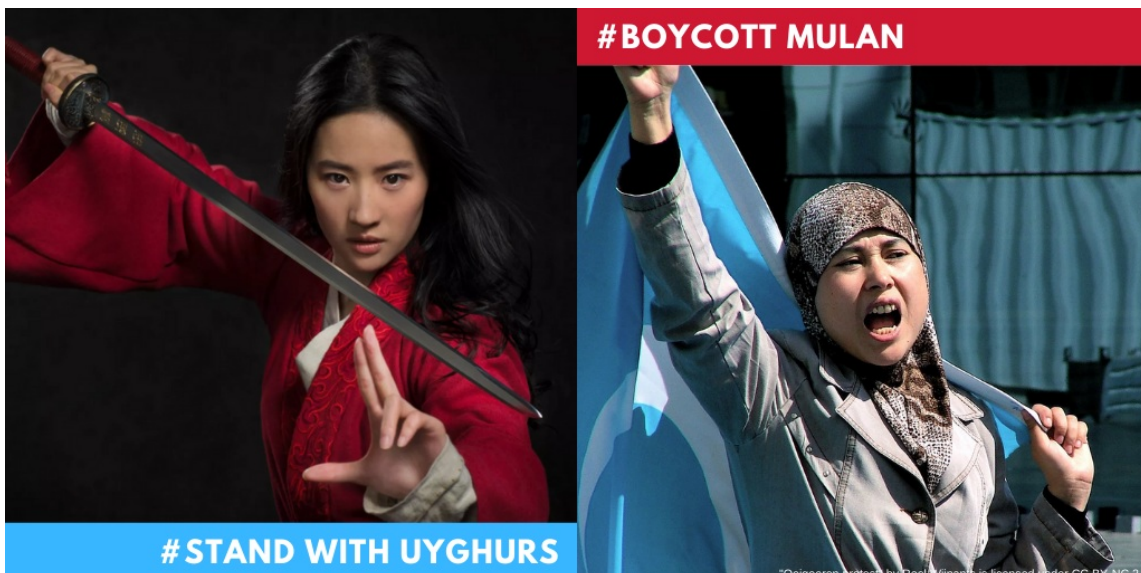




Jubilee Campaign to Send Joint Letter to Disney Executive Chairman Robert Iger and CEO Bob Chapek

In 2020, human rights and religious freedom advocacy NGO Jubilee Campaign urges everyone to [#BoycottMulan](#) and [#StandWithUyghurs](#). With consideration for the increasingly worsening human rights situation in China and the release of Disney Pictures' 2020 live action feature film *Mulan*, Jubilee Campaign has drafted a letter addressed to Mr. Robert Iger and Mr. Bob Chapek, Executive Chairman and CEO of The Walt Disney Company, respectively.

It is our understanding that from 2016 to 2018, the majority of the filming of Disney's 2020 *Mulan* took place in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) of China. As filming was taking place, human rights and religious freedom organizations across the world were already well aware of the multitude of human rights violations were being waged against Xinjiang's Uyghurs and other minorities: **arbitrary and prolonged detention, physical torture, sexual abuse, forced sterilization, and political re-indoctrination.**



Also shocking is that included in the movie's credits is a special thanks section in which special thanks were given to various Xinjiang agencies in the movie's credits roll. Multiple propaganda organizations were listed, as well as the Turpan Public Security Bureau, which

is responsible for overseeing construction and operation of internment camps as well as mass surveillance.

In our letter we call on Disney to (1) be transparent regarding what agreements and transactions- if any- they engaged in with Xinjiang agencies and/or officials, (2) inform the public on what human rights appraisals and due diligence was conducted prior to such engagements, and (3) never again foster cooperation with agencies involved in systematic human rights and religious freedom violations.

Below is a preview of our joint letter. To view this letter in its entirety and sign on as a supporter, please visit <http://jubileecampaign.org/our-work/boycott-mulan/>

Joint Letter Demanding Transparency Regarding Walt Disney's Relationship with the Chinese Communist Party and Activities by Walt Disney in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region

DATE

Mr. Robert A. Iger
Executive Chairman
The Walt Disney Company
500 South Buena Vista Street
Burbank, CA 91521-0931

Mr. Bob Chapek
Chief Executive Officer
The Walt Disney Company
500 South Buena Vista Street
Burbank, CA 91521-0931

Dear Messrs. Iger and Mr. Chapek:

We, the undersigned individuals and organizations, strive toward the common goal of religious freedom and the advancement of human rights around the world. With consideration for the increasingly worsening situation of human rights in China, we would like to collectively express our concern regarding the release of Disney's 2020 live action feature film *Mulan*. We are gravely concerned by Walt Disney's relationship with the Chinese Communist Party and, in particular, we are troubled by your company's work with the Turpan Municipal Bureau of Public Security, an organization listed on the U.S. Department of Commerce Export Administration Regulations Entity List. We also question the activities of Walt Disney in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of China. We call on you for complete transparency regarding these profoundly serious issues and for your guarantee that Disney will commit itself to supporting human rights in all countries around the world going forward.

Xinjiang, known as East Turkistan by its residents, is an autonomous region in northwest China that is home to millions of ethnic and religious minorities, predominantly Uyghurs. Uyghurs speak their own language and primarily practice Islam, though there are some portions of Uyghurs that are Christian. They are historically and ethnically tied to other Turkic peoples including Kazakhs, Uzbeks, Kyrgyz, though they remain under the authority of the Chinese government which routinely restricts their autonomy.¹ Tensions between the Uyghur people and the Chinese government led to the Chinese Communist Party launching campaigns to repress the cultural, linguistic, and religious freedoms of the Uyghur people.

In 2015, it was announced that Walt Disney would be producing and releasing a live-action version of the 1998 animated film *Mulan*. It is our understanding that filming took place between 2016 and 2018, with portions being filmed in the Xinjiang region of China. If true, China's systematic persecution, detention, and forced labor of Uyghur and other ethnic and/or religious minorities throughout Xinjiang was already widely known and condemned at that time.² *Mulan* director Niki Caro posted a photograph about filming in Xinjiang's deserts in September 2017, which, according to German anthropologist Adrian Zenz, was already "well into the internment campaign" and upwards of a year into Chen Quanguo's repressive leadership in Xinjiang.³

The deteriorating situation for Uyghurs in China under Chen Quanguo's leadership is ignorably reprehensible. Reports by lawyers, scholars, and human rights organizations alike all come to the consensus that abhorrent human rights violations are taking place in Xinjiang: arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, prolonged imprisonment, physical torture, sexual abuse, forced sterilization, obligatory birth control, and indoctrination are among the most egregious and observable trends of persecution and human rights abuses leveraged against Uyghurs and other ethnic minorities in Xinjiang

¹ Michael Dillon, "A Uyghurs' History of China", *History Today*, 1 January 2020.

² Adrian Zenz (@adrianzenz), [Twitter Post](#), 7 September 2020.

³ Adrian Zenz (@adrianzenz), [Twitter Post](#), 8 September 2020.

For more information on our projects, funds, news, and events, please visit our website by clicking the link below:

If you would like to donate to Jubilee Campaign, you may do so by clicking the button below:

Donate

