

Forum: Human Rights Council

Issue: Protecting the rights of the Uyghur People

Student Officer: Darren Tsang

Position: Head Chair

Introduction

The Uyghurs or Uigurs are Turkic-speaking Muslims originating from and culturally affiliated with the region of Central and East Asia. They are recognized as native to the Xinjiang Uyghur Region in Northwest China and are one of China's 55 officially recognized ethnic minorities. For the Uyghurs, their affiliation to the region suggests their autonomy and self-governance, but similarly to Tibet, Xinjian is tightly controlled by China.

These Muslim minorities are being arbitrarily arrested and imprisoned. Around one million Uyghurs have been detained in what China proclaims "vocational training centers." However, these detention centers resemble high-security jails. These Xinjiang internment camps are operated by the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region government and its Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Provincial committee. According to Human Rights Watch, the camps have been used to indoctrinate and re-educate Uyghurs since 2017 as part of a "people's war on terror", a policy announced in 2014. There have been signs and growing evidence that human rights violations are happening inside these centers as well as reports of deaths in custody and forced labor. These include human rights abuses such as mistreatment, rape, and torture, with some alleging genocide. On the contrary, some countries such as Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan have expressed support for the camps as they wish to keep economic relations with China. In one investigation, 28 detention camps had expanded across Xinjiang as a part of China's program of subjugation.

Definition of Key Terms

Uyghur

Defined by Merriam Webster as "a member of a Turkic people powerful in Mongolia and easter Turkestan between the 8th and 12th centuries AD who constitute a majority of the population of Chinese Turkestan." The Uyghur are the largest of the Muslim minority groups to

have been detained in re-education camps. There are approximately 11 million Uyghurs in western China; the main ethnic division is 45% Uighur and 40% Han Chinese.

Xinjiang

One of China's biggest regions, Xinjiang, lies in the northwestern corner of the country bordering Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Russia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India. Due to its natural resources, it was a thriving region of China because of the Silk Road trade and has now become the hub for the Belt and Road initiative (BRI). This region has long experienced tension between the indigenous Uyghur people and the Chinese Communist government rule. Even though Xinjiang is officially an autonomous province, much of this area is actually controlled by the Beijing government.

Re-Education Camp

The Chinese government under Xi Jinping describes these vocational training camps as "a camp or prison where ideological dissenters undergo reeducation or indoctrination." These camps have reportedly detained Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities for re-education. The main goal of the re-education camps is to prevent terrorism by re-educating locals in Chinese history, language, and culture. China Human Rights Defenders, a Hong Kong-based group, under the support of official data, reported that more than one-fifth of all arrests in China in 2017 took place in Xinjiang despite the fact that the region comprises only 2 percent of China's total population.

Separatism

Defined by Merriam Webster as "a belief in, movement for, or state of separation (such as schism, secession, or segregation)". Ethnic separatism is also included under the Three Evil Forces, which is a political slogan of the People's Republic of China defined as terrorism, separatism, and religious extremism. While the Chinese government officially recognizes five religions--Buddhism, Catholicism, Daoism, Islam, and Protestantism--they have still long feared that religion can be used to encourage separatism.

Genocide

According to the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, genocide is defined as any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group: killing members of the

group, causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group, deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part, imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group or forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

History

The Uyghurs are among the oldest Turkic-speaking people in Central Asia. They first rose to prominence in the 8th century, when they established their kingdom along the Orkhon River, which is located in present-day Mongolia. In 840 CE, the Uyghurs migrated southwestward to the area around the Tian Shan mountain ranges due to their state being overrun by the Kyrgyz. In the Tian Shan, they formed another kingdom called the Turfan Depression region but was overthrown by the expanding Mongols in the 13th century. The Uyghurs are mainly a sedentary village-dwelling group of people that lived in a network of oases that formed within the valleys and lower slopes of the Tian Shan. The region is one of the most arid regions in the world; hence, they have practiced irrigation to conserve their water resources for agriculture. Their economy is sustained by their chief industrial crop, cotton, which has long been growing in this area. Many Uyghurs are also employed in petroleum extraction, mining, and manufacturing in urban centers.

