Editing for shahit.biz

Gene A. Bunin

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The following are guidelines for how to edit the English-language testimonies on shahit.biz.

How to access and use the editing features

After logging in, you may go to the "Testimonies" tab. To find a testimony that needs editing, simply look at the

Dear editors, the following still haven't been edited (guidelines): #1557, #204, #1312

line above any given testimony, which will give you random suggestions for testimonies to edit (here: 1557, 204, 1312). Go to any one of these testimonies.

Look for the "Edit/translate" button over the "Testifying party" field

Edit/translate

Testifying party

and click it. Now, all the data fields in the testimony should turn red, allowing you to click on the individual fields to edit the contents. If a given testimony is not in English, click the "Edit/translate" anyway, as it may be that it's already been translated and you'll see the English after clicking.

Now, just go through the fields one by one, clicking on the ones that need fixing to bring up the editing environment, where you can edit the content as you like. After making the fixes for a given field, press Ctrl and Enter (hold Ctrl and then press Enter) to save the changes.

Once you are sure that the whole testimony is edited and ready, simply click the "Confirm" button at the end of the

I have checked the version below and confirm that it is grammatically correct, written in natural English, clear, and neatly presented. → **Confirm**

statement to register the edit. You will not be able to make further changes after this, and the testimony will be classified as "edited".

What (and how) to edit: General principles

In general, you may enjoy plenty of freedom in editing the testimonies. The goal is to have a result that looks neat and reads well while preserving all of the information in the original version (regardless of how you get there). You are free to rearrange the information as you see fit and to summarize in your own words if you feel that this would make the presentation better. For example, some raw testimonies will have as many as 10 "subtestimonies", listed as "Testimony 1:", "Testimony 2:", etc. You do not need to maintain such a listing in the edit, and may simply summarize who the testifiers are in a sentence or two. Here is an example.

Raw:

Testifying party (submitted by third party)

Testimony 1+3+4: Alnur Ahatuly, born on October 20, 1973. Kazakh citizen, ID number is 731020302872.

Testimony 2: Zhenis Qazez, ID number: 026191675. Sarqyt Immamadi.

Testimony 5: Zhaqsylyq Dastanuly, born on February 18, 1960.

Relation to victim

Testimony 1+3+4: Relative

Testimony 2: brother; friend

Testimony 5: brother-in-law

About the victim

Akyl Khazizuly (阿合力*哈再孜).

He was the official Imam of of Nurzhal village (努尔加村) in Changji municipality, appointed by the Chinese government. He is arrested in June 31, 2018. He is been in the concentration camp for one month. He was severely injured because of the torments in the camp, when he lost his conscious, he was taken to the hospital by ambulance. After 10 days of treatment, they sent him home. He stayed in his house for 3 days, after 3 days Chinese government called him back to the concentration camp. His wife, Sagdolla Anarqan, was thinking that if she will die his husband wouldn't need to go back to concentration camp. Next day, when Akyl Khazizuly woke up to go to the concentration camp, he realized his wife wasn't there and the door was locked from the outside, he got outside by the help of his neighboors. He looked for his wife in the yard of the house. They found her in a well used for methane gas production. She committed suicide to save her husband but the Chinese government arrested him again saying that he killed his own wife to not return to concentration camp. Right now the house is sealed by the Chinese government. And two sons of Akyl Khazizuly are staying with relatives.

Address: Ashyl Kazakh township's organisation (阿什里乡机关) 253, Changji municipality.

Victim's location

Most likely in Changji.

When victim was detained

Testimony 5: Sent to concentration camp on July 1, 2018. Sent to a mental hospital just 20 days after arrest, where he stayed for 10 days before being released back home. His wife committed suicide on July 31.

Reason given for detention

Blaming him for killing his own wife.

Victim's status

According to Testimony 2, he's gone mad after being put into the camp.

Testimony 3: prison, sentenced to 30 years.

How did the testifier learn about the victim's status?

