-Tribunal-Judgment-9th-Dec-21.pdf \(uyghurtribunal.com\)](https://www.uyghurtribunal.com/uyghur-tribunal-judgment-9th-dec-21.pdf).

In its judgment, the Tribunal found that Uyghurs were randomly and arbitrarily arrested, detained for long periods of time in "re-education camps" with no charges; the detainees suffered extreme maltreatment and torture; and men and women were routinely raped and sexually assaulted. Food and sanitary conditions failed to meet even the most basic humane conditions. The majority of mosques and Islamic cultural centres were destroyed. Detainees were used as slave labour for industries, working long hours with little food and no or little pay. Growing a beard, wearing Islamic dress, or practising Islam, even in the confines of one's home, is considered "extremism" and punishable by long sentences in prison. Women were forcibly sterilised, and the children of the detainees were sent to Chinese schools to forget their heritage.

Your Majesty: Yidiresi Aishan, an Uyghur activist, has been detained in Tiflet prison since his arrest in July last year because of a Red Notice issued by Interpol at the request of the Peoples Republic of China, who accused him of terrorism. The PRC accuses all Moslem activists of being terrorist. Interpol cancelled the Red Notice in August last year, but the Supreme Court of Cassation has since confirmed the order of extradition of Yidiresi Aishan for breach of statutes. Mr. Aishan's extradition to China will most likely amount to a death

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Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Chair to the Tribunal  
Email removed

3 August 2022

The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss, MP  
Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs  
Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Dear Ms Truss,

The Uyghur Tribunal that I chaired delivered its Judgment on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

It found Torture, Crimes against Humanity and Genocide proved beyond reasonable doubt to have been committed by the PRC against Uyghurs.

The Genocide finding, it should be remembered, was not of mass killing but:

'Paragraph 190: Accordingly, on the basis of evidence heard in public, the Tribunal is satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the PRC, by the imposition of measures to prevent births intended to destroy a significant part of the Uyghurs in Xinjiang as such, has committed genocide.'

The Judgment was debated at some length in the House of commons on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and the unanimous resolution of the House' included:

'That this House notes that the December 2021 Uyghur Tribunal's judgment in London found beyond reasonable doubt that the People's Republic of China was responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity and torture in the Uyghur region .....

I wrote to you on the 24<sup>th</sup> January asking if you accepted the Judgment of the Uyghur Tribunal and, if not, to say why not. I proposed a meeting.

A reply was received from Ms Milling, Minister for Asia and the Middle East dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022, which referred to the government's policy of having genocide determined by a competent court (there is, of course, no court able to make such a determination in present circumstances). She did not reply to my proposal for a meeting with you.

The Judgment has been considered and approved or accepted by parliaments and professional bodies around the world and has not been challenged by anyone as to its accuracy (except in a purely perfunctory way by the PRC itself).

UYGHUR TRIBUNAL  
AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL

Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Chair to the Tribunal  
e: [Imfrevni@homefil.co.uk](mailto:Imfrevni@homefil.co.uk)

Are you prepared now to say publicly that you - and any government you may lead - will accept that Genocide has been proved to have been committed by the PRC against the Uyghurs?

Will you now commit to meet with the Tribunal if made Prime Minister, with a view to learning about its Judgment and acting upon it.

Yours sincerely  
Geoffrey Nice

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Geoffrey Nice", enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Chairman, Uyghur Tribunal

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
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Sir Geoffrey Nice QC  
Chair to the Tribunal  
E: email removed

sentence or as a minimum to spending the rest of his life in a camp the horrifying realities of which are reflected in the Tribunal's judgment.

None of the 9 members of the Tribunal or the Counsel team is of the Muslim faith or heritage, but they all believe in the right of individuals to practice the faith of their choice, and not to be punished because of it.

You are urged to consider the Judgment, the detail of which has not been challenged as to content or conclusions by anybody (except in a perfunctory way by the PRC). It has been adopted by several parliaments around the world as an accurate determination of what happens to Uyghurs in Xingjiang.

May it be that all Muslim leaders, including Your Majesty, should show Islamic compassion to their fellow Muslims, especially when they are fighting to protect their communities.

Your Majesty please consider the Tribunal's Judgment in the exercise of your power to pardon. Please pardon Mr. Aishan.

Respectfully submitted



Sir Geoffrey Nice, QC  
Chairman, Uyghur Tribunal

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
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Hamid Sabi Counsel to the  
Tribunal  
E:

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23 September 2021

Michelle Bachelet Jaria  
UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

postal address removed

Geneva  
SWITZERLAND

Dear Madam High Commissioner

I am writing this letter as Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal, an international people's Tribunal set up at the request of the World Uyghur Congress under the chairmanship of Sir Geoffrey Nice, to investigate the allegations of Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity alleged to have been committed against the Uyghurs Kazakhs and other Turkic minorities in Xinjiang Autonomous Region by the People's Republic of China (PRC).

The Tribunal has held two public hearings in June and September this year in London. Over 70 witnesses (including 33 fact witnesses of which 15 were camp survivors and 40 experts) have testified before the Tribunal. In addition, the Tribunal's researchers have collected, collated, and categorised thousands of publicly available documents, creating one of the largest databases on these issues.

I refer to your recent statement that your office "is finalizing its assessment of the available information on allegations of serious human rights violations in that region" by the end of the year, I have been asked by the Tribunal to offer our assistance in providing the information that your office may require for completing your report.