The Uyghurs have lacked political unity in recent centuries except for a brief period during the 19th century when they conducted a revolt against Beijing. The result of this revolt was the declaration of an east Turkestan State in 1949, but the independence was short-lived. Later that year, Xinjiang officially became part of Communist China. In the 1950s, large numbers of Han Chinese began moving into Xinjiang after the establishment of the autonomous region. In a study comparing Han Chinese and Uyghurs, both ethnic groups showed implicit in-group trust and out-group distrust, but the Han group demonstrated stronger in-group trust and out-group distrust toward the Uyghur than the Uyghur group toward the Han. The influx of immigrants became especially pronounced after 1990, and by the late 20th century the Han constituted two-fifths of Xinjiang's total population. Over time, ethnic tensions and economic disparities grew between the Uyghurs and the Han populations which eventually resulted in protests and disturbances. A violent outbreak occurred in July 2009, where it was recorded that almost 200 people were killed and around 1700 were injured. Violent incidents increased then and included weapon-yielding assailants and suicide bombers. The Chinese authorities responded by suppressing the Uyghurs and calling them dissidents and separatists. The authorities' actions

included shootings, arrests, and long jail sentences on these Uyghurs in Xinjiang. Citing a desire for greater security, the government set up cameras, checkpoints, and constant police in areas with heavy Uyghur presence. The most controversial government undertaking was the detection of up to one million Uyghurs in political training centers. In August 2018, the United Nations called upon China to end the detention, but government officials denied the existence of such camps.

Key Issues

While the situation is complex, many say the root cause of the recent violence is ethnic tensions caused by economic and cultural factors. Major development projects have brought economic prosperity to Xinjiang big cities, attracting young and technically qualified Han Chinese from eastern provinces. These Han Chinese are said to be given the greater employment opportunities leading to the majority of these Han-Chinese to do well economically. This has fueled resentment among Uyghurs towards the Han Chinese people as well as towards Beijing. Activists say that Uyghur commercial and cultural activities have been gradually curtailed by the Chinese government, and there has been several complaints about severe restrictions on Islam, with few mosques and strict control over religious schools. Amnesty International claims that authorities criminalized what they labelled illegal religion and clamped down on the peaceful expressions of cultural identity. In July 2014, the Xinjiang government banned Muslim civil servants from fasting during the month of Ramadan. However, this ban was followed by a slew of attacks on the public attributed to Uyghur extremists, prompting concerns that the ban would increase tensions.

China has also been accused of intensifying its crackdown on the Uyghers after street protests in the 1990s and again in the run-up to the 2008 Olympics. In 2009, the situation in Xinjiang escalated, with large scale ethnic rioting in the regional capital with 200 deaths as previously mentioned. Security was increased and many Uyghers were detained as suspects, but violence rumbled on as groups increasingly pointed to tight control by Beijing. In 2012, six Uyghurs reportedly tried to hijack a plane from Hotan to Urumqi before they were overpowered by passengers and crew. In 2013, 27 people died in Shanshan county after police opened fire on what state media claimed as a mob armed attacked local government buildings.

Establishing facts about these incidents is difficult as foreign journalists' access to the region is tightly monitored, but in recent months there appears to have been a shift towards larger-scale incidents where Han citizens in Xinjiang have become the target. In May 2014, at

least 31 Han Chinese were killed when two cars crashed through an Urumqi market and explosives were tossed into the crowd. China called this a violent terrorist incident. This incident was followed by an attack at Urumqi's south railway station. In July, authorities claimed a gang attacked a police station and government offices in Yarkant. In September about 50 died in Lunai County outside police stations, markets and shops. Details of these incidents are unclear and activists have contested accounts of incidents in state media. Violence also spilled out in Xinjiang. A March stabbing spree that killed 2 people was blamed on Xinjiang separatists, as was a 2013 incident where a car burst into flames in Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

In response to the latest slew of attacks, authorities have launched what they call a "year-long campaign against terrorism", in which they ameliorated security in Xinjiang and conducting more military drills in the region. There have also been reports of mass sentencings and arrests of several "terror groups". Chinese state media have reported an extensive list of people convicted of extremist activity, of these include high profile Uyghur academics such as Ilham Tohti.

