신장 위구르무슬림 분리주의운동의 원인분석 연구

김유정

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<Abstract>

An Analytic Study on the Intrinsic Causes of the Xinjiang Uyghur Muslims’ Independence Movements

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Though the region of China known today as the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region has always been troubled, China has several reasons to retain the troublesome province. Xinjiang is important to China politically, economically, and strategically. China also wants to maintain hold of Xinjiang, fearing its loss would incite the secession of Taiwan and Tibet.

For these reasons, Chinese government has set up a priority in developing economy in Xinjiang to rein in Muslim separatists. Chinese authorities often resort to heavy-handed suppression to the actions of nationalist separatism and religious extremism.

The Xinjiang Uyghur Muslims, however, have mounted major riots and a series of bus bombings have taken in Xinjiang. The main driving force behind the riots is the East Turkistan independence movement. Historically the native population in Xinjiang have resisted Chinese dominance and inspired anti-Han riots from time to time.

The conflict in this region has had several causes; the system of ‘regional autonomy’ operating in Xinjiang must be seen as a principal source of the unrest. The pattern of economic development in Xinjiang has ensured the further stratification of the labor market, a stratification that is often blamed for aggravating inter-group friction and the gap between the rich and the poor.

This paper analyzes the intrinsic sources of Uyghur discontent and ethno-national conflict in Xinjiang. To support this thesis, the paper presents a historical analysis of the dispute process in Xinjiang and examines the problem from various aspects—politics, economy, ethnicity and religion.