



# TIBETAN BULLETIN

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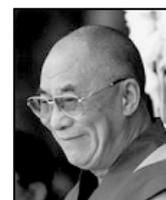
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**TIBETAN BULLETIN**

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Editor  
Tenzin Saldon  
Email: tibetpressofficer@tibet.net

Asst. Editor  
Tenzin Phende

Layout & Design  
Tenzin Phende

Circulation Manager  
Norbu Wangdue  
Email: circulation@tibet.net  
Tibetan Bulletin is published by:  
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# FROM THE EDITOR

The Tibetan spiritual leader His Holiness the Dalai Lama's innovation in the Buddhist world and long-standing exploration with multiple dimensions of modern science has placed him in the rare pantheon of revolutionary thinkers.

Nalanda tradition is not a 'religion', it is a 'science of the mind', a statement he repeatedly made, drew an upsurge of interest in Buddhist study. It steered the best of modern academics towards an interdisciplinary Science and Buddhist discourse that eventually led to an understanding of the Atlas of human mind and emotion.

His Holiness has always asserted that the basis of Tibetan Buddhist tradition is in the pure lineage of Nalanda.

The Tibetan tradition is derived from the works of great masters of Nalanda University, including Nagarjuna, Chandrakirti, Aryadeva, Shantarakshita and that thoroughly explains why of all the different Buddhist traditions, only Tibetans employ the Indian discipline of logic in their studies.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama, who has himself earned a doctorate in Buddhist Philosophy at age of 24, has since—for over 60 years—studied the works of the great masters.

Two years ago, he commissioned the reassessment of the text of direct teachings of Buddha, Kangyur, Commentaries of his teachings, Tengyur in three disciplines: Buddhist Science, Buddhist Philosophy and Buddhist Religion; the project in-pipeline would revolutionise the understanding and approach to Buddhism.

"This is the success story and the fulfilment of the vision of His Holiness the Dalai Lama," said President of the Central Tibetan Administration, Dr Lobsang Sangay. "Throughout more



than five decades in exile, His Holiness has vigorously engineered the revival of Nalanda based Buddhist monasteries in India, Himalayan regions, Buddhist countries abroad and inside Tibet."

A spiritual heir to the Nalanda system of logic and pluralism, His Holiness has now committed the rest of his life towards the revival of the ancient Indian thought in modern India and at the core of his commitment lies the idea that 'global secular ethics are more important classical religion'.

Nalanda's tradition is India's tradition

"Not only has been my physical home for the last nearly 59 years, but my mind is filled with Nalanda thought. I am proud to be a student of the Nalanda Tradition that is distinguished by its reliance on reason and logic. This tradition was introduced to Tibet in the 8th century by the erudite Nalanda scholar, Shantarakshita and we have kept it alive through extensive and rigorous study.

"The Nalanda tradition seems to be the most comprehensive presentation of the Buddha's teachings available today. It incorporates knowledge of the mind and emotions which is of potential benefit to

all humanity.

"From this tradition, I have learned a correct view of reality and how to train my mind by tackling my disturbing emotions. And in our monasteries, we have trained scholars who I have urged to learn English and Hindi to be able to teach and participate in education programs."

"In recent years, I have also committed myself to revive interest in ancient Indian thought. I believe this can be of immense value in transforming our destructive emotions and promoting basic inner qualities. As necessary as physical hygiene is to maintaining our physical fitness, cultivating emotional hygiene and learning to tackle our destructive emotions is essential to mental fitness. In this connection, I believe that elements of ancient Indian wisdom can be immensely helpful."

UMAYLAM 中間道路  
འབྲུག་གི་ལོ་སྐྱེས་ལོ་སྐྱེས་ Middle Way Approach  
Peaceful conflict resolution for the 21st century

## What's Started Today Can Benefit Whole World: His Holiness launches Delhi Govt's Happiness Curriculum

Tibetan spiritual leader His Holiness the Dalai Lama, along with Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Deputy CM Manish Sisodia, launched 'The Happiness Curriculum' at an event held at Thyagaraj complex, New Delhi.

A landmark initiative of the Delhi Government, the Happiness Curriculum will be introduced in all the 1,000 government schools in the state, focussing on student's inner health and happiness.

Chief guest of the ceremony, His Holiness the Dalai Lama said, "India is the only country that can bring together modern education and ancient Indian knowledge. This is needed to deal with the destructive emotions in the world.

"So what is being started in Delhi schools can have an impact on the whole world," he said. "What we need in the world today is an education of values, not based on any religion, but based on common sense and scientific knowledge".

While congratulating the Delhi government on taking the lead in holistic education, His Holiness said deeper attention must be paid on understanding human emotions and mind, mainly, the ancient Indian tradition.

"You already started with this effort through this Happiness curriculum. Now on the deeper level, you should include some curriculum on Human psychology," He added that Tibetan monastic students and scholars could contribute in reviving this knowledge in Indian educational institutions. Our aim is to achieve and develop compassion and happiness, in order to achieve that, we need more knowledge about the whole system of emotions. It takes at least 6 months or 1 year study. Our

Buddhist students will volunteer to serve you".

"We Tibetan refugee community have over 10,000 monk students who have been studying the texts for 20 or 30 years. These are the present source of the ancient Indian knowledge. I called them to this meeting so, in future, we could have some kind of teacher's training. In Dharamshala, I discussed with local government college and we already have some teacher's training program. So here also, some kind of teacher's training could be organised.

He said the ancient Indian practices for cultivating a calmly abiding mind (shamatha) and insight (vipashyana) gave rise to a deep and subtle understanding of the workings of the mind. "In addition, ancient Indian knowledge encouraged compassion and non-violence (karuna and ahimsa). These are the basis of India's remarkable sense of religious pluralism, with many religious traditions living together in harmony—demonstrating vividly that it is possible to do so.

"Although accounts of this and ways to tackle our destructive emotions are laid out in Buddhist texts, there is no reason why we can't extract that knowledge and examine it in a secular academic way. Methods for tackling our destructive emotions are very relevant in today's world. They don't involve temples, rituals or prayers, but a rational education on a secular basis.

Addressing the launch, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said, "Today is a landmark day. Today we begin a complete transformation of the modern education system."

"This should have been done 100-150 years ago. We forgot the real meaning of education. Our education system only generates clerks and failed in making kids better humans," he said.

Deputy CM, Manish Sisodia, who is also the Education Minister said the main objective behind the inclusion of this curriculum in schools, is to make sarvagun sampann (versatile)



*His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Deputy Chief Minister, also the Education Minister Manish Sisodia launch the Happiness Curriculum, 2 July 2018. Photo/Kal Jigme/InFrame*

professionals and human beings who could serve the society with happiness. "It is going to be the most important development in the education system with a focus on good mental health, character and resilience. It will address the ever-growing concern levels of happiness and well being.

"The effect of this involving 10 lakh students and around 50,000 teachers can be imagined. It is our belief that the modern day problems like terrorism, corruption and pollution can be solved through schools and a human-centric education," Deputy CM said.

The Happiness Curriculum will be taught to around eight lakh students – right from nursery up to class 8, of all the Delhi government schools starting in July. The daily Happiness Class of 45 minutes will include mindfulness practice, gratitude, morals and value-based stories and activities. The curriculum was designed and prepared by a team of 40 Delhi government teachers, educators and volunteers over a period of six months, he said.

"After ten years or so, these children will become professionals like doctors and engineers filled with happiness and serve the society," Sisodia said.

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal presented His Holiness a portrait executed by an art teacher. In return, His Holiness offered auspicious emblems and white scarves to the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister.

For detailed news visit:  
[www.tibet.net](http://www.tibet.net)

## Nepal Celebrates His Holiness the Dalai Lama's 83rd birthday

The 83rd birthday of Tibetan spiritual leader His Holiness the Dalai Lama was celebrated with much joy and festivity in Tibetan communities across the globe.



*Dignitaries from various Embassies and organisations in Nepal on 83rd birthday celebration of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, 6 July 2018. Photo/OOT Nepal*

The celebration in Nepal was attended by Ambassador Hon Alaina B Teplitz, US Embassy, Nepal, Amb Yves Carmona, France, Mr Danny Williams, Embassy of UK, Yumiko Yoshino, First Secretary, Embassy Japan, Deputy Chief of Mission, Germany, the occasion with cultural dance and songs at Jawalakhel, Nepal, Minako Kakuma, Sr Protection Officer, UNHCR, Deepa Dixit, Protection Associate, UNHCR, Claudia Hiepe, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy Germany and US, Head of Consular Affairs, Embassy Switzerland, Senior Security Manager, Tshewang Ngudup, Embassy Switzerland, Damian Turk, Delegation of European Union to Nepal, Pema Tenzin, Regional Refugee Program Assistant, US Embassy, WG Raynalingpa, US Embassy, Julia Waterstreet, US Embassy and over hundreds members of Tibetan community.



## CTA President Releases 'Costume and Jewellery of Tibet' Authored by Namgyal Lhamo Taklha

Mrs Namgyal Lhamo Taklha, author and renowned Tibetan figure, who is also former Health Secretary of Central Tibetan Administration, authored the first-ever work of documentation of traditional Tibetan costumes and jewellery.

The book titled 'Costume and Jewellery of Tibet' was released by President Dr Lobsang Sangay, Central Tibetan Administration during a launch ceremony held at Tibet Museum.

The event was also attended by Secretary (Equivalent) Tenzin Dhardon Sharling, Department of Information and International Relations, Secretary Tenzin Lungtok of Department of Religion and Culture, Additional Secretaries of DIIR and a host of Tibetan intellectuals, writers, journalists and prominent personalities.



*(L-R) Secretary Tenzin Dhardon Sharling (Equivalent), Department of Information and International Relations, Mrs Namgyal Lhamo Taklha, President Dr Lobsang Sangay and Secretary Tenzin Lungtok, Department of Religion and Culture, CTA during the book launch. Photo/Tenzin Phende/DIIR*

Speaking at the event, Ms Namgyal Lhamo said she first conceived the idea of the book in 1998 when Gabriel Lafitte, a Tibetan environmental research scholar presented her with a book on Mongolian costumes.

"His gift made me realise that there are many Tibetan costumes in museums all over the world, but no books on the subject, so I decided to compile one,"

the author said.

She said the book has been enriched with the exquisite knowledge shared by the elder Tibetan generation, many whom shared thorough details of traditional Tibetan costumes.

"It has been 15 years in the making of the book". The author hoped that the book will serve as a treasure house of information for young Tibetans to enable them to learn about their rich cultural traditions that are now disappearing.

Mrs Taklha recounted how she visited the vast study and research articles on costumes and materials by scholars in Tibet and collected as much reliable information as possible about Tibetan costumes from before 1959.

President Dr Lobsang Sangay acclaimed the book as an essential contribution to preservation efforts and representation of the rich and distinct identity, culture, writing, costumes, the tradition of Tibet.

"While inside Tibet, systematic efforts are being made to sinicise the Tibetan culture, people, their religious and social life, this book will serve a great purpose in presenting the unique identity of the people of Tibet which is so well preserved in the book," he said.

The 183-page book presents rare photos of early records of Tibetan costumes, Tibetan textiles, costumes of the people of three provinces of Tibet, costumes of Tibetan government officials, Oracles, Opera and Cham and of jewels, hairstyles and ornaments.

Mrs Namgyal Taklha has penned two books: 'Women of Tibet' and 'Born in Lhasa'. She was born in Lhasa, Tibet in 1942 to Dundul Namgyal Tsarong and Yanchen Dolker Tsarong. Mrs Namgyal is a published author and Hollywood film consultant. She has served many years in Central Tibetan Administration in various portfolios. She has helped establish Songtsen Library, a centre for Tibetan and Himalayan Studies in Dehradun.

## Young Tibetan Monks Forced to Leave Monastery to Join Chinese Schools

In a drive to assert what is called “‘Sini-cization’ of Tibetan Buddhism”, Chinese authorities in Kham Sershul are forcing Tibetan monks who are below the age of 16 out of the monastery and instead, compelling them to join government-run secular schools.



*Chinese authorities in Kham Sershul force Tibetan monks below 16 years old out of the monastery to join government-run secular schools. Photo/RFA*

According to news reports, the Chinese government ordered Dzachuka monasteries in Sershul (Chinese: Shiqu) county, Karze (Ch: Ganzi Prefecture, incorporated into China’s Sichuan Province) to remove young monks who are 15 years old and below to enroll in Chinese-run government schools. If the monks refuse to abide, the monasteries will face closure while their administrators, the monks’ religious teachers, as well as their parents will be punished, warned the authorities.

Although the total number of young monks who have been forced out of their monasteries and other details could not be verified at the time, it is believed that as many as 200 young monks were removed from Dza Sershul Monastery, Dzachuka earlier this week on 10th July. The government-enforced removal of young monks from their monasteries is clearly against the wishes of the monks and their parents as Radio Free Asia’s source cited a blogger on a Tibetan social media who said, “These young monks were seen leaving their monastery unwillingly and with tears in their eyes.” The parents of the young monks were also threatened that the authorities

would close the monastery if the monks refuse to leave.

Jowo Ganden Shedrub Palgyeling Monastery in Dzachuka has also faced the removal of around 20 novice monks, reported the RFA.

Beijing’s interference in Tibetan Buddhist practices and control of Tibetan Buddhist institutions continues to intensify. In the recent years, Karze was subjected to mass-demolitions of world-famous Tibetan Buddhist institutes – Larung Gar and Yarchen Gar – the forced eviction of thousands of monks and nuns from the two Buddhist centers, the government-controlled “Democratic Management Committees” taking over the administrative role of the traditional heads of monasteries, and humiliating and rights-violating “patriotic re-education” sessions that monks and nuns are forced to participate in. Such developments attest to the Chinese government’s increased repression on religious institutions.

Dza Sershul Monastery in Karze, founded in 1760, is one of the main Gelugpa centers in Kham having profound historic and religious significance.

