## INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN for TIBET

# ANNUAL REPORT



#### Message from the President & Director

The millennial year of 2000 was eventful in many ways for Tibet, yet it was also marked by a deep freeze in the process toward a genuine dialogue to resolve the occupation of Tibet.

The year began with the arrival of the Karmapa in India, a historic event highlighting religious repression in Tibet and China's uphill battle to gain legitimacy in Tibet. In the summer, Chinese authorities in Tibet began to search people's homes for images of the Dalai Lama on altars, a tactic not seen since the Cultural Revolution. In the fall, the top official of the Tibet Autonomous Region, Chen Kuiyuan was replaced by another Chinese official, Guo Jinlong, continuing China's colonialist tradition of governing Tibetan areas with non-Tibetans. The year ended on an ominous note, with the announcement that construction on a railway from Golmud to Lhasa would begin in 2001.

Outside of Tibet, the Tibet movement showed its depth and strength in numerous successful campaigns. The most remarkable of these was an international campaign, led by ICT and others, canceling a World Bank project which would have moved tens of thousands of Chinese into Tibetan areas. In another, ICT worked aggressively to convince scores of large institutional investors not to buy into the PetroChina IPO based on PetroChina's construction of a gas pipeline across Tibet, proving that China's access to U.S. capital markets could be vulnerable when connected to Tibet. Later in the summer a high-profile protest campaign against the Dalai Lama's exclusion from a summit of world religious leaders at the United Nations shamed China and the UN and brought unprecedented media attention to the plight of Tibet.

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While China's occupation of Tibet continues to cause severe and systematic human rights violations, ICT believes that many aspects of it can be changed. As the above campaigns demonstrate, China's occupation involves specific people and institutions not only in China but around the world. By demanding justice and mounting aggressive campaigns, the Tibet movement is not only making a difference in key areas, but it is laying a groundwork of international public opinion, public outrage and public expectation which will serve Tibetans well for decades to come.

In our capacities as the President and Director of ICT our goal is to develop new and innovative ways to address complex issues in Tibet and ensure that ICT continues to be an effective, efficient organization that produces tangible results for the people of Tibet, year in and year out.

ICT is proud to be a leader in this movement, empowering people everywhere to support Tibetans in their struggle for human rights and self-determination. Our work involves a large network of friends and supporters and we want to thank everyone who worked with us in 2000 and hope that many more will support our work in the future.

Sincerely,

John Ackerly

PRESIDENT

Bhuchung Tsering

DIRECTOR

#### **Government Outreach**

CT worked throughout the year on foundation and precedence building in anticipation of a new Administration and a new Congress. ICT worked especially closely with the office of the Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues at the State Department to secure programmatic assistance for Tibetans and highlight human rights concerns, including religious freedom. The final official meetings between the Dalai Lama and President Clinton and Secretary Albright occurred in July.

Administration and Congressional officials, including Julia Taft, Special Coordinator for Ti-

betan Issues, made several visits to India and Nepal. Mrs. Taft served concurrently as Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees and Migration, and her visit, at the invitation of the Central Tibetan Administration, reflected her responsibilities for Tibetan refugees. Assistant Secretary Taft sent her principal assistants, Kate Friedrich and Joe Bracken, to settlements in south India. During their visit, accompanied by Mary Beth Markey, ICT's Director of Government Relations, they held meetings with community, school and monastic leaders to identify the needs of the agriculture-based settlements and how to deal with the challenge of an ambitious new generation of young Tibetans.



His Holiness the Dalai Lama with President Bill Clinton. Their last meeting during President Clinton's term was in July 2000. (The White House)

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ICT brought four congressional aides to Delhi, Dharamsala and Kathmandu in late November to meet directly with branches of the Tibetan government-in-exile, newly arrived refugees and former prisoners of conscious. This was the sixth such delegation to provide direct observation of US programming and greater understanding of the political and human rights dimensions of the Tibet issue.

Several influential Tibet advocates in Congress retired from office in 2000, most notably Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-NY) and Congressman John Porter (R-IL).

#### OTHER IMPORTANT EVENTS IN 2000:

 The Senate passed S.Res.60, sponsored by Connie Mack (R-FL), calling for dialogue between His Holiness the Dalai Lama or his representatives and the Chinese government and marking March 10th as the 41st anniversary of the Tibetan Uprising in Lhasa.

