



TIBETAN BULLETIN

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL TIBETAN ADMINISTRATION

VOLUME 26 - ISSUE 3

MAY - JUNE 2022

Focus

8th World Parliamentarians' Convention on Tibet – Press Release

Feature

US Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues Uzra Zeya Receives Audience with
His Holiness the Dalai Lama

His Holiness the Dalai Lama Launches Monlam Grand Tibetan Dictionary

Focus

- 15 8th World Parliamentarians' Convention on Tibet – Press Release
- 16 Welcome Speech by the Speaker on 8th World Parliamentarians' Convention on Tibet
- 17 8th World Parliamentarians Convention on Tibet concludes with the revival of the International Network of Parliamentarians for Tibet

FEATURE

- 19 Sakya Tibetan Buddhist Tradition Offers Long Life Prayer to His Holiness the Dalai Lama
- 20 US Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues Uzra Zeya Receives Audience with His Holiness the Dalai Lama
- 21 His Holiness the Dalai Lama Launches Monlam Grand Tibetan Dictionary
- 23 His Holiness the Dalai Lama's Message for Vesak, the Buddhist Celebration of Buddha's Birth, Enlightenment and Death
- 25 Five Tibetan Groups Offered Long Life Prayers to His Holiness the Dalai Lama

WORLD PRESS

- 26 China Targeting Younger Tibetans
By Dolma Tsering, Taipei Times
- 27 Yesterday's Tibet, Today's Ukraine — Who Will Be Targeted Tomorrow?
By Dr Tsewang Gyalpo Arya, Japan Forward
- 29 Melting glaciers of Tibet worrying, troublesome for all regions
By ANI

REGULARS

News From Tibet & Exile3
Contact 31

Quotes32



TIBETAN BULLETIN

Tibetan Bulletin is an official bi-monthly journal of the Central Tibetan Administration.



Signed articles or quotations do not necessarily reflect the views of the Central Tibetan Administration.

Contributions are welcome and may be addressed to the editor, Tibetan Bulletin. However the publisher regrets its inability to return unused articles unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed envelope with adequate postage.

Tibetan Bulletin is distributed free of charge. To subscribe please email the circulation manager or see back cover.

Editor
Tenzin Phende
Email: tibbul@tibet.net

Asst. Editor
Dawa Tsering

Layout & Design
Dawa Tsering

Circulation Manager
Norbu Wangdue
Email: circulation@tibet.net
Tibetan Bulletin is published by:
Department of Information and International Relations,
Central Tibetan Administration,
Dharamshala - 176 215 H.P. India

Tel: +91-1892-222510 / 222457

Vol. 26, Issue 3
MAY - JUNE 2022

Recent Convictions Confirm China's Continued Repression of Tibetan Intellectuals and Writers

Tibetan intellectuals and writers have been relentlessly targeted by the Chinese government, who have subsequently handed out punishments including long prison sentences following months of secret detention. Tibetans get arrested and sentenced to long prison terms for merely asserting their national identity and exercising fundamental rights in protecting the Tibetan language and culture by claiming they had committed an “act of separatism.”

Tibet's writers remain under the constant surveillance of the Chinese police as well as the internet-based censorship and surveillance. Chinese authorities thoroughly scrutinize their materials for any content that may have violated any laws and be considered “illegal” or “endangering national security”, as defined by the government. According to Chinese officials, the definition of writings considered “illegal” is very broad and vague, making it easy for them to arrest Tibetans who are considered a threat to the Chinese Communist Party.

In most cases of Tibetan writers being arrested, there is no concrete evidence of what part of their writing constitutes “act of separatism” and “endangering national security”. It has always been the Chinese government's prerogative to superficially oversee Tibetan court sentences by giving prisoners extraordinary prison sentences with ease.

Among the latest to be targeted are the renowned poet and author Rongwo Gendun Lhundup, acclaimed writer Thupten Lodoe (also known as Sabuchey), and Rongwo Gangkar; the former two have received four years and four years and six months prison sentences, respectively, while the latter has been confirmed to be in Chinese custody. Most cases remain unclear about charges, sentencing dates, and where they are currently.

Rongwo Gendun Lhundup: The renowned Tibetan writer, who has not



been seen since December 2020, has been sentenced to four years in prison for “inciting separatism”, reported TCHRD, citing reliable sources. Rongwo Gendun Lhundup, 48, was sentenced to four years’ fixed-term imprisonment and two years’ deprivation of political rights on 1 December 2021 by the Xining Intermediate People’s Court. Chinese security officers detained Rongwo Gendun Lhundup on 11 November 2020 from Rongwo Monastery in Rebgong (Ch: Tongren) City, Malho (Ch: Huangnan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province.

It was also reported in May that Gendun Lhundup is being held in a detention center in Siling (Ch: Xining). He is being subjected to a political re-education program, which requires him to translate Tibetan Buddhist scripts into Mandarin Chinese.

In the aftermath of publishing his latest collection of poems titled “Khorwa” (the Buddhist concept of Samsara, which describes the endless cycle of birth, death, and rebirth), he was detained and sentenced. As well as being arrested several times in the past, he was under strict surveillance and restrictions during his arrest.

Thupten Lodoe: A 34-year-old acclaimed Tibetan writer, was sentenced to four years and six months in prison by the Chinese government on the basis of trumped-up charges of “inciting separatism” around 14 June 2022. Over the last eight months, he has been incarcerated in an undisclosed location ever since his arrest last year.

As reported by the media, Thupten Lodoe, alias Sabuchey, was initially detained in October last year on suspicion of writing and publishing content deemed of “endangering state security” and “harming ethnic unity.” “Inciting Separatism” is one of the most common charges asserted by the Chinese government against Tibetans, in particular intellectuals and writers, human rights defenders and activists. The same charge was leveled against prominent Tibetan writers and scholars last year, including Go Sherab Gyatso, Rinchen Tsultrim, Dhi Lhaden, and Rongwo Gendun Lhundup among others.

Any investigations and attempts made to acquire more information on the arrest of Sabuchey were left in vain as a result of the restrictions on information sharing imposed by the Chinese government including threats of sanctions if family and relatives shared any information, reported the Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD).

Although he has been sentenced, it is not clear where he is being held and what condition he is in. According to a second report, his family is currently being threatened and warned by local authorities, and his children are not permitted to attend school.

A recent report confirmed that Rongwo Gangkar, a Tibetan writer and scholar, has been detained by the Chinese government after being missing for more than a year since early 2021.

As reported by Radio Free Asia (RFA), the 48-year-old writer was abruptly arrested by Chinese authorities in early 2021 and his current whereabouts and well-being are unknown. Following his arrest, the Chinese police allegedly took him into custody.

Neither the charges against him nor the date of his trial have been revealed by the Chinese government.

Rongwo Gangkar is described as a renowned writer with a large number of publications to his credit. Originally from Rebgong (Ch: Tongren) County in the Malho (Huangnan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, he belongs to Rongwo monastery. Among his popular works are “The Knot” and “An Interview with Gendun Choephel”.

It is evident from the spate of recent sentencing that the Chinese government has been systematically targeting Tibetan intellectuals and scholars in order to undermine their ability to advocate for the preservation of the Tibetan language. A long list of Tibetan writers and scholars has been arrested or sentenced by the Chinese government for merely asserting their national identity and exercising fundamental rights, including Go Sherab Gyatso, Dhi Lhaden, Rongwo Gendun Lhundrup, Pema Tso, Seynam, Rinchen Tsultrim and Kunsang Gyaltzen among others with some of them having punished with long imprisonment terms.

The Chinese Party-state must stop its cultural assimilation policy and guarantee human rights and constitutional rights by releasing all Tibetan writers, intellectuals, and cultural leaders immediately and unconditionally and reestablishing their freedom of thought, conscience, and expression.

4th Session of 17th Tibetan Parliament to begin from 7-16 September

In accordance with Article 40 of the Charter of Tibetans in exile, the fourth session of the 17th Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile will be held from 7th September 2022 (Wednesday) to 16th September 2022 (Friday) for 9 days in the Parliamentary Hall, Tibetan Parliamentary Secretariat.

Members of the 17th Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile are requested to register their attendance at the Parliamentary Secretariat on 6th September 2022.

Sikyong chairs meeting of Representatives Offices of Tibet in Washington



Sikyong Penpa Tsering, Kalon Norzin Dolma, and Secretary Karma Choeying chair meeting of OOT's Representatives.

Sikyong Penpa Tsering of the Central Tibetan Administration during his two-week-long visits to the U.S chaired a meeting of Representatives of Offices of Tibet on Friday, 24 June following the successful conclusion of the 8th WPCT.

Sikyong was joined by DIIR Kalon Norzin Dolma and DIIR Secretary Karma Choeying at this two-day meeting which discussed, among other things, issues concerning diplomacy and advocacy works of the Voluntary Tibetan Advocacy Group (V-Tag) by the representatives in their respective host countries and the upcoming demographic survey initiative of the 16th Kashag.

DIIR Additional Secretary of Information Section, Namgyal Tsewang and staff of OoT Washington DC were also among the attendees.

“Every day, think as you wake up, today I am fortunate to be alive, I have a precious human life, I am not going to waste it. I am going to use all my energies to develop myself, to expand my heart out to others; to achieve enlightenment for the benefit of all beings. I am going to have kind thoughts towards others, I am not going to get angry or think badly about others. I am going to benefit others as much as I can.”

His Holiness the Dalai Lama

Tibetan Student Tenzin Yeshe Receives “Best Young Scientist” Award of 2022

Tenzin Yeshe is a Tibetan MD Student studying at the Asian Medical Institute in the city of Bishkek in Kyrgyzstan, former Soviet Union Republic. He completed his schooling at TCV Suja and high school at TCV Bylakuppe.

Tenzin Yeshe later entered Asian Medical Institute in Kyrgyzstan. He was awarded the “Best Young Scientist” of 2022, and prior to that, he was a recipient of the “Leading research Student Award” of 2021 of former Soviet Union Republics.



Tenzin Yeshe Receiving “Best young Scientist” award of 2022 from the Minister of Education of Kyrgyz Republic.

In India, Tenzin Yeshe won the first position in annual Tibetan Essay competition among all class 12 in 2015 and was awarded “Achievement Degree from Harvard Medical School on Pharmacology and Immunology” in 2020. He also received many other achievements and appreciation certificates from “World Health Organization (WHO) for his contribution to science and Medicine and participation in programs organised by WHO.

Tenzin Yeshe is Alumni of Tibetan Editor member and member of the students’ council at TCV Bylakuppe from 2014 to 2016 and consistently topper in academic performance at Asian Medical Institute, Kyrgyz Republic.

For detailed news visit:
www.tibet.net

Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development Adopts Resolution Supporting Sino-Tibetan Dialogue Following Sikyong Penpa Tsering's Testimonial



The highlight pertaining to Sikyong Penpa Tsering's visit to Canada was most assuredly his maiden appearance before the Canadian House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development where he testified on the crisis of Tibet including the situation concerning Tibet's 11th Panchen Lama who is missing for the last 27 years. Through his testimonial, Sikyong was able to garner the committee's support to unanimously adopt a resolution supporting the peaceful resolution of Tibet.

Prior to his testimony, Sikyong was formally introduced and welcomed to the House by MP Arif Virani who prompted the House to take up the cause of Tibetan struggle for basic human rights.

In his testimonial before the committee on Thursday 5 May, Sikyong put forth a strong analysis of situation concerning Tibet including the westerners' need to study Tibet's history from sources other than the narrative of China and urged Canadian policymakers to come forward with more legislation and sanctions on China.

Highlighting the dire political and human rights situation inside Tibet under the Chinese government, Sikyong expressed concern over the repression of the Tibetan language and culture. In his answer to MP Garnett Genuis's question on the issue of language repression, Sikyong highlighted the degradation of Tibetan language under the Chinese rule from Mao Zedong's leadership to Xi Jinping's. He said Tibetan language under the current Xi government leaves little to no freedom.

“When Xi Jinping came into power, the little freedom for language enjoyed by the Tibetans was demolished as he imposed One China Policy under which, there was no room for the practice of language and culture other than the Chinese language and culture. The schools and institutions have been forced to replace the medium of instruction from Tibetan to Chinese” added Sikyong.

In his testimonial regarding the case of Panchen Lama, Sikyong Penpa Tsering remarked the Chinese made a significant tactical error by not recognising Gedun Choeky Nyima as the Panchen Lama who was recognised by His Holiness the Dalai Lama. He said, “If China had done that they would have Gedun Choekyi Nyima under control as of today as opposed to the boy selected by themselves and not recognised by the Tibetans”. He added that concealing the truth of the whereabouts and well-being of 11th Panchen Lama was China's way of meddling with the reincarnation of the Dalai Lama since it involves reciprocal recognition between Dalai Lama and Panchen Lama.

Addressing the issue concerning resumption of the Sino-Tibet dialogue, Sikyong alleged ‘no traction from the Chinese counterparts’ as the reason for the ensuing impasse in the dialogue despite numerous attempts to approach the Chinese counterparts.

“Under President Xi, things look dire that even hope for negotiations in the immediate future seems remote,” he said and urged the committee to pass a motion on the resumption of Sino-Tibet dialogue with unanimous consent.

Accompanying Sikyong in his testimonial was Zeekyab Rinpoche, abbot of Tashi Lhunpo Monastery (seat of Panchen Lama) who made some essential statements on the case of Gendun Choekyi Nyima and also presented a five-point appeal to the committee hoping they consider the appeals positively.

The Five-Point Appeal presented by Zeekyab Rinpoche is as follows:

To pass a motion urging the Canadian government to mandate the ambassador to China, to meet with the 11th Panchen Lama and ascertain his whereabouts and wellbeing.

To honour the 11th Panchen Lama with an award recognising him as a victim of enforced disappearance for 27 years and as someone who has been denied his human rights, religious freedom, rights of a child and other fundamental rights of movement, residency and action.

In order to enable his early release and as a way to draw attention to his situation, the Canadian parliament is appealed to observe the birthday of the 11th Panchen Lama.

To actively call for the release of Jadrel Rinpoche, a lama of Tashi Lhunpo monastery who was the head of the search committee for the 11th Panchen Lama as well as many other Tibetan political prisoners. On account of the dire situation in Tibet, Tibetans have been resorting to acts of self-immolations the latest being a 25-year-old Tibetan singer Tsewang Norbu on 25 February and 81-year-old Taphun on 27 March this year. At least 157 Tibetans have sacrificed their most cherished lives in order to draw the attention of the international community including the United Nations to the critical situation in Tibet. Therefore, the Canadian government is urged to respond positively to their pleas.