## China Bars Tibetan Children from Religious Activities During School Vacation

Chinese authorities in the so-called Tibet Autonomous Region has ordered Tibetan children not to take part in any religious activities during their summer vacation. According to the Chinese state media Global Times, all underaged Tibetan students are banned from “religious influences” citing school regulations.

The recent Global Times news report quoted an education official from Lhasa Middle School as saying that students were required to sign an agreement to “not take part in any form of religious activity during the summer vacation.” He also told that notices have been

sent to both students and their parents regarding the ban.

A similar restriction on religious freedom was enforced earlier this month when Chinese authorities removed as many as 200 young monks under the age of 16 from Dza Serchul Monastery, and around 20 others from Jowo Ganden Shedrub Palgyeling Monastery, in Sershul County, Dzachuka in Kardze.

“Such official directives not only violate the Universal Declaration of Human Rights’ principles of religious freedom but the discriminatory policy also overstep China’s own laws including its Regional National Autonomy law that guarantees “autonomous areas” the freedom of religious belief and protection of religious activities,” said Secretary Sonam Norbu Dagpo, the Spokesperson of Central Tibetan Administration.

In May this year, Chinese authorities imposed a ban on Tibetan school children and their parents from observing the Buddhist holy month of Saga Dawa and partaking in religious events. Schools were instructed to inform the education bureau on absentia in class during the month.

Tibetan Buddhist institutions have for centuries been the hub of Buddhist education and the traditional system of learning that the Tibetan plateau is known for. However, more recently, China is persistently intensifying its already stringent regulations on religion and rights of the Tibetan people in Tibet. This was highlighted in the U.S. State Department’s recently released International Religious Freedom report. It stated, “In the TAR and other Tibetan areas, authorities continued to engage in widespread interference in religious practices, especially in Tibetan Buddhist monasteries and nunneries.” The report further noted that “repression increased around politically sensitive events, religious anniversaries, and the Dalai Lama’s birthday.”

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[www.tibet.net](http://www.tibet.net)

## Tibetan People's Fight to Practice their Religion and Culture Continues: U.S. Vice President Mike Pence

Vice President of United States Mike Pence delivered the keynote address on the final of U.S. State Department's Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom.



Former Tibetan political prisoner and activist Golog Jigme meeting with Vice President of United States Mike Pence and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

Pence in his address spoke strongly in support of victims of religious persecutions in different countries. He expressed being honored by the presence of former Tibetan political prisoner and activist Golog Jigme. In recognising Golog Jigme's courage and stand for liberty Vice President Pence said that for nearly 70 years, the Tibetan people have been brutally repressed by the Chinese government and Golog Jigme's escape from Tibet and into exile meant that the Tibetan people's "fight to practice their religion and protect their culture goes on."

Golog Jigme as among a selected group of survivors of religious persecution who met with Vice President and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

During a side interaction Golog Jigme shared a moving personal account of having faced persecution from Chinese authorities and urged Vice President Mike Pence to engage with Chinese leaders, to engage with His Holiness the Dalai Lama and to restore religious freedom in Tibet and to find a lasting resolution to the Tibetan issue and allow

the Tibetan people to have true religious freedom. He also urged the U.S. to seek the release of Panchen Lama, incarcerated for 23 years.

The first ever Ministerial convened by U.S. State Department saw a gathering of over 400 people; elected officials, international groups, religious heads, civil society members to advance religious freedom around the globe and survivors of religious persecution.

Gyalwang Karmapa, Venerable Demo Rinpoche, North America Representative Ngodup Tsering, ICT's Executive President Matteo Mecacci and Vice President Bhuchung K Tsering were present at the prestigious Ministerial.

One of the highlights of the gathering was the screening of a video message by His Holiness the Dalai Lama stressing on the importance of promoting religious harmony.

Ambassador at large Governor Brownback called His Holiness one of the best spokesmen for religious freedom.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced that this Ministerial would be an annual feature of the state department.

## State Government of Arunachal Pradesh and CTA Launches Cultural Exchange Program

The state government of Arunachal Pradesh and Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) jointly launched an exchange program to promote cultural exchange and ties among students. The programme primarily focuses on enhancing and strengthening the relationship between the two governments and its people given the historical background of Tibet-Tawang relations vis-a-vis their shared religious and cultural bonds.

Moreover, the programme also acts



(L-R) Jamphel Wangdue, Chairman of Religion and Cultural Affairs for Arunachal Pradesh, CTA President Dr Lobsang Sangay and Tsewang Dolma Shosur, Additional Secretary of Department of Home during the press briefing at Kashag hall. Photo/Tenzin Phende/DIIR

as a step towards restoring communal harmony in Arunachal Pradesh considering the recent protests and agitations stirred by an Arunachal student body against the implementation of "Tibetan Rehabilitation Policy"

Jamphel Wangdue, Chairman of Religion and Cultural Affairs, Arunachal Pradesh accompanied by CTA President Dr Lobsang Sangay along with Tsewang Dolma Shosur, Additional Secretary of Department of Home briefed the press conference today.

Addressing the gathering, Jamphel Wangdue conveyed the purpose of his visit to Dharamsala. He informed that under the exchange programme ten students from Arunachal Pradesh have joined the Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts to gain knowledge and practical experiences of Tibetan culture and traditions.

Jamphel Wangdue also discussed briefly about the ongoing conflict in Arunachal Pradesh terming it a sad turn of events and assured to hold a meeting on 12 August to discuss on finding a resolution to the problem that persists.

Speaking of the primary purpose and aim of the meeting, Jamphel Wangdue said, "it comes down to three main reasons; to teach youth and make them aware about the shared cultural and religious values of Monpas and Tibetans. Secondly, to solicit support from various students union bodies in Arunachal Pradesh like All Arunachal Pradesh Students Union (AAPSU), All Monpa Students Union (AMSU) and All Tawang Students Union (ATSU) etc. and thereby plan a

strategic action to resolve the ongoing agitation fanned by a student body. Thirdly, with the support of civil society and various other apex bodies, launch a mass awareness programme on Arunachal Pradesh's centuries-old cultural and religious ties with Tibet."

President Dr Lobsang Sangay thanked the state government of Arunachal Pradesh and the Chief Minister Pema Khandu and Monpa community for their unwavering support to Tibetans living in Arunachal Pradesh.

Tsewang Dolma Shosur, Additional Secretary of the Department of Home affirmed that the current predicament facing Tibetans in Arunachal is not as dire as portrayed in social media platforms and therefore advised the public to avoid the spread of such exaggerated content which is solely aimed at creating communal discord.

## Support for Middle Way a Crime in Tibet Under the Chinese Rule

In addition to the innumerable crackdown on Tibetans in Tibet under the Chinese rule, support for 'Middle Way Approach' is listed as organised crime. According to a report published by Human Rights Watch (HRW) earlier this week, Chinese leadership took such measures for the first time.

The Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) Security Bureau published a revised list of definitions of "organised crimes" in February, including "instilling in the masses reactionary ideas such as the 'middle way,'" HRW said.

HRW said the new restrictions "aimed to strengthen the power of the Chinese Communist Party at a grassroots level, by eradicating the influence of traditional Tibetan leaders and Lamas."

According to HRW, China has cracked down on organised community action in Tibet following protests by Tibetan monks against the Chinese authorities in the regional capital of Lhasa in 2008.



Image illustration by Tenzin Phende, Photo-editor

Beijing has said that the measures are necessary to prevent "separatist" movements and to cut off support for the Dalai Lama.

The 101-page HRW report said that the newly-issued Security Bureau notice promised citizens anonymity if they reported "crimes by underworld forces" or "gang crimes" to the police.

"Another notice issued in the Tibetan city of Nagqu offered a 100,000 Yuan (HK\$114,993) reward for tip-offs about any of the listed activities, which include challenging China's territorial claims over Tibet, raising funds for the "Dalai clique," and advocacy for the greater use of the Tibetan language. Additionally, traditional Tibetan welfare associations – known as "kyidu" – are now reportedly considered illegal," said HRW.

According to HRW, China has criminalised social activism in Tibet since 2012 and just last month, Chinese authorities banned Tibetan students from taking part in religious activities over the summer holidays.

## Illegal in Tibet: Middle Way, Mother Tongue, Welfare Groups

Recent report and official circular issued earlier this year labeled any expressions that support Middle Way, protect Tibetan's mother tongue or engagements of Kyidug (Tibetan Welfare Group) as "underground forces" and "illegal". The Chinese authorities in the so-called Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) issued a circular earlier in February that ordered Tibetans to spy on each other and report on "underground forces".

Targeting crackdown on Tibetans amid Beijing's campaign in January to crackdown on "organised Crime and Eliminating Vice", the circular labeled support for Middle Way, protection of mother tongue, and speaking on behalf of "masses" as "underground forces" that must be "resolutely combated". The decree further ordered any "cases of violations or crimes by underground forces" should be informed to the Public Security Bureau.

In its recently released report titled "Illegal Organisations": China's Crackdown on Tibetan Social Groups," Human Rights Watch (HRW) gave details of the activities Beijing listed as "illegal," including support for middle way, protection of mother tongue and social grouping.

The report underlined that the Chinese campaign aimed to attack "organized crime" and "mafia-like gangs" is used "to target suspected political dissidents and to suppress civil society initiatives" by the authorities in Tibet.

According to the HRW report, the restrictions and guidelines are "intended to increase the authority of the CCP at grassroots level, by destroying any remaining influence of lamas and traditional leaders within Tibetan communities", which clearly shows that the guidelines are designed to target Tibetans.

CTA's spokesperson Sonam Norbu Dagpo termed the recent development as one of the regular move by the Chinese authorities. He also said that the criminalisation of Tibetans who are involved in organisations or engages with local groups aimed towards advancing Tibetan culture, protecting Tibetan natural environment, and expressing devotion to religious heads and teachings, have often been reported in past years. "However this particular move vividly reflects the extent to which the Chinese authorities can further increase suppression and crackdown on Tibetans under the guise of campaign against 'organised crimes'," said Sonam Norbu Dagpo.

## UN Experts Question China's Discriminatory Policies in Issuing Passport for Tibetans

A group of UN experts sought additional information and comment from the Chinese government on its "two-track" passport issuing system that systematically discriminates and obstructs Tibetans from acquiring passports.



*UN Experts Question China's Discriminatory Policies in Issuing Passport for Tibetans. Photo/ Human Rights Watch*

The experts have raised their concern yesterday, just on the day that the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination has started reviewing anti-discriminatory practices in China.

In a 5-page joint written communication that the experts have brought to the attention of the Chinese leadership, the experts have expressed their "serious concern over the policies and legislation of the two-track passport system specifically targeting and discriminating against members of the Tibetan minority". The experts have also raised China's restriction on Tibetans' freedom of movement as well as travel outside the region in the exercise of freedom of religion.

"This passport system, currently in place, restricts Tibetans' freedom to movement and has also prevented them from exercising their religious beliefs, particularly with regard to those attending the teachings of the Dalai Lama in other countries", said the experts in the written intervention.

The experts raised series of issues including the Chinese authorities forcibly summoning Tibetans, who had travelled to attend the teaching of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to return to their respective areas within the stipulated period. Those who failed to comply the order were threatened to face severe consequences with families. The experts also expressed their concern about "passport seizure and the failure to re-issue passports of Tibetans". Furthermore, the experts also noted their "grave concern" caused by the "interrogation, arrest, detention and conditions of detention of numerous Tibetans in relation to the passports system and travel for religious purposes".

The discriminatory and difficulties in procuring passports for Tibetans due to state-backed "two track" passport issuing system in Tibetans areas is one of the main concerns that the Tibet Bureau and Human Rights Desk, DIIR have raised in their written submission to the Committee, July this year. Similarly, China's monitoring and surveillance of Tibetans in Tibet through grid management system, travel restrictions, discriminatory practices in issuing passports was one of four pressing issues that were raised during a week-long UN advocacy work undertaken by the Tibet Bureau, Geneva and DIIR earlier this year and also in 2017.

## CTA President Inaugurates 4th Young Tibetan Research Scholars' Conference

President Dr Lobsang Sangay, Central Tibetan Administration inaugurated the fourth Young Tibetan Scholars' Conference after lighting a butter lamp at the Administrative Training Centre, Dharamsala on 21 August.

In his keynote address, Sikyong lamented the importance of carrying out research in diverse fields and making their research available to the wider audience through publication in scholarly journals.

The fourth Young Tibetan Scholars' conference saw an increase in applicants and participants presenting their research papers.

Lauding the participation in the conference, Sikyong said: "In this conference there are researchers from 19 different regions in India, this is essentially due to the efforts by the researchers who are gathered here."

Renowned Tibetan historian and the director of the Amnye Machen Institute, Mr Tashi Tsering, gave the inaugural address during the ceremony. He impressed on the young scholars attending the conference to uphold intellectual integrity and the importance of duly attributing sources used in their publications.

Following the inaugural ceremony, researchers of the Tibet Policy Institute gave presentations on their research findings.

A plenary session was held in the afternoon to discuss the significance of Tibetan studies. This session was moderated by Professor Sonam Gyaltzen of the Sarah College for Higher Tibetan Studies. The discussants include Ju Tennykyong, Chief Editor of the Monlam Dictionary, Tsewang Topla, Senior Lecturer of Tibetan history at the Sarah College for Higher Tibetan Studies and Menchar Lode, Principal of the Norling Institute for Tibetan Studies.

On the significance of this conference, Deputy Director of the Tibet Policy Institute, Mr Tenzin Lekshay said: "This conference from Tibet's struggle perspective, we consider it very important. The Tibet Policy Institute will do everything it could to facilitate Tibetan researchers to improve their research output."

The Young Tibetan Research Scholars' Conference is an annual flagship conference organised by the Tibet Policy Institute.

