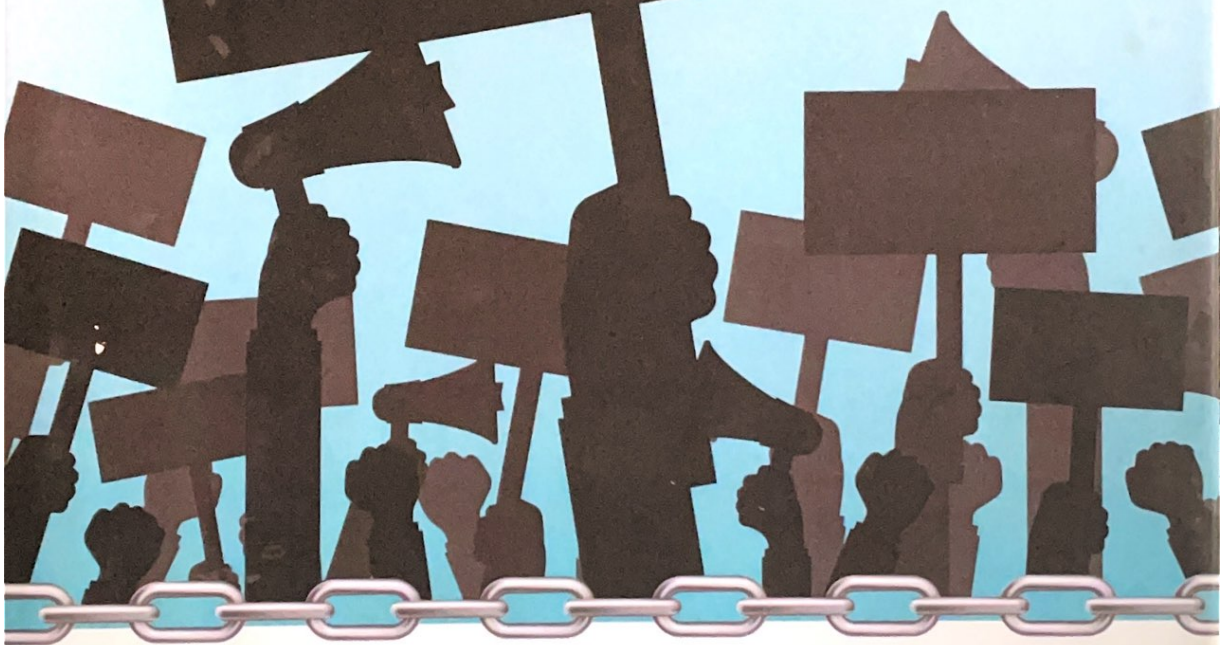


# CULTURE OF FEAR IN WORLD POLITICS

Origin and Ramifications



Edited by  
**BIKASH RANJAN DEB**

# **Culture of Fear in World Politics: Origin and Ramifications**

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দহনকালঃ জেলেজীবনে একাত্তরের যুদ্ধভীতি ও যৌনসন্ত্রাস রঞ্জিত কুমার বর্মণ	117
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# The Road to Xinjiang: Understanding the Uyghur Ethnic Unrest in China

Priyadarshini Ghosh

**Abstract:** Since the Obama administration's much touted announcement in 2011 of the 'shifting pivot of foreign policy' from the Pacific to the Atlantic, world over the debates and discussions have surrounded on the rise of China and the 'China-threat theory'. Amidst the rise of a strong China under a strong and often alleged authoritarian leader, Xi Jinping, Chinese internal political crisis in the shape of the Uyghur crisis in the Xinjiang region is intensifying and is being increasingly coming under international spotlight. Uighurs are a predominantly Turkic-speaking Muslim ethnic group primarily from China's north-western region of Xinjiang. In tandem with President Xi Jinping's warning of the "toxicity of religious extremism", over the past few years, China has systematically carried out its policy of persecution and extermination of these ethnic minorities, to the extent that the US has labelled this abuse as state-sponsored 'genocide'. Chinese administration dubs this issue to be an internal political matter and has advocated for using the tools of "dictatorship" to eliminate Islamist extremism, which these ethnic minorities are allegedly charged of spreading.

**Keywords:** China, Uyghur, Xinjiang, Islamophobia, ethnic unrest.

China's assertiveness in the South China Sea and its counter narrative to US's unipolar moment has been the much discussed agenda in foreign policy discourses in contemporary times. Domestic political issues which qualify as internal security challenges for China, hardly make international headlines. The contesting claims and counter claims with regard to Tibet between China and the Dalai Lama have garnered political footage given an unresolved boundary dispute between China and India and India's granting of political refuge to the Dalai Lama. However, China faces internal domestic challenge rising from the unfolding political situation in Hong Kong and from Xinjiang situated in the western part of China.

Retail giants Nike and H&M took the international press by storm when news about their facing a backlash in China surfaced after they expressed