The aspiration of Tibetans in Tibet is for His Holiness the Dalai Lama to be able to return to Tibet at the earliest. The Canadian government is therefore appealed to consider taking a concrete initiative to support His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the Central Tibetan Administration to enable the resolution of Sino-Tibet conflict through the mutually beneficial Middle Way Approach.

Education Kalon and Secretary meet Vice Chancellor and administrators of JNU



Education Kalon and Secretary with Prof. Santishree D Pandit and other administrators of JNU.

Kalon Tharlam Dolma Changra and Secretary Jigme Namgyal of Education Department, CTA, met Vice-Chancellor Prof. Santishree D Pandit of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) on 28 April.

During the interaction with Vice-Chancellor, the two apprised problems faced by Tibetan students in JNU after the fee hike while also informing the administrators about Tibetan graduates from the university working at various organisations, including JNU itself, various departments in CTA, and organisations in foreign countries.

Education Kalon further mentioned that Tibetan students studying at JNU are primarily third and fourth generation Tibetans in India whose schoolings have completed at Tibetan schools affiliated with CBSE. Hence, the financial status of Tibetan students can not peer with other international students and so requested administrators of the university to understand the predicaments of Tibetan students.

Besides, Education Kalon and Secretary, along with the director of Sambhota schools, visited Commissioner Nidhi Pandey, IIS of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) and her colleagues to discuss the acquiring of funds for Tibetan schools previously under CTSA on 27 April. They also conversed about making agreements between the two institutions.

Ministry of Education, GOI, had handed over Tibetan schools run by the

Central Tibetan Schools Administration (CTSA) to Sambhota Tibetan Schools Society (STSS) through Department of Education, CTA. KVS was established in 1963, and currently, there are 1,245 schools under KVS in India.

Tibetans Returning to Tibet from India and Nepal Facing Difficulties Amid Rising Covid Cases in Tibet

Reports coming from Tibet indicate a rising number of Covid infections among Tibetans in all three traditional provinces of Tibet (Kham, U-Tsang, and Amdo). With the rising number of Covid cases inside Tibet, those Tibetans who have returned to Tibet from India and Nepal seem to be facing particularly more challenges as a result.

The Citizenship Identification Card (Shen Fen Zheng) and Household Registration (Hukuo) of Tibetans who returned to Tibet from India and Nepal were earlier revoked and were not given permission to renew. As a result, these Tibetans had to face a lot of hardships in terms of livelihood and employment. During the pandemic, due to lack of legal documentations such as identification cards and registration, they are deprived of proper access to basic medical care, and hospitals also refused to treat them. Several Tibetans have also reportedly died from contracting Covid due to lack of access to proper medical care.

Over a month ago, it has been announced in Karze County (incorporated into China's Sichuan Province) that Tibetans who have returned to Tibet from India and Nepal, would be registered in the National Household Registration (Hukuo) system. However, it seems not a single Tibetan has been registered till now.

For detailed news visit:
www.tibet.net

Thinlay Chukki was Appointed as New Representative of Tibet Bureau Geneva



New Representative Thinlay Chukki with His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

Thinlay Chukki, Former Special Appointee for Human Rights at Tibet Bureau, Geneva has been appointed as the new Representative of His Holiness the Dalai Lama at the same office.

As per Article 19 (1) of the Public Service Commission's rules and regulations, Representatives of His Holiness the Dalai Lama at the Offices of Tibet must be appointed by the Kashag in the attendance of Sikyong and the Kalons. Thinlay Chukki is appointed as the Representative of His Holiness the Dalai Lama at Tibet Bureau Geneva Office of Tibet effective 22 June 2022.

Thinlay Chukki is a Harvard Law School graduate with an LL.M degree (2018), a National Law School of India Graduate with an LL.M degree in Business Laws (2012) and has LL.B degree from SDM Law College, Mangalore University with distinction and three gold medals.

She served as the Special Appointee for Human Rights at the Office of Representative of His Holiness the Dalai Lama for Central and Eastern Europe, The Tibet Bureau, Geneva from September 2019 to August 2021. Prior to this she worked as a researcher at the UN-EU and Human Rights Desk of the CTA, Dharamshala, India for a year in 2018-2019.

She has also translated for His Holiness the Dalai Lama on several occasions. She has represented Tibetans at UN including UN Human Rights Council and has been invited to speak at several international conferences.

Congressional Executive Commission on China Conducts Hearing on Tibet

The Congressional-Executive Commission on China, constituted by Congress with the legislative mandate to monitor human rights and the development of the rule of law in China, held a hearing on ‘Tibet: Barriers to Settling an Unresolved Conflict’ to discuss the ongoing barriers to the resumption of a dialogue that could serve the aspirations of the Tibetan people for human rights and put an end to restrictions on religion, culture, and language. The hearing also explored aspects of Tibetan history and international law that undergird His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s desire for a peaceful resolution to the conflict between Tibet and the People’s Republic of China, and examined how US policy can support the aforementioned goal.

Professor Michael van Walt van Praag (Executive President of Kreddha), Professor Hon-Shiang Lau (Retired Chair Professor at City University of Hong Kong), Kalon Trisur Tenzin Namgyal Tethong (Former CTA official and Representative of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to North America) and Ellen Bork (American Purpose contributing editor) presented their testimonies before the hearing presided by Senator Jeff Merkley and Senator Jim McGovern.

Following the succinct remarks on China’s restrictive and manipulative policies imposed inside Tibet from the Senator Merkley, Senator Jim McGovern briefed the US Congress’ engagements and initiatives in elevating Tibet’s status while expressing its abiding interest in resumption of the Sino-Tibet dialogue saying “the US government has consistently called on the Chinese to return to dialogue without preconditions. But that hasn’t worked. For 12 years, the Tibetans stood ready, the Americans asked, but the Chinese turned away.”

Professor Michael van Walt van Praag presented his testimony based on the findings of ten years of collaborative research appealing to international communities to withdraw their acceptance of Tibet as a part of China,



Panellists and attendees during the hearing on Tibet titled ‘Barriers to Settling an Unresolved Conflict’.

saying it “takes away the PRC’s principal incentive to negotiate with the Tibetans as well as reduce the latter’s main source of leverage.” He further said the acceptance limited conducting international scrutiny and reproach towards Beijing since it compelled the international community to treat Tibet as an internal issue of China. By contrast, he said, “our research firmly establishes that though not always ‘independent’ in the modern legal sense of that term and over time subject to various degrees of Mongol, Manchu and even British authority or influence, Tibet was most certainly never a part of China. The PRC could, therefore, not have ‘inherited’ Tibet from the Republic of China or earlier empires, as it claims. As a matter of fact, Tibet was an independent state de facto and de jure from 1912 to 1950/51, when the PRC invaded it.”

Hence, Professor Michael van Walt said, “supporting a negotiated resolution of the Sino-Tibetan conflict requires the political will to be vocal about the lack of legitimacy of China’s presence in and rule of Tibet, not statements that imply an acceptance of China’s claim to sovereignty over Tibet. It requires calling and treating Tibet what it is: an occupied country, and the Tibetans what they are: a people under alien subjugation and domination, not a ‘minority’ or ‘ethnic group of China’. Adopting such PRC terminology denies the Tibetan people its proper status and implicitly its right to self-determination. And lastly, it requires the Sino-Tibetan conflict to be called and treated what it is: an international conflict, falling squarely within the international community’s—including the US government’s—purview and responsibility, not China’s internal affair” in his testimony. He further recalled President Joe

Biden’s reiteration of US policy of not recognising a country’s attempt to annex territory by the use of force in reference to Taiwan and Ukraine.

By bringing the official maps of the Ming and Qing dynasties depicting Tibet as a non-China foreign entity, Professor Hon-Shiang Lau expounded the indication of Tibet as sovereign in China’s pre-1949 official historical records as his theme. As a signatory to the relevant covenants of the League of Nations and the United Nations; which means that, since 1919, China has promised not to gain territories through military conquest thereafter, along with PRC’s incessant condemnations to other countries for their past colonial conquests and their past “bullying” of China, Professor Lau said “PRC needs to cover up its 1950 Tibet conquest as a “unification” of a territory that has been “part of China since antiquity.”

Addressing the two important foundation concepts behind his theme, namely the extensive dissimilarities between the PRC-version of “Chinese history” and the actual Chinese history and examinations of the official classical Chinese records, Professor Lau highlighted that the PRC’s evidence of sovereignty over Tibet is based on not only distortions but outright fabrications and forgeries of pre-1949 Chinese records.

The third panellist Tenzin Namgyal Tethong briefly spoke on the Tibetan-Chinese relations in the 20th century, including efforts toward the resolution of Tibet issue at the hearing. Recounting PLA’s invasion following Mao’s takeover of China and the subsequent efforts of Tibetan government in seeking international and UN supports in defending its autonomy, he said, “China knew right then that rhetorical justification for such an invasion was not enough and called for negotiations to formalised an agreement” eventually materialising the 17th Point Agreement in which Tibetan representatives signed under duress. Despite Tibet’s attempt to work within the broad confines of the

agreement during the next few years, China didn't level up the commitments and nor did the personal assurances that His Holiness the Dalai Lama received from the Mao, ultimately causing the omnipresent dissatisfaction amongst the Tibetan and culminating the protest into an uprising of 10 March 1959.

Tenzin Namgyal Tethong further said the incident led to an exodus of His Holiness and Tibetans into exile while Tibet was completely shut off by PRC from the outside world's reach. However, he continued, "in early 1979, China deemed the Tibetan issue important enough to be revisited. Deng Xiaoping invited the Dalai Lama's older brother to Beijing and declared that short of separation, everything could be discussed". This breakthrough meeting led to renewed dialogue between His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the Chinese government. The communication was again restored in 2001 following the decades of recess; the Tibetan delegates then presented the Middle Way Approach at the meetings even after the 2008 Tibet-wide protest to till China's termination of the dialogue process in 2010. With this overview in mind, it shows that "even at the most challenging of times, China has seen the need to address the legitimacy of their rule in Tibet. And that there is perhaps now a realisation on the shortcomings in their rule," "China has also repeatedly initiated direct communication with His Holiness the Dalai Lama demonstrating the obvious need to find a meaningful resolution to these outstanding issues". He, therefore, urged for continuous efforts and support from the US and others to resolve the Sino-Tibet conflict through negotiations.

Even with Americans' little concerns over the Tibet issue, Ellen Bork virtually testified that "Tibet remains a high priority for the Chinese Communist Party. This priority is evident in the attention and resources the Party devotes to surveillance, repression and control, to General Secretary Xi Jinping's goal of Sinicizing religion, to the exploitation of natural resources and to building up military forces along Tibet's border with India".

Given the constant changes in United States' approaches in dealing with the Tibet issue, Ellen Bork recommended renewed and redoubled support for Chinese and Tibetan political prisoners, dissidents, democracy activists, independent journalists and lawyers. She also suggested conducting an independent review of US Tibet policy since the end of Chinese imperial rule, including the diplomatic history and internal deliberations that have influenced America's approach to Tibet and bringing Tibet policy into line with America's interest in combating China's assault on democratic norms, including international law, and in advancing democracy in the Indo-Pacific by enlisting allies in a united position on the integrity of the Tibetan process for selecting the next Dalai Lama.

Furthermore, she urged US to receive elected officials of the Central Tibet Administration (CTA) at the highest levels of government and include them in the Summit for Democracy and other gatherings, at the same time making Tibet a part of efforts to counter Chinese influence in international organisations, on university campuses and at the state and local level.

Sikyong Led Delegation of CTA Met Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues Uzra Zeya



Sikyong and Speaker led delegation of CTA meet Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues Uzra Zeya on Tuesday, 21 June 2022.

Sikyong Penpa Tsering led delegation of CTA met with Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues Uzra Zeya upon the latter's invitation at the State Department's office.

The official visit led by Sikyong to the State Department was accompanied by Speaker Khenpo Sonam Tenphel, Deputy Speaker Dolma Tsering Teykhang, Kalon Norzin Dolma, and Representative Namgyal Choedup.

In a brief interview with TTV following the meeting, Deputy Speaker said the purpose of the visit was to seek out the Special Coordinator's assistance in the swift resumption of Sino-Tibetan dialogue through firm abidance of the Middle Way Approach as the key foundation to resolving the Sino-Tibet conflict.

"Even though the US assures to completely support the resumption of Sino-Tibet dialogue, the minor challenge, however, as expressed during the meeting was appealing to like-minded countries for their concerted support to Tibet through its governance and enforcement" added Deputy Speaker of the Tibetan Parliament.

Later in the evening, Sikyong and the delegates paid a courtesy visit to Senator Diane Fienstin, wife of late Richard Blum, an ardent Tibet supporter who passed away in February this year. Sikyong apprised Sen. Diane of his participation in the 8th WPCT organised by the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile.



www.tibetonline.tv

Imprisoned Tibetan Monk Denied Family Visits and Subjected to “Patriotic Education” and “Hard Labor”



Rinchen Tsultrim

Chinese officials are still denying Rinchen Tsultrim family visits and forcing him to sit through sessions of “patriotic education” and “hard labor” after being falsely charged with “inciting separatism”, according to recent reports.

On suspicion of engaging in political activities on social media, Rinchen Tsultrim, a monk from the Nangshing monastery, was initially arrested by the Chinese officials of the Ngaba Public Security Bureau on 27 July 2019. He was reported to have been sentenced at a secret trial to four and a half years behind bars in March 2021, two years after being held incommunicado.

Rinchen Tsultrim can maybe talk to his family in an allowed monthly phone call of ten minutes, according to the Tibet Times. However, the Chinese authorities continue to deny an in-person meeting between Rinchen and his family since he was abruptly arrested in Ngaba (Ch: Aba).

“Rinchen wishes to get a picture of his parents, but refuses to send anything else to avoid being confiscated by the authorities”, the report said citing a former inmate who has now been released. Rinchen is currently being held in Mianyang Prison near Chengdu city.

Furthermore, the report said that Rinchen is being forcibly subjected to “political education” and hard labor in prison. For now, there are no details available about

how frequently and to what extent these practices are enforced. The report also said that it is difficult to determine his current well-being.

