

URGENT ACTION

UYGHUR STUDENT RELEASED AFTER SERVING SENTENCE

Uyghur university student Kamile Wayit was released on 28 December 2025, after completing a three-year sentence for “promoting extremism”. She had been sentenced on 25 March 2023 for posting a video on WeChat about the November 2022 “A4 protests” that took place across China. She has reportedly reunited with her family and is currently in good condition.

NO FURTHER ACTION IS REQUESTED; MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO SENT APPEALS ALREADY.

Uyghur university student Kamile Wayit was released on 28 December 2025, after completing a three-year sentence for “promoting extremism”. She has reportedly reunited with her family and is currently in good condition, and planning her long-postponed eye surgery.

Before her detention in December 2022, she was a university student enrolled at the Shangqiu Institute of Technology in Henan.

On 25 March 2023, she was sentenced to three years in prison on the charge of ‘promoting extremism’, after posting a video on WeChat about the November 2022 ‘A4 protests’ in China. She is one of only a few individuals whom we know to have been convicted of a “crime” in relation to the protests; the groundless charges and disproportionate sentence, we believe, are in part connected to her identity as Uyghur.

Amnesty International will continue to monitor Kamile’s situation post-release, paying close attention to the extent to which she is granted full freedom, including the right to freedom of movement and to the highest attainable standard of health.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

About Xinjiang

Since 2017, under the guise of a campaign against “terrorism” and “religious extremism”, the government of China has carried out widespread and systematic human rights violations against Muslims living in Xinjiang. It is estimated that over a million people have been arbitrarily detained in internment camps throughout Xinjiang since 2017.

In August 2022, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights released a long-awaited report reinforcing previous findings by Amnesty International and others. These findings reveal the extent of arbitrary and discriminatory detention of Uyghurs, Kazakhs and other predominantly Muslims in Xinjiang, which may constitute international crimes, in particular crimes against humanity. It also documented allegations of torture or other ill-treatment, incidents of sexual and gender-based violence, forced labour and enforced disappearances, among other grave human rights violations.

About the “A4 Protest” or “White Paper Movement” in China

On 24 November 2022, a fire broke out in an apartment building in Urumqi, killing at least 10 people according to government sources. Many blamed Covid-19 restrictions for the deaths but local authorities disputed this claim. This did not stop protests from breaking out in Urumqi, the capital of the western region of Xinjiang. After the fire, the government declared that the Covid-19 outbreak was under control and the city would ease lockdowns, following more than 100 days of severe restrictions on people’s movement.

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On 25 November, a student from the Nanjing Media College reportedly protested on campus holding a white sheet of paper, and was joined by other students. The action quickly spread across the country, with videos shared on social media showing protests breaking out across universities and cities throughout China, including in Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai and Wuhan.

Peaceful protesters commemorated the victims of the Urumqi fire and called for the easing of lockdown measures. Many also demanded the end of censorship and some even called for President Xi to step down. A large number of people were detained for participating in these peaceful protests; there is to date no official or verified count of those detained, convicted and/or sentenced for their participation. Videos circulated online show police forces beating protesters during the arrests.

The White Paper Movement was also characterized by the transnational nature of the protests, with overseas Chinese students often demonstrating in solidarity with peers in the country. In 2023, for the one-year anniversary, Amnesty International shared [the stories of six participants](#) who explained how the White Paper Movement had changed their lives.

NAME AND PRONOUN: Kamile Wayit (she, her)

THIS IS THE THIRD AND FINAL OUTPUT FOR THE UA

LINK TO PREVIOUS UA: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa17/6967/2023/en/>