- ICT Director Bhuchung Tsering testified before the House International Relations Committee hearing on Human Rights in China and Tibet.
- At the invitation of ICT, actress Goldie Hawn met with Members of Congress to speak against the granting of Permanent Normal Trade Relations with China.
- Senator Jim Jeffords of Vermont linked his opposition to PNTR to his demand that Ngawang Choephel the former Middlebury student arrested in Tibet be released from prison.
- The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom released its report and held hearings in Los Angeles. Bhuchung Tsering and Agya Rimpoche testified before the Commission.
- A staff delegation from the House International Relations Committee visited Lhasa.

### **ICT's Mandate**

The International Campaign for Tibet (ICT) is a monitoring and advocacy group dedicated to promoting human rights and democratic freedoms for the people of Tibet. ICT works to keep pressure on the U.S. government and other governments to support Tibet, advocate for Tibetans imprisoned for their political and religious beliefs, provide for humanitarian assistance to Tibetans in exile, and promote a peaceful resolution of the occupation of Tibet through negotiations between the Chinese government and the Dalai Lama. ICT supports the right of self-determination for the Tibetan people. ICT does not take a position on any particular form of self-determination such as independence or autonomy. Founded in 1988, ICT is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization with offices in Washington, D.C. and Amsterdam.

#### **Environmental Rights Campaign**

aunched in September 2000, ICT's Environmental Rights Campaign is based on rights of Tibetans to be decision-makers over a range of issues critical to Tibet's environment including population transfer, natural resource extraction, environmental stewardship and sustainable development.

#### WORLD BANK VICTORY

The campaign to stop the World Bank from funding a major population transfer project onto the Tibetan plateau was ICT's most important campaign in the end of 1999 and beginning of 2000. It ended on July 7 when China withdrew the project after losing critical support from the Bank's Board of Directors.

The campaign to cancel the project picked up steam in April 2000 when the World Bank's Inspection Panel released its report based on their trip to the region. It was the most in-depth and probably the most critical report the Inspection Panel had ever released. The report was the result of a claim filed by ICT in 1999 alleging numerous violations in World Bank policy in preparing this project.

Bank Management, led by its President, James Wolfensohn, continued to defend the project and in June formally recommended that the Board of Directors release funding for it. ICT and a large coalition of Tibetan, environmental and human rights organizations from all over the world aggressively campaigned against the rec-

ommendation of Bank management. On July 1 nearly 8,000 Tibetans and supporters marched around the World Bank building demanding that the World Bank cancel the resettlement project. The march, organized by ICT and led by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Mairead Maguire, activist Sulak Sivaraksa, Tibetan leader Samdhong Rinpoche, former political prisoners Palden Gyatso and Ani Pachen, and ICT Board Chair Richard Gere, was the largest March for Tibet ever in North America.

The World Bank was expected to approve the project right up until the last minute. Never before had a project been canceled at this stage of the process when management and a large host country strongly endorsed it. At the 11th hour, the United States and Japan with some European support, forced China to withdraw. What may have become a terrible precedent of international funding for population transfer into Tibet, had become a landmark victory for Tibetans.

#### OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT IN TIBET

For the first time, western corporations have become involved in a major resource extraction project in Tibet. BP and the Italian firm of ENI/Agip are both assisting PetroChina in drilling for oil & gas on the Tibetan plateau and the construction of the Sebei-Lanzhou gas pipeline.

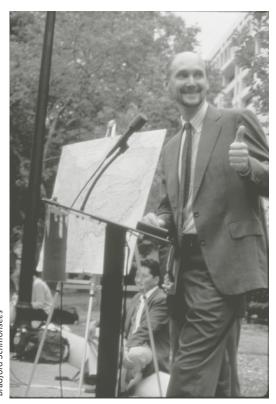
ICT, as part of a diverse and powerful coalition of Tibetan, human rights, national security, and environmental groups called on BP Amoco, to divest from PetroChina or use its influence to stop a controversial natural gas pipeline currently

under construction in Tibet. BP is the largest foreign shareholder in PetroChina, which is the company building the pipeline, and the top investor in the Chinese oil industry.

