

## Week 6: Pray for Alimujiang Yimiti (China)



**Arrest and background** Alimujiang Yimiti (39) is a Uighur Christian from Xinjiang province in north-west China. Most of the 9 million Uighur people are Muslims and the Chinese government has long been fearful of their separatist ambitions. Security is tight in Xinjiang province, which is the Uighur homeland, and the Chinese authorities seek to stop any activity that they feel could threaten their control of the region. Alimujiang was arrested in January 2008 and was convicted in 2009 on allegations of "instigating separatism and revealing state secrets" and sentenced to 15 years in prison.

The charges relate to meeting Christians from the USA. Those close to the case maintain that the reason for Alimujiang's imprisonment is his Christian faith and witness among the Uighur people. Alimujiang himself is a former Muslim – he became a Christian at the age of 20. Prior to his arrest, Alimujiang had been questioned by police on many occasions about his Christian activities.

**Family** Alimujiang is married to Guli Nuer and they have two sons aged 7 and 13. The past six years have been extremely difficult for Guli Nuer. Alimujiang's case has been cloaked in secrecy since his arrest and she was not allowed to visit him for two years after his arrest. Their youngest son was four years old before he was allowed to visit his father. Alimujiang's siblings blame Guli Nuer for his imprisonment and the bringing of disgrace to the family. She has suffered from depression, but is recovering.



**Latest news** Alimujiang is reported to be in good health and doing well in prison, considering the circumstances, although prison life is hard. He has to buy all his daily necessities in jail, which is three times more expensive than buying the same products in shops outside the prison. Alimujiang is allowed one visitor per month, usually his wife Guli Nuer or his mother Wuxiuerhan. His two sons (aged 7 and 13) miss him greatly; the elder son is only permitted a short meeting with his father once every few months, and is said to be looking for a father figure.

Guli Nuer recently shared that she had found a new job, and that her mother has become a Christian. She also expressed how encouraged she is by the many prayers of brothers and sisters from around the world, as well as by the support of local Christians.

### Prayer Points

1. Praise God that Alimujiang is in good health and doing well in prison.
2. Pray that the Lord would encourage him as he serves this long prison sentence.
3. Praise God for His provision for Guli Nuer and for the joy of her mother becoming a Christian. Pray the the Lord will provide a suitable father figure for their eldest son.