

See discussions, stats, and author profiles for this publication at: <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/339124032>

Why I stand up against the Red Evil –China?

Article · December 2022

CITATIONS

0

READS

8

1 author:



Buerhan Saiti

Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University

183 PUBLICATIONS 466 CITATIONS

SEE PROFILE

Some of the authors of this publication are also working on these related projects:



Transparency of Islamic and conventional banks [View project](#)



Institutions in Muslim Countries [View project](#)

Why I stand up against the Red Evil - China?

“The issue is more than religion, the issue is more than cultural identity, the issue is more than racism, it is a humanitarian crisis against humanity; it is a comprehensive genocide towards against Uyghurs in terms of culture, religion, language and identity”. I do claim these statements for last few years starting from year 2016. I used to be a neutral academician who mainly focus on academia and contributing the humanity at large through teaching, research and publications.



Note: Receiving the Outstanding Young Scientists Award by Turkey Academy of Sciences in December 2018

Currently, I am an Associate Professor at the Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University and recipient of Outstanding Young Scientists Award by Turkey Academy of Sciences (2018-2021). Previously, I was Associate/Assistant Professor and Senior Lecturer at International Islamic University Malaysia and University Kuala Lumpur, Respectively. As a young Academician, I have published 4 books, 11 book chapters, almost 55 SCOPUS & ISI indexed journal publications and attended more than 40 International and local conferences. I was awarded by the IIUM for

publishing highest number of articles in citation-indexed journals in social science category in year 2017. I am named for top 1% reviewer in years 2018 and 2019 by Publons (WoS). Despite, I am a successful academician, I do stand up with my people, I do stand up with intellectuals and scholars, I do stand up with entrepreneurs and business people, I do stand with children, I do stand up with women, basically, I do stand with humanity, more importantly, I do stand up with my people – Uyghur people. My name is Burhan ULUYOL or it used to be Buerhan Saiti according to Chinese passport. Let's take my personal life story to tell how Chinese government makes a crisis not only towards Uyghurs, also it towards humanity at large.

I was born in a rural countryside of Komul city (Or Hami in Chinese) in East Turkistan (or it is so called Xinjiang in Chinese) in 1980. My father was a shepherd and later become a farmer and my mother was illiterate women and housewife, I have one brother and one sister who are currently in where I was born. Despite a son farmer, in order to build a bright future, I accompany with hard work in my whole life. I was one of the top students in primary, secondary and high schools despite my father was discouraging my studies.



My father



My mother

In 1999, I was accepted by Dalian Haiyang University (which is East Coast of China) with a condition that 2 years' foundation studies in Urumqi where mainly we improve our Mandarin. In 2001, I come to study Dalian Haiyang University with 55 Han Chinese students where most of Uyghur students face discriminations. However, I was also one of the top students there who received many university scholarships, corporate scholarships and even national scholarships (in China, the scholarship is based on merit, only top students can get the scholarship). In 2005, I completed my Bachelor Degree as Best Graduate. In order to expose the international education, I decided to purpose my further studies in overseas and I come to Malaysia with financial assistance of my uncle. Where, I have improved my English from March 2006 till December 2006. End of 2006, I have started my Master Degree in Business Administration in University of Malaya which is one of top 100 universities in the world. English as my third language, I have managed to complete my studies with outstanding grades by end of year 2008. Meanwhile, I had chance to work in one of the top international company - Sime Darby – as Management Executive where I worked from January 2008 until October 2009 (until I started my PhD). Even though I become permanent staff of this company, but my ambition was to complete my PhD.

In order to start my PhD, I have resigned from Sime Darby and started my PhD in INCEIF (International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance, also known as the Global University in Islamic Finance) in September 2009 with 3 years' scholarship from Central bank of Malaysia. Meaning that I have to complete my studies within 3 years in order to not face any financial challenges. By this time, I have already married with daughter of one of the Uyghur professors in Xinjiang University and father of one daughter.

The PhD program consists of coursework, qualifying exam, comprehensive exam and PhD dissertation which is the American Style PhD program, the coursework consists of 15 subjects. With my hard work, I have managed to finish of these within 3 years. During this period, I have visited Harvard, Oxford, Durham universities as

visiting student. At the end, I completed my PhD in October 2012 with an award – outstanding PhD thesis by Malaysian Finance Association. By this time, I have already father of 2 girls.

