



Xinjiang Ethnic Harmonization by Quartering and Relocation

OE Watch Commentary: In 2016, the government of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) launched a “family home-stay” program, wherein Han Chinese government cadres stayed with minority families (mostly ethnic Uyghurs) in an effort to promote unity. The program recently finished another iteration, which saw the deployment of over one million cadres and government employees. Following this campaign, the government announced a new commissioning of 76,000 officials to be sent out and monitor rural areas throughout Xinjiang.

The first excerpt from the official Chinese site, *Global Times*, points out that throughout the last-half of December, the unity week campaign was “aimed at promoting the spirit of the 19th National Congress of the CPC” embracing “ethnic unity.” This was sought to be accomplished through an “exchange”—placing cadres in minority community homes and vice versa. It was additionally reported that the exchange lasted for approximately six days for each family and their new “relative.”

The second excerpt, also from *Global Times*, reports that, following the unity week practices, and falling into line with broader concerns over unity and homogeneity, the XUAR government has decided to dispatch 76,000 officials to rural and economically marginalized villages across the province. As reported, an official from the Urumqi National Cadre College said the mission of the new official dispatch would be “mainly...implementing regional policies. Their close involvement with ethnic residents would erase estrangement, which would benefit regional stability in the long run.” However, as noted in the piece, this was not the first attempt at increasing unity though dispatching cadres to villages—with 53,400 officials and 9,500 working teams dispatched in 2017. **End OE Watch Commentary (Shanks)**

Source: “Xinjiang unity week practices spirit of 19th CPC National Congress.” *Global Times*. 3 January 2018. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1083107.shtml>

About a million cadres and employees in Xinjiang participated in the week in which they spent time living, working and studying with people from different ethnic groups, the Xinjiang Daily reported on Sunday. The campaign is aimed at promoting the spirit of the 19th National Congress of CPC to thousands of families in the autonomous region, the Urumqi-based paper reported. Han ethnic majority cadres and employees must take an ethnic minority “relative,” mostly a member of the Uyghur ethnic minority, said Liu Chenyu, a kindergarten teacher living in Qitai county of Changji, a county-level city about 40 kilometers west of Urumqi, the Xinjiang capital. Ethnic minority cadres must also have a Han villager as a “relative,” Liu told the Global Times on Wednesday.

Source: “Xinjiang assigns 76,000 officials to poor villages.” *Global Times*. 1 February 2018. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1087820.shtml>

“In an effort to enhance work in extremely poor villages and to alleviate poverty, the Communist Party of China (CPC) Committee in Xinjiang has assigned 76,000 officials and 12,000 working groups to cover every village in the region, the Xinjiang Morning Post reported on Thursday. Those officials started to work in villages on Monday. Among the 76,000 officials, 2,578 officials selected from universities in Xinjiang will be assigned to each extremely poor village. “The officials are mainly responsible for implementing regional policies. Their close involvement with ethnic residents would erase estrangement, which would benefit regional stability in the long run,” Dong Yong, a professor from Urumqi National Cadre College, told the Global Times on Thursday.



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Uyghur daily life at Kashi Sunday market.
Source: By Fidel Kazip (https://goo.gl/DqMrGf), (CC0.1.0).