

## US Expands Import Ban Against Chinese Products; China Absurdly Claims 'Emancipation' of Uyghur Women

## <u>US Expands Import Ban to Include All Cotton and Tomato Products from Xinjiang,</u> China

In its most recent steps to hold China accountable to egregious human rights violations in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR; also referred to as East Turkestan), the United States has **extended its import ban** to include all cotton and tomato products produced in Xinjiang. This expansion comes after its September 2020 partial ban on cotton products from Xinjiang. The **additional products to be detained** at United States ports include clothing, textiles, tomato seeds, canned tomatoes, and tomato sauce via the withhold release order. See below some of the laudatory comments by Uyghur and other human rights organizations:



"Xinjiang cotton only comes in one color: blood red. Communist regimes have a long history of depending on forced labor economically and using it as a tool of political repression. Today, the U.S. has made the bold move to hold Communist China accountable for its actions."

 Marion Smith, President & CEO, Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation

"This is the right decision, and more steps are needed. UHRP has been calling for a complete ban on imports tainted by China's atrocity crimes against Uyghurs. With the genocidal campaign that is soon to enter its 5th year, Uyghurs don't understand how 'business as usual' has continued as long as it has."

- Omer Kanat, Executive Director, Uyghur Human Rights Project

<u>UHRP also calls upon</u> the International Labor Organization, as well as other governments across the world, to similarly speak up and speak out about the issue, as it is no secret that China is engaging in "the most massive scheme of government-organized forced labor since World War II." The United States' recent actions against China serve as an example that other countries must follow: In December, the US sanctioned cotton products from the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (XPCC), and between October 2019 and July 2020, the US leveled Global Magnitsky Act sanctions against leading authorities of the XPCC and other entities/organizations "implicated in human rights violations and abuses in the implementation of China's campaign of repression, mass arbitrary

## <u>China Makes Absurd Claims that its Program of "Eradicating Extremism" Has "Emancipated" Uyghur Women</u>

On January 7, 2020, <u>China Daily</u>, a news outlet owned and operated by the Chinese Communist Party, released an article in which they make farcical claims that the government's program of "eradication of religious extremism" has "given Uyghur women more autonomy when deciding whether to have children" and allowed Uyghur women to become "healthy, confident and independent."

These baseless claims fly in the face of the findings of numerous reputable sources - the Associated Press, VOA researcher Dr. Adrian Zenz, and Radio Free Asia - that the Chinese government is engaging in <u>mass sterilization</u>, <u>forced birth control</u>, forced abortion, and even infanticide against Uyghur women and their children.

"Saying that the minds of Uyghur women have been 'emancipated' from this 'extremism,' 'making them no longer baby-making machines,' shows the Chinese Communist Party's disparaging view of religious faith, its patronizing view of women, its racism against Uyghurs, and its complete disrespect for the value of human life."

- Reggie Littlejohn, Founder and President, Women's Rights Without Frontiers

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