

TO: HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
FROM: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

APPEAL FOR ACTION

RE: DEMAND RELEASE OF SERIOUSLY ILL UIGHUR

Memet Eli Rozi, an ethnic Uighur, is said to be seriously ill in prison in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (XUAR) in China. He has been held in detention since March 2010, without charge or trial.

Memet Eli Rozi has asked the prison authorities three times to have three temporary metal plates removed from his arm. They were inserted into his arm in 2009 following a traffic accident and should apparently have been removed in February 2010. His wife visited the detention centre on 28 February 2011, but was not allowed to see him. She told Radio Free Asia that detention centre staff told her during the visit that he has made these requests and that the requests have been denied. According to Memet Eli Rozi's wife, detention centre staff said that his arm has become badly infected and as a result he is now seriously ill.

Staff at the detention centre also told Radio Free Asia that "Memet Eli Rozi has not been able to sleep for two weeks."

PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY in English, Chinese or your own language:

- Explaining that you are a health professional concerned about human rights;
- Expressing concern at reports that Memet Eli Rozi's repeated requests for medical attention have been denied and he is now seriously ill;
- Urging the authorities to ensure that Memet Eli Rozi has immediate access to any medical treatment he requires, in accordance with the provisions of the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of all Prisoners and the UN Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment.
- Urging the Chinese authorities to release Memet Eli Rozi immediately and unconditionally unless he is charged with an internationally recognizable criminal offence;

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 21/04/2011 TO:

Chairman of the XUAR People's
Government

Nur BEKRI Zhuxi
Xinjiang Weiwuer Zizhiqu Renmin
Zhengfu Bangongting
2 Zhongshanlu, Urumqi 830041
Xinjiang Weiwuer Zizhiqu
People's Republic of China
Fax: +86 991 2817567 or 2803621
Email: master@xinjiang.gov.cn
Salutation: Dear Chairman

Secretary of the Central Politics and
Law Commission of People's Republic
of China

Zhou Yongkang Shuji
Zhongyang Zhengfa Weiyuanhui
9 Xihuangchenggenbeijie
Beijingshi 100032
People's Republic of China
Salutation: Dear Secretary

Minister of State Security of the
People's Republic of China

GEN Huichang Buzhang
Guojia Anquanbu
14 Dongchang'anjie
Beijingshi 100741
People's Republic of China
Salutation: Your Excellency

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives of China accredited to your country. Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



IF YOU RECEIVE NO REPLY WITHIN SIX WEEKS OF SENDING YOUR LETTER, PLEASE SEND A FOLLOW-UP LETTER SEEKING A RESPONSE. PLEASE SEND COPIES OF ANY LETTERS YOU RECEIVE TO THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT, ATTENTION OF THE HEALTH TEAM, 1 EASTON STREET, LONDON WC1X 0DW OR E-MAIL: health@amnesty.org

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Memet Eli Rozi fled China in late 2009. He was in a group of 22 ethnic Uighurs from China who were seeking asylum in Cambodia. The Cambodian authorities forcibly repatriated 20 of them on 19 December 2009. Memet Eli Rozi escaped to Laos where his wife and their five children joined him from China. However, they were caught by the Laotian police who deported them back to China in March 2010. Ever since, Memet Eli Rozi has been in custody but he has not been charged, tried or convicted. He is currently held in a detention centre in Kashgar (in Chinese: Kashi) in the XUAR.

In December 2009, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson said that the Uighurs who had escaped China were under investigation for suspected criminal activities. It is thought that they fled China as they feared persecution for involvement in the July 2009 unrest in Urumqi, the capital of XUAR, and other parts of the region. Most of the 22 ethnic Uighur asylum-seekers who were forcibly repatriated to China from Cambodia in December 2009 had left the XUAR after the riots of July 2009, fearing persecution by the Chinese authorities. The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) was in the process of reviewing their applications for refugee status in Phnom Penh, the capital of the country, when the Cambodian government succumbed to pressure from China to deport them. On 19 December 2009, 20 of them, including two children, were taken to a military airport where they were put on a plane back to China. At the time, many governments and international organizations condemned the Chinese and Cambodian governments for the forcible repatriation. They feared that the group risked serious human rights violations in China, and that returning them was therefore a breach by Cambodia of the international legal rule of non-refoulement, which binds all states.

Memet Eli Rozi had previously served a three-year prison sentence for "illegal religious activity".

