

In Custody: Recent Arrests in Xinjiang

Following is a list of known arrests in Xinjiang over the past five years. Unlike CRF's previous prisoner lists, this one contains many people who are no longer in prison, in most cases because they have received the death penalty.

This list also differs from those previously published in CRF in that many of the prisoners were arrested outside of China and forcibly repatriated. Although the situation following repatriation is not always known, in practice these prisoners are often executed under terrorism-related charges. Those who are not executed typically face torture and ill-treatment during lengthy prison sentences.

Finally, readers should note that few arrests are recorded after mid-2002. This does not necessarily indicate that no arrests took place, but rather the difficulty in obtaining updated information. In addition to the persons listed below, at least 11 Uighurs are currently being held in Guantanamo Bay by the U.S. authorities after being apprehended during the war in Afghanistan. Amnesty International has issued an appeal for these prisoners not to be deported to China, where they might well face execution.

Sources: Amnesty International, East Turkestan Information Center, Democracy (Kyrgyzstan)

Name	Background	Sentence Date	Sentence/Status	Offense
Abduahmed		unknown	death penalty	
Mamat Yasin	Deported from Kyrgyzstan	unknown	feared executed	
Mamat Sadyk	Deported from Kyrgyzstan	unknown	feared executed	
Bajvachcha	Deported from Kyrgyzstan	unknown	feared executed	
Amangul Ehmet	A 21-year-old female student from Turfan	unknown	1.5 years	illegal religious activities
Tohti Tunyaz	A historian, arrested on Feb. 6, 1998 while researching the pre-1949 history of East Turkestanin	10-Mar-99	11 years	stealing state secrets, citing separatism
Sattar Abliz	A 22-year-old male student arrested in Kashgar	Jun-99	2.5 years	worshipping in school
Yaqub Abla	A 23-year-old male from Korla, arrested in Ulanbay	Jun-99	2 years	illegal religious activities
Buwaishem Yaqup	A 22-year-old female student student from Cherchen District	Jun-99	in jail	illegal religious activities
Heirigul Turghun	A 22-year-old female student from Korla	Jun-99	house arrest/in jail	illegal religious activities
Shirmehemet Abdurishit	Arrested in June 1998 with 17 other Uighurs in Bingtuan	Aug-99	15 years, sentences of up to 14 years for others	separatism
Rebiya Kadeer	Businesswoman, wife of former political prisoner and women's rights advocate, arrested in Urumchi after mailing newspapers to her husband overseas	Mar-00	8 years	providing state secrets to an overseas entity
Jelil Turdi	A male arrested in Kyrgyz	Apr-00	forcibly returned, feared executed	separatism
Qudret Tomur	A 24-year-old male student from Turfan, arrested there	6-Dec-00	sentenced	reading religious books, illegal religious activities
Abla Ebey	Arrested in Hotan	3-Feb-01	life in prison	terrorism, separatism
Abdurehim Yoldash	A 29-year-old arrested in Hotan	3-5 Feb-01	17 years	terrorism, separatism
Ehmet Eli	A 28-year-old arrested in Hotan	3-5 Feb-01	17 years	terrorism, separatism

Name	Background	Sentence Date	Sentence/Status	Offense
Abla Qasim	A 38-year-old arrested in Hotan	3-5 Feb-01	13 years	transporting weapons
Mehmet Tohti Abduqadir	A 39-year-old arrested in Hotan	3-5 Feb-01	17 years	instigation of anti-government activities
Nebi Yusup	A 23-year-old from Hotan	3-5 Feb-01	17 years	connected to Abla Ebey
Ehmet Memtimin	A 17-year-old arrested in Hotan	3-5 Feb-01	6 years	connected to Abla Ebey
Rahman Barat	A male craftsman in his late 50s, arrested in Shaya	Mar-01	detained	illegal production and possession of weapons
Ehet Rahman	A 35-year-old male from Shayar, arrested in Shaya	Mar-01	detained	illegal production and possession of weapons
Rozi Semet	A man in his late 60s, arrested in Shaya	Mar-01	detained	illegal production and possession of weapons
Semet Rozi	A 35-year-old male arrested in Shaya	Mar-01	detained	illegal production and possession of weapons
Siyit Qasim	A 30-year-old male arrested in Shaya	Mar-01	detained	illegal production and possession of weapons
Yasin Ehet	A 25-year-old arrested in Shaya	Mar-01	detained	illegal production and possession of weapons
Qasim Qayim	Age around 22, arrested in Shaya	Mar-01	detained	illegal production and possession of weapons
Rehmet Tomurchi	A 30-year-old arrested in Shaya	Mar-01	detained	illegal production and possession of weapons
Eziz Somian	A male religious activist from Hotan, arrested in Urumch	25-Mar-01	arrested	calling for separatism and instigating anti-government activities
Tudahun Tudahun	Arrested in Ili	21-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, violating state security, illegal religious activities
Dilshatbek Tursun	Arrested in Ili	21-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, violating state security, illegal religious activities
Azat Munar, Yasinjan	Arrested in Ili	21-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, violating state security, illegal religious activities
Yarmemet Imin	Arrested in Ili	21-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, violating state security, illegal religious activities
Zeydin Kenji	Arrested in Ili	21-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, violating state security, illegal religious activities
Tohti Hebibullah	Arrested in Turfan	24-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, robbery
Abdurahman Bekri	Arrested in Turfan	24-Apr-01	10 years 8 months	separatism, robbery
Abdurahman Kerem	Arrested in Turfan	24-Apr-01	3 years	separatism, robbery
Weli Abdurahman	Arrested in Turfan	24-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, robbery
Ekber Abduraham	Arrested in Turfan	24-Apr-01	15 years	separatism, robbery
Omer Memet	Arrested in Turfan	24-Apr-01	7 years	separatism, robbery
Momin Qadir	Arrested in Turfan	24-Apr-01	11 years	separatism, robbery
Omer Merdan	Arrested in Turfan	24-Apr-01	3 years	separatism, robbery