The report states that two Tibetans, including a monk from Ngaba’s Kirti Monastery and a businessman from Golog, were both released from Mianyang Prison in March of this year. In consideration of their safety, further information was withheld about them.

Located near Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province, Mianyang Prison is home to many Tibetans with dissenting ideas and opinions in eastern Tibet. A Tibetan monk and former political prisoner, Choekyi, died in May 2020 after being released from Mianyang Prison prematurely in January 2019, while the Chinese government shirked responsibility for his imminent death in custody due to torture and ill-treatment in prison.

UN Human Rights Chief Urged China to Protect Linguistic, Religious and Cultural Identity of Tibetans



UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet.

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet concluded her six-day trip to China on Saturday, 28 May. The High Commissioner stressed the importance of protecting linguistics, religious and cultural identity of the Tibetan people at the end of her mission’s statement. The High Commissioner’s trip to China for the first time since 2005 has largely disappointed the human rights defenders due to the Commissioner’s failure to assess the scale of rights violation perpetrated by China.

With regard to situation of Tibetan people under Chinese oppression, the High Commissioner said in the end of the mission’s statement that “it is important the linguistic, religious and cultural identity of Tibetans be protected, and that Tibetan people are allowed to participate fully and freely in making decisions about their religious life and for dialogue to take place”. She said she has discussed “education polices”, and underlined the importance of (Tibetan) “children learning in their own language and culture in the setting of their families or communities”. The mission’s statement failed to reveal any specific cases of persecution of Tibetans, Uyghurs, Southern Mongolian, Hong Kongers and others under the Chinese repression. The rights groups expressed serious concerns over the debacle missions’ statement ignoring “overwhelming evidence” of systematic rights violations by China.



“Problems and disagreements are best resolved through dialogue. Genuine peace comes about through mutual understanding and respect for each other’s wellbeing.

We must not lose hope. The 20th century was a century of war and bloodshed. The 21st century must be a century of dialogue..”
His Holiness the Dalai Lama

CTA Delegation Study Tour to Estonia for E-Governance



CTA Delegation team with Arvo Ott, Member of Management Board, eGA and Priit Vinkel, Expert of Smart Government, eGA.

As per the vision of 16th Kashag in transforming the system of Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) into Digitisation, 10 CTA staff visited Estonia (Europe) to study e-Governance and digitisation organised by e-Governance Academy (eGA). The staff were received by eGA Programme Director Annela Kiirats.

The first day was kicked off with the welcoming note and overview of Estonia's e-Governance by Arvo Ott, Member of Management Board, eGA followed by an explanation of week's activity details by Priit Vinkel, Expert of Smart Government, eGA. The teams were also briefed about e-Governance academy activities by Annela Kirats, Programme Director of eGA.

The delegation team also visited Estonia Parliament and met with Yoko Alender, MP of Estonian Parliament and Chairman of Estonia's Tibet Support Group and Annely Akkermann, MP of Estonian Parliament. Yoko briefed about the introduction of the Estonian E-parliament and the challenges faced in each stage of governance. She also answered all the queries raised by the teams on governance and digital transformation. Later, Karl-Morten Koppel, Director of Information system of Estonian Parliament made a slide presentation on how Estonian manages to hold E-parliament, how the parliament decisions were made and how resolutions were passed in the parliament electronically.

The delegation team also visited Estonian Prime Minister's Office to understand the solution that supports the paperless decision-making by e-cabinet. Kateriin Pajumagi, communication Director, Government Office made a presentation on how Estonian Prime Minister holds E-cabinet meetings, and how the E-cabinet decisions were made electronically. She also explained about the transformation stages of traditional cabinet meetings into the digitally based cabinet meetings.

E-Governance Academy (eGA) is a non-profit foundation and a joint initiative of the Government of Estonia, Open Society Institute (OSI) and the United Nations Development Programme. It was founded in the year 2002. eGA assists public sector and civil society organisations in making digital transformation happen. eGA provides consultancy, training, networking, research and assisting the organisation in the implementation of e-Government technical solutions.

Genkhang Rigzin Choedon Assumes Charge as New Representative of OoT Brussels



From L to R: Outgoing representative Tashi Phuntsok, New Representative Genkhang Rigzin Choedon and Official witness Chhimey Rigzin.

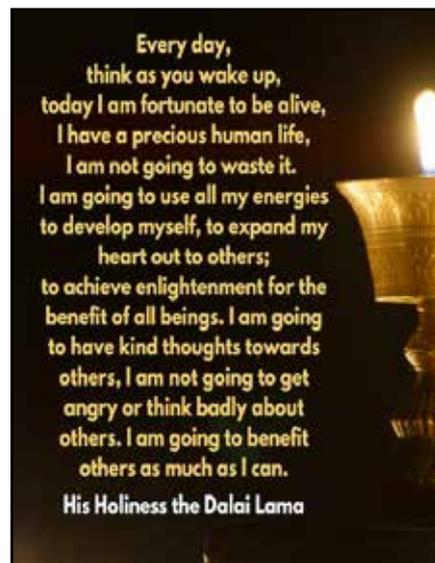
Rigzin Choedon Genkhang, who has been appointed as the new representative for the Office of Tibet, Brussels, formally took charge from Representative of Office of Tibet, Brussels, Tashi Phuntsok.

A brief ceremony of handing over was held at Office of Tibet in Brussels

on 19 May 2022. Chhimey Rigzin, Representative of Office of Tibet, Geneva, attended the ceremony as the official witness. Namgyal Samdup, Secretary, Bureau du Tibet, Paris was present to hand over the charge of that Office as well.

Guests at the ceremony included the president of the Tibetan Community, representatives from the various Tibetan associations as well as the staff members of the Office of Tibet, Brussels.

The new representative, Genkhang Rigzin Choedon has previously worked for more than 12 years in the Office of Tibet, Brussels. She formally assumed office on 16 May 2022 following the retirement of Mr. Tashi Phuntsok who had dedicatedly served the Tibetan community for 42 long years since 1977. He has served in various capacities in CTA, notably as the Representative of His Holiness the Dalai Lama in South Africa from 1997 – 2001. He then served as the Representative for Office of Tibet in Brussels and Paris from 2001 – 2005, as the Chief Representative of the Southern Tibetan Settlements, Bangalore from 2010- 2012 and as the Secretary of Department of Information and International Relations, Dharamsala on 8 February 2013. From 2016 to 2022 served as representative of the Office of Tibet, Brussels.



For detailed news visit:

www.tibet.net

Speaker and Deputy Speaker Meet Chinese Dissidents in New York



TPiE Speaker, Deputy Speaker and OoT Taiwan's Representative and Chinese dissidents in New York

Speaker Khenpo Sonam Tenphel and Deputy Speaker Dolma Tsering Teykhang of the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile had a meet-up with Chinese dissidents based in New York on the 27th of June 2022. The Speaker briefed them on the evolution of Tibetan democratic polity in exile and the Deputy Speaker spoke on the Middle Way Policy of the Central Tibetan Administration.

The Speaker explained how His Holiness the Dalai Lama had initiated democratic reforms and constituted a reform committee in Tibet after visiting India in 1956 for the 2500th Buddha Jayanti Celebrations. However, the Chinese communist government's usurpation of Tibet in 1949 disrupted his long aspired democratisation process of Tibetan polity. Even during such hard times, His Holiness tried hard to bring peaceful settlement with the Chinese counterpart but unfortunately, when the risk to the life of His Holiness become evident following the Tibetan uprising in Lhasa on 10th March 1959, he had to flee into exile to India.

In 1960, when representatives from the three provinces of Tibet and from the religious schools of Tibet offered long-life prayer offering to His Holiness the Dalai Lama at Bodhgaya in Bihar, India, His Holiness advised the exile Tibetans to set up an elected body comprising of three representatives each from the three provinces of Tibet and one representative each from the four schools of Tibetan Buddhism.

Following His Holiness's advice, the elected body took their oath of office on the 2nd of September, 1960, the day

celebrated as the 'Tibetan Democracy Day' every year by the exile Tibetans. In the first phase of the evolution of Tibetan democratic polity, which is from 1960 to 1991, there were significant changes in the duration and composition of parliamentarians, especially addition of reserved seats for women parliamentarians. Likewise, the Charter of Tibetans in exile was adopted in 1991.

The Speaker continued by explaining the current composition of the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile, the highest legislative body of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA), and the first-ever Kalon Tripa directly elected by the Tibetans in 2001. Followed by the devolution of His Holiness the Dalai Lama's political authority and the election of the Sikyong in 2011. He also briefed them on the panel discussion held at the 8th World Parliamentarians' Convention on Tibet in Washington, DC, with Taiwanese, Hong Konger, Uyghur, and Inner Mongolian speakers sharing their ideas to counter the Chinese communist government. He further advised holding discussion meetings between the Tibetans and the Chinese dissidents which would be very beneficial.

Speaking on the objective of their meeting, the Deputy Speaker, Dolma Tsering Teykhang explained that despite Tibetans and Chinese dissidents having distinctive identities, cultures, and history, their gathering at a foreign place has much significance. In addition to sharing their real situations and discussing future courses of action, the Deputy Speaker further explained that due to the lack of freedom and human rights, despite China being one of the most powerful countries in the world, the Chinese dissidents resorted to leaving their own country and the Tibetans who also had to leave their country due to the Chinese communist government's illegal invasion of Tibet.

The Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) strives for Tibetans in Tibet to have freedom of speech, freedom of

religion, and other basic human rights through the Middle Way Approach (MWA), the policy of CTA to peacefully resolve the issue of Tibet and to bring about stability and co-existence between the Tibetan and Chinese peoples based on equality and mutual co-operation. The mutually beneficial Middle Way Approach seeks genuine autonomy for the Tibetans inside Tibet within the framework of the People's Republic of China without disregarding the historical fact that Tibet was an independent country before its invasion by China.

Chinese dissidents, in response, praised the Middle Way Approach which is a win-win policy conceived by His Holiness the Dalai Lama for its foresightedness and said that Tibetans, Taiwanese, and Hong Kongers should counter Communist China together. Speaker and Deputy Speaker were accompanied by Representative Bawa Kelsang Gyaltzen, former political prisoner Nyima Lhamo, Secretary Tashi Dhondup of the Office of Tibet Washington, and OoT's Chinese Liaison Officer Tsultrim Gyatso.

Sikyong Launches CTA Capacity Building and Sustainability Initiative

On 15 June 2022, Social and Resource Development Fund (SARD) of the Department of Finance (CTA) through support from the USAID launched the CTA Capacity Building and Sustainability Initiative (CTA-CBSI).

The Sikyong Penpa Tsering was the Chief Guest to the event. The Kashag and the Secretaries of all the CTA Departments attended the event. Karen Klimowski, Acting Mission Director of USAID/India Mission also attended as the Special Guest along with other staff of USAID India Mission.

During the launch event, the advisory board for the CTA-CBSI program organised its first bi-annual meeting. The advisory board members consist of the Secretaries of all the CTA Departments with National Democratic Institute (NDI) and SARD as co-chairs.

End the Horrific Torture of Tibetan Prisoners and Obey the Convention Against Torture

The UN has designated 26 June as the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture in commemoration of the 1987 adoption of the UN Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and with a view to the total eradication of torture and the effecting functioning of the convention. Every member of the international community is bound by the international laws banning torture in any form, regardless of whether they have ratified the specific treaty that prohibits torture. Having ratified the convention in 1988, China is obliged to comprehend that its treatment of Tibetans and prisoners constitutes torture and a violation of a number of international laws that protect people's fundamental rights. Still, torture persists throughout the world, especially in Tibet where it is endemic.

Torture is defined in the Article 1 of the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment as, "any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes ... when such pain or suffering is inflicted by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity. It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in or incidental to lawful sanctions."

In Tibet, the Chinese government continues to torture and ill-treat Tibetans accusing them of having endangered "national security" or "incited separatism" within the community. The prevalence of inhumane torture in prisons, detention centres and police stations in Tibet has resulted in not only the deaths of Tibetans, but also the encouragement of a practice that will likely be passed on through successive generations till Tibet completely succumbs to Chinese rule.

Chinese officials have an atrocious track record of using severe torture on prisoners while in detention and denying



them medical care, causing health problems and exacerbating existing health conditions. As a result, many Tibetan political prisoners have been released from prison in poor health or on medical parole, with some becoming permanently crippled for life and others struggling to survive before ultimately succumbing to their injuries.

There are at least 50 known cases of torture-related deaths of Tibetans inside Tibet since the 2008 nationwide uprising against the Chinese rule. Nevertheless, given the Chinese government's high restrictions on information flowing from inside Tibet, the actual figure would probably be much higher.

Until now, there has been no evidence of torture of Tibetan prisoners investigated in Tibet or that the Chinese authorities and police have been held accountable, as required under domestic and international laws. Compensation for injuries suffered during detention is extremely rare, due to the government's unwillingness to investigate or outright deny cases of torture in Tibet, despite China's domestic laws and the Convention against torture providing financial security to the victims of torture.

Additionally, the Chinese government conveniently refuses to allow UN

mandate holders and Special Rapporteurs access to all three traditional provinces of Tibet to investigate the situation there on the ground. Eight UN mandate holders have visited China so far, but ironically most of them are associated with social and economic issues rather than civil and political rights. Those who were permitted access to Tibet were closely monitored, and tours were controlled at all times. As the result of China's effective denial of access to areas under its control, it has been able to enact its extensive and systematic human rights abuses in Tibet with near-total impunity, including the use of torture and ill-treatment against Tibetans on a routine basis.

In recognition of International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, it is absolutely essential that the Chinese government abide by its international obligations and stop torturing prisoners, detainees, or any persons and instead treat them with the respect due to their inherent dignity and value as human beings as required by international and national laws. Additionally, it must carry out impartial investigations into all reports of torture and other ill-treatment so that anyone found responsible is brought to justice in fair trials and that reparations and redress are provided for victims and their families.

Torture Deaths:

There has been a significant increase in the number of Tibetans who have died in custody or shortly after being released, often with incriminating signs of torture. In light of the much-restricted access to Tibet and the crackdown on information flows, it is extremely difficult to represent a comprehensive list of cases relating to Tibetans who have died in custody due to torture and other ill-treatment.

There have been at least 50 known cases of Tibetans dying of torture under Chinese rule since 2008, but few have been included in the report, while the rest is available in the annexure attached

to the report.

