

19 August 2020

To,

M. Michelle Bachelet

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Palais de Nations

CH-1201 Geneva 10

Sub: A young Tibetan's appeal for Freedom and Human Rights in Tibet, for Uighurs and in Hong Kong

Your Excellency,

My name is Ngawang Tsephel. I am of Tibetan descent and face a permanent risk of not being allowed to return to my *own* country, Tibet.

I set off on a solo cycle journey from Paris to Geneva starting this month of August 2020 to petition you to press China to stop the ongoing violations of human rights and freedoms in Tibet and against the Uighur people in Xinjiang region, as well as the overall Chinese aggression against humans, animals, and our planet earth.

The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) today has amassed absolute control in all spheres- public *and* personal over Tibet and the Uighur people. There is no freedom to study and practice our religion, no freedom to learn and speak in own mother-tongue and no freedom to preserve and promote our culture. Contrary to these wide scale and long-standing violations, the CCP propagates that all the “minorities” are happy in the socialist paradise of China to the world outside. The ban on international media further worsens the picture.

Since China's invasion of Tibet in 1959, over 154 Tibetans have self-immolated to protest against the Chinese rule in Tibet and nearly 1.2 million have died as a direct result of invasion of Tibet. The UN Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination has stated in 2018 that more than 1 million Uighurs have been detained in forced re-education camps, and according

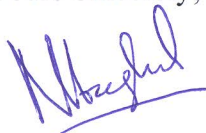
to Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI), between 2017 and 2019 more than 85,000 Uighurs have been forced into concentration camps. Tibetans' and Uighurs' human rights are violated while China keeps using the extorted labor in concentration camps to manufacture cheap product for export.

These life conditions of Tibetans and Uighurs remain comparable to a living hell on earth.

Through this petition, I urge you to press the Government of China to:

1. Ensure basic human rights in Tibet, East Turkestan, and Hong Kong;
2. Immediately release Panchen Lama and all prisoners of conscience and forced laborers belonging to Tibet, East Turkestan, and all political prisoners from Hong Kong;
3. Stop the unchecked mining in Tibetan plateau that is causing enormous damage to its fragile environment;
4. Counter the Chinese Propaganda by pushing for international media and journalists into Tibet, Xinjiang and Hong Kong;
5. Urge the Chinese government to restart the dialogue with the envoys of the Dalai Lama;
6. Hold China accountable for its mismanagement of the Wuhan-originated coronavirus, enforce the shutdown of the wet market all over China and end animal cruelty;
7. Allow access for all Tibetans and Uighurs into their respective countries to meet their family, religious pilgrimage and other personal purposes;
8. Condemn China's expansionist aggressions on the Indo-Tibet border areas and illegal claims over the South China Sea.

Yours Sincerely,



Ngawang Tsephel

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