Development of the 953-km pipeline and the gas fields to supply it are a significant escalation of China's ongoing strategy of developing Tibet into a resource extraction colony. If allowed to continue, this project will remove petroleum from Tibet without benefit for Tibetans. Reportedly begun in March 2000, this project could implicate western corporations in ongoing human rights violations in Tibet. It would also increase Chinese presence in these areas

and further consolidate China's control of the region while marginalizing Tibetans in their own land.

In another coordinated campaign, this diverse coalition opposed PetroChina's listing on the New York Stock Exchange. ICT coordinated a mailing to pension funds and Wall Street firms to dissuade them from buying PetroChina's shares. Many of them responded positively. ICT also organized a well-attended press conference. Partially as a result of these concerted efforts, PetroChina only managed to raise \$3 billion, far short of the \$7-10 billion the underwriters had originally expected.



ICT's president, John Ackerly, gives the "thumb's up" at a press conference outside the World Bank. Behind Mr. Ackerly is a map of Tibet to illustrate the Tibetan areas where China would resettle farmers with the World Bank's funding.

**Bradford Schmonsees** 

#### **Political Prisoners**

CT worked to promote awareness and action about scores of political prison ers in 2000 and ran intensive campaigns on two of them: the Panchen Lama and Ngawang Choephel.

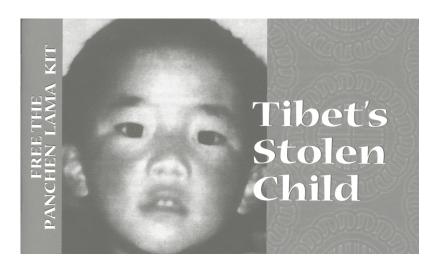
#### NGAWANG CHOEPHEL

In August following high-level international appeals, Chinese authorities granted Sonam Dekyi permission to visit her son and former Middlebury College Fulbright scholar, Ngawang Choephel, in prison. Together with the office of Senator James Jeffords (D-VT) and the Office of Tibet in Nepal, ICT worked quietly on the arrangements of Sonam Dekyi and her brother Tsering Wangdu to see Ngawang. It was believed that the meeting would take place in Tibet, but upon their arrival at the airport outside Lhasa, they were quickly transferred to Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province, where they met with Ngawang in a nearby prison. Upon returning, Sonam Dekyi informed ICT that Ngawang was

in extremely poor health. He looked "weak and did not seem strong mentally" and that "he was just skin and bones and his face was yellow." A doctor had informed Ngawang that he is suffering from liver, lung, and stomach ailments, and possibly also a urinary tract infection. Previous reports from Chinese authorities indicated that he was also suffering from tuberculosis and hepatitis. Since then, ICT has stepped up its campaign to have Ngawang released on medical parole.

#### PANCHEN LAMA

At gatherings ranging in size from a few dozen people to tens of thousands, ICT continued to show its film *Tibet's Stolen Child* and distribute Panchen Lama Kits which call for the immediate release of Gendhun Choekyi Nyima. ICT held screenings of the film during the visit of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to the United States in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. ICT Europe screened the film at His Holiness' teachings at Lerab Ling in France and distributed a Pan-European version of the kit.



In 2000 ICT distributed more than 70,000 of Panchen Lama Kits which included 8 post-cards to government officials. The project involved partnerships with Students for a Free Tibet, Drepung Loseling Institute, Los Angeles Friends of Tibet, U.S. Tibet Committee and Thubten Dhargye Ling.

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#### **ICT Europe**

n its one year of existence ICT-Europe has obtained a significant degree of recognition and support for its work in Europe. It has been effective in establishing working relationships with parliamentarians, various governments, NGOs and built a foundation of popular support in Europe.

One of the main aims of ICT-Europe is to foster better coordination between members of parliaments in Europe. In order to achieve this ICT-E organised a first-of-its-kind conference on Tibet with the European Parliamentarians in which 15 countries participated. ICT-E has been instrumental in the coordination and mobilisation of members of parliaments for the World Bank campaign. ICT-E continues to brief parliamentarians in Europe on issues in Tibet

and encourages them to take appropriate action.

ICT-Europe also closely monitors the EU-China Human Rights dialogue. Due to a lack of results, ICT-E in cooperation with other NGOs has urged the EU Commission to suspend the dialogue and conduct a thorough review of its effectiveness. In addition, ICT-E has appealed to the European parliament to ensure scrutiny of the impact of the dialogue and to initiate a debate on the progress of the dialogue.

