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## **"Ethnicity and Political Responsiveness in China: A Field Experiment"**

### Abstract

What is the political standing of ethnic minorities in China? Longstanding pro-minority policies and bureaucratic incentives suggest they enjoy political privileges, but discriminatory attitudes and economic behavior are also widely documented. This study examines whether local governments in China treat individuals differently based on their ethnic identities. We deploy a national field experiment with mayors' offices that manipulates names to signal ethnic identity. Using a distinctively Muslim name to contact officials causes a one-third decline in the probability of response, a discrimination effect comparable to that found in studies of elected officials in democracies. However, this bias disappears in regions with the highest concentrations of Muslims.