

Thompson Rivers University Students' Union

805 TRU Way, Kamloops BC, V2C 0C8



President of the People's Republic of China Xi Jinping
Zhongnanhai, Xichangan'jie Xichengqu
Beijing Shi 100017, People's Republic of China

May 25, 2020

Please Release Ekpar Asat And Investigate His Unfair Imprisonment

Dear President Xi,

On behalf of the Thompson Rivers University Students' Union, we call on you to immediately and unconditionally release Uyghur entrepreneur **Ekpar Asat** (伊克帕·阿萨特) unless there is enough credible and admissible evidence that he committed an internationally recognized offence in which case he must be granted a new trial in line with international standards. We also ask that a thorough investigation takes place into the situation surrounding **Ekpar's** unfair imprisonment and secret trial, that he has access to his family, a lawyer of his choice, and that he is not subject to torture and other ill-treatment.

We are deeply concerned by reports from Amnesty International about the disappearance and secret conviction of **Ekpar** for "inciting ethnic hatred and discrimination" in April 2016 after returning to Xinjiang from the USA. It was not until four years later that **Ekpar's** family heard about his sentencing through ambiguous communications with the Chinese authorities.

We believe that you have an obligation under international human rights law to release **Ekpar Asat** and either; hold a new and fair trial in line with international standards to introduce credible evidence that he committed an internationally recognized offence, or investigate how he was unfairly imprisoned and hold those authorities responsible for their illegal actions.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "N Lane".

Nathan Lane
Executive Director
TRU Students' Union

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mackenzie Francoeur".

Mackenzie Francoeur
Vice President Equity
TRU Students' Union

cc. Ambassador for the People's Republic of China Peiwu Cong, Department of Justice of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region Deputy Director Wang Jiang