Due to my hard work and positive attitude towards life, I got offer from University Kuala Lumpur as senior lecturer position starting from December 2012. Due to my outstanding performance, I was appointed as head of Department of Finance/Islamic Finance. I have managed the department until May 2015. In order to further excel in academia and research, I was advised to move to research university. I got offer from 3 different research universities such as University Malaya, University Technology Malaysia and International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM). Due to the better package, and more importantly, due to my Islamic Finance research, I agreed to join the Institute of Islamic Banking and Finance of IIUM. I supposed to start my new chapter of life in IIUM on 15 August 2015. By this time, I have already father of 3 girls.



Note: The day I was being promoted to Associate Professor

During this transition period, I had to go back and visit my parents in Komul of East Turkistan and my wife and children went back home in March 2015 due to my father-in-law's illness and he passed away in June 2015. Of course, from year 2006 till 2015, we went back home several times (once every two years or sometimes one a year). Every time we went back with fear and worries, when the police come and questioning us. It was never happened until my last trip which was in July 2015. One fine day of July 2015, I flew to Urumqi via Guangzhou airport. When I arrived to the border of Guangzhou airport, two polices were waiting for me, the long waited event happened here. They took my passport and IC card after the immigration clearance and asked me to go with to a hotel. I told them my parents were waiting for in Urumqi airport and death of my father-in-law. Of course, they did not care anything and asked me to follow them. They brought me to a hotel which was located in the city centre and questioning and investigating what I was doing in Malaysia. I told them I was very ordinary academician who focused teaching, research and publications. They checked my laptop, phones, suitcases, photos, videos and many others. I was very initiative to cooperate with them, because I was confident that I have never against Chinese government and communist party. Also I did not do anything which triggers the anger of China. I showed to them all of my certificates which was more than 30-40 certificates and told them these were impossible to achieve if I involved any political matters. Thank God, they released me after questioning the whole night and they told me now no one would disturb me if I went back home. I was so happy that they would not disturb me again. I come to Urumqi and stayed with Mother-in-Law for few days and visited the funeral of my father-in-law.

Finally, I was excited to meet my parents and departed to the countryside where I was born which is prefecture of Komul city. It was 4 days left to our Muslim festival – Ramadan Holiday and I was excited to celebrate this rare occasion with my beloved parents and relatives. The day after, my step brother invited us for his open house for breaking the fast.



The unexpected sad event was happened after we returned home around 9 pm. It was 3 days left to our Ramadan festival. There were 4 polices broke into our house and they asked me go with to the city centre which is 70km away from my house and they said they would release me within 24 hours. But no one believes that they would release so fast. I told them that I was questioned and investigated in Guangzhou and even called the polices in Guangzhou. But the local polices did not listen to them as well. My mother, my wife and 3 under-aged daughters were crying and my father advised me to go with them, my father told me that I cannot against them. Finally, they took me into car and drove to the city centre. When we approached to a building, Initially, I do not know what building it was, they asked me to wear the black sack as it was their procedures and they brought me to an underground house and opened my eyes. It was not a hotel, it was not guest house, it was a lock-up centre where was nothing except a tiger chair, no bed, no window and it was a dark room. I was so shocked and feared. It was never happened in my life and it was really a shock for me. They left me whole night and was trying to attack me with psychologically. I worried about my family, especially my under-aged children, I worried about my future career. The next day, they started to investigate me. They were asking exactly same questions

which were asked in Guangzhou. I have answered their questions one by one with an honest manner without hiding or lying anything. The main questions were:

- My main activities in Malaysia
- Involve any political matters
- My contacts in Malaysia
- Involve to help any Uyghurs in Malaysia
- Check my phones, emails, google drive and almost everything about me.

They were repeating same questions again and again so that they can find out any differences between same questions. My replies were:

- I was an ordinary and neutral academician who focus only education
- If I did anything wrong politically, I would not come back to China
- I was so loyal to Chinese government, I did not ask any asylum when I visited USA, UK, Australia, Europe and among others.
- I kept my Chinese passport for almost 10 years, and one day would contribute something to my region if I have chance to back to our region.
- Never help any Uyghur to get visa from Turkish embassy any among many others.
- They did not find anything illegal in my emails, phones and among others.

I was begged them to release me for Ramadan Holiday so that I could celebrate this rare occasion with my beloved family members. But my hope was blast, they kept me there for 5 days without any bed, pillows in the dark and narrow room. There was a guard who accompanied me all the time, even they went to toilet together with me. On the 6th day, they brought me to hotel where basically I was in home arrest and there was someone from higher authority (from Urumqi) who was appointed to investigate me again. With questioning and investigations, Finally, I was released me after 2 days later. Meaning that in total they locked me up for seven days in a very rare occasion.