A 19-year-old Tibetan monk named Tenzin Nyima died in January 2021 after being inflicted with injuries while in Chinese custody. The Chinese government reportedly released him on 9 October 2020 in very critical health. It was announced on 9 October 2020 that the Chinese authorities had summoned the now gravely-ill monk's family to release him from prison. Various attempts were made over the next two months to treat Nyima's injuries without success. According to the doctors, he was brought to the hospital too late, and his injuries had been inflicted for too long. He passed away in a grave state of comatose at the time of his death and had been declared incurable by several hospitals where he had been taken by his family.

As far as the Chinese government is concerned, Tenzin Nyima's death has nothing to do with the Chinese government since he was already released from prison before he died. There were never any documented cases of officials being held responsible or compensations paid to the monk's family.

Kunchok Jinpa, a Tibetan tour guide serving a 21-year sentence, died on 6 February 2021 in a hospital in Tibet's capital Lhasa. Kunchok Jinpa was transferred from prison to a hospital without his family's knowledge in November 2020. He died a few days later after his family learned he had been rushed to the hospital for emergency treatment. His family learned he had suffered a brain haemorrhage and was paralyzed in January 2021. On 8 November 2013, Kunchok Jinpa was arrested in Driru County, Nagchu Prefecture, Central Tibet (Ch: Biru, Naqu, Tibet Autonomous Region), and later convicted of "leaking state secrets" after he shared information about protests and the local environment with foreign media, including social media. In the past, there had been no news of his whereabouts, and until now, there had been no news of his trial or conviction.

After being transferred from police custody, Lhamo, a Tibetan herder from Driru county, Nagchu Prefecture in the so-called Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), died in a local hospital in August 2020. The 36-year-old mother of three was detained in June 2020 and accused of sending money to family members or Tibetans in India. She was in good health before her arrest. In August, Lhamo's family was summoned to visit her in hospital after another Tibetan, Tharpa, was also arrested on the same charge. She was badly bruised and unable to speak when they arrived. Two days later, she died, and her body was cremated immediately, which prevented a possible investigation into her death's circumstances. Tenzin Delek Rinpoche, a prominent monk and community leader who died in prison in 2015, has also not been returned to his family by the Chinese authorities. The Chinese government continues to ignore requests for an investigation into Tenzin Delek Rinpoche's death in prison on 12 July 2015, despite evidence of torture while in prison.

UN HRC 50th Session: 47 UN Member States "Gravely Concerned" About Human Rights Situation in Tibet



United Nation Human Rights Council

On the second day of the UN Human Rights Council 50th session, 47 UN Member States stated states are "gravely concerned" about the human rights situation in Tibet.

While presenting a cross regional joint statement during an interactive dialogue on the High Commissioner's Annual Report, on 14 June, the Netherlands delivered a statement on behalf of 47

member states. The statement gave spot light on systematic violations of human rights by China, in particular in Tibet, East Turkestan and Hong Kong.

The states "continue to be gravely concerned about the deterioration of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in Hong Kong and the human rights situation in Tibet", reads the statement.

In view of the UN High Commissioner's recent visit to China and end of the mission statement of 28 May, the member states stressed the High Commissioner to disclose detailed observations, including on Beijing restrictions imposed on the visit and access to civil societies.

Furthermore, the states called upon China gives provide meaningful and unfettered access, and ensure full respect for the rule of law, to comply with obligations under national and international law with regard to the protection of human rights and to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

The Kingdom of Netherlands led joint statement on human rights violations by China was co-signed by Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Eswatini, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The 50th UN Human Rights Council's regular session convened on 13 May will conclude on 8 July. Ahead of the 50th UNHRC session, a group of more than 40 UN experts called upon China to address "specific and systematic human rights violations" and demanded for "unhindered access" to China.

The Washington DC Declaration

8th World Parliamentarians' Convention on Tibet

22-23 June 2022, Washington, D.C

Parliamentarians from 28 countries participated in the 8th World Parliamentarians' Convention in Washington D.C. from 22 to 23 June 2022 in person and virtually, to review and discuss the situation in Tibet and efforts to resolve the Sino-Tibetan conflict, caused by the PRC's invasion of Tibet in 1950 and its illegal occupation since then. They thanked their hosts in the US Congress and commended them for the pathbreaking legislation adopted in recent years on Tibet.

The meeting took place as the war in the Ukraine, caused by Russia's invasion of that independent country on February 24, was about to enter its fourth month and triggered striking comparisons to Tibet's invasion decades earlier. These invasions, constituting flagrant violations of the most fundamental norms of international law, highlight the urgent need to enforce international law and prioritise safeguarding the rule of law and the promotion of freedom, democracy, self-determination and human rights throughout the world above short-term economic gain.

The participants committed to take action to ensure collaboration among parliaments and with the Tibetan Parliament in Exile on matters related to Tibet. This includes collaboration with the Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China and with other interparliamentary organisations and bodies. The International Network of Parliamentarians on Tibet (INPaT) will be revived, and where possible parliamentarians will create parliamentary groups in countries where they do not yet exist.

The participants call on parliaments to adopt legislation, resolutions or motions, hold hearings and investigations at national and sub-national levels to advance the Tibetan cause in line with this declaration.

The participants call on all parliaments to take coordinated action, and to hold their governments accountable for upholding international law in regard to Tibet, including by fulfilling their States' obligations and responsibilities under international law to

respect and promote the inalienable right of the Tibetan people to self-determination,

refrain from expressly or implicitly recognising the PRC's claim to sovereignty over Tibet

treat Tibet as an occupied country and not as a part of China, and

take coordinated action, with other like-minded governments, to achieve a resolution to the Sino-Tibetan conflict through dialogue and negotiations between the parties, without preconditions.

The participants call on parliaments to take coordinated action to affirm and endorse the exclusive right of the Dalai Lama and the Gaden Phodrang, the Tibetan people, and the Tibetan Buddhist community to select and appoint the incarnation of the next Dalai Lama and other senior Lamas and firmly reject the PRC's declared intention to do so as a violation of religious freedom.

The participants reject the false historical narratives propagated by the PRC and CCP, which claim that Tibet has been a part of China since ancient times, to attempt to justify the PRC's invasion of Tibet and current occupation of Tibet. They call on parliamentarians

and parliaments to take coordinated action to expose and counter these false narratives.

The participants call on parliaments to take coordinated action to prohibit corporations from benefiting from forced labor and the exploitation of the natural environment of the Tibetan plateau.

The convention noted the massive environmental degradation occurring on the Tibetan plateau because of mining resulting in toxic waste, water pollution, deforestation and the destruction of mountains. Further, more than two million Tibetan nomads have been removed from their traditional lands to allow for this exploitation and resettled in culturally destructive villages.

The impacts of environmental mismanagement in Tibet extend far beyond Tibet itself with over 50 mega dams planned on the 10 major rivers that rise on the Plateau, threatening the water supplies of over 1.5 billion people in countries downstream.

Tibet's situation as the world's Third Pole results in global heating occurring at rates more than twice the world average, which will result in the majority of the glaciers on the plateau gone by 2050, with global repercussions.

The participants express solidarity with the Uyghurs and Southern Mongolians under PRC rule, the people of Hong Kong and the people of Taiwan under PRC threat, as well as with the Chinese democracy movement, all of whom seek common ground to face common challenges.

The Participants expressed their continuing support for the democratic achievements of the Tibetans, their commitment to non-violence and their efforts to seek a resolution of the conflict with the PRC through the Middle Way Approach.



8th World Parliamentarians' Convention on Tibet – Press Release



In preparation of the 8th World Parliamentarians' Convention on Tibet

This WPCT will have panel discussions and briefing sessions on various issues facing Tibet by the honourable members of parliament of different countries, experts and activists. The highlights of the 8th WPCT will be a video message from His Holiness the Dalai Lama and greetings from Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives honourable Nancy Pelosi.

The main objectives of holding the World Parliamentarians' Convention on Tibet are:

For parliamentarians to take a leading role in the international area on the question of survival of the Tibetan identity and its rich cultural heritage which has the potential to contribute for a more peaceful world.

For parliamentarians to join the world leaders in expressing concern over human rights violation and religious repression in Tibet.

For parliamentarians to consider initiatives in their respective countries to support early resumption of dialogue between the representatives of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and People's Republic of China, for a negotiated solution on Tibet.

The eighth World Parliamentarians' Convention on Tibet (WPCT) will be held in Washington, D.C. from June 22 to 23, 2022. More than 100 participants from 26 countries, including from the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile, will attend it in-person and virtually.

This convention, organised by the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile, is in continuation of the previous seven sessions of WPCT aimed to strengthen and coordinate support by parliamentarians from different countries to resolve the Tibet issue. The first WPCT was held in New Delhi (1994) honouring the foundational role India has played in the survival of the Tibetan identity after the Chinese invasion and occupation of Tibet. Subsequent conventions have been held in Vilnius, Lithuania (1995); Washington D.C. USA (1997); Edinburgh, Scotland (U.K.) (2005); Rome, Italy (2009); Ottawa, Canada (2012); and Riga, Latvia (2019).

Despite decades of repression by the Chinese government in Tibet, Tibetans strive to preserve their religion, culture, identity, and environment and continue to advocate for human rights and freedom in Tibet through non-violence all over the world.

By holding the 8th WPCT in the United States, a country with fundamental values of democracy and equality, we honor the important role played by the United States Congress in formulating policy initiatives on Tibet, including institutionalising support through several legislations. We also draw attention to our exile government's commitment to democratic norms and values. With the farsighted vision of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, in exile, we have a democratic and popularly elected leadership that is accountable to the Tibetan people through the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile.

For detailed news visit:

www.tibet.net



Welcome Speech by the Speaker on 8th World Parliamentarians' Convention on Tibet



Speaker Khenpo Sonam Tenphel delivering inaugural speech at the 8th WPCT

Speaker Khenpo Sonam Tenphel of the 17th Tibetan Parliament in Exile delivered his inaugural speech at the 8th World Parliamentarians' Convention on Tibet on 22 June 2022.

The Speaker said "It gives me immense pleasure to welcome all the distinguished parliamentarians from across the world to this convention. It is certainly an honour for me to address this esteemed gathering on behalf of the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile. I would like to thank all of you for taking out time from your busy schedule to show your solidarity for the just cause of Tibet.

With the growing unethical and inhuman atrocities around the world in general and in Tibet by the leadership of the People's Republic of China in particular, to have such a convention and bring all the like-minded decision-makers on one platform becomes pivotal. Till date, we have had seven WPCT in various countries.

All the WPCTs had been possible with the co-host Parliamentary Tibet Support groups of those countries. The 3rd WPCT was held in Washington DC in 1997 with the strong support from Late Congressman Benjamin Gilman and his team including Honourable incumbent Speaker, Nancy Pelosi. Likewise, this convention is possible with the unflinching support from Honourable Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Honourable US Representative Jim McGovern and many

other friends in the US Congress who are friends of His Holiness and Tibet. Without their support this convention could not have been possible within a very short period of time.

The situation inside Tibet still remains grim and painful despite the false lofty claims of being liberated and developed. Tibetans are denied of the most basic human rights, as also enshrined in the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Any form of expression that is against the dictates of China's Communists Regime can have severe consequences of ending up in prison. While Chinese authorities are marketing Tibet as a tourist destination based on spiritual attraction of the Buddhist culture and landscape, Beijing has tightened its control over Tibetan religious expression and practice. The communist leadership who explicitly rejects even the idea of past and future lives are busy meddling in the system of reincarnation and especially the reincarnation of Dalai Lama. PRC not only want control of Tibet's territory but they also dream to have control over the minds of Tibetans by capturing the institution of Dalai Lama for their political end, which we reject in the strongest word and we want the free world to follow suit. The space for the Tibetans to protect, preserve and practice Tibetan Buddhist culture and identity is shrinking severely. Since 2009, 157 known cases of Tibetans from every sectors of life have set themselves on fire in one of the biggest

political protest in human history, yet instead of addressing to the causes of this desperation, PRC has strengthened the very wrong policies that caused it. In a nutshell, Tibetans in Tibet continue to face political repression, cultural and social exclusion, economic and educational marginalisation and massive environmental destruction.

In exile, democracy is the gift of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to the people of Tibet. We have a democratic and popularly elected leadership that is accountable to the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile. The Central Tibetan Administration is governed by rules and regulations with transparency and accountability in governance. Despite having a thousand years of history of being an independent country, we are sincere and committed to the Middle Way Policy to resolve the conflict between Tibet and China through a mutually beneficial way. We urge the leadership of PRC to show historical responsibility and political wisdom to come to the table to resume the stalled talks with the representatives of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, if you are sincere in your call for stability of mainland China.

The Tibetan refugee community is thriving around the world with the kind humanitarian help from a number of Governments and the people of these countries, especially India who has been a host to His Holiness and Central Tibetan Administration for more than six decades. Likewise Tibet and Tibetans are indebted to the unwavering support by the Government and people of United States of America for supporting the just cause of Tibetans in many ways, such as passing of the Tibet Policy and Support Act 2020, Reciprocal Access to Tibet Act and appointment of the special coordinator for Tibet Uzra Zeya to name a few. These gestures truly support our belief in democratic values, boost the morale of our suffering Tibetans inside Tibet and our hope in our movement. Any success story of ours can become an inspiration for many of other nationals

in the world who are making an attempt to accomplish their rightful cause. Thus, the sharing and learning from the experiences among striving nationals could be crucial in building up our cases stronger.

Through such a convention we hope more and more nations come forward in following the footsteps of the United States in passing such acts to make differences in the lives of the suffering humanity and not succumb to the dictates of authoritarian regimes like PRC. The outbreak of Wuhan Covid-19 pandemic has shown to world how fragile human existence is and how interdependent our existence is. The arrogance of Communist Chinese leadership's saving their own image and not sharing early findings and data on the virus has led to the death of millions of people around the world. Even now while we are meeting here in Capitol hills, millions of Chinese people are facing the brunt of Xi's wrong Zero Covid Policy. My heart goes out to all of them. The leadership of PRC should be held accountable for bringing such magnitude of miseries to the humanity.

My speech would not be complete if the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile and I fail to show our solidarity with the people of Ukraine who are suffering under the invasion. Since Tibet has gone through it, we can relate with the appalling situation there. His Holiness the Dalai Lama endorses to engage in dialogue rather than war and bloodshed to solve the differences. We Tibetans firmly believe that no one can get happiness by giving pain and grief to others. We pray for this war to end at the earliest and may this world be a better place for all to live in peace and harmony.

