Between Resistance and Adaptation

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ABSTRACTS

The urban areas of Xinjiang have recently experienced major changes in their demographic, urban, ethnic, and linguistic landscapes. Ürümqi, the capital of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, is a typical example of this. In this city, which is undergoing rapid economic and urban expansion, the Han make up around 72% of the population and the Chinese language is ever more present in the language use of the Uyghurs. This study examines the place of the Uyghur language in the context of the sinicisation of the city of Ürümqi, its role in the daily life of the Uyghur community, and opportunities for its use and revitalisation.

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Keywords: Ürümqi, Uyghur community, Uyghur language, language use, language policies

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