You can imagine how my parents, my relatives, my wife and children were happy. I come to know that my mother vomited blood and all family members worried that I would not come out. My parents advised to not come back again if I managed to go out from China. My father told me that they would be happy as long as I raise my 3 daughters properly. These long and dark days ended on 2 August 2015 after we have managed to out of China.



Note: The day we were waiting to depart to Kuala Lumpur from Beijing Airport

On 15 August 2015, I have started my new chapter in IIUM where I focused both teaching and publications. I was appointed as Head of Research and Publications department and Editor of Journal of Islamic Finance. I was awarded by the IIUM for publishing highest number of articles in citation-indexed journals in social science category in year 2017 (only one nomination from Social Science category).



Note: The awarding ceremony in IIUM

In year 2016, the Chinese government relaxed the passport policy toward Uyghurs. I asked my father to get a passport and visit me. With my several insists, he agreed to get the passport to visit me. On May 2016, my shepherd father was out from China for first time in his life with my mother. They spent 3 months with me which were unforgettable days in my wife. I never thought that would be last seeing them.



Life was going on! Starting from late year 2016, there were many bad news were coming in. My father went through a serious surgery, some of my friends brought to concentration camps and the mass detention were going on. My contact with our family was getting minimal day by day. The Chinese government was confiscating the passports of Uyghur people and closing the border to Uyghur people day by day. By end of 2017, the red evil completely close the border to Uyghurs, meaning that they cannot go out from China since then. In June 2017, the Egyptian government deported back some Uyghur students to China where they faced harsh consequences. Also the former Malaysian prime minister borrowed a lot of money from China and we started to worry our safety in Malaysia.

If there is a will, there will be a way! Around May 2017, the rector of my current university (IZU) come to Malaysia to choose academics in Islamic Finance. Luckily, I was chosen by him based on my academic performance and asked me to start my new life in Turkey. Due to my Associate Professorship, I have waited until end of December 2017.

The time was flying and my last day was 15 December 2017 with IIUM and we have waited extra one week so that my daughter could finish her term 1 of grade 3. The amazing story begin:

Originally, our flight was on 24 December 2017 which was the Christmas eve and a fine Sunday. On 21st of December 2017, I had a dream, someone ordered me to out of Malaysia before Saturday, but our flight was on Sunday. What a dream? What should I do? should I fly out on Saturday or Sunday? I am hesitating what to do? On 22nd of December 2017 (Friday), I have finished my congressional prayer and handed over the office key to management office. I was on the way to my car (It is just 50 meters away from my office), there was a WeChat message come in and it was from Police Chief of my city – Komul. He said that he come down to

Malaysia with official work and asked me to meet him. I was surprised and nervous (I am wondering until today why Malaysian government allowed him to reach until Kuala Lumpur), but I tried to control myself and told him that: today my daughter has exam and tomorrow will Saturday and meet tomorrow. I worried that he would block my passport if I said I do not want meet him. Finally, he agreed to meet me on Saturday. I went back home and told my wife about my dream and what was happened just now. As you know, as a woman she worried more and asked me to go out from KL Saturday early morning. But I refused to do so, if we leave, we leave together. So the whole night I was booking tickets for Saturday morning and left from Kuala Lumpur on Saturday early morning after almost 11 years stay in Malaysia where I met my partner, where I had my 3 princes, where I got my further higher educations, where I had a lot of good memories. Of course, I got clearance from university, taxation office and royal police Malaysia as well (with letter of good conduct).



Departing hall of Kuala Lumpur International Airport, waiting to departure, it was taken by my first daughter.

When I arrived to Qatar airport for transit, there were tens of messages from the police which asked me to meet him. But he did not know that I was out from KL in the early morning. Of course, I did not tell him until he found out where I am.

Starting from 2 January 2018, I have started my new chapter of life in Istanbul as Associate Professor. The police chief of Komul city found out that I am in Turkey and started to disturb me. He sent to me several times WeChat messages that I moved to sensitive country, I should not involve any political activities, and also indicated that I would cooperate with them. Also he warned me that I would not expose his trip to Malaysia. I have ignored his messages several times and he called me via WeChat call, I did not answer to him. Then he come to my parent's house and he called me again. But I still did not answer it. Then, he took several videos of my father and sent to me. My father asked me to cooperate with them and not to involve any political activities. Also he indicated that I moved to Turkey without informing my parents. Then I called my father after several hours later, I told my father that I explained him that I should not contact with them and not cooperate with them, any government has security concern, if I cooperate with them the Turkish government might deport me out from the country. Then my father understood the consequences and respected my choice.