For detailed news visit:  
[www.tibet.net](http://www.tibet.net)

## Kashag's Statement on the 83rd Birthday of His Holiness the Great Fourteenth Dalai Lama of Tibet

Today on this auspicious and joyous occasion of the eighty-third birthday of His Holiness the Great Fourteenth Dalai Lama of Tibet, the 15th Kashag and Tibetans everywhere join millions of admirers across the globe in wishing His Holiness good health and a long life.

The Kashag pays obeisance and bows down in deepest reverence to express gratitude to His Holiness.

The Dalai Lamas are the reincarnation of Chenrezig, the Bodhisattva of compassion, and has a special karmic relation with the people of Tibet. We remain indebted to the parents of His Holiness for blessing us with their precious son, Lhamo Dhondup. Born to a peasant family in Takster village in the Amdo region of Tibet, His Holiness at the tender age of two was recognized as the reincarnation of the great thirteenth Dalai Lama. He took the reins of Tibet's spiritual and political leadership at the tender age of 16.

In the face of tragedy, with the brutal and illegal occupation of Tibet by People's Republic of China, Tibetans turned to their only hope, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. The young Dalai Lama strived for a harmonious concord between Tibetans and Chinese, in conformity with the 17 Point Peace Agreement despite it being signed under duress. However, the Chinese government repudiated the tenets of the 17 Point Peace agreement and increased repression of the Tibetan people, even posing threat to the Dalai Lama's life. His Holiness was thus forced to escape into exile.

His Holiness steered the Tibetan struggle in the right direction. Under his leadership, Tibetans have preserved their culture and strengthened their identity for the last 60 years. Tibetans are bound to His Holiness through a lifetime of positive karma and collective merit.

In face of surmounting challenges, His Holiness established the Central

Tibetan Administration (CTA) in India. Cultural and religious institutions were also rebuilt in exile India. Under the leadership of His Holiness and his vision for a democratic Tibetan polity, CTA has a unique system of carrying out administrative responsibilities democratically, endowed with Buddhist spiritual values as core components. CTA is the legitimate and democratic representative of the Tibetan people.

The year 2011 was a watershed year for Tibetans. It was the year in which His Holiness announced his decision to devolve his political leadership. Today, CTA multifariously spearheads its quest for freedom with the hope of finding a resolution through dialogue with China and at the same time preparing a clear long-term vision should it continuously have to remain in exile.

The four commitments of His Holiness: 1) Promotion of Human values 2) Religious Harmony 3) Preservation of Tibet's Environment, Identity, Culture and Religion 4) Promotion of Secular Ethics and revival of the Ancient Indian Wisdom, define his vision and mission in life. His Holiness has consistently advocated for the inclusion of secular ethics- the basic human values of love, compassion and altruism in the modern education system and the development of the head and the heart.

Earlier this week, His Holiness launched the Delhi Government's "Happiness Curriculum" which will be introduced in all the 1,000 government schools in the state, from nursery to 8th grade, focusing on student's inner health and happiness.

Referring to the Nalanda tradition as 'Science of Mind', His Holiness the Dalai Lama continues in his commitment to revive and promote the ancient Nalanda tradition of India. He has time and again stressed to a global audience, the importance of studying the ancient Indian wisdom based on the teachings of the Nalanda tradition and its classical texts on psychology and

dialectics. Moreover, His Holiness the Dalai Lama has for the past 30 years met with eminent scientists to initiate significant discourses, predominantly on Buddhist philosophy. This has resulted in many things scientists taking interest in the same. These discourses have led to the 'Mind and Life' conferences and the establishment of the 'Mind and Life Institute'. His Holiness the Dalai Lama remains steadfast in his commitment to preserve and promote these ancient Indian traditions and thoughts.

In recognition of His Holiness' untiring efforts to serve humanity, he has been bestowed with more than 150 awards, including the Nobel Peace Prize, the UN Earth Prize, US Congressional Gold Medal and the John Templeton Prize to name a few. His Holiness' unwavering and unquestioned love for every sentient being is like that of a parent's love for a child. We owe him a debt of gratitude and this can never be paid even in a hundred eons. Our devotion and faith in him will remain unparalleled. Therefore it is of utmost importance for each and every Tibetan to put into practice the invaluable advice of His Holiness.

Recently, an unfounded speculation about His Holiness the Dalai Lama being terminally ill went rife after an unverifiable news article published about it. This did raise concerns among Tibetans as well as his followers and well wishers around the world. Today, we take this opportunity to assure everyone that His Holiness is healthy and keeping very well. There is no room for worry.

On the recent meeting between US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un, His Holiness the Dalai Lama issued a statement welcoming the initiative and stressed on his firm belief that dialogue is the only way to resolve problems, whether between individuals or nations. In this light, we urge the Chinese government to resume talks with the envoys of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Taking this opportunity,

the Kashag strongly wants to reiterate that we are not seeking independence. We remain firmly committed to the Middle Way Approach, seeking genuine autonomy for the Tibetan people under the framework of the People's Republic of China.

The Middle Way Approach is based on the principles of non-violence, truth and reconciliation, one that seeks to engage with the People's Republic of China through dialogue and enable Tibetans to preserve their culture, language, environment, identity and religion. At the heart of this approach is the steadfast resilience of Tibetans inside Tibet, who are both the driver and the amplifier of the Tibet movement.

Human rights violations are pervasive in Tibet. The systematic and severe human rights violations continue to be committed in Tibet under the authority of the Chinese government. Tibetans in Tibet continue to face social exclusion as well as political and economic marginalization. In sheer protest against the subjugation and oppressive rule of the PRC, till date 152 Tibetans have self-immolated. All of the self-immolators have unanimously demanded the return of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to Tibet and basic freedom for Tibetans in Tibet. 130 of them lost their lives. Instead of addressing the legitimate grievances of the Tibetan people, the Chinese government has instead resorted to criminalization of self-immolators and their families.

Any act or opinion that is not to the liking of the Chinese government can be met with severe consequences and punishment. Tibetans in Tibet are denied their most basic and fundamental human rights enshrined in the Chinese constitution. Tashi Wangchuk, a Tibetan language advocate calling for the rights of the Tibetans to learn their own language was sentenced to five years in prison on charges of "inciting separatism." Tashi Wangchuk has appealed against his 5-year prison term. We support him and firmly reiterate that advocating the language rights of the Tibetan people as per the provisions in the Chinese constitution is not a crime. While we strongly urge and hope that he will be released soon we also express



our sincere gratitude to all those who have advocated for his release.

Gendhun Choekyi Nyima, the 11th Panchen Lama of Tibet has been missing for the last 23 years. On April 25 this year, on the occasion of the 29th birth anniversary of the Panchen Lama, the Senate of the United States passed a resolution stating, "any attempt by the Government of People's Republic of China to identify or install its own candidate as a Tibetan Buddhist religious leader, including a future 15th Dalai Lama, is invalid interference in the right to religious freedom of Tibetan Buddhists around the world, including in Tibet as well as the United States and elsewhere."

The resolution affirmed the US Senate's support for the Tibetan people's fundamental human rights and freedom. It further called upon the US Ambassador to the People's Republic of China to meet with the 11th Panchen Lama. Similarly, a statement issued by the US State Department reaffirmed the commitment of the United States to call on the Chinese government to release the Panchen Lama who was abducted by the Chinese authorities at the age of 6, making him the world's youngest political prisoner at the time.

The Tibetan non-violent struggle for freedom has gained the support and solidarity of peace and freedom-loving people and governments around the

world. On this most special occasion, we extend our deepest gratitude to the citizens and Government of India for their continued hospitality and unflinching support towards the Tibetan people. We also express our sincere thanks to all the friends of Tibet and freedom loving people across the globe who support the cause of Tibet.

Finally, for the benefit of all sentient beings and particularly on behalf of all Tibetans, we pray for the long life of His Holiness the Great 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet. May all his wishes be fulfilled. We hope and pray that the non-violent cause of Tibet will prevail.

KASHAG

6 July 2018



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[www.tibet.net](http://www.tibet.net)

## Statement of Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile on the 83rd Birthday of His Holiness the Dalai Lama of Tibet

On this 23rd day of the 5th month in the Earth-Dog Tibetan Royal Year 2145 in the 17th Tibetan Royal Sexantry, which corresponds to the 6th day of July 2018, we offer our prostrations to His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, the supreme protector-patron of all beings, including all sentient beings and the beings of the heavenly realms; the master of the entire corpus of the teachings of the Buddha on this earth; the spiritual lord of the trio of the desire, form and formless realms; a helmsman for peace in this world; the protector and refuge as well as the guiding light of all Tibetans, and their unsurpassable leader. With this precedence of the address on this momentous occasion of the birthday of His Holiness, I, on behalf of the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile, offer my greetings and good wishes with a feeling of faith, reverence, and joy.

It was for the sake of all sentient beings in general and especially in connection with the relationship established by the destined fate and prayers of his spiritual subjects on the Snowland of Tibet that His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama was born on the 5th day of the 5th month in the Wood-Hog Year of the 16th Tibetan Royal Sexantry, which corresponded to the 6th day of July 1935, in Domey Tagtser; with Choekyong Tsering being his father and Dekyi Tsering being his mother. As foretold unmistakably and without any possibility for misguidance in the prophecies of the tantric masters, spontaneous appearances of astoundingly miraculous objects and indications vouched for the authenticity of his birth. Since his physical birth on this earth at that time like the haloed appearance of the sun, His Holiness the Dalai Lama has now, by Tibetan tradition, attained 84 years of age, and by the outside universal calendar 83 years of age. And on this auspicious day of a hundred-thousand counts of joy marking the momentous occasion of his birth, when people in all corners of the world devote themselves to merit-accumulating positive deeds, bubbling with feelings of gladness, I



on behalf of all Tibetans in Tibet and in exile, offer ardent entreaty and solemn prayers that His Holiness the Dalai Lama continues his noble deeds that flourish all across the globe. In doing so, I behold at all times his lotus-feet as the very embodiment of enlightenment with unalterable devotion, seeing him as remaining forever available to be the protector-patron to all sentient beings, a comrade-in-arms to them and being their great guiding light.

In countries and regions across the world on this day, Tibetans and peoples who covet peace are expressing their gratitude to His Holiness the Dalai Lama for his universally known and devoted three commitments, his promotion of the ancient Indian cultural traditions and other universally acclaimed deeds and his provisions of guidance to them, by means of observing his birthday with a sense of joy, devotion and contentment. It goes to the very essence of marking the birthday of His Holiness the Dalai Lama that for all these reasons we should reiterate our pledge to devote ourselves to conduct our lives in such a way as to seek to become Tibetans endowed with a sense of ethics and caring towards others.

Over the past multitude of decades, His Holiness the Dalai Lama has especially devoted himself immensely to the well-

being of all sentient beings on this earth in general, especially to the followers of the different religious traditions without any distinction regarding their doctrines and belief systems and particularly for the benefit of all Tibetans of the Snowland of Tibet, whether living in Tibet or in exile through his deeds of great magnitude. As a result, there has been an outpouring of his deeds and accomplishments in fields, both temporal and spiritual. In that way, he became, in a truly meaningful sense, a common source of benefits and well-being on this earth. In particular, in order to ensure the sustenance and rekindling of the Tibetan people's struggle for their just cause, His Holiness the Dalai Lama initiated and guided the entirety of the exile Tibetan set up to the path of democracy. In specific terms, in order to reach a settlement on the basic issue of Tibet, His Holiness, in 1987, put forward a Five-Point Peace Plan in the Congress of the United States of America. Thereafter, in 1988, he presented his peace proposal to China on the Tibet issue at the European Parliament in Strasbourg. Likewise, he met and held discussions on successive occasions with a large number of political leaders and influential figures on the world stage, taking up with them, issues of such great importance as the natural environment of Tibet, the situation in Tibet under the Chinese rule and with regard to the

Tibetan administrative set up in exile. These have resulted in governments as well as private entities and societies at large, of many countries in the East and West, and elsewhere too, showing concern and interest on the just cause of the Tibetan people on an unprecedented scale, leading to hundreds of auspicious doors of access being thrown wide open for it. They helped to lay bare the fact that the Tibetan people remain steadfastly committed solely to the nonviolent method of pursuing their just cause. This has been an auspicious accomplishment of His Holiness the Dalai Lama of great reverberations, like the universal ray of sunlight immune to the futile attempt of its eclipse with one's palm. It led to His Holiness the Dalai Lama being honoured with the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989, with the Congressional Gold Medal of the United States Congress in 2007 and the Templeton Prize in the United Kingdom in 2012 – all awards of great renown. These have been parts of hundreds of certificates and awards that His Holiness the Dalai Lama has received over the years. And His Holiness continues to remain in pursuit of his deeds of exceptional importance and relevance which he carries out in tandem with the transformative changes taking place in this world. In particular, His Holiness has, with a great consideration pursued to reach a solution that is mutually beneficial to Tibet and China through dialogue, explained his accommodative position on numerous occasions, eschewing any dispute with the government of China on the historical status of Tibet.

However, even to this day, the government of China remains adamant in refusing to make any positive change in its policy towards the issue of Tibet. On the contrary, the restrictions being imposed in places all across Tibet continue to be tightened. Take the case, for example, of what happened in the Chamdo region of what is called the Tibet Autonomous Region during the religious festive month of Sakadawa recently. A coercive order was issued banning all the school-going Tibetan children and their parents from visiting temples to offer worship and receive blessings and taking part in any sort of

religious gathering. This alone makes obvious the extent of the coercion employed by the government of China in preventing the Tibetan people from exercising their religious freedom. In the annual International Religious Freedom Report for 2017 released recently by the State Department of the United States government, the depth of the deprivation of religious freedom in Tibet, described as extreme, was clearly pointed out. Not only that, the report emphatically pointed out that China was implementing in Tibet, a policy on religious freedom that was entirely incompatible with the sentiment of the Tibetan people, including in the matter of recognizing the reincarnations of Lamas and Tulkus, which had been subjected to government control and supervision.