Unkown

Additional information

short notice of his arrest by the Changji People's Procuratorate:

http://www.ajxxgk.jcy.cn/html/20181126/1/8796882.html

Just before his arrest, Akyl authored an article where he expressed his "hard-line stance against "two-faced" and "separatist" behavior, his great love for the Party, the spirit of the Nineteenth People's Congress, the brotherhood of nations (minzu tuanjie) and the unity of the motherland":

http://www.cjs.gov.cn/xwzx/xtjddt/847686.htm
http://www.cjs.gov.cn/xwzx/xtjddt/848129.htm

Edited:

Testifying party (submitted by third party)

The majority of the testimonies are delivered by Alnur Ahatuly, a relative of the victim. One is delivered by Zhenis Qazez and Sarqyt Immamadi (the victim's brother and friend, respectively). Another is delivered by Zhaqsylyq Dastanuly, a brother-in-law.

Relation to victim

The victim is the testifier's relative in Testimonies 1, 3, and 4. Testimony 2 is delivered by the victim's brother and friend. Testimony 5 is delivered by the victim's brother-in-law.

About the victim

Akyl Khazizuly (Chinese name: 阿合力*哈再孜) was the official government-appointed imam of Nurzhal village (Chinese: 努尔加村) in the Changji municipality. On June 13, 2018, he authored an article expressing his "hard-line stance against "two-faced" and "separatist" behavior, his great love for the Party, the spirit of the Nineteenth People's Congress, the brotherhood of nations (minzu tuanjie) and the unity of the motherland" (http://www.cjs.gov.cn/xwzx/xtjddt/847686.htm). Ironically, he'd be arrested less than three weeks later.

His home address: 253, Ashyl Kazakh Township's organization (阿什里乡机关), Changji municipality.

Victim's location

Most likely in Changji.

When victim was detained

He was arrested on June 31, 2018. Testimony 5 states that he was taken to camp on July 1, with 20 days in this "camp" leaving him severely injured and in need of medical attention. He was taken to a hospital by an ambulance after losing consciousness.

He was sent home after 10 days of treatment. However, after just 3 days at home, the government called him back to the camp. His wife, Sagdolla Anarqan, committed suicide on July 31 in the hopes that her husband wouldn't be taken if she did. Waking up the next morning to go to the camp, Akyl found the door locked from the outside, and had his neighbors help him get out. Searching for his wife in the yard, they found her in a well used for methane production.

However, in the end the government authorities charged Akyl with murder (http://www.ajxxgk.jcy.cn/html/20181126/1/8796882.html), stating that he killed his own wife to avoid returning to the camp.

Reason given for detention

Unclear what the initial detention was for - possibly for his being an imam - but the recent is for murder.

Victim's status

In Testimony 2, the testifier says that Akyl went mad after being put into the camp.

Testimony 3 claims that Akyl has now been sentenced to 30 years of prison.

The family's house has been sealed by the authorities, and the couple's two children are living with relatives.

How did the testifier learn about the victim's status?

Not stated.

Additional information

As you can see, you can take quite a lot of liberty with how you rewrite and rearrange. Again, what's important is that all of the relevant original information is preserved – excluding redundant bits – and that the testimony reads well to a native English speaker. It is not the end of the world if less important details are omitted either, since any website user may always access the original testimony if they want to dig into the raw, pre-edited info.

However, there are also certain guidelines that should be followed and kept in mind while editing. These are summarized below.

Keep the information to the relevant fields

It is common for original testimonies to lump all the information into the "about the victim" field. Strictly speaking, this field is reserved for biographical information (as well as ID numbers and address) pertaining to the victim, and should not include such things as the details of the arrest. Feel free to redistribute the information as needed during the edit. Any information that does not fit into the main fields can be placed into the "Additional Info" section.

Name consistency

The "correct" rendition of the victim's name should be assumed to be that at the very top of the page. The name in the "about the victim" field should be consistent with this rendition.

Leaving optional fields blank

The fields for victim's location, the reason for the detention, and the victim's status are optional. In the case that they're filled with unsubstantial info (words such as "unclear", "unknown", "not stated"), it is better to just make them blank, in which case they will automatically be replaced by the triple dash "---".

Paragraph spacing

Paragraphs within a single field should be separated by a single blank line (two taps of the Enter key).

Homogeneity

It is best to maintain consistent terminology throughout the testimony to avoid confusion. This is especially true for the different ways to refer to camps as either "concentration camps", "political education camps", "re-education camps", "training camps", "internment camps", etc. A single term should be chosen and kept throughout.

Editor comments

Editors may make clarifying comments if they feel that such comments are necessary. If you do, please use [brackets] to indicate that the commentary is yours.