During 2000, ICT-Europe built a strong membership base of more than 12,000 dues-paying members. This effective membership program provides stable funding and an excellent means to mobilise members to take action. To inform and strengthen our relationship with our Dutch donors, ICT-E publishes several Dutch language newsletters a year. The first issue was in the autumn of 2000.



ICT Board Chair Richard Gere introducing the Panchen Lama film, "Tibet's Stolen Child," during His Holiness the Dalai Lama's teachings at Lerab Ling in Southern France in September, 2000. Other speakers include Ven. Sogyal Rimpoche, founder of RIGPA and Board member of ICT; ICT-Europe Director Tsering Jampa; and ICT's Executive Chair, Lodi Gyari. (ICT)

#### **United Nations**

CT worked intensively on the 56th United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva and believes that the Commission continues to be a vital forum for interacting with governments from all over the world. During the 56th UN Commission of Human Rights, ICT worked closely with the Tibetan Government in Exile's UN team to build support and relationships with the delegates of the Commission's members. In addition, ICT Europe organised major activities, including bringing Richard Gere to give briefings and meet with Commission members. ICT also hosted a screening of 'Tibet's Stolen Child.' Tsering Jampa of ICT-Europe coordinated ICT's efforts in Geneva, with Lodi Gyari, John Ackerly and Mary Beth Markey coming to Geneva for parts of the Commission.

In another UN fora, ICT Europe participated in the European Preparatory Conference on Racism and Xenophobia. This conference is a preparatory meeting of the UN Conference on Racism, which will take place in September 2001 in South Africa.

#### **Chinese Outreach**

CT continued its outreach to the Chinese community in numerous ways in 2000, including assisting with the organization of an Interethnic Leadership Conference in Weston, Massachusetts. This conference was put together by the Foundation for China in the 21st Century, based in Boston. During this conference ICT built rela-



Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights, Labor and Democracy, Harold Koh talks with ICT Board Chair Richard Gere at the 56th meeting of the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva in March 2000. (ICT)

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tionships with many Chinese from the mainland, Hong Kong and Macao, as well as with Taiwanese. In preparation of a full-fledged Chinese language website, ICT began including Chinese language pages on our current site, www.savetibet.org. With the internet having a significant presence inside China, ICT expects its site should be able to attract a sizable number of Chinese visitors. At ICT's Board meeting in November, the Board approved the hiring of a Tibetan who speaks Chinese to greatly expand this program.

#### Folklife Festival

he highlight of raising awareness about Tibet in Washington D.C. in 2000 was the Smithsonian's Folklife Festival on the Mall featuring "Tibetan Culture Beyond the Land of Snows," the largest Tibetan cultural celebration ever held in the West. The primary organizer was the Conservancy for Tibetan Art and Culture (CTAC). ICT played a supporting role in numerous ways - helping to raise funds, publicizing events and organizing off-site, more political activities. ICT also coordinated the participation of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. The Festival featured a public address by His Holiness the Dalai Lama on the National Mall attended by an estimated 50,000 people.



His Holiness the Dalai Lama greets the crowd of more than 50,000 at the Smithsonian annual Folklife Festival on the mall in Washington, D.C. on July 2, 2000. (Sonam Zoksang)

#### Membership

CT worked as a strong and effective voice for Tibetans in 2000 through our 75,000 members and 50,000 support ers in the United States. The majority of ICT's revenue (85%) was received directly from individual donors and members. ICT received no funding from corporations in 2000. ICT started a new monthly giving program called Friends of Tibet, which has more than 200 donors. This program will allow ICT to handle the emergencies that cannot be planned and budgeted. The major member event last year was a talk by His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Washington, D.C. where he answered questions from ICT members.

#### Planned Giving Campaign

n 2000, ICT began developing a planned giving program. ICT's first significant bequest was from the estate of Thomas Lundstrom to be used to establish a trust for the reconstruction of Tibet when such investments become politically feasible. Mr. Lundstrom was an ICT member from California who attended an ICT sponsored conference and traveled to both India and Tibet in pursuit of his interest and support of the Tibetan people.