The government of China in January 2016 arrested Tibetan language rights activist Tashi Wangchuk and put him on trial before what is described as the Yulshul Intermediate People's Court in Yulshul Prefecture of Qinghai Province in January this year. And on the 22nd of May this year, he was sentenced to five years of imprisonment for supposedly having committed the crime of inciting separatism. But the Human Rights Council of the United Nations, the Subcommittee on Human Rights of the European Parliament, the State Department of the United States, and many others have strongly criticized the Chinese government's action, saying that the trial proceedings and the decision were grossly unfair and trampled on fundamental rights of citizens. And they made emphatic calls for the immediate release of Tashi Wangchuk from prison.

The situation concerning human rights in Chinese-ruled Tibet has been deteriorating tremendously on a daily basis. Tibetans continue to be subjected to arbitrary arrests and detentions. They continue to be tried and sentenced in arbitrary manners to jail terms on charges based on political considerations. There is no freedom of speech and expression. Likewise, health and medical facilities are poor and minimal. The Chinese government's policy in Tibet is designedly discriminatory, favouring those who are ethnically Chinese

and prejudiced against those who are ethnically Tibetan. Under this policy, the Tibetan people are subjected to especially more and considerably greater amounts of restrictions, with the result that today the very survival of the unique Tibetan religious traditions; language, script and culture; and their customs and traditions is at stake, threatened with eventual and nothing less than complete disappearance. On the opening day of the 38th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council in the Swiss city of Geneva on Jun 18 just recently, its head, Prince Zeid Raad Zeid al-Hussein, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, strongly criticized the government of China for its deplorable human rights record. Besides, he said, over the past five years, Beijing did not allow his staff an unfettered access to the country, including in Tibet and Xinjiang. And he said the human rights situation in regions such as Tibet and Xinjiang Uyghur region was fast worsening, thereby, laying bare the true state of affairs there.

Likewise, the situation concerning the natural environment of the Tibetan Plateau too has been deteriorating markedly. In the area known as Lhuntse Dzong in Lhokha prefecture of Tibet, China has been carrying out the project to extract and take away precious minerals such as gold and copper, estimated to be worth about US \$ 60 billion. It has also announced plans to begin building three new civil airports in Lhokha, Shigatse and Ngari regions of Tibet in 2019. These regions are incidentally close to the borders of the neighbouring countries of India, Bhutan and Nepal. In addition, there is a plan to build a railway line running from Chinese-ruled Tibet to the capital city of Nepal. All these projects represent serious security threats to these neighbouring countries too. In order to build the new airports, the government of China has confiscated the agricultural land of the local Tibetan farmers with payment of only token amounts of money as compensation, rendering it all but certain that these hapless Tibetans will face serious livelihood problems. The overriding goal of the government of China is to speed up the transfer of Chinese immigrant population into

Tibet and to bolster its military strength in the border regions. Projects such as these have not led to any improvement whatsoever in the living conditions and so on of the local Tibetan people. Rather, they have led to adverse effects on the ecology of its natural environment. In many parts of the so-called autonomous region of Tibet, the government of China has deployed combat troops, stored nuclear arms and carries out military exercises. Military activities of these and other kinds have led to immeasurable damages to the land.

On the 9th of May this year, a delegation of the National People's Congress, the Chinese Parliament, from the so-called Tibet Autonomous Region took part in a hearing conducted by the Canadian Parliament's Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development in order to publicize their claims about the situation there. But contrary to what the real situation in Tibet was, the delegation only regurgitated the propaganda that the government of China has routinely been churning out. Nevertheless, members of the committee grilled the delegation members with pointed questions on issues such as the status of the Sino-Tibetan dialogue; the situation concerning the condition and whereabouts of the 11th Panchen Lama, Gedhun Choekyi Nyima; on the imprisonment of the Tibetan language rights activist Tashi Wangchuk; and on other related matters. Likewise, the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development of the Canadian Parliament on June 12 granted a great opportunity of a hearing on the urgency of the current situation in Tibet. On that occasion, Sikyong of the Central Tibetan Administration and a delegation from Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile took part in the hearing to avail the good opportunity and presented their testimonies on the actual situation in Tibet with presentations of substantive evidence to fully back their statements.

The mutually beneficial Middle Way Policy initiated by His Holiness the Dalai Lama in an effort to resolve the Sino-Tibetan dispute is a practical approach that is fully in accord with the reality of the current situation. There is nothing in

it to lend itself to being interpreted as a disguised demand for independence, or a demand for a greater Tibet and the like terminological obfuscations. If the leaders of the government of China are truly desirous of carrying out a thorough investigation of this approach of ours, we will be the most welcoming of it. Recently, the United States Secretary of State-Mr Michael Richard Pompeo again expressed his support for the resumption of dialogue by the government of China with envoys of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Given this fact, we take this opportunity to reiterate our call on the government of China, asking it too to adopt a policy of liberalization and make efforts to resume the dialogue between envoys of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and representatives of the government of China.

There had earlier been reports in sections of the internet and newspapers, referring to the health of His Holiness the Dalai Lama that could be nothing further from the truth. They were nothing but rumours based without any foundation of truth. And recently, in the month of June, after successfully concluding the programmes on his trips to the Baltic states in Europe of Lithuania and Latvia, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, upon landing at the Kangra Airport at Gaggal, personally declared that he is in good health. There is, therefore, no reason for the Tibetan people in Tibet and in exile, to be worried on this account. However, on account of His Holiness the Dalai Lama's advanced age, for the reason that this is the year before his next obstacle year and that the next year will be his actual obstacle year, it is pertinent for all the people of the Snowland of Tibet to strongly devote themselves unitedly to carry out merit-accumulating activities for the sake of his physical well-being. The main thing, however, is that there should be fraternal good relationship among the Tibetan people, whose sense of unity should be like the singularity of a sharp-edged chisel. All Tibetans, both in the government and in the private domain, should nurture and promote as much as they can, the religious traditions, the cultural heritage, and the spoken and written Tibetan language, of which they are the custodian. If they manage to do

that, then it may also come for us to wish to make such grand religious offerings as to gladden His Holiness the Dalai Lama's heart, including with a long-life prayer offering in all solemnity, in which case we emphatically call on all Tibetans to act with cooperative unity to make a common effort with even greater amount of diligence than ever before.

Sixty years are in the process of elapsing since the Tibetan people first arrived in exile. During that period, both the government and people of India have been the most generous in extending to us the requisite assistance, patronage and friendship of great magnitudes. With the sense of rectitude to feel gratitude for them at all times, we offer our utmost thanks to both the government and people of India. Likewise, to all the governments as well as peoples and organizations in the private domain all across the world, who have extended support on the issue of Tibet and provided assistance and help to the Tibetan people, we take this opportunity provided by the present momentous occasion to express our gratitude.

Finally, we hope and pray in all earnestness that His Holiness the Dalai Lama may live for a hundred aeons; that may all his aspirations be fulfilled with spontaneity; and that the just cause of the Tibetan people may prevail in all speediness.

By the Tibetan Parliament in Exile

6 July 2018



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## Tibetans Across India Organise ‘Feed the Hungry’ Campaign to Thank India

Tibetans across India organised a series of ‘Feed the Hungry’ campaign on Friday as part of the celebrations for His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s 83rd birthday and CTA’s yearlong Thank you India campaign.

Under the leadership of the Central Tibetan Administration, Tibetan people across India are observing the year 2018 with a series of Pan-India events to express gratitude to the Government and people of India.

Tibetans from Gangtok, Bir, Puruwala Settlement office, Dharamshala settlement office, Mundgod, Paonta, Kalimpong, Dhondeling Kollegal, Miao Choepheling, Kamrao, Chief Representative’s office, Shimla, Bangalore Norgelying Bhandara, Sikkim, Lugsum Bylakuppe, Delhi, Sonada, Shillong etc have participated in ‘Feed the Hungry’ campaign..



*On 6 July, the 83rd birthday of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Tibetans across India observe Feed the Hungry Campaign to thank the People of India.*

## Online Registration Now Available for His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s Teachings in Dharamshala

We are pleased to announce that the registration for obtaining Teaching Pass to attend teachings of His Holiness the Dalai Lama at Dharamshala will be made available online. This initiative is taken to expedite the process of obtaining Teaching Pass.

Those who are planning to attend the teaching will be able to register online from 15 August 2018, at [www.dalailamateaching.com](http://www.dalailamateaching.com). The web-link shall be available on [www.dalailama.com](http://www.dalailama.com) and [www.tibet.net](http://www.tibet.net).

Teaching Pass will be issued at Branch Security Office after producing a printout of your online registration form along with any of the following documents; Passport/ Aadhaar Card/ Voter ID/ Green Book/ RC.

Those who have been issued Teaching Pass of previous teachings need not register again. New Teaching Pass will be issued at Branch Security Office upon producing their old Teaching Pass.

However, those who do not wish to register online may visit the Branch Security Office in person to obtain Teaching Pass manually.

For any query, please contact  
[bsomcleod@tibet.net](mailto:bsomcleod@tibet.net)

+91-1892-221560.

Department of Security, CTA  
August 14, 2018

## His Holiness the Dalai Lama, CM Kumaraswamy Grace Thank you Karnataka Event in Bengaluru

Tibetan spiritual leader His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Chief Minister Haradanahalli Devegowda Kumaraswamy today graced the 'Thank You Karnataka' event organised by the five major Tibetan settlements in South India. The event celebrated 60 years of friendship, support and hospitality of the People and the State Government of Karnataka towards the Tibetan people.

The event was attended by a host of Indian leaders from the state and local government including the Chief Secretary of Karnataka, T M Vijaya Bhaskara, IAS and special guest, son of United Karnataka's first CM, Shri S. Nijalingappa.

Tibetan dignitaries include CTA President Dr Lobsang Sangay, Speaker Khenpo Sonam Tenphel, Tibetan Parliament in Exile, Gaden Tripa, Sherpa Choeje, Jangtse Choeje, members of Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile Pema Delek, Samten Choedon, Tsering Youdon, Migyur Dorjee, Ven Jamphel Tenzin, Abbot and Khenpos of Monastery in South India, five Settlement Officers, friends of Tibet, Bharat Tibbat Sayog Manch.

Addressing the Thank You Karnataka event, His Holiness the Dalai Lama said the successful journey of the Tibetan people in the last 60 years in terms of education, culture, language and identity preservation has been inspired by the kind support of the Indian government.

"I feel greatly honoured that we Tibetan refugees, a small community, found an opportunity to thank the Karnataka state and we thank India," said His Holiness.

"This depicts one of Tibetan values, which is we never forget other's kindness. As a preservation of our own cultural heritage, it is our duty to thank and express our appreciation to all those people who were very kind to us.

"So as elected political leadership



*His Holiness the Dalai Lama, CTA President Dr Lobsang Sangay, Speaker Khenpo Sonam Tenphel and Chief Representative, CTA South Zone presenting the Dharma Chakra to Karnataka Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy at the Thank you Karnataka event at Taj Hotel, Bengaluru, 10 August 2018. Photo/Tenzin Phende/DIIR*

mentioned, when we first reached here, we only knew the sky and the earth. But then, because of my close relations with late PM Jawaharlal Nehru from 1954 onwards, Tibetans found refuge in India.

"In 1956, I had serious discussion with him and have received very useful advice from him. He suggested that we should have separate Tibetan school in order to keep the Tibetan issue alive. He said education is the key factor. Immediately he set up a committee headed by Union Education Minister to oversee the construction of Tibetan schools and he fully supported Tibetan re-settlement".

His Holiness also remembered his extraordinary friend and leader, late Shri Siddavanahalli Nijalingappa, the first Chief Minister of United Karnataka who approved the largest acres of land for Tibetan re-settlement in 1959.

"When the request for allocation of land was sent to all the state leader, the best response came from Karnataka. I have known him since 1956. He promised me he will support the cause. He extended an extraordinary support for the resettlement of Tibetans.

The Tibetan refugee community, he said, has since pursued a rigorous preservation of its language, culture, traditional values and knowledge including the study of Nalanda tradition.

"In upholding the Nalanda Tradition, Tibetans kept it alive and have brought it back to the land of its birth. As I always mention we are reliable chela for Indian guru. Now reliable chela found an opportunity to revive the ancient Indian knowledge in modern India.

His Holiness observed that although such knowledge developed in India, in the course of time interest in it deteriorated.

He suggested that reviving ancient Indian understanding of the mind and emotions, reason and logic, in India, is a contribution Tibetans can make.

"We were hopeless at a point in history, but through many decades, we have developed self-confidence. Yes, the knowledge we kept over 1000 years is now really useful to humanity in general and particularly to this country. Therefore my latest commitment is to revive the ancient Indian tradition.

“All this have become possible because of the help of the Indian government and the policy laid down by Pandit Nehru; Indian government helped create a space where we could study continuously,” he said.

Affirming his faith in the peaceful Tibetan struggle, His Holiness said the Tibetan issue will “never die” and that he foresees “a great future for Tibet”.

“We should not feel demoralised. As a people with over 3500 years of cultural heritage, we have great potential. So we must have self-confidence especially for youth, it is very very important,” he told the Tibetan youth.

President Dr Lobsang Sangay started off his speech by emphasising Buddhist notions of compassion and humility that teaches us to be grateful to those who helps us. It is because of the same notions that Tibetan administration is celebrating 2018 as the “Thank You” year to thank India and especially the state of Karnataka for their generosity rendered to Tibetans and enabling Tibetans to stand on their own feet today. Dr Lobsang Sangay also thanked a



*Tibetan youth presenting a traditional performance of the three Tibetan provinces at the Thank you Karnataka celebration. Photo/Tenzin Phende/ DIIR*

special guest Prof. S.N Kiran Shankar, son of the late Chief Minister, S Nijallingappa of Karnataka. Late CM Nijalingappa was one of the most significant people who helped Tibetans when they first arrived in exile in Karnataka by providing them with land and place to live and thrive.