Removing redundancy

To avoid unnecessary repetition, you are encouraged to remove redundant information or elements when editing. You can, for example, leave out things like date of birth when the Chinese ID number is already given, as this is given in the ID number (and remove the ID number in the testimony as it is already present in the dedicated ID field).

Dedicated address line

When an address for the victim is provided, it should be given in its own dedicated line/paragraph.

Another fine point is that the address should not be specified as the victim's location unless they're reported as being under house arrest. Rather, the address should be given in the "about" section, with the "location" saying something like "Presumably in [address prefecture]" (as it is generally assumed that people are detained in the same prefecture that they live in).

Kazakh / Kyrgyz name suffixes

The suffixes "son of" / "daughter of" in Kazakh and Kyrgyz are "uly" / "qyzy" and "uulu" / "kyzy", respectively. When mentioned, they are attached to the last name for Kazakhs ("Orazuly", "Orazqyzy") and attached with a space for Kyrgyz ("Osman uulu", "Osman kyzy").

Correcting non-native errors

There are a number of errors in the testimonies owing to the fact that they were imported by non-native speakers. Please change these as you see fit to make them read naturally in English, and feel free to ask if you are not certain what was meant.

A particular error to pay attention to: "X is in camp with Y" actually means "both X and Y are in camps" (not necessarily the same one).

"unknown" vs. "unclear" vs. "not stated"

"unknown" means that the testifier does not know.

"unclear" means that the information is not presented clearly by the testifier or is not clear to the testifier.

"not stated" means that the testifier may know but does not report it.

Try your best to keep these fine distinctions in mind.

Dates

The standard format is "Month Day, Year" (e.g., "January 12, 2017").

Orthographic standards

Ethnic groups are presented as follows:

"an Uyghur, Uyghurs"

"a Kazakh, Kazakhs"

"a Kyrgyz, Kyrgyz"

"an Uzbek, Uzbeks"

"a Tatar, Tatars"

"a Han, Han"

"a Hui, Hui"

For place names, please refer to the following table. You may use any of the standard or popular variants listed below.

Urumqi:

Uyghur	Mandarin	Popular variant(s)	Type
Urumchi	Wulumuqi	Urumqi	city
Tengritagh	Tianshan		district
Saybagh	Shayibake	Saybag	district
Yengisheher	Xinshi		district
Shuymogu	Shuimogou		district
Tudungxaba	Toutunhe		district
Dawanching	Dabancheng		district
Midong	Midong		district
Urumchi	Wulumuqi	Urumqi	county

Karamay:

Uyghur	Mandarin	Popular variant(s)	Type
Qaramay	Kelamayi	Karamay	city
Maytagh	Dushanzi		district
Jerenbulaq	Baijiantan		district
Orqu	Wu'erhe	Orku	district

Turpan:

Uyghur	Mandarin	Popular variant(s)	Type
Turpan	Tulufan		city prefecture
Qarahoja	Gaochang		district
Pichan	Shanshan		county
Toqsun	Tuokexun	Toksun	county

Hami:

Uyghur	Kazakh	Mandarin	Type
Qumul	Qumyl	Hami	city prefecture
Iwirghol		Yizhou	district
Ara Turuk	Araturk	Yiwu	county
Barkol	Barkol	Balikun	Kazakh autonomous county

Changji:

Uyghur	Kazakh	Mandarin	Popular variant	Type
Sanji	Sanzhy	Changji		city prefecture
Fukang	Fukang	Fukang		city
Qutubi	Qutybi	Hutubi		county
Manas	Manas	Manasi		county
Guchung	Shonzhy	Qitai		county
Jimisar	Zhensary	Jimusa'er	Jimsar	county
Mori	Mori	Mulei		Kazakh autonomous county

Bortala:

Uyghur	Kazakh	Mandarin	Type
Bortala	Buratala	Bole	city prefecture
Alatav		Alashankou	city
Jing	Zheng	Jinghe	county
Arishang	Arasan	Wenquan	county

Bayingolin:

