

*(Translated from Chinese)*

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of joint communication No. AL/CHN 21/2020, of 10 February 2021, from the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences; the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights; the Special Rapporteur on the right to education; the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the Special Rapporteur on minority issues; the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; and the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, of the United Nations Human Rights Council. The Chinese Government wishes to make the following reply:

1. The description of what Gulbakhar Jalilova “experienced, saw and heard under arrest” is completely fabricated and slanderous, the so-called accusation is a complete lie and there is no question of it “happening again”. Ms. Jalilova was detained on criminal charges by the public security bodies of Xinjiang, China, in accordance with the law, on suspicion of aiding terrorist activities. Later, according to the circumstances of the case and in accordance with an application from Ms. Jalilova herself, the public security bodies replaced the coercive measures against her with bail pending trial, in accordance with the law. She then left Ürümqi, China for Almaty, Kazakhstan. During the period when she was, in accordance with the law, under investigation by the Chinese public security bodies, all of her rights were fully protected. The prison staff have confirmed that the description of what she allegedly “experienced, saw and heard under arrest” is completely fabricated and slanderous.
2. Ms. Jalilova’s translator, [REDACTED] confirmed having received instructions from her to transfer 17,140 yuan renminbi through WeChat to [REDACTED], a member of the Turkistan Islamic Movement organization, for the financing of foreign terrorists. Because of her actions, she was suspected of aiding terrorist activities.
3. On 17 December 2015, the National People’s Congress examined and adopted the Counter-Terrorism Law of the People’s Republic of China. The actions of Ms. Jalilova were in violation of article 3 (4) of the Law, which prohibits “Providing information, capital, funding, labour, technology, venues or other support, assistance or facilitation for terrorist organizations, terrorist personnel or the training for or commission of terrorist activities.” At the same time, Ms. Jalilova’s actions also violated the provisions of article 120 of the Criminal Law of the People’s Republic of China, as she was suspected of assisting terrorist activities, i.e., of providing “financial support to a terrorist organization or to terrorist activities, or providing training for terrorist activities”.
4. The public security bodies in Ürümqi, China, provided translation, consular and legal services to Ms. Jalilova. The Ürümqi Public Security Bureau apprised her, in accordance with the law, of her rights and obligations as a foreign citizen and informed her that she could be questioned in her own language or in the national language. With her consent, the Ürümqi Public Security Bureau arranged for two police officers (including one female officer) to question her in the Kazakh language. After Ms. Jalilova was detained, the entry and exit administration department of Xinjiang Autonomous Region informed the Embassy of Kazakhstan in China of the situation within the prescribed time, in accordance with the law.
5. The prison unit of the Ürümqi Public Security Bureau strictly implements the Regulation on Detention Facilities of the People’s Republic of China. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who shared the same cell as Ms. Jalilova, and the staff of the detention centre, have confirmed that Ms. Jalilova was not subjected to any inhuman or degrading treatment and that there was no lack of health services.
6. There is no “coercive use of pills or injections” for any criminal suspects at the prison unit of the Ürümqi Public Security Bureau.
7. The prison unit does not carry out any lessons intended for criminal suspects, and it fully protects their freedom of speech and religious belief and their right to education and culture.



8. The prison unit fully protects the health-care rights of female criminal suspects, including access to reproductive health services, supplies and information. The detention centre provides three meals a day for detainees. Each cell in the detention centre is equipped with separate toilets and bathing facilities ensuring that the detainees are able to clean with hot water. Everyday necessities required by the women, including toiletries, clothing and sanitary products, are provided monthly. With support from the health system, doctors make visits three times a day to examine and treat sick detainees in a timely manner. Ms. Jalilova suffered from stage 3 hypertension and was transferred by the prison unit to the prison hospital for hospitalization.

9. There is no sexual harassment or sexual violence at the prison unit of the Ürümqi Public Security Bureau. There are channels available for criminal suspects to file complaints and obtain assistance and protection, in accordance with the law.

10. Xinjiang, China, is carrying out the struggle against terrorism and radicalization in accordance with the law. No particular nationality or religion is targeted and the aim is to protect all people threatened by terrorism and extremism. This is an important principle, and one which China has always followed. China is a country governed by the rule of law, and everyone is equal before the law. Whoever violates Chinese law is investigated in accordance with the law. In strict accordance with the Counter-Terrorism Law of the People's Republic of China and with the relevant rules of international law, China respects citizens' freedom of religious belief and their national customs and prohibits any discriminatory practices on the basis of geographical, ethnic, religious or other reasons. It resolutely ensures that counter-terrorism and deradicalization efforts are prevented from infringing on the legitimate rights of the people of all ethnic groups. In strict accordance with the Regulation on Detention Facilities of the People's Republic of China, in the country's criminal detention activities, criminal suspects are not subjected to any inhuman or degrading treatment; there is no lack of health care and there is no "coercive use of pills and injections". The Chinese public security bodies provide translation, consular and legal services to foreign criminal suspects, in accordance with the law.

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