I end my speech here with hopes that this convention would pave the way forward in injecting more zeal and commitment among the decision-makers to stand with Tibet. We urge you to be vocal on the pressing issues of Tibet in your respective countries and to make the return of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and his people possible as per the wishes of the martyrs who have laid their lives for Tibet."

8th World Parliamentarians Convention on Tibet Concludes with the Revival of the International Network of Parliamentarians for Tibet



Canadian MP Arif Virani, Prof. Hon-Shiang Lau, Prof. Michael Van Walt Praag, Indian MP Dr. Shashi Tharoor, and Kalon Norzin Dolma (From L to R)

The 8th World Parliamentarians Convention on Tibet organised by the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile concluded on 23 June 2022 with the successful revival of the International Network of Parliamentarians for Tibet (INPaT) and adoption of the Washington Declaration and Washington Action Plan.

On the second day of the two-day legislators' conference on Tibet, Taiwanese Legislator Hung Sun-Han, Member of the Social Welfare and Environmental Hygiene Committee, and Research Fellow Dechen Palmo, Environment & Development Desk of Tibet Policy Institute, Central Tibetan Administration spoke on 'Significance of Asia & Tibet in Global Warming and Climate Change'. While Tibetan MP Tenzing Jigme chaired the session.

Indian MP Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Member of Lok Sabha and Former Indian Minister of State for External Affairs; Canadian MP Arif Virani, Chair of Canadian Parliamentary Friends of Tibet (PFT); Prof. Michael Van Walt Praag, Professor of International Law and Executive President of Kreddha; and Prof. Hon-Shiang Lau, Retired Chair Professor, City University of Hong Kong spoke on 'Narratives on Tibet: The Need for Change' in a panel discussion chaired by Kalon Norzin Dolma of the Department of Information and International Relations (DIIR), CTA.

Chaired by Member of Parliament John Tennant Wright Sol, El Salvador, many lawmakers from numerous countries shared their views during the panel discussion on 'Sharing Experiences, Collaborations, Networking & Action Plans amongst like-minded countries'. Member of Parliament Nicolas Walder from Switzerland, Co-President of Switzerland Parliamentary Group of Tibet; Member of Parliament Balthasar Glättli from Switzerland, Member of Swiss Parliamentary Group for Tibet; Member of Parliament Collette Stevenson from Scotland, Member of Scottish Parliament Cross-Party Group for Tibet; Member of Parliament Laima Liucija Andrikiene from Lithuania; Members of Parliament Tim Loughton & Chris Law from the UK, Co-Chairs of All-Party Parliamentary Group for Tibet; Member of Parliament Sir Iain Duncan Smith from the UK, Co-Founder of IPAC; Member of Parliament Uffe Elbæk from Denmark; Indian MP Sujeet Kumar, Convener of All Party Indian Parliamentary Forum for Tibet; and German MP Michael Brand, Chair of the German Parliamentary Friends of Tibet gave their remarks virtually.

While, Member of Parliament James Maloney from Canada, Vice-Chair of Canadian Parliamentary Friends of Tibet; Member of Parliament Gloria Navas Montero from Costa Rica; Member of Parliament Salvador Caro

Cabrera from Mexico; Member of Parliament Robert Masih Nahar from Spain; and Member of Parliament Marek Hilser from the Czech Republic spoke on ‘Sharing Experiences, Collaborations, Networking & Action Plans amongst like-minded countries’ which was followed by discussion among the parliamentarians.

During the panel discussion on ‘Common Ground to Face Common Challenges’, Taiwanese Legislator Tshiong-tso Lim; Dolkun Isa, president of World Uyghur Congress; Mr. Jeffery Ngo, Hong Kong Democracy Council; and Wang Dan, President of China Dialogue spoke on the topic. The session was chaired by Tibetan parliamentarian Tenzin Jigdal.

By the end of the conference, Deputy Speaker Dolma Tsering Teykahng formally announced the revival of the International Network of Parliamentarians on Tibet (INPaT) and launched its official website (www.inpat.org) in presence of the participating parliamentarians.

Thereafter, Prof. Michael Van Walt Praag, executive president of Kreddha and Senior Fellow at the Sompong Sucharitkul Center for Advanced International Legal Studies of Golden Gate University Law School in San Francisco with the other members of the drafting committee, presented the Washington DC Declaration and Washington Action Plan which were subsequently adopted after due deliberation. A joint declaration of Latin American Parliamentarians of El Salvador, Chile, and Mexico was also read by El Salvador Member of Parliament John Tennant Wright Sol.

Finally, Deputy Speaker Dolma Tsering Teykhang of Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile gave the vote of thanks speech wherein she extended her gratitude to the parliamentarians for their participation in the 8th World Parliamentarians’ Convention of Tibet whose presence at the conference has sent a strong message to Beijing. At the same time, it will boost the morale of Tibetans inside Tibet.

Alerting of Chinese communist

government’s deceitfulness which has now become evident with the advent of Covid-19 that originated in China, she stressed that the freedom, liberty, and human rights enjoyed by the people living in a free world cannot be taken for granted with leaders having expansionist mentality like Xi Jinping holding the power.

Expressing solidarity with the Chinese citizen under communist rule, she said that the common people of China are equally victimised as Tibetans by the iron-fisted Chinese leadership. The Deputy Speaker called for the collective effort of the Uyghurs, Hong Kongers, Taiwanese, inner Mongolians, and other like-minded people by staying connected to navigate the common suffering in the international arena.

She concluded by thanking participating parliamentarians, organising committee, ICT, Sikyong-led Kashag, DIIR Kalon, offices of Tibet, NED, NDI, drafting committee, and others for their valuable contribution to organising the conference.

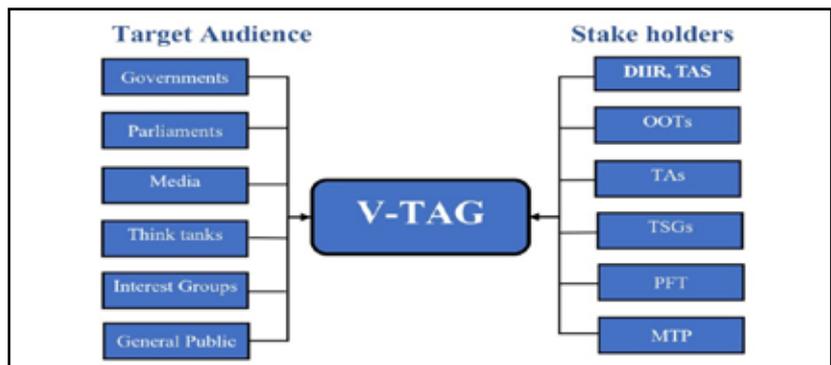
Chaired by Tibetan MP Tenzing Jigme, Taiwanese Legislator Hung Sun-Han, Member of the Social Welfare and Environmental Hygiene Committee, and Research Fellow Dechen Palmo, TPI, speaking on the environment.

Earlier on the same day, a delegation of Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile consisting of Deputy Speaker Dolma Tsering Teykhang, Parliamentarian Kunga Sotop, Parliamentarian Khenpo Kada Ngedup Sonam, Parliamentarian Geshe Lharampa Gowo Lobsang Phende, Parliamentarian Migyur Dorjee, Parliamentarian Geshe Atong

Rinchen Gyaltzen, Parliamentarian Tsering Dolma, and Parliamentarian Choedak Gyatso along with some other participants of the 8th WPCT attended the congressional hearing on Tibet in the U.S Capitol by Congressional-Executive Commission on China (CECC) on ‘Tibet: Barriers to Settling an Unresolved Conflict’.

This convention, organised by the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile, is in continuation of the previous seven sessions of WPCT aimed to strengthen and coordinate support by parliamentarians from different countries to resolve the Tibet issue. The first WPCT was held in New Delhi (1994) honouring the foundational role India has played in the survival of the Tibetan identity after the Chinese invasion and occupation of Tibet. Subsequent conventions have been held in Vilnius, Lithuania (1995); Washington D.C.USA (1997); Edinburgh, Scotland (U.K.) (2005); Rome, Italy (2009); Ottawa, Canada (2012); and Riga, Latvia (2019).

The main objectives of holding the World Parliamentarians’ Convention on Tibet are for parliamentarians to take a leading role in the international area on the question of survival of the Tibetan identity and its rich cultural heritage which has the potential to contribute to a more peaceful world. Likewise, parliamentarians to join the world leaders in expressing concern over human rights violations and religious repression in Tibet and consider initiatives in their respective countries to support an early resumption of dialogue between the representatives of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the People’s Republic of China, for a negotiated solution on Tibet.



Sakya Tibetan Buddhist Tradition Offers Long Life Prayer to His Holiness the Dalai Lama



Sakya Trichen presenting traditional offerings to His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

On 25 May 2022, a Long Life Offering was presented to His Holiness the Dalai Lama by members of the Sakya Tradition of Tibetan Buddhism at the Tsuglagkhang, the Main Tibetan Temple in Dharamsala. Hierarchs of both palaces, the Dolma Phodrang and Phuntsok Phodrang, headed by Sakya Dagtri Rinpoché, led the ceremonies.

Sakya Dagtri Rinpoché greeted His Holiness as he stepped out of his car just inside the gate to his residence. The two of them walked steadily through the gate and into the garden, where they were welcomed by a group of dancing drummers. Walking through the garden, His Holiness smiled and waved to members of the public, stopping occasionally to greet young children. He rode the recently installed lift up to the temple veranda and continued to engage with the public on his way round to the temple door.

Once His Holiness was seated on the throne, the Sakya Lamas offered scarves in welcome and the ceremony began. Tea and sweet rice were distributed while the congregation recited the mantra of White Tara.

After the text of the long life prayer had been recited, statues of the deities of longevity, White Tara, Amitayus and Ushnishavijaya, were presented to His Holiness. Sakya Dagtri Rinpoché then offered him a bowl full of long life pills. His Holiness took one for himself and gave another back to Sakya Dagtri Rinpoché, a process he repeated when he was given a spoonful of long life nectar.

The incumbent Sakya Throne-holder, the Sakya Trizin, Gyana Vajra Rinpoché recited verses requesting His Holiness to live long while offering him a large, golden mandala. The previous Throne-holder, Ratna Vajra Rinpoché, continued to make prayers for His Holiness's longevity as he presented him with a statue of White Tara, a volume of scripture, a reliquary object, a vase of the nectar of long life and a vajra and bell, which His Holiness rang. His Holiness briefly put on a Sakya hat.

Avikrita Vajra Rinpoché offered a mandala and representations of the enlightened body, speech and mind in thanks to His Holiness for agreeing to remain.

Meanwhile, a procession of members of the Sakya community, monastics and laypeople carrying a variety of offerings to His Holiness, made its way through the temple. The line ended with an elderly white-haired man and someone carrying the flag of Tibet.

Another Sakya hierarch, a monk, Abhaya Vajra Sakya, offered the three robes of a monk and a khakkhara, a Buddhist monk's staff. These were followed by silver emblems representing the eight auspicious symbols. His Holiness again put on the Sakya hat as he received a plateful of Tsog. Another young hierarch from the Phuntsok Phodrang, Asanga Vajra Sakya, concluded the offerings with a presentation of silver symbols representing the eight auspicious substances. When each of the Sakya hierarchs had played his part in the ceremony His Holiness offered him a white scarf and red 'protection thread' in gratitude.

"Led by Sakya Dagtri Rinpoché," His Holiness told the congregation, "members of the Dolma and Phuntsok Phodrang have today made this long life offering based on the Wish-fulfilling Wheel of White Tara.

"I've received the Hévajra and Lam-



His Holiness the Dalai Lama greeting the 43rd Sakya Trizin Gyana Vajra Rinpoche

dré—Path and Result—teachings from Chopgyé Trichen Rinpoché. Each Tibetan Buddhist tradition has its own unique teaching and these are the teachings unique to the Sakyas. I do the Hévajra practice every day, so I may be counted as among the line of Sakya practitioners.

"Thank you for this long life offering. If I don't live long, there's a chance the Tibetan people's wishes and aspirations will not be fulfilled. For this reason I pray that I will live to be more than a hundred and I ask you too to make the same prayer.

"Tibet is our own land and Sakya is a place characterized by the grey earth of the Ponpori Hills. We Tibetans are upholders of Buddhist traditions including the Vajrayana. You too preserve teachings of both Sutra and Tantra. I request you to keep these traditions alive.

"I've known Sakya Dagtri Rinpoché since he was very young. That's all I have to say just now." As dedication prayers were said, flower petals were tossed into the air.

His Holiness stepped down from the throne and mentioned that he had been reminded of Tagdrag Rinpoché, one of his root lamas, who would recite a verse that said, 'May the Lamas and disciples not be separated' and would look teasingly at His Holiness on the throne when he repeated the lines, 'May they enjoy tea and liquor continually, and may there be happiness and auspiciousness forever.'

US Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues Uzra Zeya Receives Audience with His Holiness the Dalai Lama



His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the US Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues Uzra Zeya joining hands at the conclusion of their meeting at his residence in Dharamshala. Photo/Tenzin Choejor/OHHDL

The US Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues Uzra Zeya received an audience with His Holiness the Dalai Lama at his official residence on 19 May at McLeod Ganj in Dharamshala. The audience was also attended by Sikyong Penpa Tsering, DIIR Kalon Norzin Dolma, Representative Namgyal Choedup and the members of the US Special Coordinator's delegation.

During the audience, the US Special Coordinator expressed US President Joe Biden and the American people's greetings to His Holiness the Dalai Lama. She also offered best wishes for the good health of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and expressed the gratitude of the world for the messages of peace that His Holiness espouses.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the US Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues also discussed the rich traditions of freedom and democracy in the United States and India. His Holiness expressed his happiness to meet the US Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues and emphasised the oneness of all humanity. His Holiness explained his four main commitments in life namely the Promotion of universal values, Promotion of religious harmony, Preservation of Tibet's culture and

environment, and Revival of ancient Indian wisdom. His Holiness the Dalai Lama further said that despite the PRC's best efforts, it has failed to win the Tibetan people and transform their minds. Instead, His Holiness said, the thinking of the Chinese people itself is rapidly changing.

