



# Super Samgha

The Association of Japanese Buddhists for Tibet

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## Statement on the matter of H.H. the 14th Dalai Lama's Successor

We, Super Samgha : The Association of Japanese Buddhists for Tibet, support the Middle Way approach advocated by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama and are committed to resolving the Tibetan issue peacefully through non-violence and dialogue in a spirit of compassion. Our Buddhist Association is an organization led by Japanese Buddhist monks who have come together to work for a peaceful resolution of the Tibetan issue through non-violence and dialogue in a spirit of compassion. We are deeply concerned that today, under the Chinese government, the entire identity of the Tibetan people, including their life, culture, and ethnicity, is in danger of being extinguished, and we urge that this situation be corrected with justified anger rooted in the Buddha's great compassion, so that true peace and freedom in Tibet can be realized.

We are deeply concerned about the Chinese Communist government's attempt to politicize the religious issue of the 14th Dalai Lama's reincarnation. Tibet and Japan each boast a long history of Buddhism, and since the modern era we have been promoting direct exchanges and effort to cooperate and understand each other. Especially His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, as an outstanding Buddhist scholar and leader of the Tibetan people, is highly respected not only by us monks of the Super Sangha, but also by Buddhists and non-Buddhists in Japan.

It is well known that the Dalai Lama's system of recognizing reincarnations began in the 14th century and is an established method of recognizing reincarnations through a series of processes based on the signs left by the previous Dalai Lama. This system is also the cultural heritage of the Tibetan people and must be

preserved and passed on for the future. The approval of reincarnations of the Dalai Lama and other high priests of Tibetan Buddhism is not something that can be decided by lot or lottery. The enforcement of this recognition system is the inalienable right of Tibetan Buddhists and no government, organization or individual can interfere. Nor should any interference by the Chinese government, which is constantly violating the human and religious rights of the Tibetan people.

We reiterate that the system of recognition of the reincarnation of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama and all subsequent Dalai Lamas is a religious tradition unique to Tibetan Buddhism, and no country, organization, or individual has the right to interfere with this system. We also ask for the solidarity of governments and all people, Buddhist and non-Buddhist alike, throughout the world, to recognize and support the right of Tibetans to recognize reincarnations in accordance with the Dalai Lama's reincarnation recognition system.

Representative of Super Samgha : The Association of Japanese Buddhists for Tibet

(Ven. Shodo Ueda)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shodo Ueda". The script is cursive and elegant, with the first letters of "Shodo" and "Ueda" being capitalized and prominent.