The President then went on to thank the present CM of Karnataka, H.D Kumaraswamy for continuing the same tradition of generosity and love towards

Tibetans. He also extended his gratitude to all the Prime Ministers of India from PM Jawaharlal Nehru to PM Modi and especially the Government of India and political parties of India for their unwavering support to Tibetans in exile.

The President briefly narrated the account of His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s escape to India and said, “Dalai Lama felt relieved on realising he is finally in the land of Buddha”.

Dr Lobsang Sangay acknowledged that it has been 60 years that Tibetans came into exile and for the past 60 years, India has been the only place where Tibetans have ‘not only survived but thrived’.

Despite China’s repetitive effort to destroy Tibetan religion and culture and basically the entire Tibetan civilisation, the President said that Tibetans were still able to uphold and preserve their religion, culture thanks to India and specially Karnataka for making the largest contribution towards reviving Tibetan religion and culture which otherwise had only 2% chance of survival under the Chinese occupation.

The President spoke of the bond shared between Karnataka and Tibet as not just a bond between a state and an administration rather one that extends beyond a political boundary. He cited few examples to show the love and compassion shared between the two which are based solely on the shared sense of brotherhood.

Dr Lobsang Sangay once again expressed his sincere thanks to India and especially to Karnataka for the kind of support extended by them to Tibetans as one which no country has ever done for Tibet.

Concluding his speech, the President also reminded that India is highly fortunate to have an excellent messenger of peace and advocate for the country like no other in the form of His Holiness The Dalai Lama who regards himself as the son of India.

Speaking in the same vein, Speaker Khenpo Sonam Tenphel, Tibetan

Parliament-in-Exile said the guru-disciple relationship between India and Tibet had flourished since the establishment of Nalanda Tradition of Buddhism in Tibet and had further deepened with India becoming its exile home.

He recollected a statement by veteran Indian politician Moraji Desai who said the unique connection between the Indian and Tibetan people were like two branches of the same Bodhi tree.

Chief Minister Haradanahalli Devegowda Kumaraswamy, Karnataka Government said, “It is indeed a privilege and honour to take part in the august presence of the great spiritual leader, His Holiness the Dalai Lama. To have strong bonding with Tibetans.

“For centuries, Tibet and India have shared unique culture and historical relationship. Tibet’s connection with India had deepened after India offered exile for Tibetans.

“In Karnataka, the then CM of the state, warranted to provide shelter to Tibetans without any second thought and today they have become one among us. Today we have 5 settlement in Mysore, Uttara Karnataka, Champaranagra districts.

“Those living in these settlements have made their own contributions for Karnataka. And I believe that the Tibetan community is ever resilient and best positioned for the next journey.

He assured his utmost support and cooperation for the Tibetan people and offered his high salutations to HIS Holiness the Dalai Lama.

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## Five Fifty Youth Forum Deliberates on Tibet's Political Future



President Dr Lobsang Sangay, Central Tibetan Administration speaking at the inaugural ceremony of Five-Fifty Youth Forum, organised by Central Tibetan Administration. Photo/Tenzin Phende/DIIR

The four-day Five Fifty Youth Forum took place at the Imperial Heights here with President Dr Lobsang Sangay of Central Tibetan Administration and Speaker Khenpo Sonam Tenphel of Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile in attendance along with senior dignitaries of Central Tibetan Administration.

Presided by President Dr Lobsang Sangay, the four-day youth forum deliberated on CTA's Five-Fifty Vision in shaping Tibet's political future and strengthening the Tibetan freedom movement.

The forum comes as a succession of Five Fifty Forum that took place in October 2017 which saw over 180 participants from 21 different countries take part in the three-day forum where they have had intensive discussions on wide-ranging topics concerning Tibet's policy and further about Tibet's struggle movement.

"What an honour it is for me to welcome the best and the brightest of our Tibetan youth, from across the world, to Dharamsala," said President Dr Lobsang Sangay, in his inaugural address.

"The one-hundred of you in this room were carefully chosen by a Selection Committee for the first-ever 5/50 Youth Forum. Each one of you should be proud

of yourself".

Speaking on the 'Five-Fifty Vision,' President said the vision is premised on His Holiness the Dalai Lama's advice to "Hope for the Best and Prepare for the Worst." "I remember very clearly in 2012 I had an audience with His Holiness where he told me, "One of your main responsibilities as a leader is to lead the movement forward as if I'm not there." Those words struck me like a lightning bolt. I was shocked, emotional and overwhelmed. However, His Holiness continued to emphasise my duty as Sikyong to envision a movement without him. For our tsawai lama (Root leader), the movement is far more important than himself.

"After years of planning, the Kashag launched the Five-Fifty Vision in 2017. The vision aims to maximize efforts to resolve the Tibet issue in five years based on the Middle Way Approach while ensuring CTA's resilience to sustain the Tibetan freedom struggle and preserve Tibetan culture for the next fifty years if needed," said the President.

Zealous Tibetan youths between the age of 20-40 are taking part in the forum. There are a total of 100 participants from 15 different countries. This purposeful Forum represents a convergence of bright, determined young minds to

express their opinions candidly and exchange ideas and knowledge regarding the challenges and opportunities facing the Tibetan movement.

The forum is particularly focused on generating opportunity for Tibetan youths around the world to assimilate themselves with Central Tibetan Administration's vision in shaping Tibet's political future and strengthening the Tibetan freedom movement famously known as the Five fifty Vision.

The forum will feature plenary sessions on four themes: 1) Tibet and China: Historical ties, Establishing Dialogue with PRC—institutional, civil society, individual level.

2) Young Voices in the Tibetan Freedom Movement: Communications, Advocacy, and International Relations  
3) Homeland and diaspora—building linkages between Tibetans inside and outside Tibet.

4) CTA's Leadership toward the Five-Fifty Vision- creating visionary leadership, and resource mobilisation within and beyond CTA frontiers.

The second segment includes rigorous breakout sessions that will delve into discussions about chalking out a strategic action plan on how to maximize the potential of Tibetan youth in shaping Tibet's political future.

Speaker Khenpo Sonam Tenphel of Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile also delivered an address, congratulating the youth participants of the first-ever Five Fifty Youth Forum.

The inaugural event was attended by Chief Justice Commissioner, Justice Commissioner, Commissioner of Public Service Commission, Auditor General, Members of Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile, Members of the Standing Committee, Kashag Secretary, Parliamentary Secretary, Secretaries of CTA departments.

## His Holiness the Dalai Lama Grants Audience to Participants of Five-Fifty Youth Forum



His Holiness the Dalai Lama speaking to the participants and organisers of the Five-Fifty Youth Forum during the audience held at His Holiness' residence on 20 August 2018. Photo/OHHDL

CTA's Five-Fifty Youth Forum concluded with the blessings of Tibetan preeminent leader, His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Hundred bright Tibetan youths, who have converged at the seat of Central Tibetan Administration to deliberate on CTA's Five-Fifty Vision, received a special audience with His Holiness at his residence.

During the 15-min meeting, His Holiness expressed his conviction in the potential of teachings of the rich culture and religion of Tibet. "I can say with full conviction that our tradition, which originated in India, particularly the Nalanda tradition is a valuable treasure for today's world.

"My main advice or message is for all of you youths, irrespective of whether you are men or women, monk or nun, to take ownership of this rich tradition," he said.

He further implored the youths to not only imbibe the Tibetan Buddhist knowledge but to follow the Nalanda masters in examining the teachings of Buddha in light of reason.

He argued that reason and logical approach of the Tibetan Buddhist literature is what enables Buddhists to interact so well with scientists. "This is based on my own experience of having dialogue with scientist and western scholars for over 30 years".

"Nowadays, the Nalanda tradition of approaching the Buddha's teachings with logic and reason is only found amongst Tibetans. Tibetans do not need to learn Chinese, Hindi or English to discover this because it is available to them in the Kangyur and Tengyur that are already translated into Tibetan.

The Tibetan Buddhist philosophy, he said is "something precious which we can be proud of and should strive to preserve."

"We have inherited this rich tradition due to the kindness of Shantarakshita and the visionary leadership of the religious kings such as Songtsen Gampo."

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## China's White Paper on Tibet's Ecology: Too Many Lies and Contradictions



China's latest white paper 'Ecological Progress on the Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau' begins with a brazen lie that "the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Chinese government have always valued ecological progress.

In fact, the infamous slogan 'Man must conquer nature' was declared by the founding father of the CPC Mao Zedong. In his opening speech at the National Conference of the CPC (March 21, 1955), Mao stated that 'there is a way of conquering even Nature as an enemy'. He further stated that "even the high mountains must bow, and even the rivers must yield". Such attitude towards nature by CPC and its call to develop at all cost has plunged China into as one of the most polluted regions on earth.

### Too Many Lies and Factual Errors

The paper would have been a wonderful reading for someone who knows very little about Tibet, but for a regular observer, there are too many lies and factual errors. The paper states that 'the Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau is one of the regions with the strictest water resource

management and water environment protection in China'. There were too many cases of factories and mining companies who were not punished despite polluting local water bodies.

The case of waste from lithium mines been flushed into the Lichu river in Minyak Lhagong ( Karze region of Tibet) by the Ronda Lithium Co Limited is one such example. The toxic waste caused (May 4, 2016) mass death of fish and polluted the drinking water source of the local communities.

In a similar case on September 23, 2014, more than 1,000 local Tibetans of Dokar and Zibuk villages near Lhasa protested against the poisoning of their river by the Gyama Copper Poly-metallic mine. The mine is located close to a river that locals use for drinking, irrigation and feeding their livestock.

Another example of lack of proper water management is the rampant dumping of rural and urban wastes into nearby rivers. The paper states that RMB 6.3 billion was spent on domestic sewage and waste disposal projects but in reality,

the garbage collection and management facilities are almost non-existent across Tibet, especially in rural areas.

While claiming that the Qinghai – Tibet railway was an example of green development, the paper quotes from Science Magazine (April 27, 2007) saying (the railway will) "ultimately promote the sustainable ecological, social, and economic development of western China". But according to the actual article in the Science Magazine titled 'Building a Green Railway in China', the sentence begins by stating that " If carefully managed (emphasis added), the Qinghai -Tibet railway will ultimately promote the sustainable ecological, social and economic development of the western China'. To support its argument, the paper disregards intellectual integrity by selectively misquoting incomplete sentences from Science Magazine to alter the actual context.

### Contradictions between Policies and Implementations

There are far too many contradictions

between policies for environmental protection and actual ground implementation. The paper claims that ‘the relevant provinces and autonomous regions have taken active measure to increase public awareness of eco-conservation, such as strengthening public campaigns on environmental protection’.

But an official circular issued by the Tibet Public Security Department of the so-called Tibet Autonomous Region on February 7, 2018 has made environmental protection activities in Tibet an illegal act, thereby contradicting the claims made above.

The disregard to the pleas of Tibetans in Amchok against mining is yet another contradiction. On May 31, 2016, around 2,000 local Tibetans of Amchok in north-eastern Tibet gathered to protest against mining on their sacred mount Gongnyong Lari. But the Chinese government brutally suppressed the protesters by seriously injuring many and detaining six local Tibetans. They were calling for “protection of the environment, protection of the sacred mountain and protection of people’s safety”.

### Some Important Issues are Ignored

The paper makes no mention of natural disasters despite Tibetan areas facing devastating floods, landslides, and mudslides in recent years.

The mountainous Tibetan Plateau faces the severest impact of climate change due to its high elevation at low latitude. The situation is further exacerbated by unregulated constructions and mining activities in the region. The plateau has seen an unprecedented number of natural disaster across Tibet since

2016. There are numerous floods and landslides occurring in North-eastern and Central regions of Tibet as we write. Unfortunately, the paper does not mention these natural disasters or efforts taken by the Chinese government to mitigate the impact.

This is apparently due to lack of real understanding of the current socio-environmental situation in Tibet by the Chinese government. The Chinese government has done very little to address climate change and put forth any preventive measures to mitigate the impact of increasing incidents of natural disasters. As is often the case, it has been the Tibetan monasteries who have rushed to the scene of natural disasters to help the public.

While claiming massive progress in the creation of nature reserves, the plight of millions of resettled nomads have conveniently brushed aside. The lack of jobs and educational opportunities in the resettled areas have pushed the nomadic population into the margins of the society where they are compelled into alcoholism, prostitution, and children engaging in petty crimes. A whole generation of Tibetans are impoverished and forced into destitution.

The paper also gives very little information about Ngawa and Karze regions of eastern Tibet. These regions have seen increasing natural disasters, numerous protests against mining and often face repressive policies.

### Conclusion

Environmental conservation efforts in Tibetan areas are arrogantly forced upon them by the state without informing or taking local communities into

confidence. Such colonial approaches have often led to a confrontation between the people and the government. It’s the Tibetans who have preserved the fragile plateau for thousands of years and acquired enormous indigenous knowledge of the land and its climatic patterns.

The lack of mitigation efforts to face the new environmental situation and climatic conditions is a major failure. Tibetans should not be left to face a natural disaster in the coming years as it has been in the last three years.

The formulation of stricter regulations on protection of nature reserves is a welcome effort, a similar policy is also urgently required to strictly regulate the influx of millions of tourists into the plateau as it could leave a massive carbon footprint on the fragile ecosystem of Tibet.

The millions of resettled nomads should be provided with jobs, education and medical facilities to restore their dignity and livelihood.

Ever since Xi Jinping became the president, there have been positive efforts on environmental protection across China and in Tibet. But the lack of environmental knowledge, respect for the environment and sincere desire for environmental protection among Chinese officials have led to various contradictions and confrontations. As a result, environmental conservation projects by various local Chinese governments in Tibet often end up further damaging the local environment and destroying people’s livelihood.