Name	Background	Sentence Date	Sentence/Status	Offense
Yusup Tusiyat	Arrested in Turfan	24-Apr-01	10 years	separatism, robbery
Rejep Osman	Arrested in Turfan	24-Apr-01	10 years	separatism, robbery
Gheni Eliniyaz	Arrested in Turfan	24-Apr-01	6 years	separatism, robbery
Qahar Rozi	Arrested in Turfan	24-Apr-01	3 years	separatism, robbery
Abdurehim Kerem	Arrested in Turfan	24-Apr-01	2 years	separatism, robbery
Tahi Memet	Arrested in Korla	27-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, violating state security, illegal religious activities
Tohti Memet	Arrested in Korla	27-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, violating state security, illegal religious activities
Kurban Abdurahim	Arrested in Korla	27-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, violating state security, illegal religious activities
Tahir Awut	Arrested in Korla	27-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, illegal religious activities
Enwer Nasir	Arrested in Korla	27-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, illegal religious activities
Kirem Qasim	Arrested in Korla	27-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, illegal religious activities
Ahmet Qurban	Arrested in Korla	27-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, illegal religious activities
Abdulla Ghojek	Arrested in Aksu	27-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, illegal religious activities
Eysa Tohti	Arrested in Aksu	27-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, illegal religious activities
Yusup Ehmet	Arrested in Aksu	27-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, illegal religious activities
Memet Ehmet	Arrested in Aksu	27-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, illegal religious activities
Abduqadir Memet	Arrested in Aksu	27-Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, illegal religious activities
Sawutjan	A 26-year-old from Yehgiyer, arrested in Ili	28-Apr-01	sentenced	supporting separatism
Alimit Qarim	A 30-year-old from Yehgiyer, arrested in Ili	28-Apr-01	sentenced	supporting separatism
Omer Qarim	A 25-year-old from Yehgiyer	28-Apr-01	sentenced	supporting separatism
Polat	A 35-year-old from Yehgiyer, arrested in Ili	28-Apr-01	sentenced	supporting separatism
Abdurishit Obulhesen	A 22-year-old from Qaratoghraq Teweckul County, arrested in Baghchi	28-Apr-01	9 years	terrorism, separatism, illegal religious activities
Ehmetniyaz Metrozi	A 34-year-old from Hotan, arrested in Baghchi	28-Apr-01	12 years	terrorism, separatism, illegal religious activities
Tursuntohti Ehmet	A 27-year-old from Hotan, arrested in Baghchi	28-Apr-01	10 years	terrorism, separatism, illegal religious activities
Tursun Omer	A 23-year-old from Hotan, arrested in Baghchi	28-Apr-01	10 years	terrorism, separatism, illegal religious activities
Memet Abla Islam	A 26-year-old from Hotan, arrested in Baghchi	28-Apr-01	10 years	terrorism, separatism, illegal religious activities