China has often blamed the East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM), or people inspired by ETIM for violent incidents both in Xinjiang and beyond the region's borders. ETIM said they would want to establish an independent East Turkestan, similar to those of the old state, in China, and is called by the US Department of State as the most militant of the ethnic Uyghur separatist groups. The scope of ETIM's activities remains unclear with some questioning the group's capacity to organize acts of extremism. ETIM has not said that they were behind any of the attacks, but the Chinese authorities said the Turkistan Islamic Party, which it says is synonymous with ETIM, released a video backing the Kunming attack. With the recent escalation in Xinjiang, the question of who and what is driving it is likely to attract greater scrutiny.

Major Parties Involved and Their Views

People's Republic of China (PRC)

Despite facing criticism from other nations and human rights organizations on the re-education centers, the Chinese government has repeatedly denied the allegations of the existence of these re-education camps while prohibiting investigators from visiting these grounds. There have also been situations where they did allow foreign entities to investigate these camps, but they only allowed a select few to be investigated and these camps have been

presumed to be fake to give the impression that the situations in these camps are not as bad as they actually are. They have also established regulations that aim to “eliminate extremism and separatism” to legitimize their use of these camps. Investigation on this issue can be seen as an infringement of China's sovereignty, making this a complicated issue to solve as nations do not want to violate China's sovereignty while wanting to find out the truth about these re-education camps

United States

The United States has been very vocal regarding the situation in Xinjiang. The US government under the Trump administration had been threatening sanctions on the basis that China is abusing the Uyghurs' fundamental human rights. Similar, to the Biden administration, Biden has declared Chinese actions in Xinjiang as 'genocide'. In the US Senate, legislators have been working on a new policy that calls for the Chinese government to abolish the political re-education camps. In August 2018 the US government wrote: “Muslim ethnic minorities are being subjected to arbitrary detention, torture, egregious restrictions on religious practice and culture, and a digitized surveillance system so pervasive that every aspect of daily life is monitored. ...The Chinese government is creating a high-tech police state in (Xinjiang) that is both a gross violation of privacy and international human rights”. The US Defense Department also accused the Chinese Government of “using the security forces for mass imprisonment of Chinese Muslims in concentration camps.”

Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan is an economic and political partner of neighboring PRC and has been cautious about addressing the situation in Xinjiang. On a visit to China, the Kazakh foreign minister stated that his country understands and supports the measures taken in Xinjian, essentially recognizing China's rights and intentions to battle terrorism in Chinese territory while denying asylum to those fleeing the re-education camps. Along with this statement, on March 10, 2019, the Kazakh court arrested an activist for Xinjiang-Kazakhs on charges of inciting ethnic discord when they accused Beijing of perpetrating “genocide” against Turkic minorities in Xinjiang.

Russia

Russia and 35 other countries supported China in a letter commending what they called China's “remarkable achievements” in human rights. Russia is also one of China's allies and

economic partners, and one of the most involved members in the BRI. Russia and 35 other states have also written to the UN supporting China's policies in its western region of Xinjiang, in contrast to strong Western criticism.

Turkmenistan

Turkmenistan is one of Central Asia's most isolated countries and does not participate in any formal institution of religion, and has remained neutral. Turkmenistan signed the July 2019 letter to HRC supporting China. Turkmenistan is China's largest supplier of natural gas and China is their biggest trading partner.

Bangladesh

Bangladesh has the fourth largest Muslim population in the world and has not taken a clear stance on the issue of Xinjiang's re-education camps, with the possibility of wanting to preserve and strengthen its political and economic relations with China. Bangladesh is also another key strategic partner of China's BRI. With this said, Bangladesh did not sign the letter supporting China's human rights policies, nor did the country join the UNHRC call to look into the treatment of the Uyghurs in the Xinjiang region.

Netherlands

The Netherlands called for the release of Muslims detained in these re-education camps along with the other 22 other countries when they released a letter to the United Nations. A Dutch newspaper reported that an estimated 1500 Uyghurs in the Netherlands have called on their government to take action through online petitions and protests because they have been harassed by Chinese officials over the phone and they fear for their detained Xinjiang relatives.

