

Securing China's Northwest Frontier

In the first study to incorporate majority Han and minority Uyghur perspectives on ethnic relations in Xinjiang following mass violence during July 2009, David Tobin analyses how official policy shapes identity and security dynamics on China's northwest frontier. He explores how the 2009 violence unfolded and how the party-state responded to ask how official identity narratives and security policies shape practices on the ground. Combining ethnographic methodology with discourse analysis and participant-observation with in-depth interviews, Tobin examines how Han and Uyghurs interpret and reinterpret Chinese nation-building. He concludes that by treating Chinese identity as a security matter, the party-state exacerbates cycles of violence between Han and Uyghurs who increasingly understand each other as threats.

DR DAVID TOBIN is Hallsworth Research Fellow at the University of Manchester.

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Identity and Insecurity in Xinjiang

David Tobin

University of Manchester



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This book is for my friends of all ethnicities in Xinjiang
whose lives can help us understand China.

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Abbreviations

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| CCP | Communist Party of China |
| ETIC | East Turkestan Information Center |
| ETIM | East Turkestan Islamic Movement |
| IR | International Relations theory |
| PAP | People’s Armed Police |
| PLA | People’s Liberation Army |
| PRC | People’s Republic of China |
| SCO | Shanghai Co-operation Organisation |
| WDP | Western Development Project |
| WUC | World Uyghur Congress |
| XUAR | Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region |