

Ferkat Jawdat is a Uyghur-American activist and software engineer. Ferkat immigrated to the United States in 2011 with his three siblings following his father, who immigrated in 2006. Ferkat's mother has been separated from her family for the past 13 years. In February 2018, she was sent to one of China's internment camps for Muslims in Xinjiang along with her 2 younger brothers and in-laws. After waiting for 7 months for his mother to be released, Ferkat chose to speak out in September 2018 and has continued to do so. Since then, Ferkat has met with US government officials including Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and various human rights organizations and has also given interviews to multiple news outlets.