Human Rights Watch (HRW)

When it was reported in 2018 that Muslim minorities in the region were being detained in mass numbers and forced to undergo psychological indoctrination, the Chinese government switched from denying the mass detention entirely to asserting that these were re-education camps. Human Rights Watch was among the groups to report that approximately a million people had been detained in re-education camps. HRW's Geneva office issued a statement in 2019, stating that "Governments are increasingly recognizing the suffering of millions of people in Xinjiang, with families torn apart and living in fear, and a Chinese state that believes it can

commit mass violations uncontested.” HRW also has reported on the deployment of surveillance technologies by Chinese authorities to track “unlawful” behaviors.

Amnesty International

Amnesty International was also another Human Rights organization to report on the situation in Xinjiang. The organization’s East Asia Director has spoken out on the situation in Xinjiang, saying that the “Chinese government must not be allowed to continue this vicious campaign against ethnic minorities in northwest China. Governments across the world must hold the Chinese authorities to account for the nightmare unfolding in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (XUAR).” With increasing reports, Amnesty International has also taken action in interviewing more than 100 individuals outside of China that have either been put through these detention camps or know relatives that are missing from the Xinjiang Region, spreading awareness about the issue throughout the world.

Timeline of Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events

Date	Description of Event
November 29, 2001	Two months after 9/11, the PRC government releases a document titled “Terrorist Activities Perpetrated by ‘Eastern Turkistan’ organizations and their ties with Osama bin Laden and the Taliban”
September 2002	The US and UN recognize the East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM) as a “terrorist organization”, subjecting it to international sanctions
2008	1,300 Uyghurs are arrested for “state security crimes”, including charges of terrorism, substantially more than in previous years
July 5, 2009	The Urumqi riots escalated, with 197 killed and more than 1721 injured. Mosques are temporarily closed with internet and telephone communication severely restricted.
2010	XUAR officials report that surveillance cameras have been installed throughout the region.
April 20, 2013	China’s new government policy mandates all SIM card buys to provide proof and to register the card using a customer’s full name.
June 26, 2013	Series of stabbing attacks in the city of Lukqun killed 35.
October 28, 2013	The first alleged Uyghur-led act of political violence is reported outside of the XUAR, killing 5 and injuring 42. The ETIM was blamed for this attack.

December 19, 2013	President Xi announces a new strategic plan for Xinjiang.
February 2014	The fanghuiju campaign is announced in February. This plan involves moving 200 thousand mid-level party cadres into rural villages over the course of 3 years.
March 1, 2014	A major knife attack takes place, killing 31 and injuring over 140
April - May 2014	A bombing and knife attack in Urumqi leaves 3 people dead and 17 injured (April 30). Another attack occurs where an explosion leaves 43 dead and more than 90 wounded (May 22).
May 1, 2014	the campaign of re-education begins with the Xinjiang government demanding Uyghur immigrants to return to their hometowns to obtain a new ID card. This introduces the People's Convenience Card, which restricts the mobility of most rural-born Uyghur migrants, who were not eligible for this card.
January 29, 2015	New government policy mandates the implementation of a real-name registration system for sales information.
February 1, 2015	The XUAR authorities begin to outlaw Islamic veils in all public spaces.
May 29, 2015	The World Bank approves funding for the Xinjiang Technical and Vocational Education and Training Project.
2016	The Chinese government begins collecting biometric data from the entire population of Xinjiang to track daily activities.
January 1, 2016	Chinese government increases the frequency of smartphone checks and other devices for content related to extremism.
August 29, 2016	Chen Quanguo became Communist Party Secretary of XUAR.
September 2016	The Chinese government begins advertising over 30,000 policing positions in Xinjiang in efforts to increase surveillance capabilities in this region.
February 14, 2017	Five civilians were killed in a knife attack by Uyghur perpetrators
March 4, 2017	XUAR Department of Justice issues a directive ordering the establishment of transformation centers in Xinjiang
July 2017	Authorities state that the zero distance proximity of stations will ensure 24 hours surveillance and swift responses in event of emergencies.
August 13, 2018	China's leading counter-terror expert confirms the existence of the internment program