Name	Background	Sentence Date	Sentence/Status	Offense
Abdum Abdikerim	An 18-year-old from Hotan, arrested in Baghchi	28-Apr-01	10 years	terrorism, separatism, illegal religious activities
Jaffar	An 18-year-old arrested in Baghchi	28-Apr-01	13 years	terrorism, separatism, illegal religious activities
Memetrozi Ehmet	Age 26, arrested in Baghchi	28-Apr-01	15 years	terrorism, separatism, illegal religious activities
Osman Sulayman	Age 23, arrested in Baghchi	28-Apr-01	15 years	terrorism, separatism, illegal religious activities
Ehmettohti Abla	Age 27, arrested in Baghchi	28-Apr-01	20 years	terrorism, separatism, illegal religious activities
Tursun Qadir	Age 26, arrested in Baghchi	28-Apr-01	14 years	terrorism, separatism, illegal religious activities
Gheni Tursun	Arrested in Toshun	29-Apr-01	sentenced	Not Specified
Osman Menglik	Arrested in Toshun	29-Apr-01	sentenced	Not Specified
Zibibula Hebibulla	Arrested in Toshun	29-Apr-01	sentenced	Not Specified
Ablimit Memet	Arrested in Kashgar	26–29 Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, illegal religious activities
Ehmet Tursun	Arrested in Kashgar	26–29 Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, illegal religious activities
Abdugheni Semet	Arrested in Kashgar	26–29 Apr-01	death penalty	separatism, illegal religious activities
Yasin Tursun	A 23-year-old male farmer from Kashgar, arrested in Hotan	2-Jun-01	20 years	separatism, production and custody of explosives
Abliximit Memtimin	A 24-year-old farmer arrested in Hotan	2-Jun-01	20 years	separatism, production and custody of explosives
Hesen Tursunmemet	A 25-year-old male farmer arrested in Hotan	2-Jun-01	sentenced	separatism, production and custody of explosives
Turdiehmehmet Jilil	A 25-year-old farmer arrested in Hotan	2-Jun-01	8 years	separatism, production and custody of explosives
Ablet Eziz	A 21-year-old male carpenter arrested in Hotan	2-Jun-01	sentenced	separatism, production and custody of explosives
Ablimit Mijit	A 20-year-old worker arrested in Hotan	2-Jun-01	sentenced	separatism, production and custody of explosives
Turgun Ehmetniyaz	A 23-year-old male trader arrested in Hotan	2-Jun-01	sentenced	separatism, production and custody of explosives
Tursunjan Abla	A 31-year-old trader arrested in Hotan	2-Jun-01	sentenced	separatism, production and custody of explosives
Ablimit Dawut	A 28-year-old from Guma	10-Jun-01	on the run since since 1997, tried in absencia	terrorism, stealing state funds, supporting reactionary propoganda, separatism
Memet Tohti Seydulla	A 29-year-old male arrested in Hotan	10-Jun-01	unknown	terrorism, stealing state funds, supporting reactionary propoganda, separatism
Sattar Osman	A 28-year-old from Yarken, arrested in Hotan	10-Jun-01	unknown	terrorism, stealing state funds, supporting reactionary propoganda, separatism

Name	Background	Sentence Date	Sentence/Status	Offense
Alilmin	A 29-year-old from Lop, arrested in Hotan	10-Jun-01	unknown	terrorism, stealing state funds, supporting reactionary propaganda, separatism
Ruzmemet Ahmetniyaz	A 27-year-old arrested in Hotan	10-Jun-01	unknown	terrorism, stealing state funds, supporting reactionary propaganda, separatism
Buhediche Enes	19-year-old wife of Memet Tohti Seydulla, arrested in Hotan	10-Jun-01	unknown funds, supporting	terrorism, stealing state reactionary propaganda, separatism
Ablet Sattar	A 27-year-old arrested in Hotan	21-Jun-01	death penalty	separatism
Abduweli Tursun	A 22-year-old male student	Sep-01	current status unknown	illegal religious activities
Tursun Tohti	A 50-year-old male farmer arrested in Kashgar	25-Sep-01	3 years	political offenses
Nurmuhemmet Abliz	A 28-year-old male trader arrested in Kashgar	25-Sep-01	3 years	political offenses
Osman Jamal	A 23-year-old male trader from Qizilsu Kirgiz Autonomous Oblast, arrested in Kashgar	25-Sep-01	14.5 years	political offenses
Yasin Amet	An 18-year-old male farmer from Yengisar District, arrested in Kashgar	25-Sep-01	4.5 years	political offenses
Qurban Musa	A 21-year-old male mason from Yengisheher District, arrested in Kashgar	25-Sep-01	4 years	political offenses
Tomur Emet	A 27-year-old male cook from Toqquzaq District, arrested in Kashgar	25-Sep-01	4 years	political offenses
Emet Heyt	A 23-year-old male trader from Yengisheher Distric, arrested in Kashgar	25-Sep-01	1 year	political offenses
Erkin Talip	Arrested with 9 unidentified people in Shaya	24-Sep-01	death penalty	separatist activities
Abdumijit	Arrested with 10 unidentified people in Ili Prefecture	15-Oct-01	death penalty	separatism
Abdulmejit	Arrested in Ili	15-Oct-01	death penalty	anti-government activities
Yasin Iskender	A 23-year-old male from Aksu, arrested in Hotan	16-Oct-01	death penalty	receiving illegal religious education, killing a security officer, helping a detainee escape
Metrozi Metthoti	A 34-year-old male from Khotan, arrested with 2 unidentified people	23-Oct-01	death penalty	separatism
Abdiqeyum	A 27-year-old male from Hotan	23-Oct-01	current status unknown	
Memetimin Elem	A 23-year-old male from Hotan	23-Oct-01	current status unknown	

