



## Jubilee Campaign Receives Response from Department of Commerce Regarding Disney's *Mulan*

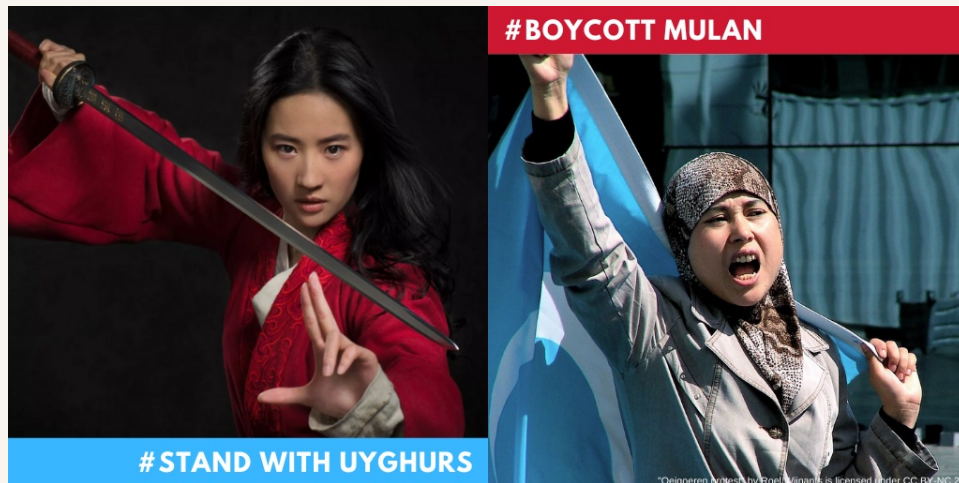
In mid-September 2020, Jubilee Campaign sent a letter addressed to Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of The Walt Disney Company, Mr. Robert Iger and Mr. Bob Chapek, respectively. **This letter addressed a major human rights controversy: that portions of the 2020 live-action feature film *Mulan* were filmed in Xinjiang, China, where upwards of one million Uyghurs and ethnic Muslims are imprisoned in mass internment camps.** Criticism was only heightened when viewers realized that special thanks were included in the movie credits to various Xinjiang government propaganda organizations in charge of denying claims of human rights violations in the region. Moreover, Disney offered thanks to the Turpan Municipal Bureau of Public Security, a local Xinjiang government entity in charge of the mass surveillance and mass internment of Uyghurs.

Filming of *Mulan* took place sometime between 2016 and 2018, a time during which China's systematic persecution, detention, and forced labor of Uyghur and other ethnic and/or religious minorities in Xinjiang was already widely known and condemned by the international human rights community. **Among the most reprehensible and flagrant human rights violations against Uyghurs include: arbitrary and prolonged detention, enforced disappearance, prolonged imprisonment, physical torture, sexual abuse, forced sterilization, and political indoctrination.** Jubilee Campaign has vowed to remain vocal on this issue and seek to hold Disney accountable for its collaboration with Xinjiang entities.

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In our letter to Mr. Iger and Mr. Chapek, we ask for clarification regarding what extent of collaboration, transactions, and assistance was reached between Disney and such local government organs, as well as what human rights appraisals and due diligence were conducted prior to filming engagement in the region. Moreover, we made the following recommendations: (1) refrain from engaging in business partnerships with entities involved in human rights violations; (2) conduct human rights due diligence investigations prior to fostering collaborations with foreign entities; and (3) engage in transparency with the public regarding the level of human rights standards that such collaborations are

contingent upon.



In addition, Jubilee forwarded this letter along with a specific cover letter addressed to the United States Department of Commerce in which we ask the following:

*"We respectfully request that the U.S. Department of Commerce conduct comprehensive investigations into any and all transactions, agreements, exports, and engagements that occur between Disney and local Xinjiang entities. We also encourage you to publicly call on Disney to meet its standards of corporate social responsibility."*

**Engagement works.** On November 2, Jubilee Campaign received a response from the Department of Commerce, in which they assure that *"the human rights situation in Xinjiang is of critical concern to the Department"* and that *"the Department has taken a number of public actions"* including the following:

- The Department of Commerce Bureau of Industry and Security added 11 Chinese companies involved in Xinjiang human rights violations to the Entity List, which means that such companies are "subject to restrictions on access to origin items, including commodities and technology."
- The above additions followed up on the October 2019 and June 2020 designations of a total of 37 Chinese companies involved in the PRC's repression in Xinjiang to the Entity List.

Jubilee Campaign commends the actions taken by the United States Department of Commerce in response to the every-evolving trends of human rights violations in Xinjiang, and we also would like to call on the international community to do the same. If you stand for human rights and if you stand for religious freedom, reach out to your local representatives, your national government, and urge them to leverage all possible political and economic tools to hold China accountable to the campaign of mass detention of millions of its own civilians. Write emails, write letters, draft tweets, engage on social media, and do everything within your own power to raise the situation so that we can truly ensure that never again is an ethno-religious community targeted for persecution and genocide. **#BoycottMulan #StandWithUyghurs**

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