Relevant UN Treaties and Events

- Expresses concern over nuclear testing in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and the Uyghurs' health, 22 February 2012 (A/HRC/19/NGO/57)
- Concerns situation of the Uyghur people in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, 28 May 2010 (A/HRC/14/NGO/8)
- Concerns China and the human rights of Uyghurs, 7 September 2012 (A/HRC/21/NGO/99)
- Transmits communication concerning China and the human rights of Uyghurs abroad, 14 June 2012 (A/HRC/20/NGO/77)
- Concerns the alleged harassment of Uyghur scholar Ilham Tohti in The People's Republic of China, 25 February 2013 (A/HRC/22/NGO/165)
- Concerns counter-terrorism and human rights in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, 6 December 2007 (A/HRC/6/NGO53)

Evaluation of Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue

The UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination issued a report on China in 2018. In this report, UN committee experts noted the concern towards racial discrimination in the anti-terrorism laws created by China, especially those targeting the Uyghurs and other ethnic minorities. The committee further expressed their concern over the reported mass surveillance targeting ethnic Uyghurs.

In March 2019, the UN Human Rights High Commissioner, Michelle Bachelet, requested access to Xinjiang in order to verify the reports that they are receiving on these re-education camps. She further states that she wanted to engage with China in a serious conversation regarding this matter at hand and that she will continue to push for permission to visit Xinjiang. China, on the other hand, has told Bachelet to respect China's sovereignty.

The Security Council of the UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia in July 2019 hosted a meeting regarding the Uyghurs. This was followed by a formal rebuke of China's mass detention of Muslims in a letter to the UN that was signed by 22 countries. The response was a letter from China's allies to the UN.

There have also been multiple resolutions condemning the persecution of religious minorities in the PRC. These resolutions are usually issued by the US Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, with the intent to condemn the persecution and mistreatment of Uyghurs in the Xinjiang region and actions that limit their freedom and practice of faith. One resolution

specifically--Resolution Condemning Persecution of Religious Minorities in the PRC, October 2018 (S.RES.667)--reaffirms the commitment of the US to promote and protect religious freedom, calls on the PRC government to recognize the human right to freedom of religion, condemns the restriction of religious practices and materials, and condemns the use of re-education camps or any type of concentration camp in that style.

Resolution on China, notably the situation of religious and ethnic minorities 2019/2690(RSP), is another resolution regarding the situation in Xinjiang. The EU has taken a strong stance on the current situation of the Uyghurs in Xinjiang with a resolution adopted in April 2019. This resolution recognizes the abuse of human rights in Xinjiang. This resolution also calls on the PRC government to immediately end the practice of arbitrary detentions. The EU also posted a press release in April of 2019, where the parliament called on the Chinese Government to put an end to these arbitrary detentions of the Muslims Minorities in Xinjiang

The Joint Statement calling for Xinjiang Resolution at the United Human Rights Council (February 2019) is a statement issued by many human rights organizations finding a resolution regarding the re-education camps from the UN Human Rights Council. The statement argues that the Chinese government is actually aiming to eradicate "Muslim's distinct identity and to ensure their loyalty to the government and Chinese Communist Party" despite the continuous claims by the PRC claiming that that are doing a "Strike Hard Campaign [that] counters extremism and terrorism". Moreover, it also states that the Human Rights Council should aim to conduct an investigation mission dedicated to fact-finding so they can consider the allegations of widespread violations in Xinjiang.

Through these joint actions taken on by different organizations, China still has not budged regarding the situation in Xinjiang. The efforts have not come to a complete fruition, but still has helped to some extent in helping this problem at hand.

Possible Solutions

1. By imposing sanctions either country by country, or in a political bloc that satisfies a common interest, the Chinese government may be compelled to limit their violations of the human rights of the Uyghurs in the Xinjiang region.
 - **Pros:** By imposing sanctions, it can generally strengthen the political and economic decisions made by countries that are against China's action. These international sanctions will serve as diplomatic efforts by countries to either

protect national security interest or to protect international law and to defend against threats to internal peace.