After few days later, the police chief again started to send messages to me, ***this time his message was clear that he asked me to work for Chinese government as spy, otherwise they would destroy my two families.*** That was expected from him long ago, and I prepared for that long ago as well. My reply was: ***"Whatever you said, whatever you sent to me are recorded. Also I have recorded your Malaysian trip. If you touch my parents, my brother and my sister, I would expose whatever you said and whatever you did, I would expose them to international media."*** He was shocked with my reply and stepped back and said that: ***"I did not expect this answer from you, we would not touch your parents, then you do not involve politics"***. The deal was agreed and focused on my academia. From this movement, I lost contact with my parents completely. I found out that the polices

ordered my parents not to pick up my phone. However, I have very minimal contact with my sister.

By this time, most of my relatives brought to concentration camps, but I did not dare to speak out. They would do same to my parents if I spoke out the truth. Then I started to live in desperate life with broken psychology. I was feel very guilty about them due to the brutal sufferings from Chinese government. I cannot stand up with them due to safety of my parents.

The list of my relatives who were detained by October 2018 (15 relatives):

1	Brother in law	Ismail Kerem
2	Step brother and His wife	Muhammad Ismail
3	Uncle and his sons and daughter-in-laws	Yusuf Yakup Ibrahim Yusuf Ismail Yusuf Akayla Kasip
4	Uncle	Amat Yakup
5	Uncle	Mamat Yakup
6	Uncle and his son	Abliz Hamdul Nurali Abliz
7	Uncle	Abdurexit Abliz Abdusalam Abdurexit
8	Cousins	Sulaiman Yakup and his wife
9		Iskandar Yakup and his wife
10		Wife of Bawdun Yakup

Note: it is 100% sure that they were detained. Few of them are being released after few years later. It is very difficult to verify whom are still inside or outside.

As I mentioned earlier, I had very minimal contact with my sister. Sometimes, she made me unfriend in WeChat and sometimes me added me. I asked her to update her status regularly so that I could know they were safe. Almost every day I had checked her status or expected some messages from her. Sometime, she begged me not to send any messages. This was going on for several months.

According to my sixth sense, I sent message to my sister saying that if something happened to my father sent to me 1 dead flower, to my mother 2 dead flowers, for yourself 3 dead flowers. Just after one day, it was on 11 November 2018, around

2pm, I have received 2 dead flowers and she said that me and our mother. 2 dead flowers represented my mother and you can image my feelings. My mother and my sister were on the way to concentration camps.

That time was time to stand up with my mother, that time was time to stand up with my sister. That time was time to break the silence.

I sent WeChat message to the that police chief and told him them, I kept silent even though many relatives were detained, but he did not keep his promise. I ordered him to release my mother and sister immediately, otherwise I would expose whatever he said and did. I sent back to him his recorded voice and replied me immediately saying that keep calm. I told him that it is not time to keep silent or calm, it is time to release my mother and sister immediately. He did not promise anything, but our conservations were continued. What was a surprise and a pleasant news: I have received a WeChat message from my sister and she told me that she was released after 3 hours later. Of course, the first question was: **where is our mother?** her reply was: she brought concentration camp one week before and my sister did not dare to tell me about it. That time my mother with 60 years old lady with diabetics.



Few days before being sent
to concentration camp



The day she being released from
concentration camp

I was angry even more and kept sending message to the police chief to release my mother. Our battle was continued. Again, he did not promise anything, but asked me to keep calm. After 3 days later, I have received a flower from my sister which indicated that now the dead flower was alive. Thanks God, I have managed to save my mother from the concentration camp and I have managed to call her and hear her voice.

Life was going on with fear and stress. In the early December, after 3 weeks later after release of my mother, I had a dream, my father collapsed from sky and as you know it is not good sign. I have started to worry the safety of my father. Just one day after, I have received a dead flower from my sister. if you still remember, it represents my father. ***O my God, now 70 years old man with several recent surgeries was being sent to concentration camp. Where is humanity of those people? Where is the mercy of those people?*** Of course, we cannot expect the mercy or humanity from the totalitarian communist party.



Note: my father was hospitalized and went through 3 times surgeries just few months before being sent to concentration camp.

Again with same strategy, I have sent WeChat message to the police chief. Unfortunately, I have failed this time. He has already made me unfriend in the

WeChat. What should I do? I purchased the international call and called him, but he did not answer it. Then I sent to him normal phone messages and the above photos. It did not work. Then I have started to post the police chief's photos and video recordings in social media. I do not know whether it worked or not, but my father was being released after 10 days later.