Name	Background	Sentence Date	Sentence/Status	Offense
Yasin Iskender	A male from Hotan, arrested in the Lop District	16-Nov-01	death penalty	political offenses
Abduraup	A Muslim cleric arrested in Khotan	Dec-01	detained	teaching the Koran
Muhabbet	A female religious teacher, arrested along with 13 unidentified people in Khotan	10-Dec-01	released	teaching the Koran
Tursumjan Emet	A poet arrested in Urumchi	11-Jan-02	arrested, may have been released 1–2 months later	ideological front against the ethnic separatists
Abdurahman	A teacher arrested in Kashgar	Feb-02	dismissed from job	possession of wrong books and religious activities
Ablikim Yasin	A 13-year-old student arrested in Kashgar	24-Mar-02	arrested	wrote letter to school, urging to stop political education
Ablikim Yaqup	A male student arrested in Kashgar	27-Mar-02	arrested	threatening to bomb school over political study campaign
Sulayman Eysa	A 28-year-old male from Kashgar, arrested in Hotan and Quariqash region	2-Apr-02	20 years	separatism, mass protests against the government, illegal religious activities
Elham Memet	A 24-year-old from arrested in Hotan	2-Apr-02	19 years	separatism, mass protests against the government, illegal religious activities
Metturdi Tursun	A 22-year-old from Bayingholun Mongol Autonomous Region, arrested in Hotan and Quariqash region	2-Apr-02	11 years	separatism, mass protests against the government, illegal religious activities
Ababekri Mehsut	A 24-year-old arrested in Hotan	2-Apr-02	10 years	separatism, mass protests against the government, illegal religious activities
Abliz Mettohti	A 25-year-old arrested in Hotan	2-Apr-02	7 years	separatism, mass protests against the government, illegal religious activities
Abdumejit Eziz	A 29-year-old arrested in Hotan	2-Apr-02	7 years	separatism, mass protests against the government, illegal religious activities
Memet Mettohti	A 30-year-old from Chira region, arrested in Hotan	2-Apr-02	7 years	separatism, mass protests against the government, illegal religious activities
Memetjan Memet	A 31-year-old from Chira region, arrested in Hotan	2-Apr-02	7 years	separatism, mass protests against the government, illegal religious activities
Abdul Hemit Eziz	A 34-year-old arrested in Hotan	2-Apr-02	unknown	separatism, mass protests against the government, illegal religious activities
Elham Tohtan	A 30-year-old from Gulja City, arrested in Rawalpindi, Pakistan	22-Apr-02	forcibly returned, reported detained in Urumqi	
Enver Tohti aka Enver Davut	A male from Gulja City, arrested in Rawalpindi, Pakistan	22-Apr-02	forcibly returned, believed imprisoned in Urumqi	

Name	Background	Sentence Date	Sentence/Status	Offense
Abdul Lafit Abdulqakdir aka Ablitip Abdul Kadir	Arrested in Urumchi	22-Apr-02	forcibly returned, reported detained in Urumqi	
Golamjan Yasin, Tillivaldi, Ablikim, Ezizhan, Zayir or Zaher	Natives of Gulja City and Kazakistan, reported arrested in Rawalpindi, Pakistan, and forcibly returned, but information remains sketchy	22-Apr-02	unconfirmed	
Abdu Allah Sattar aka Abdulla Sattar	Granted refugee status by UNHCR after fleeing to Nepal in 2000, detained in Nepal Dec 2001, forcibly returned Jan 2002	Mar-02	forcibly returned, fate unknown	
Kheyum Whashim Ali aka Washim Ali	Granted refugee status by UNHCR after fleeing to Nepal in 2000, detained in Nepal Dec 2001, forcibly returned mid-2002	May-02	forcibly returned, believed detained in Michuan Prison	
Shaheer Ali aka Shir Ali	Claimed to belong to non-militant East Turkestan Islamic Reform Party. Granted refugee status by UNHCR after fleeing to Nepal in 2000, detained in Nepal Dec 2001, forcibly returned Jan 2002	Mar-03	forcibly returned, executed later	separatism, organizing and leading a terrorist organization, trading and possession of weapons and explosives
Abdulwahad Tohti	Arrested in Rawalpindi, Pakistan in July 2003, reported forcibly returned to China soon after	Jul-03	believed detained in Urumqi	
Muhammed Tohti Metrozi	Granted refugee status by UNHCR in Dec 2002 after fleeing to Pakistan, arrested in Rawalpindi in July 2003, reported forcibly returned to China soon after	Jul-03	believed detained in Urumq	