The US Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues is on a two-day visit to Dharamshala from 18-19 May. She visited the Central Tibetan Administration and had discussions with the 16th Kashag led by Sikyong Penpa Tsering. She also visited the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile, the Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts (TIPA), the Tibet Museum, and also met with members of the Tibetan civil society.



For detailed news visit:
www.tibet.net

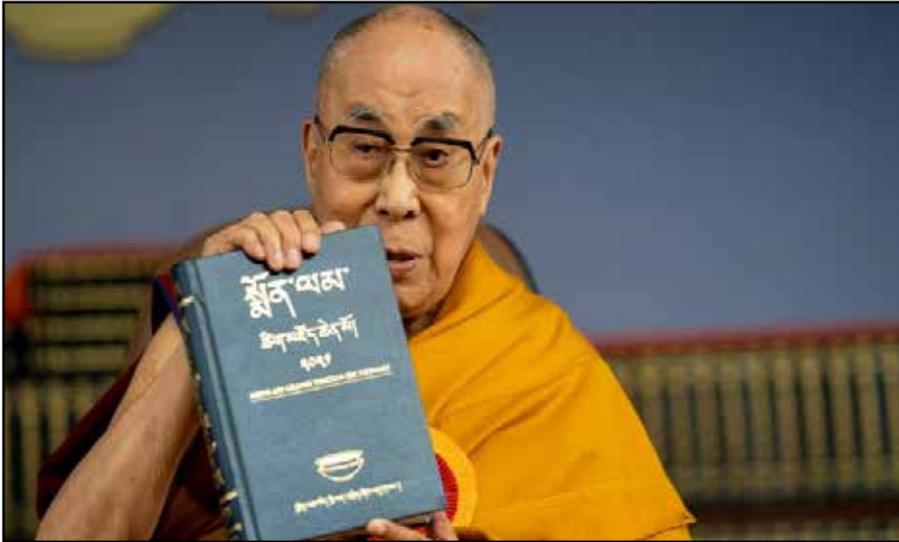
His Holiness the Dalai Lama Launches Monlam Grand Tibetan Dictionary

His Holiness the Dalai Lama attended a gathering in the garden of the Tsuglagkhang, the Main Tibetan Temple, adjacent to his residence to launch the Monlam Grand Tibetan Dictionary on 27 May. Guests included Sakya Gongma Rinpoché, the 42nd and 43rd Sakya Trizins, the Head of the Bön Tradition, members of the Central Tibetan Administration, friends and supporters.

His Holiness walked from the gate to his residence through the temple yard, taking time to engage with members of the public on the way. He shook hands with some, exchanged a few words with others, and blessed rosaries and other items that were offered to him. He seemed to take pleasure in making physical contact with people after months of Covid related restrictions.

“We Tibetans have a rich religious and cultural tradition. While we were in Tibet, we were not aware of how it compared with other traditions, but once we came into exile we became aware of how precious our heritage is. It's a practical tradition at the core of which are methods for tackling negative emotions and cultivating peace of mind. In my own daily practice I focus on the awakening mind of bodhichitta and cultivating an understanding of emptiness, which together bring me deep inner peace.

“Practitioners of other religious traditions focus on prayer, but we try to transform our mental attitudes. As Shantideva's ‘Guide to the Bodhisattva's Way of Life’ explains, our enemy is our best teacher when it comes to cultivating patience. If we carefully think it through, there are no adverse conditions that cannot be transformed into favourable circumstances. Understanding the workings of the mind and emotions is at the heart of the Nalanda Tradition.



His Holiness the Dalai Lama holding a volume of the Monlam Grand Tibetan Dictionary and the dictionary's launch at the Main Tibetan Temple in Dharamsala, HP, India on May 27, 2022. Photo by Tenzin Choejor.

“People talk about peace in the world, but if you have anger and hatred in your heart, talking about peace is simply hypocritical. What we need instead is to cultivate the longstanding Indian traditions of doing no harm (ahimsa) on the basis of compassion for others (karuna).

“Tibetan thinkers considered what to take from Chinese traditions and what to accept from India. What they found to be beneficial they assimilated. We Tibetans have faced all kinds of difficulties, but because of our practice of mind training we have maintained our inner peace. When other people encounter challenges, they resort to taking sleeping pills to get some rest—something we have no need to do.

“In exile we requested the Government of India’s help in setting up Tibetan schools where our children could study in their own language. Preserving the Tibetan language has played a key role in our ability to keep our religion and culture alive. I’d like to remind all our friends and Dharma friends gathered here that what is precious about our heritage is that it helps us achieve and maintain peace of mind.”

Tenzin Chimé, the moderator from the Central Tibetan Administration’s Department of Information and International Relations extended a warm

welcome to all the guests, who included Sakya Gongma Rinpoché, the 42nd and 43rd Sakya Throne-holders, Ratna Vajra Rinpoché and Gyana Vajra Rinpoché, and the Head of the Bön Tradition, Menri Trizin Rinpoché. She remarked that a lamp had been lit to inaugurate the occasion and called upon Venerable Lobsang Monlam to introduce the Monlam Grand Tibetan Dictionary project of which he has been curator.

He mentioned that the 223 volume dictionary has been compiled, with the support of the Dalai Lama Trust, by more than 200 people working together for nine years. The dictionary is not only available in book form, but has given rise to 37 apps and a fully-fledged website which is updated from time to time.

Ven Monlam declared with pride that, with more than 395,000 entries, this is one of the largest dictionaries in any language in the world. It reveals the vast depth of Tibetan culture. Bringing it to completion is a historic achievement that will make a substantial contribution to preserving Tibetan cultural traditions.

“Inside Tibet,” he said, “the Chinese are trying to eliminate our language and culture, but here in exile we are making even greater efforts to keep them alive. I’d like to thank everyone who has contributed to bringing this project to

fruition. We will continue to work on it as we update it over the next ten years.

“I dedicate the virtue represented by this dictionary to His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s long life and the fulfilment of his vision. I offer a complete set of 223 volumes to His Holiness’s Office and pray that His Holiness and the leaders of all the traditions of Tibetan Buddhism live long. May sunny days for Tibet come soon.”

His Holiness was invited to address the gathering once more.

“We Tibetans have always lived between India and China, but during the reign of Songtsen Gampo we created our own written language based on an Indian model. Later, acknowledging that this gave us the means to do so, Shantarakshita encouraged Tibetans to translate Buddhist literature, including the words of the Buddha and the treatises of countless Indian scholars, into our own language. Consequently, I often tell Indian friends that you were our teachers in the past, but we may be the teachers now because we have preserved the Nalanda Tradition rooted as it is in reason and logic.

“We have techniques for dealing with anger and means to cultivate love and compassion. Practices for extending compassion to others give rise to peace of mind within individuals, which in turn has a positive effect in families and the wider community. Indeed we are today so interconnected that such methods can make a substantial contribution to peace in the world. Without peace of mind there will be no world peace.

“What’s crucial to the teaching of the Buddha is his advice not to take his teaching for granted. He insisted that his followers should examine his words and investigate his arguments in the way that a goldsmith tests the purity of gold. When we read the works of logicians like Dignaga and Dharmakirti, we find they went to great lengths accordingly to appraise and evaluate the views of others.

“Today, Chinese communist hard-liners criticize Tibetan culture without really

understanding what it's about. We may be unable to send these 223 volumes to China at present, but in Taiwan there will be people who can appreciate what kind of culture we have preserved.

“We are not seeking total independence from China, but we need to be able to keep our religion and culture alive. We shall be more than willing to share this knowledge with our Chinese brothers and sisters in the hope that doing so will promote peace between us.

“Our culture originated in India, and today we have all sorts of means to make it better known. I think there would be great benefit in combining aspects of ancient Indian knowledge with modern science. I'm looking forward to discussing how this might be done with educationists and others in Delhi. The most important element is understanding the workings of the mind and emotions, which leads to peace of mind and in the longer run to peace in the world.

“Chinese hardliners misapprehend the value of our religion and culture. Publication of this dictionary, which is already being translated into Chinese, can go some way to educating them.

“A Tibetan I know who studied in China told me that although we are currently under Chinese political control, in the long run things will change and we'll be able help them spiritually. When Chairman Mao told me that religion is poison, it was because he didn't know any better. There is great emotional distress in China. We can show people there how to find peace of mind.

“We woke up to the potential of our knowledge and culture when we came into exile and we have worked with courage and determination to keep them alive. I'm only one person and I've done what I can, but all of you gathered here can contribute to this too.”

For detailed news visit:
www.tibet.net

His Holiness the Dalai Lama's Advice to Younger Generation



His Holiness the Dalai Lama advising a young kid

While addressing a group of children among the attendees at his residence on Monday, 11 April, His Holiness the Dalai Lama said, “My generation has faced a lot of problems. However, I am hopeful the younger generation will have a more peaceful and just future”.

Tibetan spiritual leader pointed out to the younger generation the responsibility of creating a genuine peaceful world based on the concept of the oneness of 7 billion human beings.

“Now today, global warming is one serious matter. It is alerting us to act as one human community,” advised His Holiness the Dalai Lama and meanwhile dissuaded placing too much emphasis on the manmade superficial barriers.

Compassion naturally gives rise to tolerance and forgiveness. It allows us to appreciate that even someone we think of as an enemy is a human being with a right to be happy. Your enemy can be your best teacher because he or she teaches the possibility of unconditional compassion.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama

His Holiness the Dalai Lama Supports Relief Effort in Assam

In a letter to Dr. Himanta B. Sarma, Chief Minister of Assam on 21 June, His Holiness the Dalai Lama has expressed concern about the unprecedented rainfall and flooding in Assam that has led to extensive loss of life, devastation of property and displaced millions of people over the last week.

“It is most unfortunate,” he wrote, “that the monsoon rains in Assam and other parts of India seem to wreak havoc year after year.

“I would like to express my sadness about the hardship caused to so many people in your state due to the recent floods. I offer my deep condolences to you, to the families who have lost loved ones, and to everyone affected by the flooding.

“I appreciate that the concerned agencies are doing everything they can to rescue those affected and provide them with relief. As a mark of my solidarity with the people of Assam, I am making a donation from the Gaden Phodrang Trust of the Dalai Lama to support those efforts.”

THE BLUE BOOK

Tibetan Solidarity Alliance

For detailed news visit:
www.tibet.net

His Holiness the Dalai Lama's Message for Vesak, the Buddhist Celebration of Buddha's Birth, Enlightenment and Death

The Office of His Holiness the Dalai Lama (OHHDL) released a video message from His Holiness the Dalai Lama on the auspicious occasion of Vesak, the Buddhist celebration of Buddha's birth, enlightenment and death on 16 May 2022.

In the video message, His Holiness said:

My Spiritual Friends,

First of all, my greetings to you all with my wish that you be well in health and spirit. Today, we are celebrating Vesak which commemorates the Buddha's attainment of enlightenment after six years of austerity. On the basis of his own experience, the Buddha advised: O monks and scholars, just as gold is tested by heating, cutting, and rubbing it, so likewise you should thoroughly examine my teaching. And only then accept it – not merely out of respect for me. This point of view reveals a special quality of the Buddha.

I respect all religious traditions. They are all of great value because they all teach compassion. However, only the Buddha asks us to examine his teachings in the way that a goldsmith tests the purity of the gold. Only the Buddha commends us to do that. Another of his principle instructions was this:

Sages do not wash away unwholesome
deeds with water,
Nor do they remove the sufferings of
sentient beings with their hands,
Neither do they transplant their own
realisations into others,
It's by teaching the truth of suchness
that they liberate beings.

So, the Bhag wan Buddha, the Enlightened one, who is by nature compassionate, says that he cannot simply transfer his own spiritual experience and realisation into his disciples out of love and compassion for sentient beings. Disciples must develop their own spiritual experiences by reflecting on the truth of suchness as the



His Holiness the Dalai Lama delivering a video message on the auspicious occasion of Vesak.

Buddha explained it. Therefore, I find his three turnings of the wheel of Dharma to be very significant. The first turning of the wheel teaches the four noble truths – true suffering, true origin of suffering, the true cessation of suffering, and the true path that leads to that cessation. This serves as the basic framework of the teaching of the Buddha. If we pay more attention to the true cessation of suffering, the question arises, “How is it brought about?” The answer to this question involves an explanation of the ultimate nature of the mind. We learn that all mental afflictions such as desirous attachment, hatred and ignorance are rooted in our misconception of the way self and (other) things exist. For this reason, the Bhagwan gave the Perfection of Wisdom teachings at Vulture's Peak. He propounded the fourfold emptiness described in the Heart Sutra: Form is emptiness, emptiness is form, emptiness is not other than form; and form too is not other than emptiness. The most powerful antidote to our grasping at an independently existing self is the wisdom that realises everything lacks an absolute identity. It's because of this that it is possible to achieve the true cessation taught in the First turning of the Wheel. We need to find out whether there is a counterforce to our misconception of the absolute self or not, and if there is, whether we can fully acquaint ourselves with that counterforce or not. If we can, then we can eliminate the misconception

of an absolute self. So, it is quite scientific.

The Buddha gave the cycle of teachings called the Perfection of Wisdom at Vulture's Peak. In these discourse, the Buddha taught that everything lacks any inherent existence. However, this was difficult for some of his disciples to comprehend. Therefore, in order to address the difficulty some disciples had in understanding the lack of inherent existence, and to suit the intellectual calibre of such disciples, the Buddha also taught that everything can be identified with the mind. This teaching led those disciples to understand the non-duality of objects and subjects, instead of saying that we perceive whatever appears to our mind as possessing inherent existence. This reveals the profundity of the Buddha's teaching in philosophical terms.