*\*Zamlha Tempa Gyaltzen is an environmental research fellow at the Tibet Policy Institute*



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## China's Dalai Lama Dilemma

In his pursuit of the Chinese dream and the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, President Xi Jinping has relentlessly tightened Party discipline and its grip on society. He has launched the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), a project to vastly improve connectivity on land and at sea between Africa, the Middle East, and Europe through the construction of highways, airports, rail, and ports to facilitate trade and commerce between continents. It is hoped that Chinese investment in 64 countries would facilitate the flow of goods, minerals, gas, and foodstuff to China to keep its domestic economy humming and strengthen its outward power projection.

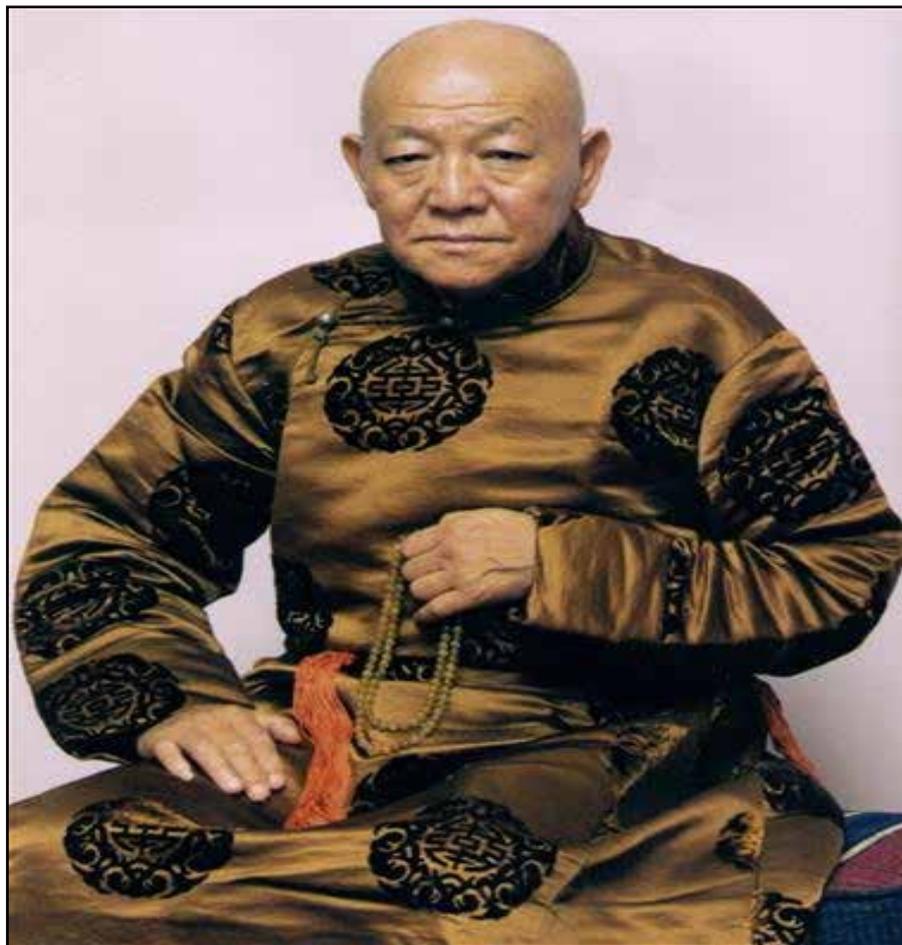
Under Xi, China has asserted its claims of sovereignty over the South China Sea not only through words but by concrete action. It is constructing artificial islands, which are being weaponized.

Xi's China makes another claim of sovereignty over cyberspace. It is succeeding to a surprising degree. What information goes out of China and is allowed into the country is monitored and controlled by the Chinese Communist Party. Other authoritarian regimes are following suit.

China makes another claim of sovereignty. This time it is over Tibet's spiritual space. Whether the Party will succeed or not is another matter but its determination to do so is clear from a number of projects and policy directions.

In 2007, the Party issued a directive "the management measures for the reincarnation of living Buddhas in Tibetan Buddhism." It is also known as order number five. Reincarnating Tibetan lamas must submit a "reincarnation application" to the Party for their reincarnation to be "approved."

In 2016, China launched an online database of all reincarnating Tibetan lamas. Those not on the database are not "living Buddhas" in the Party's eyes. And the Dalai Lama is not on the database.



*Khalkha Jetsun Dampa*

Here the Party is confronted by the Dalai Lama dilemma. The Party wants the 15th Dalai Lama but not the 14th, who some senior cadres "ordered" him to reincarnate. In pursuit of this goal, the Party is moving aggressively in areas and countries that were not the fields of activities of the United Front, a Party organ considered its "magic weapon."

Mongolia is the new field of activities of the United Front. These activities are made easier because Mongolia, a vast landlocked country with only two neighbors, China and Russia, is beholden to its powerful and dynamic southern neighbor for its economic wellbeing. China is exploiting this Mongol vulnerability to "guide" Mongolia in its selection of Khalkha Jetsun Dampa, Mongolia's highest reincarnate lama, whose previous reincarnation lived in Dharamsala for many years. China wants Mongolia to select the next

reincarnation without any consultation with the Dalai Lama.

But the problem for China is that the Dalai Lama is enthroned at the very top of Tibet's spiritual hierarchy. Reincarnating lamas' spiritual legitimacy and acceptance by people, be they Tibetans, Mongolians or throughout the Buddhist Himalayan belt, derives from his recognition.

But China makes no pretense of its game plan in playing in Tibet's spiritual realm. It is promoting the Beijing-appointed Panchen Lama, creating important platforms for him to gain wider acceptance. It is also promoting the late 10th Panchen Lama's daughter in the hope she will throw her father's spiritual weight to the Party's choice of the next Dalai Lama. Beijing has lined up and is grooming young Tibetan lamas to help it choose the 15th Dalai Lama

and to show to the world that there is Tibetan Buddhist church's acceptance of its choice.

In making this plan's the Party hopes that without a shot being fired it could appropriate the crown jewel of Tibet's civilization and along with it the worldwide goodwill the present Dalai Lama has created for Tibet and its culture.

The problem for China is that the concept of reincarnation is a matter of faith and cannot be imposed through administrative diktat. That faith will be guided by the actions of the heads of all four schools of Tibetan Buddhism and that of Bon, Tibet's homegrown religion, who fortunately are all in India. Above all, it will be determined by the decision of the 14th Dalai Lama.

*\*Thubten Samphel is the director of the Tibet Policy Institute, a research centre of the Central Tibetan Administration. Views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the TPI.*

## Tibetans to be Exempted from NORI Process for IC Application

An announcement about the latest change in the policy guidelines of Tibetan Identity Certificate (IC) whereby the Central Government of India has exempted Tibetans from NORI (No Objection to Return to India) application process thus expediting the IC application process. In addition to



that Tibetans can now avail return visas and other such processes via online as per the new guidelines. And currently, this new policy of online process is applicable in eight regions and excludes few Tibetan settlements.

## I am Totally Against 'Lama' Politics: His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Zanskar

In his address to the public His Holiness lamented the sordid state of affairs wherein 'Lamas' (high ranking buddhist monks) get embroiled in politics causing the erosion of the sanctity of Tibetan buddhism.

His Holiness expressed joy over meeting the local people in the remote region and said as members of the human family, we all seek happiness and avoid suffering. Speaking about how the practitioners of the Buddha dharma, particularly that of the Bodhisatva doctrine, are expected to assist and help all sentient beings through the generation of compassion, His Holiness compared such expectations to that of an immeasurable sand on the river banks and emphatically pointed to its impracticalities. But on the other hand, His Holiness said that since the seven billion people of the world have a shared vision for achieving lasting happiness, we must be mindful that happiness doesn't equate the allures of sensual pleasure since the latter is both temporary and short lived. Instead, His Holiness advised that human beings must harness the potential of their intellectual prowess to avoid suffering and achieve real happiness devoid of sensory pleasures.

Lauding religious harmony in India His Holiness said all the religions, both native to India and other religious traditions that originated from other countries continue to co-exist in India. "All major religions of the world are practiced freely on the Indian soil," His Holiness said beaming with pride.

His Holiness admonished violence and intolerance in the name of religion, and said this is unthinkable. "I know all religion teaches love, compassion, tolerance and peace. So, it is injudicious, stupid, illogical and short-sighted to fight against each other," said His Holiness.

Explaining about his decision to relinquish political authority in 2011, His Holiness said that for the last 400 years, since the time of the 5th Dalai Lama,



*His Holiness the Dalai Lama addressing the crowd of more than 16,000 during his teaching in Padum, Zanskar, J&K, India on July 22, 2018. Photo by Tenzin Choejor*

the successive Dalai Lamas have been both the temporal and spiritual leader of Tibet. "It is the 14th Dalai Lama who put an end to the 400 year long rule by the Dalai Lamas as the head of the State. This is done voluntarily with profound pride and joy," said His Holiness.

Speaking about the rule by 'Lamas' (high ranking and revered Buddhist monks), His Holiness lamented that its disadvantages far outweigh its advantages, considering how such rule have contributed to the degeneration of Buddha Dharma in the Tibetan history. "A fear of 'Lama' politics which seems to be prominent in Ladakh too has been thwarting the essence of Buddhism. This is unnecessary. I am totally against 'Lama' politics," affirmed His Holiness. His Holiness advised his devotees in Ladakh to be wary and vigilant.

Zanskar, an isolated mountainous region in the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir stands at an elevation of 17,900 feet above sea level and has a population of about 20,000 people. It is also home to half a dozen buddhist monasteries.

At Zanskar, His Holiness conferred teachings on Je Tsongkhapa's Concise Stages of the Path to Enlightenment.



## Different Religious Tradition Will Prevail: His Holiness the Dalai Lama to US State Department Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom

The United States State Department convened the first-ever Ministerial to advance religious freedom. The two-day Ministerial held from 24-25 July took place in the State Department building in Washington DC was attended by more than four hundred heads of religious organisations and civil societies. Ambassador-at-large, Governor Brownback gave the opening remarks.

A video message from His Holiness the Dalai Lama was screened at the gathering. Below is the transcript of the message.

“Spiritual brothers and sisters, firstly I want to express my greetings for your meeting. I consider such a meeting relevant and important. Firstly, still, we need religious faith and then in order to use religious faith more effectively to the harmonious society.



So this conference is useful, I am totally committed to making a contribution from my tradition. I never try to propagate Buddhism. I always think how much from our tradition can make some contribution for people including non-believer in order to develop inner peace.

I think and hope other tradition to think more about humanity than entire humanity will not become a follower of one religion. Over a thousand year different religious tradition exist. In the

future also different religious tradition will prevail for other several centuries. It will be beneficial to the people, therefore harmonious existence is important.

I am quite sure that your gathering can certainly make some contribution regarding religious harmony and how to use a certain concept of different religious tradition more effectively. I usually call secular way. Here I must make clear that in according to Indian understanding secular means respect all religion and also a nonbeliever. I think that is realistic. As I mentioned earlier, over 1 billion non-believers are human brothers and sisters. They want and need to have peace of mind. Therefore the secular way to serve people is a more realistic way.

Thank you.”

## One Can Win Friends by Caring for Others: His Holiness the Dalai Lama at Thiksey Monastery

After a whirlwind of public engagements in Nubra, Zankar, and Kargil, His Holiness the Dalai Lama began his last leg of engagements in Ladakh. At the invitation of a former member of Rajya Sabha, Thiksey Rinpoche, His Holiness visited the Thiksey monastery.

Addressing over 2500 people gathered, His Holiness acknowledged the progress in Ladakh in terms of setting up of new schools and accordingly a better standard of living for the people.

His Holiness explained that for human lives material development alone will not suffice and cited the case of people in developed societies in Europe, the USA, and Japan, who remain discontented and unhappy in spite of remarkable material development.



*His Holiness the Dalai Lama shares a cake with a young child at Thiksey Monastery, Ladakh, Jammu, and Kashmir. Photo: Tenzin Choejor / OHHDL*

His Holiness lauded Thiksey Rinpoche’s plans to include secular ethics in Thiksey monastery’s school curriculum and highly recommended the study of psychology and logic.

His Holiness extolled the efforts of Muslim and Buddhist communities in

Zankar to foster interfaith harmony and said that one has to overcome narrow-minded, outdated attitudes and perspectives to achieve communal harmony. His Holiness also mentioned political intrusion as one of the causes for communal discord.

His Holiness denounced factionalism and said that the purpose of all religious practices is to combat negative emotions like anger and hatred and not to fuel them. Reasoning why all religious traditions must teach love and compassion, His Holiness said selfish motive will not bring any gain but that one can win friends and supporters by being selfless and caring for others.

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## Indian Muslims Must Promote Religious Harmony Between Shias and Sunnis: His Holiness the Dalai Lama

His Holiness visited the Chushot Yokma Imam Barga Mosque on August 2. The community representative expressed hope for organising a conference of Muslims in Delhi later this year, in light of His Holiness' advice on maintaining harmony among different faith.

His Holiness said as human beings, we all have to live together on this planet. Likewise Muslims and Buddhists in Ladakh have to live with each other, His Holiness continued. Calling the genesis of all problems facing mankind to narrow minded approach and religious allegiance, His Holiness said, among Muslims, Sunnis and Shias pray to the same Allah, but quarrel with each other. Buddhists pay tribute to the same Buddha, yet indulge in sectarian conflict.

Expressing his admiration for the spirit of the European Union, that seeks to work for the common interest of the people than over national interest, His Holiness decried Brexit and said he still doesn't understand why Britain chose to leave the EU. Time is now to give top priority to shared, common interests, His Holiness said.

Citing the case of Tibet, His Holiness said Tibet was an independent state, but now Tibet and China can mutually benefit each other.

Speaking about inter-religious harmony India, His Holiness said that as a Buddhist he tries to promote such harmony wherever he goes. His Holiness said that Indian Muslims have a responsibility toward their fellow



*His Holiness the Dalai Lama offers prayers at Chushot Yokma Imam Barga Mosque, August 2, 2018. Photo: Tenzin Choejor/OHHDL*

Muslims in Afghanistan and in the Arab world and therefore must promote religious harmony between Sunnis and Shias.