#### www.savetibet.org

he goal of ICT's website is to efficiently provide ICT resources to its members and the public on the web. Outreach capabilities through ICT's website, www.savetibet.org improved greatly in 2000. Moreover, ICT built a list-serve of more than 17,000 e-mail addresses and aggressively used it to further ICT campaigns. The website now has a Support ICT section, which included ICT's online join form, financial statements, and monthly giving information.

#### **ICT In The News**

CT enjoys a prominent standing in the national media on Tibetan issues. During 2000, ICT staff or ICT campaigns were quoted or covered more than 100 times. ICT's role during the World Bank campaign was particularly well-covered in prominent national and international media, including the Washington Post, the New York Times, Financial Times, Wall Street Journal, Business Week, National Public Radio and CNN. ICT's work is also being increasingly covered in Chinese-language media, mainly in Taiwan, Hong Kong and overseas Chinese communities. Additionally, Bhuchung Tsering wrote a monthly column for the Tibetan Review.

#### People At ICT

#### **BOARD CHAIRS**

Richard Gere, Chairman

Lodi G. Gyari, Executive Chairman

#### **STAFF**

John Ackerly, President

Bhuchung Tsering, Director

Mary Beth Markey, Director of Governmental Relations

Lesley Friedell, Development Coordinator

Moj Azemun, Campaign Coordinator

Joel Gysan, Membership Coordinator

Tenzin Dhongthog, Office Manager

Van Ly, Program Associate

Melissa Carlson, Program Associate

#### STAFF, ICT-EUROPE

Tsering Jampa, Director

Caroline Lindner, Program Assistant

#### **CONSULTANTS**

Roger Craver, Carol Faulb, Steve Kretzmann, Craig Lamb, Rachel Lostumbo, Julie Meling, Wangchuk Meston, Maureen Nelson, Richard Nishimura, Lobsang Rabgey and Michael van Walt.

#### **INTERNS**

Norzin Dagyab, Michel Lee, Lia Lindsey, Ayako Okada and Lisa de Saxe

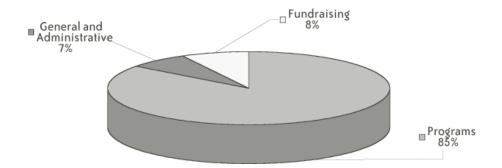


ICT staff, former staff, consultants, interns and volunteers with His Holiness the Dalai Lama during his July 2000 visit to Washington, D.C. (Not pictured is Lesley Friedell, Development Coordinator.) (ICT)

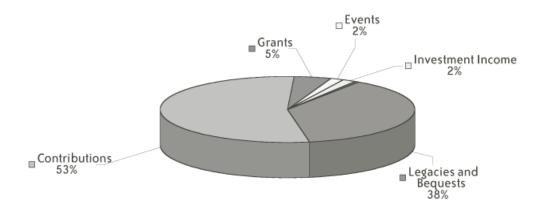
#### **Financial Condition**

n 2000 ICT raised \$5,417,426, a significant increase over 1999 because of a very generous and unexpected bequest. ICT's expenses in 2000 were \$2,697,874. ICT is proud to report that 85% of our expenses were for programming, 8% for fundraising and 7% for administrative expenses. \$183,375 or 3% of ICT's budget was spent on direct and indirect lobbying, well below the 20% allowable by law for ICT as a 501(c)(3) organization.

#### 2000 Expenses



#### 2000 Income



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#### Statement of Activities

#### YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
REVENUE			
Contributions and special fundraising revenue	2,898,160		2,898,160
Legacies and Bequests	2,050,000		2,050,000
Grants	30,000	225,092	255,092
Events	95,422		95,422
Investment Income	91,359		91,359
Sales	27,016		27,016
Other Income	377		377
Net Assets released from restrictions:	255,092	(255,092)	
Total Revenue:	5,417,426		5,417,426
Program Service Tibet Awareness	2,778,193		2,778,193
Supporting services			
General and administrative	221,878		221,878
Fundraising	254,043		254,043
Total expenses	3,254,114		3,254,114
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	2,163,312		2,163,312
NET ASSETS, beginning of year	534,562		534,652
NET ASSETS, end of year	\$2,697,874		\$2,697,874

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Mr. Richard Gere

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Ven. Geshe Gyaltsen

Mr. Lodi Gyari

Mr. Marvin Hamlisch

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COVER: HERDERS ON A HILLTOP IN DINGRI; SONAM ZOKSANG. 1994.