The issue did not stop here. One day my sister completely disappeared and she put me in the blacklist of WeChat. It was very strange. I have started to worry again about my sister. I come to know that she was being sent to concentration camp with some other female relatives. My suspected that my sister and my auntie Ayhan Hamdul (in the list below) were being sent to concentration camp due to they contacted with me via WeChat. They did not expose anything, but we just greeted each other.

The list of detainees:

1	Seti Yakup	Father (being released)
2	Zeynep Hamdul	Mother (Being released)
3	Sister	Rizwangul Seti (being released now after 5-6 months later)
4	Auntie – wife of Amat Yakup (the is in the list of above)	Hamrahan Abdirehim (being released after 5-6 months later)
5	Auntie – younger sister of my mother	Ayhan Hamdul

I felt very sorry about my sister whom separated from her 4 children (father of these children jailed for 7 years just donating around USD800 to one hospitalized man which was considered as illegal donation, have you heard illegal donation?). Also my auntie Ayhan Hamdul has 2 down syndrome children out of 3 children (one of them passed away) was being sent to the concentration camp. Can you keep silent in these kind of situations? can you ignore your sister and your close relatives?

	
<p>My sister: Before concentration camp</p>	<p>After concentration camp</p>
	
<p>Ayhan Hamdul: Before concentration camp</p>	<p>After being released from concentration camp</p>

This is how I become activist to advocate the Uyghur crisis to the world to spread the truth. This is how Chinese government destroying our family members, this is how Chinese government is destroying our identity, this is how Chinese government is destroying culture, this is how Chinese government is destroying our religion and this is how Chinese government is making genocide to against humanity. I have summarized some most important issues and crises:

1. **Mass incarceration** since the Holocaust based on religion and ethnicity. A brainwashing campaign that considers religion as a mental illness to be 'cured.'
2. **Mass sentencing of religious and cultural figures** as thought criminals.
3. **De facto full-scale ban of normal Islamic practices** (prayer, Qur'an, Nikah, Janazah and Hijab, including everyday phrases.
4. **Eradication of Uyghur language** from the education system and public institutions.
5. **Coercion of Uyghur women into marriages** with Han Chinese men.
6. **Systematic separation of children from their parents**, even from extended families, and forced assimilation of them to Han Chinese identity.
7. **Creation of human organ bank** from the inmates of the camps to be harvested on order.
8. **Transferring of hundreds of thousands of Uyghurs to other provinces throughout China** after arbitrarily sentencing them to long prison terms.
9. **Systemic destruction of mosques and other cultural heritage of Uyghurs**, including Uyghur books, traditional household items and religious symbols.
10. **Severe restrictions of inter-city** and even inter-neighborhood movement.
11. **Destroying of graveyards** and coercion of Muslims to cremation of bodies instead of burial.
12. **De facto communication blockade with people overseas** through the incarceration in the camps.

Appendices



The first one from the left: Yusuf Yakup, first young brother of my father, he used to have 12 years' jail term and completed his term in year 2016 and brought him back again to concentration camp. I do not know where he is now.

The second from left: Amat Yakup, second younger brother of my father, he was a businessman for almost for 20 years and no criminal record. He brought concentration camp in July 2017 and until today there is no news about his whereabouts. His 3 daughters are studying in Turkey and his wife Hamrahan Abdurehim was sent to concentration camp same time with my sister (it was around December 2018).

The one in the middle: my father Seti Yakup

The first one from right: Mamat Yakup, who used to be a government servant and he resigned from his position in order to help my second uncle Amat Yakup. He was arrested in Guangzhou while he was selling melons in June 2018. There is no

news about his whereabouts since then. His wife, his son and his daughter are living in Istanbul. They do not have any information about him.

The one in the middle, the poorest woman on the earth, his husband, three sons, three daughter-in-laws are victim of the concentration camp. She is taking care more than 10 children of these victims.



Hamrahan Abdurehim – wife my second uncle – Amat Yakup was send to concentration camp same time with my sister (it was around December 2018). From recent news we come know that she is being released. Her daughters even can hear voice of their mother after she is being released.



Nurali Abliz – Son of my uncle from mother side. He used to a security officer who served Chinese government. Even though he was working for Chinese government, he was being sent to concentration camp as well. I do not have any information about him whether released or not.



Abdusalam Abdurexit – my cousin, son of another auntie from my mother side. He used to be factory worker and very modern guy who does not practice the religion. I come know that he was sent to concentration camp as well. Also, I do not have any information about him whether released or not.