“Indian religious leaders should take a more proactive role in instilling the sense of possibility for peaceful coexistence of different religious traditions,” His Holiness concluded.

## His Holiness the Dalai Lama Graces Silver Jubilee Celebration of Goa Institute of Management



*His Holiness The Dalai Lama addressing more than 800 members of GIM present at the event. Photo/Tenzin Phende/DIIR*

His Holiness the Dalai Lama delivered the keynote address on “Today's Relevance of India's Ancient Knowledge” at the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Goa Institute of Management (GIM) today.

The event was attended by over 800 members, including students and staff of the GIM.

In his opening remarks, His Holiness briefly talked about mental consciousness and sensorial consciousness. He urged the audience to pay attention to mental consciousness over sensorial consciousness.

Highlighting the works of ancient Indian masters, he said ancient India was the only country that paid attention to mental hygiene, dating back to over 3000 years.

“All world major religious tradition teaches compassion, love and tolerance. Through the practice of Shamata, Vipassana one can achieve and develop the sixth mind, which is mental level consciousness,” he said.

His Holiness further explained how scientists have proved the basic human nature as more compassionate. Citing the example of his mother, His Holiness said, “My first teacher of compassion is my mother. No one can survive without mother's love and affection.”

He commented that human affection and nurturing makes certain differences in life.

“Only ancient Indian knowledge about mind and emotion that existed since 2000 years ago can combine

modern education with ancient Indian knowledge. Therefore I am trying to revive ancient Indian knowledge,” His Holiness added.

His Holiness said, “Tibetan learn from Indian guru and kept it alive for 1000 years. Where guru neglected those rich ancient Indian tradition. Fortunately in our refugee settlement set up a learning centre in Karnataka state with 1000 monks as teachers to revive this ancient Indian knowledge.”

His Holiness urged that they should have exchange program with monastics in refugee camp and the Universities.

Before ending his talk, His Holiness the Dalai Lama reiterated that we must work for the peaceful, compassionate century by solving the issue though dialogue rather than violence.

His Holiness reminded that in order to achieve external disarmament one should start disarming internally.

## His Holiness the Dalai Lama Speaks on Courage and Compassion in Today's World

His Holiness the Dalai Lama gave a talk on "Courage and Compassion in Today's World" at Conrad hotel in Bengaluru today.

More than 800 people attended the talk organised by Vidyaloke.

His Holiness began his talk by emphasising the oneness of all human beings. "One of my commitment is the promotion of sense of oneness of human being," he said.

He further mentioned that our mind and speech should be dedicated to the well-being of all sentient being.

Referring to the existing global crises, His Holiness said, "Beside nature disaster like global warming, which is beyond our control, apart from that all the problems are created by us".



His Holiness the Dalai Lama lighting the auspicious lamp before his talk on "Courage and Compassion in Today's World" at Conrad hotel in Bengaluru, 11 August 2018. Photo/Tenzin Phende/DIIR

Talking further, His Holiness briefly touched upon the issue between Shia and Sunni having the same faith yet kills each other. He sigh-fully said, "In the name of religion killing each other is unthinkable."

"Differences based on race, colour, creed, sex, etc are secondary level. On the deeper level physically and mentally, we all are same human being" he added.

Tracing back to the evolution of religious tradition in India, His Holiness highlighted that India is the only nation where all religious tradition lives



His Holiness the Dalai Lama gives a talk on "Courage and Compassion in Today's World" at Conrad hotel in Bengaluru, 11 August 2018. Photo/Tenzin Phende/DIIR

together and living example to the world on religious harmony.

His Holiness then briefly talked about his commitments. touching on third commitment, he said, "Tibetan people trust me so I have more responsibility. Politically I have devolve to elected political leaders."

His Holiness gave a reason why he devolved his political authority to the elected leadership. His Holiness explained how he started reform committee in the early part of his life. Then in exile and in 1960's beginning of people's representatives to this current election of political leader.

His Holiness said, "Now my sort of responsibility is the preservation of Tibetan culture and language". Which is originated from Nalanda great masters.

His Holiness further enlightened that authentic knowledge from Nalanda ancient tradition is available only in the Tibetan language. "It can precisely explain those rich ancient Indian knowledge".

Therefore His Holiness urged that preservation of Tibetan language is not only in the interest of 6 million Tibetans but for the greater good of all

neighbouring countries as well as the whole world.

"Modern India can serve if combine ancient Indian knowledge and modern education to the whole world," he added.

Beginning the Q&A session, His Holiness concluded his talk by saying, "I may be able to serve for a decade from now and then I will be too old. So a few hundred people are here, do keep in mind those commitments."



Members of the audience at His Holiness' talk on "Courage and Compassion in Today's World" at Conrad hotel in Bengaluru, 11 August 2018. Photo/Tenzin Phende/DIIR



## We are Not Refugees Out of will: His Holiness the Dalai Lama at Inauguration of Dalai Lama Institute's New Hostel



*His Holiness The Dalai Lama inaugurating the new hostel at Dalai Lama Institute. Photo/Tenzin Phende/DIIR*

His Holiness the Dalai Lama visited Dalai Lama Institute for Higher studies located near Bengaluru where His Holiness was invited to inaugurate the new men's hostel sponsored by Kaiser Foundation from Switzerland. Following which, His Holiness gave a talk to students and Tibetans at Amphitheatre who came from Tibetan settlements in south.

His Holiness then briefly met with Geshes, who are studying English at the institute. During the meeting, he urged them to work hard and preserve the rich knowledge of Nalanda tradition.

More than 1000 people gathered at the venue. Vice Chancellor of Bengaluru University, former Vice Chancellor of Mysuru University, Khenpos and abbot of Monasteries, Members of Tibetan Parliament Pema Delek and Tsering Youdon, Chief Representative Officer and Settlement officers, Director of TCV, Principal of Dalai Lama Institute for Higher Studies, as well as other dignitaries and guests were present at the talk.

While addressing the gathering, His Holiness talked about the historical bond shared between India and Tibet. Citing

examples from Hindu mythology stories such as Lord Shiva when he resided in Mount Kailash situated in Tibet.

Thanking the staff and faculties for providing sound education to the students. His Holiness reminded the Tibetans in the gathering that they are not refugee out of will but due to the immense and indomitable adversity faced by Tibetans in the name of cultural revolution, they should pronounce themselves as exiled.



*His Holiness the Dalai Lama being welcomed by the students. Photo/Tenzin Phende/DIIR*

Therefore, it is the responsibility of the exiled Tibetans to represent those inside Tibet about the truth to the whole world.

Meanwhile, His Holiness depicted the rich and unique cultural and religious heritage of Tibet prior Chinese invasion. His Holiness also narrated how a Chinese elite once told him there are

no documents what so ever that claims Tibet as a part of China.

His Holiness then talked about the rich wisdom of Nalanda being preserved in Tibetan language with more than 300 volumes in the form of kangyur and tenger. He further explained about the work of great masters of Nalanda that is also preserved in the Tibetan language.

Speaking on Nalanda tradition based solely on logic and reason, His Holiness affirmed that he respects all religion equally and promotes religious harmony. However, Nalanda tradition and wisdom according to His Holiness is the only solution to the modern world problems.

Concluding his address, His Holiness urged the Tibetans to practice resilience in their pursuit which will benefit them in the long run.

Prof K.S Rangappa, former Vice Chancellor of Mysuru University praised the university for its sole purpose of social and education centre and not some money making institute which is so prevalent in the country these days. And so, he wished and prayed for the success of the institute.

Prof K.R Venugopal, Bengaluru University Vice Chancellor also announced that Dalai Lama Institute for Higher studies from now would be regarded as an affiliated institute of Bangalore University. Earlier, the Institute was under the umbrella of Mysore University. He also announced that the institute will gradually facilitate higher education degree such as PhD in the coming years.

The Vice-Chancellor ensured that Bengaluru university will render every support for Dalai Lama Institute and offer to fulfill every necessity to amend any issues to which His Holiness expressed his gratitude for supporting the Institute and thanked them on behalf of the Tibetan people.

## Beijing Reaches Far And Wide To Silence Critics – We Must Not Stay Silent

By Benedict Roger, The Huffington Post



*Benedict Rogers speaking at a demonstration outside Parliament*

Speaking up for freedom and autonomy for Hong Kong is no longer simply a matter of duty and moral obligation, but a matter of self-interest too

The abduction of booksellers, the imprisonment of democracy activists, and the disqualification of candidates and legislators who don't toe Beijing's line all illustrate the extremes to which the Chinese Communist Party is prepared to go to silence dissent in Hong Kong.

By comparison, I have nothing to worry about. I am safe, free and able to continue to speak out. But remember the words of Pastor Martin Niemöller in Nazi Germany, who said:

First, they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out— Because I was not a Socialist.

Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out—Because I was not a Trade Unionist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—Because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.

It is increasingly clear that China is reaching well beyond its borders

to silence critics of its president, Xi Jinping. You only have to read Clive Hamilton's excellent book *Silent Invasion* to understand that it is already happening in Australia in a grave way. Or look at the pressure on corporations such as Mercedes-Benz, Marriott and Gap. In my case, to deny a British citizen who had previously lived in Hong Kong entry to the territory, because he had spoken out for democracy and human rights, was disappointing. To send letters to all his neighbours in a suburban street in London urging them to "watch him" was chilling. But to send a letter to his mother, in sleepy Dorset, asking her to "talk some sense into him", is an outrage. Should one accept such harassment, and stay silent? At what point should one speak out? One wants to resist drawing attention to one's own, very minor, experience – but one also wants to prevent it from happening to others.

In March, five months after being refused entry to Hong Kong, an envelope came through my letterbox one day with Hong Kong stamps and postmark. Even before opening it, I thought it was odd. None of my Hong Kong friends has my home address, and even if they did, they wouldn't use it. When I opened it, I found a piece of paper with my picture on one side and the words "Watch Him", and on the other, a bizarre, anonymous letter

addressed to "Dear Resident", about me. I then discovered it had been sent to every resident in my street in London. A similar letter from Hong Kong arrived earlier this week, sent to my neighbours, with more abuse. These are obviously an attempt to discredit me in the eyes of my neighbours and intimidate me into silence because I had founded an advocacy organisation, Hong Kong Watch, to speak out for the freedoms and autonomy which the people of Hong Kong were promised. It probably irks China even more than our five Patrons is the former Foreign Secretary Sir Malcolm Rifkind, the former leader of the Liberal Democrats Lord Ashdown, the independent cross-bencher Lord Alton, the former Labour Shadow Minister for Asia Catherine West MP and the barrister who prosecuted Slobodan Milosevic, Sir Geoffrey Nice QC.

Last month, another bizarre, anonymous letter was sent – this time to my mother. The fact that someone had first researched my private home address and gone to the expense of posting letters from Hong Kong to every property in my street, was alarming, albeit rather absurd. The idea that they had researched where my mother lives, and written to her, was sinister.

The letter claims that I have "decided to take on a 'crusade'-like attitude" towards China and Hong Kong. It warns that despite being "barred from entering the Chinese territory", this has not "deterred or humbled him to realise the consequences of interfering in the internal politics and nature" of another society. It urges my mother to "make Benedict mindful of his choice of words", which "may lead to actions that have unstoppable consequences for young people, who being young may cause irreparable damage to their lives or future endeavour". And it asks her to ask me to take down the website of Hong Kong Watch.

Let me just make the following points. First, if someone disagrees with me, they are welcome to express their view

to me directly. It is unacceptable to bring my neighbours, who have no involvement with Hong Kong, into it. It is outrageous to involve my mother. As it happens, my mother is a remarkably relaxed, brave woman who understands a lot about the world and is not easily fazed. After expressing initial surprise at the letter, she brushed it off without a worry. When I said it's obviously an attempt to silence me, she said "well, let them keep trying!" with a laugh. I am extremely fortunate. Other mothers might not be so calm.

Second, I do not know who is behind these letters, but to have the resources to research the addresses and spend money on postage, it is likely to be someone operating with backers. Many people tell me that the tactic used here is typical of the Chinese Communist Party. It is being used increasingly to threaten dissidents in mainland China and activists in Hong Kong. I know of at least two people in Hong Kong who have had similar experiences – not least the editor of the Hong Kong Free Press.

Third, the letters are quite absurd in vastly inflating my influence. Hong Kong's "young people" have far more courageous and inspiring influences among their own generation in Hong Kong. All I have done, and all I can do, is support and advocate for the brave Hong Kong activists who are struggling for the basic rights and freedoms of the people of Hong Kong.

Finally, these letters were clearly intended to silence me. In fact, they are like a boomerang. I will not be intimidated into silence. I will never stop speaking out for the basic freedoms which the people of Hong Kong were promised before the handover of the city to China, and which are now being eroded every day. I will never stop defending Hong Kong's autonomy, the principle of 'one country, two systems', and the rule of law.

Why? For three reasons.

Firstly, having lived in Hong Kong for the first five years after the handover and the first five years of my career, I owe it to Hong Kong.

Secondly, as someone who has promoted human rights for all my adult life, I believe human rights are universal – for everyone, everywhere – as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

And thirdly, the United Kingdom has responsibilities under the Sino-British Joint Declaration to monitor and defend Hong Kong's way of life, at least until 2047. As a British citizen, I have a responsibility to hold my own government to its promises.

The letter to my mother says that "Benedict's obligations are not to the Chinese people". I am sorry, but I think you will find they are.

I thought long and hard about whether or not to expose this. Never in 24 years of championing human rights have I had this experience. After the first letter, I was urged by some to go public, but I decided to wait. I reported it to the police and to the British government but left it at that. I didn't want to distract from the substantial challenges facing people in Hong Kong. This isn't and must never be about me, for what I have experienced is merely symbolic of the lengths to which some will go to try to silence dissent. I am unharmed. Nevertheless, after the letter to my mother, I could not remain silent.

