

***The 10 Conditions of Love* (North American premiere)  
Directed and Co-Written by Jeff Daniels**

AUSTRALIA – 2009 – 53 minutes – Documentary – English, Uyghur, English subtitles

PRODUCED BY: John Lewis – WRITTEN BY: Jeff Daniels, David Tiley, Dennis K Smith – DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: Jeff Daniels – EDITED BY: Tony Stevens, Rosie Jones – MUSIC BY: Dale Cornelius - SOUND: Tristan Meredith - ON-LINE : James Boldiston.

Melbourne International Film Festival (Australia) - Kaohsiung International Film Festival (Taiwan) - Jakarta International Film Festival - Movies That Matter (Amnesty International, The Netherlands)

**Public Screenings at the Montreal Human Rights Film Festival**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2:00 pm - Salle Marie Gérin-Lajoie (UQAM), with Rebiya Kadeer in attendance - \$10**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 5:00 PM - Cinéma du Parc**

**REBIYA KADEER, SPOKESPERSON FOR THE UYGHUR PEOPLE** --- Shot over a period of seven years, *The 10 Conditions of Love* tells the story of the Uyghur people in the Xinjiang region of northwestern China and the woman who is their champion, former prisoner of conscience Rebiya Kadeer. This 63-year-old mother of 11 is regarded by the Chinese government as a threat to the national interest, public security, and social order. From the United States, where she lives in exile, she fights for her people's fundamental rights.

For over a century, the Uyghur, a Turkic-speaking Sunni Muslim people, have been fighting for their rights, their religious practices, and their land in an unending historic struggle with the Chinese government. That government has deployed its army to dislodge the Uyghur from the Xinjiang region and relocate millions of ethnic Han Chinese there, resulting in violent confrontations. Regarded as terrorists, many Uyghur militants have been extradited or forced into exile. The Chinese government has made them targets of its anti-terrorism campaign abroad.

At first, the Chinese government had recognized and celebrated Rebiya Kadeer's success in business. As founder and chief executive of a large trading company, she had invested her resources to help women launch small businesses. As a result of her work, she was appointed in the 1990s to sit on the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and to serve as an official representative of China at the 4<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Women, held in Peking in 1995.

But in August 1999, Rebiya Kadeer was arrested as she was preparing to meet with a U.S. Congressional delegation that was passing through Urumqi, the capital of Xinjiang. She was sentenced to eight years in prison for "disclosing state secrets to foreigners". Her crime: having sent clippings from a publicly available Chinese newspaper to her husband, Sidik Rouzi, a Uyghur intellectual in exile in the United States who had condemned the Chinese authorities' policies toward his people and spoken in favour of independence for "East Turkistan". Neither Rebiya Kadeer nor her lawyer were allowed to offer a defence at her trial. She was never accused or convicted of any violent crime. Amnesty International then adopted her as a prisoner of conscience and conducted a campaign to obtain her release.

After six years in captivity, Rebiya Kadeer was released in March 2005 for "medical reasons", but at the same time, she was banished from her own country. On March 17, she was exiled to the United States, where she joined her husband and 5 of their 11 children. Since then, she has been elected President of the World Uyghur Congress, a coalition of some 20 organizations, based in Munich.

Rebiya Kadeer's other children live in Xinjiang, where they are in effect being held as hostages by the Chinese government to ensure their mother's "good conduct". In May 2006, three of them were arrested, tried, imprisoned, and sentenced to isolation. The Chinese government is thus attempting to silence their mother and take her out of action, forcing her to choose between her children and her cause. But Rebiya Kadeer is so committed to the cause of her oppressed people that, despite this heart-rending dilemma, she continues her struggle, serving as the voice of the Uyghur in exile and denouncing the policy of assimilation pursued by Peking. In 2006, Swedish parliamentarian Annelie Enochson nominated Rebiya Kadeer for the Nobel Peace Prize.

In July 2009, the Chinese authorities declared that the riots in Xinjiang were a "violent criminal activity, premeditated, planned, and co-ordinated from abroad and committed by outlaws within the country." The Chinese authorities accuse Rebiya Kadeer of having instigated and orchestrated these violent incidents.

**THE FILMMAKER** --- For the past 10 years, **JEFF DANIELS** has been working in New York, Los Angeles and Australia as a researcher and in post-production on several documentary and fiction films aired on various television networks.