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# *amnesty international*

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## PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

### @New arrests reported in Xinjiang

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Four members of the Uighur ethnic group have been detained in the Xinjiang Autonomous Region (XAR) between June and September 1992, according to recent reports by exile Uighur sources. One of the detainees was reportedly accused of attempting to establish a "reactionary organization" but it is unclear whether the other three were also detained in connection with the establishment of this "organization".

**Ahmet Jan**, a 26 year-old graduate of the Xinjiang Technology Institute working at the Personnel department of the XAR People's Government, was reportedly detained in the Xinjiang capital Urumqi in September 1992. Unofficial sources allege that he was accused of establishing a "reactionary organization"; it is unclear whether Ahmet Jan was formally charged with that offence, which according to the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China may be punished with up to life imprisonment.

**Nurmuhammed Abdurahman**, a 28 year-old architecture graduate of the Xinjiang Technology Institute, employed in a housing planning office in Urumqi, was reportedly detained in August 1992. It is not known where he is being detained.

**Abduweli**, a 27 year-old university student, was reportedly arrested at an unspecified date in Urumqi and **Muhtar Chong Kadir**, a 26 year-old university student, was reportedly arrested on 23 June 1992 in Kashgar. Both were reportedly accused of carrying out "counter-revolutionary" activities. It is unclear whether the four arrests are related.

They appear to have been held in incommunicado detention and their current whereabouts and conditions of detention are not known.

Amnesty International is concerned that all four men may be prisoners of conscience held solely because of their non-violent exercise of their right to freedom of conscience and expression. In a report published in November 1992 - *People's Republic of China - Secret Violence: Human Rights Violations in Xinjiang* (AI Index ASA 17/50/92) - Amnesty International criticised a pattern of human rights violations, including arbitrary detentions and killings, which has developed as the authorities have sought to restrict the religious activities of Muslims in Xinjiang and suppress public demonstrations and other peaceful expressions of political views.

*Please send telegrams/telexes/express and airmail letters in either English or your own language:*

*- urging the authorities to release those named immediately and unconditionally if they are held solely for the peaceful exercise of fundamental human rights; otherwise, to ensure that they are either brought to trial promptly and fairly on recognizably criminal charges according to international standards, or released;*

*- calling on the authorities to ensure that those named above are not subjected to torture or other ill-treatment and are given immediate access to relatives, lawyers and independent medical doctors;*

*- urging that their whereabouts and any charges against them be made public.*

*Please send appeals to:*

*XAR Chairman:*

*Tomur Dawamat Zhuxi*

*Xinjiang Weiwuer Zizhiqu Renmin Zhengfu*

*2 Zhongshanlu*

*Urumqi 830041*

*People's Republic of China*

*Minister of Public Security:*

***Tao Siju***

*Gong'anbu Buzhang*

*14 Dong Chang'an lu,*

*Beijingshi 100741*

*People's Republic of China*

***Telegrams: Minister Tao Siju, Beijing, China***

***Telexes: 210070 FMPRC CN***

***Faxes: + 86 1 512 1176***



**KEYWORDS:** INCOMMUNICADO DETENTION / ETHNIC GROUPS / POLITICAL ACTIVISTS / CIVIL  
SERVANTS / ARCHITECTS / STUDENTS /

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