As for me, I am a simple Buddhist monk following the tradition of the Buddha. Every morning as soon as I wake up, I recite In Praise of Dependent Arising, and reflect on the interdependent nature of things as well as the altruistic spirit of enlightenment. I find them very helpful to my mind. When you study the great Master Nagarjuna's explanation of The Perfection of Wisdom Sutras in his Wisdom: The Fundamental Stanzas of the Middle Way you marvel at it. The deeper your understanding of emptiness

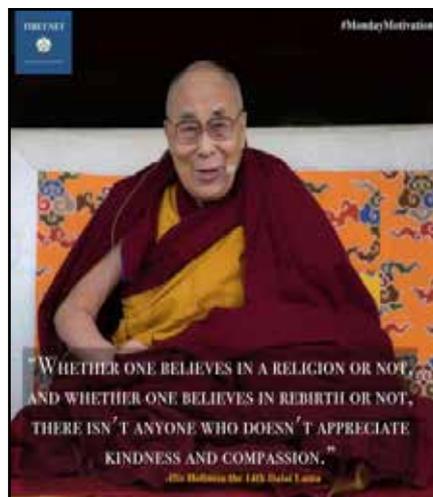
becomes, the more compassionate you feel about those who are engrossed in attachment and anger due to their not knowing about emptiness. You have a strong wish to help them eliminate their ingrained ignorance of reality, don't you? It is really helpful. We should not be contented with just considering the Buddha as a holy being. Of course, there are the Buddha's twelve enlightening deeds such as residing in the Tushita Heaven as a regent, leaving the Tushita Heaven and so forth. Other religious traditions also tell similar stories about their founder-teachers. However, reflecting on the qualities of the founding-teacher, by analysing what he said is something peculiar to the advice the Buddha gave. The more you examine his teachings through logic and reasoning, the more certain you feel about it. What distinguishes it is that it will help you reduce your ignorance about self and phenomena being truly existent. In this connection, I recite the following verses from *Entering the Middle Way* by Chandrakirti.

Thus illuminated by the rays of
Wisdom's Light,
The Bodhisattva sees as clearly as a
gooseberry on his open palm,
That the three realms in their entirety
are unborn from their very start,
And through the force of conventional
truth, he journeys to cessation.
Though his mind may rest continuously
in cessation,
He also generates compassion for
beings bereft of protection,
Advancing further, he will outshine
through his wisdom,
All those born from the Buddha's
speech and the Middle Buddhas,
And like a King of swans soaring ahead
of other accomplished swans,
With white wings of conventional and
ultimate truths spread wide,
Propelled by the powerful winds of
virtue, the Bodhisattva would cruise,
To the excellent far shore, the oceanic
qualities of the conquerors.

I reflect on these lines daily and hope with the help of the two wings of conventional and ultimate truth to traverse the Bodhisattva grounds and so be able to say Bye Bye to the level

of an ordinary being. This person who was born in a remote place in Do-Me (Amdo Province, northeastern Tibet), as indicated by the three letters A-Ka-Ma seen in the lake of Palden Lhamo, with whom I have a karmic connection because of past prayers. Due to the force of my past aspirations, I am convinced about the view of emptiness and the courageous heart of the Bodhichitta. I find these practices really helpful to my mind. So, on this special occasion, I wish to urge my dharma friends to pay more attention to the word of our founding-teacher, the Buddha. First study the teaching and reflect on the four noble truths which outline the means within which the Buddha worked to help us. In addition to that you should cultivate the courageous heart of Bodhichitta to serve others. In this way, we can help develop true peace of mind within ourselves, which in turn will create a serene atmosphere around us. My dharma friends, please keep this in mind.

That's all. Thank you.



In accordance with Article 40 of the Charter of Tibetans in exile, the fourth session of the 17th Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile will be held from 7th September 2022 (Wednesday) to 16th September 2022 (Friday) for 9 days in the Parliamentary Hall, Tibetan Parliamentary Secretariat.

Members of the 17th Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile are requested to register their attendance at the Parliamentary Secretariat on 6th September 2022.

Below is the public schedule of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. All events are free and open to the public unless noted. For ticketed events, people are requested to contact the organizers directly or visit the listed websites for further information on tickets.

For all teachings in Dharamsala, registration is required in order to attend. Registration begins a few days before the actual start of the teaching and ends the day before the first day of the teaching. Registration hours are from 9 am to 1 pm and 2 pm to 5 pm at the Branch Security Office in McLeod Ganj (Bhagsunath Road near Hotel Tibet). Kindly bring your passport for registration. A nominal fee of Rs. 10 will be charged.

For your information, as a long-standing policy His Holiness the Dalai Lama does not accept any fees for his talks. Where tickets need to be purchased, organizers are requested by our office to charge the minimum entrance fee in order to cover their costs only.

Please note that the dates given below are subject to change.

**Teaching in Dharamsala, HP, India
September 15 - 16, 2022**

His Holiness the Dalai Lama will give two-day teachings on Chandrakirti's *Entering the Middle Way* in conjunction with the autocommentary (*uma jukpa rangdrel thok ney*) in the mornings at the request of a group of Southeast Asians at the Main Tibetan Temple.

**“REMEMBER THAT
NOT GETTING
WHAT YOU WANT
IS SOMETIMES
A WONDERFUL
STROKE OF LUCK,”**

**His Holiness the
Dalai Lama**

Five Tibetan Groups Offered Long Life Prayers to His Holiness the Dalai Lama

On 24 June 2022 1500 Tibetans representing five groups: Jöl-Kong-Gyelsum, Yamdrok, Ngari, and Chang-ri, as well as Sera-jé Geshé Dölden Gyatso, congregated at the Tsuglagkhang, the Main Tibetan Temple, to offer prayers for His Holiness the Dalai Lama's long life.

As horns were played in welcome, His Holiness walked from the gate to his residence through the temple yard. On this occasion he wore his Pandit's hat. He beamed with smiles as he waved to members of the public and dancers who had gathered to greet him. Garlands of flowers adorned the pillars of the temple.

Venerable Samdhong Rinpoché, seated directly in front of His Holiness in the body of the temple, led a ceremony based on prayers to White Tara, the Wish-fulfilling Wheel. He was supported by the Chant-master and monks of Namgyal Monastery. The prayers included 'Clouds of Ambrosial Blessings' by Trulshik Rinpoché, which reviews the qualities of the line of incarnations of Avalokiteshvara that include the Dalai Lamas.

Eight hundred people bearing offerings to His Holiness took part in processions making their way through the temple before him.

When it came to the time to offer the mandala, the gods and goddesses need to be reminded of how much His Holiness has done. Ven Samdhong Rinpoché stood before His Holiness and recited a eulogy and request during which he summarised the accomplishments of the lineage of Dalai Lamas and the Ganden Phodrang and their contribution to Tibet. He suggested that His Holiness 14th Dalai Lama's achievements surpass those of the 5th, 7th and 13th Dalai Lamas combined.

"You've been here among us to serve the Dharma and all humanity," he said. "You've taught us the value of 'ahimsa'—doing no harm, and



Ven Samdhong Rinpoché reciting a eulogy and request in front of His Holiness the Dalai Lama during the Long Life Offering Ceremony at the Main Tibetan Temple in Dharamsala, HP, India on Jun 24, 2022. Photo by Tenzin Choejor

'karuna'—compassion, inter-religious harmony, and a sense of the oneness of humanity in the context that everyone wants to be happy and not to suffer.

"You've encouraged us all to understand that conflicts and disputes should be solved through dialogue and diplomatic means. You've brought benefit to Tibet by strengthening the Tibetan identity, introducing democracy and improving education in schools and monasteries. To settle the question of Tibet you have introduced the Middle Way Approach.

"These are some of the ways you have contributed to the welfare of Tibet and humanity at large. These are things that everyone can see and which have been acknowledged when you were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, the Congressional Gold Medal, the Templeton Prize and so forth. Please live long to be able to continue to benefit not only Tibetans but the whole of humanity."

There was a recitation of a prayer for His Holiness's long life composed by his Tutors, Ling Rinpoché and Trijang Rinpoché. It was followed by another prayer by Jamyang Khyentsé Chökyi Lodro that reviews His Holiness's qualities in relation to the various spiritual traditions of Tibet.

"We've done the White Tara Long Life Offering," His Holiness told the congregation. "We all have a strong karmic connection due to prayers we've made in the past. Because of this I also have a special connection with the people of Tibet. Although the affairs of Tibet have waxed and waned over the years, I think I have managed to do something to help.

"I'm in my eighties now, but I'm determined that even when I'm in nineties or past one hundred, I will strive to work for Tibet. I'm in good health and my brain is clear, so I intend to live for at least the next twenty years. The sun will shine once more on Tibet. Freedom will recover.

"Many in China are paying attention to the significance of Tibet. People around the world, scientists among them, are taking an interest in Tibetan traditions. The just cause of Tibet will persist and Tibetan culture will contribute to the welfare of the world.

"I've retired from political responsibilities and remain a guest of the Government of India here in the Kangra Valley, a location chosen for me by Pandit Nehru. We have a Tibetan

Parliament and an elected leadership capable of dealing with political affairs. I've worked as hard as I could and now this old monk can spend more time on promoting human values.

"In my daily practice I focus on bodhichitta and emptiness. I generate bodhichitta every day in order to fulfil the purpose of others and myself. I have a special link to Avalokiteshvara, but I also feel that I may have studied with the great master Chandrakirti. From chapter six of his treatise 'Entering into the Middle Way', I reflect on verses 34-38 every day.

"The people of Tibet and the Buddhadharmas of Tibet are constantly in my thoughts and the very least I can do is to make prayers for them—although today I've been able to rely on Samdhong Rinpoché to lead the prayers.

"You Tibetans must do your best. The worst times are past and now we have to look forward with hope. That's all—thank you."

Several concluding prayers were said culminating in the 'Words of Truth' that His Holiness composed here in Dharamsala in late 1960 and which ends:

Thus, the protector Chenrezig made vast prayers
 Before the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas
 To fully embrace the Land of Snows;
 May the good results of these prayers
 now quickly appear.
 By the profound interdependence of
 emptiness and relative forms,
 Together with the force of great
 compassion
 in the Three Jewels and their Words of
 Truth,
 And through the power of the infallible
 law of actions and their fruits,
 May this truthful prayer be unhindered
 and quickly fulfilled.

For detailed news visit:
www.tibet.net

China Targeting Younger Tibetans

By Dolma Tsering, Taipei Times

There have recently been another two tragic self-immolation cases in Tibet. Both raised eyebrows within the Tibetan community and on Chinese media platforms.

One involved a well-known Tibetan singer named Tsewang Norbu on Feb. 25. Norbu's case sparked many questions, but most importantly it raised concerns about the demographic significance of participating in self-immolation to protest against the Chinese government.

Tsewang Norbu was only 25 years old and he seemed to have a promising future, having performed in a series of national and regional singing reality shows, while his Sina Weibo account has nearly 600,000 followers. He was the 105th Tibetan in their 20s to commit self-immolation in protest against the Chinese government and its policies.

Based on data provided by various sources, out of 159 cases of self-immolation from 1998 until this year, 105 were aged 15 to 20.

The figures indicate that the vast majority of self-immolators were young and had not experienced China's brutal military occupation of Tibet in 1959, the Great Leap Forward in 1958, the Cultural Revolution in the 1960s and martial law in the 1980s.

However, they would have witnessed the 2008 protests and subsequent intensification of security surveillance and religious suppression. They were born in what the Chinese government called "the golden age of great leap forward development."

Many of them were also not exposed to the exiled Tibetan government's propaganda against the Chinese government. Therefore, a pertinent question that should be asked is what are the implications of these numbers?

For this particular question, the demographic features of these young protesters need to be looked at: their occupation and their concerns, and the reason and location chosen for their self-immolation. The data reveal astonishing features.

First, more than half — 57 out of 105 — of the cases involved a layperson, while the other 48 were monks or nuns. Unlike the protests that occurred in the 1980s, the data confirm the demographic diversity of the participants.

Second, many of them are either farmers or nomads; one of them self-immolated in a mining area to protest the government's mining activities in Tibetan areas.

Andrew Martin Fischer, an academic whose research focuses on the economy and development of Tibet, said that even though there is no clear evidence of a direct relationship between self-immolation and China's rural resettlement project in Tibetan areas, the project has had a profoundly disruptive impact on nomad and local communities in the Sichuan and Qinghai regions.

It heightened the already existing pressure, particularly among younger people, to move away from farming to a new small town, where employment opportunities are severely limited and social problems continue to worsen.

Another study by Adrian Zenz reveals China's coercion of thousands of Tibetan farmers and nomads into a forced labor camp.

Third, a few cases involve students and monks who are staunch advocates of the protection and preservation of Tibetan language and identity. This group includes Tsering Kyi and Gonpo Tsering, both 19, and Kalsang Jinpa, who was 18.

Tsering Woesser's book *Tibet on Fire* reveals that after Tsering Kyi's self-immolation, thousands of Tibetan college students and teachers took to the streets calling for linguistic and national equality. A similar protest also happened after the Kalsang Jinpa case.

Therefore, it is evident that concern over the protection and preservation of Tibetan language and identity is prevalent among the younger generation. Since the 2008 protest, the Chinese government has come to view the Tibetan language as a threat to national security and long-term stability. Even some of Tsewang Norbu's songs, such as *Tsampa* and *My Beautiful Homeland*, are a celebration of Tibetan identity and tradition.

Fourth, some protest locations were intentionally chosen to be near police stations, public security bureau offices, government buildings and monasteries. Many self-immolations occurred in

2012 during the 18th National Party Congress and on the eve of Tibetan National Uprising Day (March 10).

We can see that their intention is to take action against the government.

The above data reveal that China's intensification of religious suppression, systematic assimilation of Tibetan culture and language, and forceful resettlement of nomads are magnifying resentment against the government and further helping to reinforce Tibetan identity and nationalism, particularly among the younger generation.

The government has a clear understanding of such developments and, in response, launched the sinicization of Tibet policy, allowing the systematic persecution of Tibetan-language educators, intellectuals, and religious and cultural leaders.

The Tibet Action Institute released a report showing that more than 800,000 Tibetans have been compelled to join boarding schools where children are separated from their families and communities to subject them to political re-education and cement their identities as Chinese.

The demographic significance of the younger generation as key participants in self-immolation protests and the Chinese government's response of targeting them with a policy of sinicization indicate that the government is targeting young Tibetans as the new threat to stability and security of the Chinese Communist Party regime and China at large.

Dolma Tsering is a postdoctoral candidate at National Cheng Kung University's Research Center for Humanities and Social Sciences.

Yesterday's Tibet, Today's Ukraine — Who Will Be Targeted Tomorrow?

By Dr Tsewang Gyalpo Arya, Japan Forward

The West can't stop aggression like the invasion of Tibet or Ukraine until it ends the self-centered policy of trade and economic priority for despotic regimes.

It has been 27 years since a key figure in Tibetan Buddhism, the 11th Panchen Lama, disappeared in China. Where is he? Has the world forgotten the human rights and religious freedom concerns his continuing disappearance raises?