Uyghur	Mandarin	Popular variant(s)	Type
Bayingholin	Bayinguoleng	Bayingolin	prefecture
Korla	Ku'erle		city
Bugur	Luntai		county
Lopnur	Yuli		county
Chaqiliq	Ruoqiang		county
Cherchen	Qiemo		county
Xejing	Hejing		county
Xoshut	Heshuo	Hoxud	county
Baghrash	Bohu		county
Yenji	Yanqi		Hui autonomous county

Aksu:

Uyghur	Mandarin	Popular variant(s)	Type
Aqsu	Akesu	Aksu	city prefecture
Onsu	Wensu		county
Kuchar	Kuche	Kuqa	county
Shayar	Shaya		county
Toqsu	Xinhe		county
Bay	Baicheng		county
Uchturpan	Wushi		county
Awat	Awati		county
Kelpin	Keping	Kalpin	county

Kizilsu:

Uyghur	Kyrgyz	Mandarin	Popular variant(s)	Type
Qizilsu	Qyzylsuu	Kezilesu	Kizilsu	prefecture
Atush	Artysh	Atushi	Artux	city
Aqto	Aktoo	Aketao	Akto	county
Aqchi	Akchiy	Aheqi	Akchi	county
Ulughchat	Uluuchat	Wuqia		county

Kashgar:

Uyghur	Mandarin	Popular variant(s)	Type
Qeshqer	Kashi	Kashgar	city prefecture
Konasheher	Shufu		county
Yengisheher	Shule		county
Yengisar	Yingjisha		county
Poskam	Zepu		county
Yeken	Shache	Yarkant	county
Qaghiliq	Yecheng	Kargilik	county
Mekit	Maigaiti	Makit	county
Yopurgha	Yuepuhu	Yopurga	county
Peyzawat	Jiashi	Peyziwat	county
Maralbeshi	Bachu	Maralbexi	county
Tashqorghan	Tashiku'ergan	Taxkorgan, Tashkorgan	Tajik autonomous county

Hotan:

Uyghur	Mandarin	Popular variant(s)	Type
Hoten	Hetian	Hotan	city prefecture county
Qaraqash	Moyu		county
Guma	Pishan		county
Lop	Luopu		county
Chira	Cele	Qira	county
Keriye	Yutian		county
Niye	Minfeng		county

Tacheng:

Uyghur	Kazakh	Mandarin	Popular variant(s)	Type
Tarbaghatay	Tarbagatai	Tacheng		prefecture
Chochek	Shaueshek	Tacheng		city
Wusu	Shihv	Wusu	Shikho	city
Dorbiljin	Dorbilzhin	Emin		county
Sawen	Sawan	Shawan		county
Toli	Toli	Tuoli		county
Chaghantoqay	Shagantogai	Yumin		county
Qobuqsar	Qobiqsari	Hebukesai'er	Hoboksar, Hefeng	Mongol autonomous county

Altay:

Uyghur	Kazakh	Mandarin	Popular variant(s)	Type
Altay	Altai	Aletai		city prefecture
Burchin	Buyrshin	Bu'erjin	Burqin	county
Koktoqay	Koktogai	Fuyun		county
Burultoqay	Buryltogai	Fuhai		county
Qaba	Qaba	Habahe		county
Chinggil	Shingil	Qinghe		county
Jeminey	Jemenei	Jimunai		county

Ili:

Uyghur	Kazakh	Mandarin	Popular variant(s)	Type
Ili	Ile	Yili		Kazakh autonomous prefecture
Ghulja	Qulzha	Yining		city county
Kuytun	Kuitun	Kuitun		city
Qorghas	Qorgas	Huo'erguosi	Korgas, Khorgas	city
Chapchal	Shapshal	Chabucha'er	Qapqal	Xibe autonomous county
Qorghas	Qorgas	Huocheng	Korgas, Khorgas	county
Toqquztara	Togyztarau	Gongliu		county
Kunes	Kunes	Xinyuan		county
Mongghulkure	Monggulkure	Zhaosu	Mongolkure	county
Tekes	Tekes	Tekesi		county
Nilqa	Nylqy	Nileke	Nilka	county

County-level cities:

Uyghur	Mandarin	Popular variant(s)
Qosh'oguz	Shuanghe	
Shihenze	Shihezi	
Aral	Ala'er	Alar
Tumshuq	Tumushuke	Tumxuk
Wujyachu	Wujiaqu	
Beytun	Beitun	
Bash'egim	Tiemenguan	