- **Cons:** Many countries are reluctant to impose sanctions on China due to the economic repercussion that will result from it. Therefore, some countries will prioritize their economic relationship with China rather than punish China with these Human Rights violations. On a more general note, sanctions can also lead to many economic repercussions for the global market, resulting in economic loss.
2. By denying exports of technologies to China that could be used to aid their abuse of targeted groups in the Xinjiang region, nations can directly reduce the amount of control the Chinese government has over the Uyghurs.
- **Pros:** By the denial of exports, countries can reduce the amount of Chinese control in Xinjiang but can also protect their privacy online as well as their freedom of movement. Countries can mitigate the economic consequences by engaging in greater trade and cooperations among different countries.
 - **Cons:** This can result in economic repercussions as countries would be reducing the amount of trade of specific products between themselves and China. Therefore, countries may be reluctant to deny exports of technology and items that can be used to facilitate abuse.
3. Have countries host UN investigations in China. These UN investigation teams can more effectively discover facts and the actual truth of what is happening in these re-education camps.
- **Pros:** A UN investigation team will have more credibility than a group of reporters reporting on the conditions of Xinjiang. They will also be able to take more action on what needs to be done to correct these conditions that are ongoing.
 - **Cons:** Creating a UN fact-finding team dedicated to investigation missions can take a long time to develop and train the personnel. The negotiating of the terms of visiting China is also problematic as this may take a long time.

Bibliography

Anna Hayes Senior Lecturer in Politics and International Relations. *Explainer: Who Are the Uyghurs and Why Is the Chinese Government DETAINING THEM?* 2 July 2020, [theconversation.com/explainer-who-are-the-uyghurs-and-why-is-the-chinese-government-](https://theconversation.com/explainer-who-are-the-uyghurs-and-why-is-the-chinese-government-148888)

detaining-them-111843#:~:text=The%20Uyghurs%20are%20Turkic%2Dspeaking,%2C%20Tajiks%2C%20Kyrgyz%20and%20Hui.

Byler, Darren. "'The Atmosphere Has Become Abnormal': Han Chinese Views from Xinjiang." *SupChina*, 7 Nov. 2020, supchina.com/2020/11/04/han-chinese-views-from-xinjiang/.

"Collection UN+Bodies Not Found - United Nations Digital Library System." *United Nations*, United Nations, digitallibrary.un.org/search?ln=en&p=uyghur&f=&c=UN%2BBodies&sf=&so=d&rg=50&fti=0.

"Major Events Preceding the Construction of Re-Education Camps." *Xinjiang Documentation Project*, 2 Jan. 2021, xinjiang.sppga.ubc.ca/timelines/reeducation-camps/.

Ramzy, Austin, and Chris Buckley. "'Absolutely No Mercy': Leaked Files Expose How China Organized Mass Detentions of Muslims." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 16 Nov. 2019, www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/11/16/world/asia/china-xinjiang-documents.html.

Tharoor, Ishaan. "A Brief History of the Uighurs." *Time*, Time Inc., 9 July 2009, content.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1909416,00.html.

"Timeline: Unrest Connected with China's Restive Xinjiang Region - World News , Firstpost." *Firstpost*, 26 Sept. 2014, www.firstpost.com/world/timeline-unrest-connected-with-chinas-restive-xinjiang-region-1731073.html.

"Uighur." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., www.britannica.com/topic/Uighur.

Westcott, Ben, and Rebecca Wright. "Exclusive: New Report Claims Evidence of Beijing's 'Intent to Destroy' Uyghur People." *CNN*, Cable News Network, 10 Mar. 2021, edition.cnn.com/2021/03/09/asia/china-uyghurs-xinjiang-genocide-report-intl-hnk/index.html.

"Who Are the Uighurs and Why Is the US Accusing China of Genocide?" *BBC News*, BBC, 9 Feb. 2021, www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-22278037.

"Why Is There Tension between China and the Uighurs?" *BBC News*, BBC, 26 Sept. 2014, www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-26414014.