On May 26, 2022, the author delivered a version of this article as remarks during a study session at a Giin Kaikan building in the vicinity of the National Diet, seat of Japan's parliament, in Tokyo, Japan.

May 17, 2022 marked the 27th anniversary of the forced disappearance of the 11th Panchen Lama, Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, of Tibet. Chinese Communist Party leadership kidnapped the six-year-old boy along with his family members in 1995.



Representative Dr. Arya speaking at the conference with Prof Yumiko Ishihama and Ven. Shuei Kobayashi (Courtesy: Liaison Office for Japan and East Asia.)

Twenty-seven years have passed, and he is now 33. But there is no information about him and his family.

More than three months have passed since the Russian invasion of Ukraine. It has generated the largest number of refugees since World War II. Thousands

of people have been killed and displaced, and thousands of buildings destroyed. Even now there is no sight of the ending of the war.

This is the result of the self-centered policy of the democratic world giving priority to trade and economy, which has

given despotic and totalitarian regimes a free hand. After all the lessons that we have learned from two world wars, we are still not wiser and safer.

Searching For the 11th Panchen Lama

The plight of the 11th Panchen Lama, Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, of Tibet is the result of the indifference of the democratic world and their prioritizing trade and economy at the cost of ignoring bullying and territorial aggressions. International silence over the illegal occupation of Tibet and other occupied regions has emboldened China. And it has encouraged the rise of authoritarian brutal regimes that we see around the world, including Putin's Russia.

A child and his family have been kept incommunicado for more than 27 years by a government claiming itself as a superpower. This is wrong and beyond the comprehension of international norms and understanding.

It is a gross violation of children's rights, human rights, and religious freedom. Yet the world has forgotten the Panchen Lama's case, just as it has forgotten the case of Megumi Yokota, who in 1977 was also kidnapped by a brutal communist regime.

Ukraine of today is what Tibet was 70 years back. The international community must condemn the illegal occupation of Tibet by China, China's illegal occupation of East Turkestan (the Xinjiang Uyghur region) and South Mongolia, and the invasion of Ukraine by Russia.

We must also make clear that, just as the Chinese people are not with the Chinese Communist Party regime over its invasion of Tibet, Russians are also not with the Russian army over the invasion of Ukraine. When governments take illegal actions, the people always lose.

We must all work together to uphold freedom, democracy, and rule of law, and to condemn the despotic rulers for their crimes against humanity. Yesterday's

Tibet has become today's Ukraine. If we let the despotic rulers continue, whose turn it may be tomorrow? It is not difficult to imagine!

Totalitarian Regimes

Unfortunately, this message—one of great urgency—is not always readily accepted. For example, I initially planned to hold a press conference on these concerns at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan (FCCJ). But the press conference was not approved. The FCCJ did not give a reason, saying only that the committee did not approve it.

The Panchen Lama issue, China's invasion of Tibet, and Russia's invasion of Ukraine are all linked, I believe. It is because of the failure of the international community to speak against the totalitarian regimes that things like the invasion of Ukraine can happen now.

Closed Eyes Tightly Shut

Last year, the Japan National Press Club (JNPC) also refused to host our event, saying that "There is nothing new, therefore, not newsworthy." This reminded me of Clive Hamilton and Mareike Ohlberg's book on China's "Hidden Hand" in the free world.

If the media in the free world refuses to speak against the communist dictators, the world is in grave danger. We speak of press freedom, but if the media facilitators themselves are prejudiced, what press freedom are we speaking about?

The year 2021 was the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese Communist Party. Chinese President Xi Jinping boasted about the progress the CCP has made in these 100 years, and how they have turned Tibet into a socialist paradise from a slave society.

We strongly refute his claim and challenge him that if what he says is true, then why is Tibet closed to the outside world? Why are Tibetans not allowed to travel freely in and outside Tibet?

Why is there phone, mobile, and internet shutdown in Tibet? China needs to explain this to the international community.

The Ukraine invasion is a strong reminder to us that we have not fully understood the cruel lessons we have learned from two world wars. The rise and expansion of despotic regimes like the CCP, Russia, North Korea, Syria, Myanmar, etc., are indicative of our failure to put the world order in right perspective.

Request to World Leaders

I would like to request that world leaders and the international community urge the Russian and Chinese leaderships as follows:

To the Russian Leadership:

Stop the invasion of Ukraine and withdraw the Russian army from the occupied areas immediately. Start negotiations with Ukrainian and international leaders to resolve the issue peacefully.

To the Chinese Leadership:

Release Panchen Lama Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, his family members, and his teacher Chadrrel Rinpoche at once. Stop interfering in Tibetan religious freedom, such as in the selection of reincarnation of His Holiness Dalai Lama, and Revoke the States Religious Affairs Bureau Order No. 5. Initiate dialog with the representatives of the Central Tibetan Administration on Genuine Autonomy for all Tibetans.



For detailed news visit:
www.tibet.net

Melting glaciers of Tibet worrying, troublesome for all regions

By ANI



Melting glaciers of Tibet. (Photo Credit - Reuters)

The melting glaciers of Tibet are worrying and troublesome for all the regions that depend on it as their ultimate source of water.

Over 1.5 billion people across the continent of Asia rely on Tibet for their source of water since the largest rivers in Asia such as the Brahmaputra, the Ganges, the Mekong and the Yangtze all flow from Tibet.

The growth and severity of the climate crisis in Tibet have however made the region susceptible to great loss, reported Tibet Press.

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) published a report in which they made the prediction that at least a third of the region will melt due to the climate crisis and this issue will remain so or get worse if the carbon emission is not monitored or lessened drastically.

Tibetans inside Tibet have protested and are fighting endlessly for their rights and also for the Communist party to stop exploiting Tibet's environment and abundant natural resources.

Tibetans believe in preserving their environment but that has not been

possible since China's entry. Mass Hunting began early on in the land and the Chinese government also encouraged large-scale illegal poaching across Tibet.

Tibet's forest cover dropped immensely due to excessive deforestation by state logging enterprises. The rate at which this happened even led to flood in many regions, reported Tibet Press.

Tibet, being the home to many natural resources also had to face issues of excessive mining. This was done to boost the businesses but this not only destroyed the land and its quality, lessened the number of natural resources but also led to toxic waste from the industries being released in the rivers which ended up in major pollution issues.

A news piece published by Radio Free Asia (RFA) in 2020 has the statement of a Tibetan man named Gyaltsen who said, "Tibet as the Roof of the World used to have a pristine environment, with hardly any problems with air and water. (But) the Chinese have excessively exploited Tibetan natural resources, and this has created issues with air and water pollution, and many animal species are now extinct."

Tibetans were once also known

popularly for their nomadic lifestyle but now the number has gone down since China's forced resettlement of nomads.

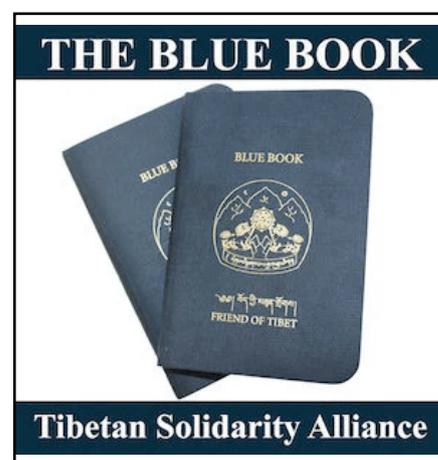
The nomads being completely unaware of the different lifestyles face serious troubles to build a new lifestyle and to make their livelihoods, reported Tibet Press.

The numerous hydro projects led by the Chinese officials have also resulted in Tibetans being relocated without proper compensation and in them losing their houses and land.

Recent news came out from Tibet that the Chinese government is set again to build another major hydropower station causing the residents of the Tibetan village in north-western China's Qinghai province into forcibly being removed from their homes to make way for the project.

It is indeed sad since Tibetans are helpless when the Chinese Communist Party lays such projects and they have particularly no say in it or the rights to even question it or ask for proper compensation, reported Tibet Press.

The environmental crisis in Tibet however isn't over and the initiation of such projects would only affect the environment further. (ANI)



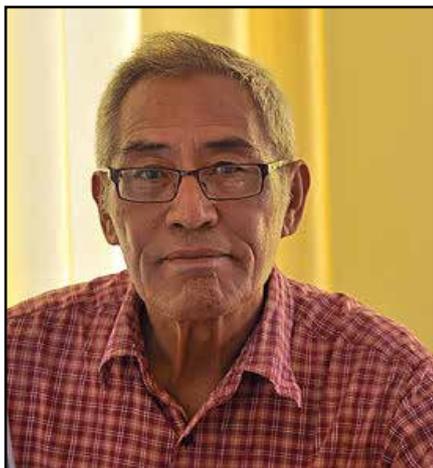
Obituary: CTA Mourns the Demise of Thubten Samphel, Former Director of Tibet Policy Institute

The Central Tibetan Administration held a prayer service on 4 June to mourn the demise of Thubten Samphel, former Secretary and Director of Tibet Policy Institute of the Central Tibetan Administration who passed away on 4 June at Tsering Gyepheling in Bylakuppe Tibetan Settlement.

The prayer service was attended by Speaker Khenpo Sonam Tenphel, Deputy Speaker Dolma Tsering, Justice Commissioner Tenzin Lungtok, Kalon Tharlam Dolma Changra, Kalon Dolma Gyari and Kalon Norzin Dolma of the 16th Kashag, Public Service Commissioner Wangdu Tsering Pesur, Auditor General Pema Dadul Arya, standing committee members of 17th Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile, secretaries and staff of the Central Tibetan Administration at the Sikyong hall.

During the prayer service, officiating Sikyong Tharlam Dolma Changra stated the late Director of Tibet Policy Institute have lived a meaningful life given his appreciable lifelong contributions to the Tibetan community. She further urged everyone at the gathering to draw inspiration from the late Thubten Samphel and pray for his swift rebirth.

THUBTEN SAMPHEL



Late Secretary Thubten Samphel was born in 1956 in Lhasa to a humble family



CTA Mourning the Demise of Thubten Samphel, a Former Director of Tibet Policy Institute. Photo / Tenzin Phende / DIIR

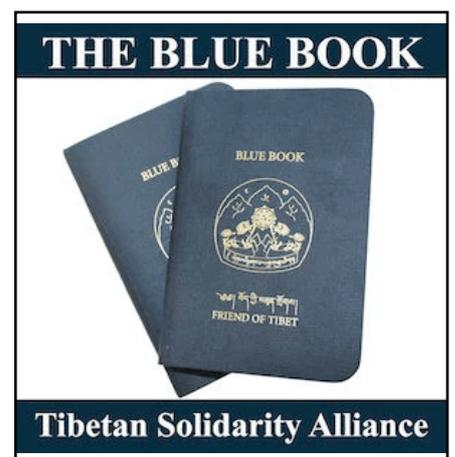
who worked for the Yabshe Taktse family. At the age of six, he escaped Tibet to India with his elder brother. Following his arrival, he has admitted to the Tibetan Refugee Nursery (presently Tibetan Children’s Village school). Later he completed his high school at Dr Graham’s Home, Kalimpong. He studied B.A and M.A in History from St. Stephen College, Delhi University. He was among the first group of Tibetan Fulbright Scholars to study in the United States and earned a degree in Journalism from Columbia University, New York.

In 1981, he joined Central Tibetan Administration as a Senior Clerk at the Department of Information and International Relations (DIIR), where he was promoted to Deputy Secretary through a special appointment and then moved to the Gaden Phodrang Office in 1986. He was later transferred to the Office of Tibet, New York, in 1991 and subsequently to Tibetan Refugee Welfare Office in Kathmandu. From 1995 to 2012, he was transferred back to DIIR, where he was entrusted with the role of CTA’s spokesperson and eventually elevated to the position of Secretary.

Apart from these, he served as the first director of the Tibet Policy Institute

since its establishment in 2012 and was also a member of the last fact-finding mission to visit Tibet in 1985. In 2018, he retired from the service at Central Tibetan Administration.

He is the author of ‘Falling Through the Roof’, a work of fiction and also co-authored the Dalai Lamas of Tibet. He has written extensively on Tibet in Indian and international newspapers and journals.



For detailed news visit:
www.tibet.net

TIBETAN MEDIA

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 Novodmitrov-
skaya - 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

NEEDS YOU

AN APPEAL

Tibetan Bulletin promotes awareness and provides facts of the situation in Tibet and Tibetans in exile. Published bi-monthly and distributed free around the world, we are looking to increase our readership and improve the Tibetan Bulletin with your kind help and suggestions.

If you have enjoyed this issue and would like to help achieve our aims of dissemination of news and views about Tibet, we would be most appreciative of your donation.

Help us to publish your favourite journal on Tibet.

Kindly address your donations to:

a) For Cheques and Drafts from within India: Tibetan Administrations Welfare Society (TAWS)

b) For Money Order: Department of Information and International Relations

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ PostCode _____

Country: _____

Email: _____

POSTAL ADDRESS:

Circulation Manager, DIIR,
Central Tibetan Administration,
Dharamshala 176 215, H.P., India



www.mwa.tibet.net

QUOTES

“People talk about peace in the world, but if you have anger and hatred in your heart, talking about peace is simply hypocritical. What we need instead is to cultivate the longstanding Indian traditions of doing no harm (ahimsa) on the basis of compassion for others (karuna).” His Holiness the Dalai Lama during Launch of Monlam Grand Tibetan Dictionary on 27 May 2022.

*“I’m in my eighties now, but I’m determined that even when I’m in nineties or past one hundred, I will strive to work for Tibet. I’m in good health and my brain is clear, so I intend to live for at least the next twenty years. The sun will shine once more on Tibet. Freedom will recover.”
His Holiness the Dalai Lama during Prayers for His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s Long Life on 24 June 2022*

“I end my speech here with hopes that this convention would pave the way forward in injecting more zeal and commitment among the decision-makers to stand with Tibet. We urge you to be vocal on the pressing issues of Tibet in your respective countries and to make the return of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and his people possible as per the wishes of the martyrs who have laid their lives for Tibet.” Speech by the Speaker on 8th World Parliamentarians’ Convention on Tibet

“When Xi Jinping came into power, the little freedom for language enjoyed by the Tibetans was demolished as he imposed One China Policy under which, there was no room for the practice of language and culture other than the Chinese language and culture. The schools and institutions have been forced to replace the medium of instruction from Tibetan to Chinese” Sikyong Penpa Tsering’s Testimonial at Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development