I take this opportunity to offer the compliments of Sir Geoffrey Nice and the Tribunal Members to the UN High Commission for Human Rights and remain,

Your sincerely



HAMID SABI  
Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal  
telephone number removed

## **BBC Correspondence**

**From:** Hamid Sabi

**Sent:** 07 September 2021 14:31

**To:** Tim Davie <email address removed>

**Cc:** Fran Unsworth <email address removed>; Deborah Cohen <email address removed>; <email address removed>; <email address removed>

**Subject:** Uyghur Tribunal - BBC documentary

Dear Director General

I am writing this email as Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal, set up under the chairmanship of Sir Geoffrey Nice to investigate the allegations of genocide and crimes against humanity alleged to have been committed (continuing to be committed) by PRC and Chinese Government agents against Uyghurs, Kazakhs and other Turkic and Moslem minorities in West China.

I refer to my emails of 19th August (to names removed) and 1st September (to Fran Unsworth and Deborah Cohen) for which (apart from automated answers) we have not had a courtesy of reply or acknowledgment.

As mentioned in previous emails, we are informed by our contacts in the Uyghur community, that BBC has produced a report (or a documentary) in connection with issues under consideration by the Tribunal (including forced organ harvesting). To our knowledge BBC has not screened this report (or documentary) publicly and has failed to respond to our requests for sharing this evidence with the Tribunal.

The second hearing of the Uyghur Tribunal will commence on Friday 10th September at Church House, Westminster. The hearings are open to the public and will be live streamed over the social media.

In his opening remarks, Sir Geoffrey will refer to the failure of BBC in providing the Tribunal with this evidence.

As clearly stated in the June hearing

see [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCt4uc8LsgxsTDK\\_0dChZm5A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCt4uc8LsgxsTDK_0dChZm5A) - opening statement by Counsel on 4th June - the Counsel does not present a case for or against China. The Counsel's remit is simply to collect any evidence relevant to the Tribunal's mandate, including any exculpatory evidence.

Regards

Hamid Sabi

Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal

## **BBC Correspondence**

**From:** Kate McAndrew <email address removed>

**Sent:** 07 September 2021 15:34

**To:** Hamid Sabi <email address removed>

**Subject:** RE: Uyghur Tribunal - BBC documentary

Dear Mr Sabi,

Please accept our apologies for not having acknowledged your correspondence before today.

We have asked a senior editorial colleague to look into the matters you have raised, and we will reply more fully as soon as we can.

With best wishes

Kate McAndrew

Kate McAndrew

Chief of Staff to the Director of BBC News & Current Affairs

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**From:** Tracey Henry <email address removed > on behalf of Fran Unsworth <email address removed>

**Sent:** 09 September 2021 13:02

**To:** Hamid Sabi <email address removed>; name removed <email address removed>; name removed <email address removed>

**Cc:** Fran Unsworth < email address removed>; name removed <email address removed>; name removed <email address removed>; name removed <email address removed>

**Subject:** RE: Uyghur Tribunal - BBC documentary

Dear Mr Sabi

Thank you for your emails of 1st and 7th September, and once again apologies for the delay in this reply,

Your request refers specifically to untransmitted material, but I would also note at the outset that BBC News has of course published and transmitted a range of stories and investigations about the allegations of abuse of human rights by the Chinese authorities in Xinjiang. These have appeared prominently across a broad range of programmes and platforms - online, news bulletins, and documentary programmes on radio and television. Examples of documentary coverage would include the Panorama film *How to Brainwash a Million People*, on mass detentions and surveillance, and the BBC Two series *China: A New World Order* which included harrowing accounts of brutal treatment of Uyghurs and assessments that this amounted to genocide, raising questions for other nations about their relations with China.

Turning to the specific untransmitted material you cite, I must inform you that the BBC cannot accede to your request. The BBC has an important standing position which is to decline requests for untransmitted material, save for very exceptional and tightly defined circumstances. Those exceptional circumstances would be in the case of a request from a body with the requisite formal investigatory or legal authority, and even in those cases the provision of any such material would normally require a legal or court order.

There is a further important point about the material you request: those programmes are not as yet transmitted, and that is because they are not yet completed programmes which are ready for broadcast. The BBC will not provide material - for other purposes - material which has not yet been finalised for broadcast.

I appreciate our decision will disappoint you, but I do hope you will likewise appreciate the BBC's position as outlined above. I would ask you to bear that in mind - along with the BBC's record of excellent journalism in these matters - should the Tribunal choose to refer to this as a 'failure' on the part of the BBC. That is not a description I would recognise.

Yours sincerely

Fran Unsworth

**Francesca Unsworth | Director, BBC News and Current Affairs**  
postal address removed | BBC Broadcasting House | London postcode removed  
email address removed

**UYGHUR TRIBUNAL**  
**AN INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL**

Hamid Sabi  
Counsel to the Tribunal

E:

9 March 2021

Mrs J Wilson  
The Office of the Chief Rabbi

LONDON

Dear Judith

The Uyghur Tribunal

Sir Geoffrey and I had an illuminating discussion with the Chief Rabbi during our meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> February, when the Chief Rabbi referred to two existential threats of genocide against Jewish People.

The Chief Rabbi referred to the celebration of Purim, commemorating the threat of physical elimination of Jews in Persia and the celebration of Hannukah when there was a threat of cultural genocide against Jews. And, of course, the Chief Rabbi referred to Holocaust when the actual physical genocide against the European Jews were perpetrated.

The Tribunal would be interested to further explore “the question of Genocide, the Jewish view”, examining both concepts of cultural and physical genocide. We would appreciate very much getting the Chief Rabbi’s further reflections on this issue and the possibility of giving the evidence to the Tribunal from the Jewish perspective; preferably by the Chief Rabbi or if that is not possible by a Jewish scholar.

Many thanks for your assistance

With personal regards



HAMID SABI  
Counsel to the Uyghur Tribunal