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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[04 June 2020]

* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.

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Extrajudicial killings in China

Extrajudicial killings by Chinese authorities

Numerous human rights reports have stated that the Chinese government or its agents have committed arbitrary or unlawful killings, and unfortunately the details have been very few or unavailable in many cases. Radio Free Asia has reported that at least 150 people have died during six years in a detention camps in Kuchar (Chinese: Kochi), Aksu governance (Akisu). Maat would like to refer to the killing of “Itrosen Eli” in June 2018 in Kashgar (Kashi), Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region, China, during her investigation in official custody. And, according to a recorded interview, she was released in the same year. The authorities have reportedly targeted the manager of a tourist company, Hua An Tourism in Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region, China after returning from a business trip to Dubai. Officials later said she had died as a result of medical condition. Family members were prevented from examining the body, and the Chinese authorities' executed some of the accused in criminal proceedings after convictions that lacked due process and appropriate channels for appeal.¹

In September 2018, media outlets reported the death of the Prussian activist Wang Meiyo, who was in custody, for lifting a sign outside the Hengyang Normal University in Hunan calling for the resignation of Chinese President Xi Jinping and for holding democratic elections in the country. On September 23, 2018, the police contacted his wife, Cao Shoshia, and told her Wang died suddenly in a military hospital in Hengyang, where he was arrested. However, his wife said that Wang's body was "unrecognizable", he was bleeding from every orifice, and there were bruises on his face. She added that Wang was a "healthy man" when he was detained, and the police did not provide any explanation about the cause of death. Wang's lawyers knew that he was transferred from a large cell inhabited by many other prisoners to solitary confinement, and his mother claimed she was offered compensation of 2.98 million yuan (\$ 420,000). Wang and Cao had lost their jobs due to his activity, and after his death, Cao and her two children were reportedly put under house arrest.²

On July 27, 2014, the Chinese authorities arrested Mr. Mamit Abdul Rahim, 26, at his home in Chiar District, Aksu Province, on suspicion that he was planning an attack against the government, based on criticizing comments about the social and economic situation in his town Shaya he published on social media. Mamit was arrested in his house by police forces but he was released after investigation. Later, in 2015, when he saw a police patrol from the same town passing by, he got into a panic and tried to escape. So, the police officers arrested him on no grounds, thinking that he had made a mistake. And despite local authorities deemed Abdul Rahim innocent and guilty of nothing, he was killed. The police officer responsible for his death was never prosecuted, but rather promoted,³ and no apology or financial compensation to the victim's family have ever been issued. On the contrary, the rather promoted the officer. Eight days after he was shot dead, Abd al-Rahim was promoted to deputy chief of police and received a prize of 10,000 yuan (\$ 1,600), while his Chinese partner Han Song Guan received 7,000 yuan (\$ 1,130). It should be noted that the Chinese authorities had failed to materially compensate the victim's family, or open an investigation into his death, as he had not committed any crime, and his attempted flee didn't pose a threat to the safety of the police or the public.⁴ Maat, therefore, calls upon the Chinese authorities to reopen an investigation into that case, and to compensate the victim's family financially, and hold the officer responsible for his unlawful killing accountable.

Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights also calls on the Chinese authorities to provide detailed information and data on the 150 people who died, and were mentioned in Radio Free Asia, and the need to open an independent investigation by an independent and impartial body to determine and rule on deaths cases, in order to find out the true causes of

¹ 2019 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: China (Includes Hong Kong, Macau, and Tibet), U.S Department of state, 2019. <https://cutt.us/dKYsE>.

² Ibid.

³ Radio Free Asia, China: Uyghur shot by Xinjiang police in extrajudicial killing is deemed innocent, 24 April 2015, accessed 15 May 2020. available at: <https://cutt.us/SD6K4>.

⁴ Ibid.

these people's death, and to compensate families financially, as well as the importance of holding perpetrators and those responsible for these killings accountable, and to develop more serious and stricter legislation to protect the rights of detainees.

Recommendations

Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights is deeply concerned about the failure of China to form a separate national human rights institution with broad mandate to protect the rights and freedoms of the Chinese people, in accordance with the principles relevant to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles). Additionally, Maat recommends the Chinese government of the following:

- Joining the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming to abolish the death penalty.
- The need for all Chinese actors, especially civil society organizations, to cooperate with international human rights mechanisms, in light of open and reciprocal partnership, with the aim of respecting the rights and freedoms of the Chinese people.
- The need to consider inviting the mandate-holders within the framework of the special procedures system, who deal with the human rights issue in all its aspects, and to show real cooperation with them.
- The importance of ensuring that punishments, perpetrators, or persons suspected of involvement in any procedural act are subject to fair trial, ensuring the presence of an attorney, and taking into account all means of fair remedy.

The need to open an investigation by an independent body into unlawful killings and extrajudicial executions, hold perpetrators and those responsible accountable, and materially compensate the families of the victims.