These kind of attempts at intimidation are the tactics of bullies and cowards, and we all know that the only way to stop bullies and cowards is to stand up to them. I appeal to others who receive such letters to similarly expose them. If we ignore such behaviour, the letters and the intimidation would keep coming, not only to me but to others, in a continuous attempt to silence voices of democracy and human rights and to suppress the truth. We must never let that happen. Speaking up for freedom and autonomy for Hong Kong is no longer simply a matter of duty and moral obligation, but a matter of self-interest too. Let none of us be in the position of Pastor Niemöller.

*Benedict Rogers is the founder and Chair of Hong Kong Watch.*

## His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Me: A Tibet Museum Crowdsourced Project

His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama is a global icon. There are millions of images of His Holiness in our homes, our place of work, our shrines, our shops, our wallets, and in our smart phones. His Holiness's image is the focus of our offerings and prayers, our meditations, and they create a visual reminder of his presence in our lives. His image is freely displayed right across the world, but not in Tibet where His Holiness's image is banned by the Chinese government.

The new Tibet Museum in the administrative heart of the Central Tibetan Administration, Gangchen Kyishong,

Dharamshala India is due to open in 2019. To celebrate His Holiness's worldwide influence and to highlight the continuing oppression of the Tibetan people in Tibet we will produce a display made up of photographs created by you. Wherever you are in the world we want you to send us a selfie of you with your picture of His Holiness. You can be holding or standing next to your photograph. The selfies will feature in a floor to ceiling selfie wall in the section dedicated to His Holiness and his global impact.

Please make sure your selfie meets our display requirements, we don't want to

turn you into tiny pixels!

- Your image can be black and white, or colour
- It should be Portrait orientation (i.e. taller than it is wide)
- It must be 300 dpi
- It must be at least 3000 pixels high

**HOW DO I SUBMIT MY SELFIE?**

Please send your selfie, your name, and your location to [tibetmuseum2018@gmail.com](mailto:tibetmuseum2018@gmail.com)

## Let the Dalai Lama go Home

By Nancy Pelosi and James McGovern, Boston Globe

Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama, celebrated his 83rd birthday last week. What a wonderful gift it would be if China would treat the Tibetan people with the dignity and respect they deserve, and let the Dalai Lama go home to Tibet, whether to visit or to stay.

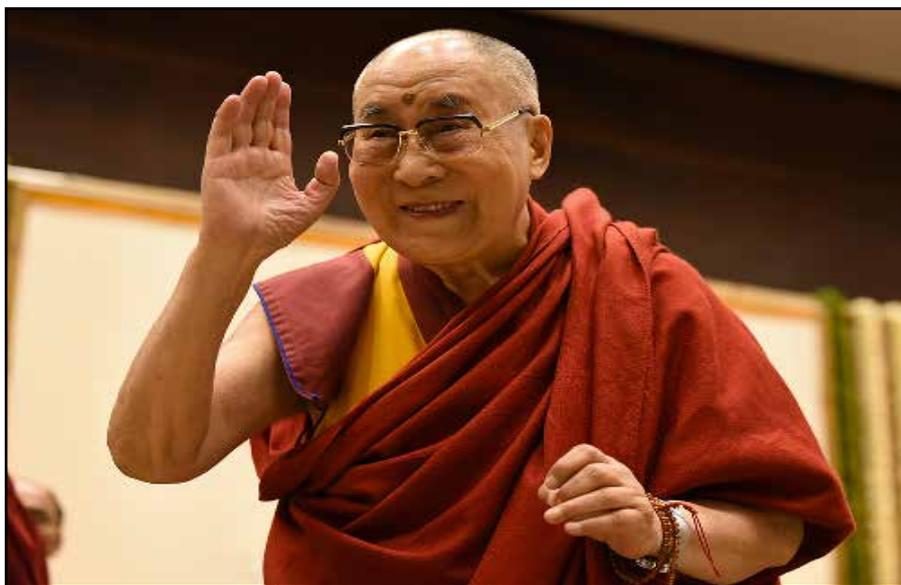
The Dalai Lama was born and educated in Tibet. He was recognized as the reincarnation of the 13th Dalai Lama when he was only 2, and he was just 6 when he began his monastic studies. While the Dalai Lama is the spiritual leader of Tibet, he humbly describes himself as a simple Buddhist monk.

Before the Dalai Lama could finish his education, he was called to assume the leadership of his people, after China's invasion of Tibet, in 1950. He worked to preserve Tibetan autonomy and culture, until years of growing resentment against restrictions imposed by the Chinese Communists led to a full-scale revolt in March 1959. As the uprising was crushed by Chinese troops, the Dalai Lama was forced to flee, and he eventually settled in Dharamsala, in northern India.

Since then, the Dalai Lama has been forced by China to remain in exile. For nearly 60 years, he has not been able to return to his homeland and the people he leads. This is wrong.

Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights affirms, "Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country." As American citizens, we have that right and exercise it.

The Dalai Lama is renowned the world over for his commitment to peace. He has consistently advocated for nonviolence, even in the face of extreme aggression. In 1989, he won the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of his decades-long nonviolent campaign to end China's domination of his homeland. In 2007, when Congress awarded the Dalai Lama



the Congressional Gold Medal, then-president George W. Bush called him "a man of faith and sincerity and peace."

Living within China, the Tibetan people have many grievances. Although Chinese authorities see the Dalai Lama as part of the problem, we have long believed that he is part of the solution.

There was a time when the Tibetan goal was independence. But since the 1970s, the Dalai Lama has sought redress through negotiations. In the late 1980s, he proposed the Middle Way Approach as a path toward Tibetan autonomy within China.

Today, his commitment to nonviolence and his recognition as the spiritual leader of Tibetans worldwide confer on him an undeniable legitimacy that would be of great benefit were China willing to restart the dialogue that has been suspended since 2010.

But China has not taken advantage of this opportunity to move toward peace. Instead, authorities view the Dalai Lama with suspicion, disparage him, and accuse him of fomenting separatism. They seem to believe that with his eventual, inevitable death, they will be assured of consolidating their hold on Tibet.

We are not so sure. Today, all around the world, we see the consequences of the repression of religious and ethnic minorities.

There is still time. It is not too late for China to choose a different path. Imagine the world's reaction if Chinese authorities were to affirm the right of the 14th Dalai Lama to return to his homeland if he so desires. Imagine if they were to afford His Holiness the respect he deserves as a man of peace. Imagine if through good-faith dialogue they sought to ease tensions, rather than implementing policies that exacerbate them. Imagine.

We urge our fellow Americans to join in calling on Chinese leaders to let the Dalai Lama go home.

US Representative Nancy Pelosi of California is House minority leader. US Representative James McGovern of Massachusetts is a ranking member of the House Rules Committee.



## TIBETAN ME-

Sheja (Official Tibetan monthly)  
Department of Information & International  
Relations, Dharamshala-176215, HP, India  
Email: sheja\_editor@tibet.net  
Web: www.bod.asia

Tibetan Freedom (Official Tibetan weekly)  
Department of Information & International  
Relations, Dharamshala-176215, HP, India  
Email: tibfreedom@tibet.net  
Web: www.bod.asia

NewsTibet  
241 E. 32nd Street  
New York, NY 10016  
Web: www.tibetoffice.org

Tibet Bulletin (Official Chinese bi-monthly)  
Department of Information & International  
Relations, Dharamshala-176 215, HP, India  
Email: chinadesk@tibet.net  
Web: www.xizang-zhiye.org  
www.tibetonline.tv



## TIBETAN BULLETIN

### Contacts for the Central Tibetan Administration

#### INDIA

Department of Information & International  
Relations, Central Tibetan Administration,  
Gangchen Kyishong, Dharamshala - 176 215  
H.P., India Tel: +91-1892-222510/222457  
Fax: +91-1892-224957 Email: diir@tibet.net  
www.tibet.net

Bureau of H.H. the Dalai Lama, 10-B Ring Road,  
Lajpat Nagar IV, New Delhi 110 024, India  
Tel: +91-11-26474798, Fax: +91-11-2646-1914  
Email: rep.in@tibet.net www.tibetbureau.in

Chief Representative (South Zone), No. 7,  
Sampangiramaiah Garden, Srinivagalu Tank,  
Viveknagar Post, Bangalore-560047  
Karnataka, India Tel: +91-080-5506842 / 5506843  
Fax: +91-080-5506966  
Email: chiefrep@bgl.vsnl.net.in

#### NEPAL

The Office of Tibet, Tibetan Refugee Welfare Of-  
fice, Gaden Khangsar, Narayan Gopal Marg-270.  
Lazimpat, Ward 2, P.O.Box No. 310,  
Kathmandu, Nepal Tel: +977-1-4419903/4420799  
Fax: +977-1-4411660 Email: rep.np@tibet.net

#### UNITED STATES

The Office of Tibet, 1228, 17th Street NW, Wash-  
ington, DC - 20036, U.S.A. Tel: +1-212-213-5010,  
Fax: +1-703-349-7444  
Email: rep.us@tibet.net www.tibetoffice.org

#### BRAZIL

Tibet House  
Alameda Lorena, 349 Jardim Paulista,  
Sao Paulo, SP, 01424-001 Brazil, South America  
Tel: +55(11)989635128  
Email: latin@tibet.net

#### SWITZERLAND

The Tibet Bureau, Place de la Navigation 10  
1201 Geneva, Switzerland Tel: +41-22-7387-940  
Fax: +41-22-7387-941 Email: rep.ch@tibet.net  
www.tibetoffice.ch

#### JAPAN

Liaison Office of H.H. the Dalai Lama, Tibet House  
Nishi Ochiai 3-26-1 Shinjuku-ku,  
Tokyo 161-0031, Japan  
Tel: +81-03-5988-3576, Fax: +81-03-3565-1360  
E-mail: rep.jp@tibet.net www.tibethouse.jp

#### UNITED KINGDOM

The Office of Tibet, 1 Culworth Street, London,  
NW8 7AF, U.K. Tel: +44-207-722-5378,  
Fax: +44-207-722-0362 Email: rep.uk@tibet.net  
www.tibet.com

#### FRANCE

Bureau Du Tibet, 84 BD Adolphe Pinard, 75014,  
Paris, France, Tel: +33-1-46-565-453,  
Email: tibetoffice@orange.fr

#### BELGIUM

Bureau du Tibet, 24 Avenue des Arts,  
1000 Brussels, Belgium Tel: +32-2-280 4922  
Email: rep.be@tibet.net

#### AUSTRALIA

Tibet Information Office, 8/13 Napier Close, Dea-  
kin, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia Tel: +61-2-6285-  
4046 Fax: +61-2-6282-4301  
Email: rep.au@tibet.net  
www.tibetoffice.com.au

#### RUSSIA

Tibet Culture & Information Centre,  
Korn # 110, POB # 7, St. Bolshaya Novodmitrovs-  
kaya - 14 Moscow 127015, Russia  
Tel: +7-495-786-4362 Fax: +7-495-685-11-32  
Email: rep.ru@tibet.net  
www.savetibet.ru

#### SOUTH AFRICA

Office of Tibet, P.O. Box. 16812, Lyttelton 0140,  
Republic of South Africa. Tel: +27-12-664-1193  
Fax: +27-12-664-1194  
Email: rep.sa@tibet.net  
www.officeoftibet.com

#### TAIWAN

Tibet Religious Foundation of H.H. the Dalai Lama  
10th Fl. 4 & 5, No. 189, Sector - 2, Keelung Rd.,  
Taipei, Taiwan (ROC)  
Tel: +886-2-2736-0366 Fax: +886-2-2377-9163  
Email: rep.tw@tibet.net/www.tibet.org.tw

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Central Tibetan Administration,  
Dharamshala 176 215, H.P., India



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## QUOTES

*“The purpose of our lives is to be happy. We constantly live in hope. Pleasure based on sensory experience is short-lived, whereas the ultimate source of lasting happiness is in the mind.” His Holiness the Dalai Lama during launch of Happiness Curriculum for Delhi Schools on 2 July 2018*

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*“We are a unique people with a unique culture that we have every reason to be proud of. Never forget that you are Tibetan. In the early days people worked very hard to clear the jungle here in Karnataka to enable schools and so forth to be built. The generation that re-established the Monastic Universities have virtually all gone, but the fruit of their deeds remains. In those early days they came to me to complain that it was so hot they were convinced they would die. When I came again, I was able to tease them that they were still alive after all. I told them - ‘Never give up.’ These days you have much better facilities, but you also have greater opportunities.” His Holiness the Dalai Lama during visit to Dalai Lama Institute for Higher Education on 13 August 2018*

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*“The Tibetan non-violent struggle for freedom has gained the support and solidarity of peace and freedom-loving people and governments around the world. On this most special occasion, we extend our deepest gratitude to the citizens and Government of India for their continued hospitality and unflinching support towards the Tibetan people. We also express our sincere thanks to all the friends of Tibet and freedom loving people across the globe who support the cause of Tibet.” Education Kalon Dr Pema Yangchen in the official statement of Kashag on 6 July 2018*

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*“The situation concerning human rights in Chinese-ruled Tibet has been deteriorating tremendously on a daily basis. Tibetans continue to be subjected to arbitrary arrests and detentions. They continue to be tried and sentenced in arbitrary manners to jail terms on charges based on political considerations. There is no freedom of speech and expression. Likewise, health and medical facilities are poor and minimal. The Chinese government’s policy in Tibet is designedly discriminatory, favouring those who are ethnically Chinese and prejudiced against those who are ethnically Tibetan. Under this policy, the Tibetan people are subjected to especially more and considerably greater amounts of restrictions, with the result that today the very survival of the unique Tibetan religious traditions; language, script and culture; and their customs and traditions is at stake, threatened with eventual and nothing less than complete disappearance.” Speaker Khenpo Sonam Tenphel in the official statement of Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile on 6 July 2018*

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