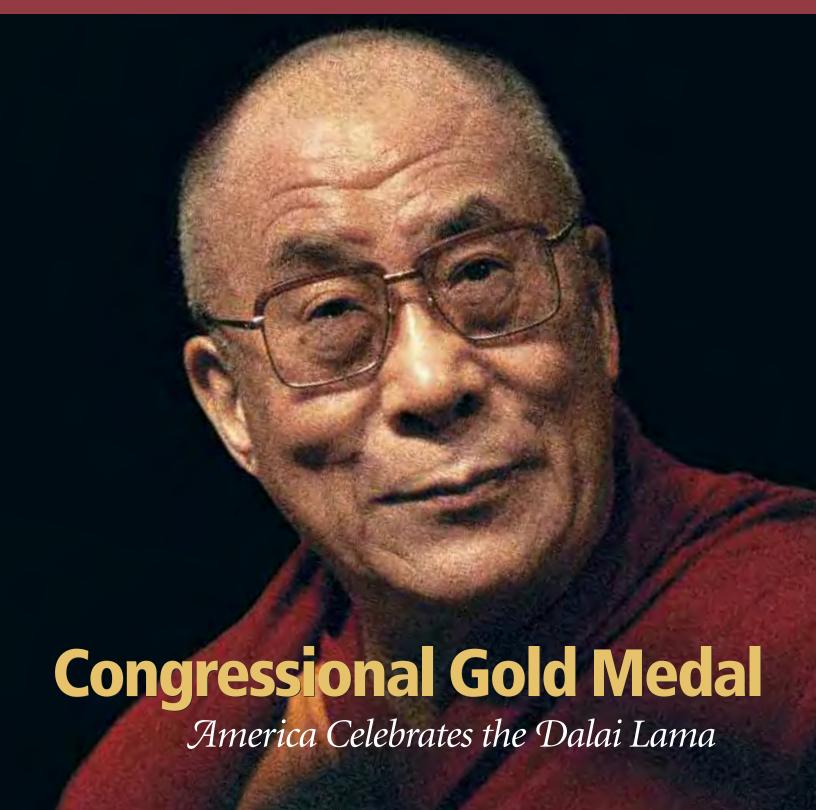


INSIDE:

New Website: DalaiLamaDC.org! U.S. House Hearing on Tibet Dalai Lama U.S. Schedule Tibet in the News









MANDALA SOCIETY YOUR LIVING LEGACY TO TIBET

The Mandala Society is an intimate group of Tibet supporters, committed to helping future generations of Tibetans. By including the International Campaign for Tibet in their will or trust, Mandala Society members ensure that ICT will continue to have the resources to promote a peaceful resolution of the occupation of Tibet, and will be able to help rebuild Tibet when Tibetans achieve genuine autonomy.

For more information about Mandala Society membership, please contact Melissa Winchester at 202-785-1515, ext. 225, *melissaw@savetibet.org*, or use the envelope attached to this newsletter to request a call.





The Mandala Society of the International Campaign for Tibet



WITH YOUR SUPPORT

ICT's advocacy staff was ready when U.S. Congressional leadership changed to ensure that Tibet remains on its agenda. In March, the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee held a hearing on Tibet as its first priority in exploring U.S.-China policy.

TIBET PRESS WATCH

The International Campaign for Tibet works to promote human rights and democratic freedoms for the people of Tibet.

Founded in 1988, ICT is a non-profit membership organization with offices in Washington, D.C., Amsterdam, Berlin and Brussels.

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From the President

Dear Friend,

Since the last issue of *Tibet Press Watch*, ICT celebrated Losar, the Tibetan new year — the year of the pig — so I send my warmest greetings to you and your family.

I hope you will join us in wishing His Holiness a long life and great success in his work for a peaceful and just Tibet in this significant year — as His Holiness was born in a year of the pig.



John Ackerly, President

This year, the Dalai Lama's steadfast commitment to peace and reconciliation will be more visible and celebrated in the United States than at any time since he received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989. In October, the U.S. Congress will present him with the Congressional Gold Medal in recognition of his outstanding contribution to non-violence, human rights, and religious understanding.

Please remember as you read in the following pages about the current challenges and recent achievements for Tibet — none of it would be possible without your support.

ICT will be hosting the Dalai Lama's Washington, D.C. visit in October, and I truly hope you will join us for our celebration gala on October 18th and for other events still being scheduled.

You'll find more details about these events—and get a sneak preview of the Gold Medal events website, www.DalaiLamaDC.org, in the pages of this *Tibet Press Watch*.

I hope you enjoy this newly reformatted *Tibet Press Watch* and feel free to send us your feedback. Please remember as you read in the following pages about the current challenges and recent achievements for Tibet — none of it would be possible without your support.

In solidarity,

John Ackerly



Tibet Press Coverage:

Impact of New Media

If you are a long-time ICT supporter, you have probably noticed the new format of the *Tibet Press Watch*. When ICT started publishing the *Tibet Press Watch*, it became the central news monitor and press clipping consolidator for the Tibet movement.

Now, the Internet and other media technologies have made real-time news coverage widely available — and the Chinese government has harnessed these media to distribute their propaganda about Tibet.

The information needs of our movement have changed. Thus, ICT is pleased to introduce a new editorial perspective for ICT's *Tibet Press Watch*. In every issue, we will recap the most important press coverage of the Tibet issue and provide analysis of its impact. Our goal is to contextualize the changing face of our issues in the media — and demonstrate how new developments out of China, Tibetan exile communities and Western governments inform and reflect ICT's work.

In this issue, we highlight an excerpt from the October issue of the *Christian Science Monitor*, which shares personal accounts from Tibetan refugees who survived the shooting of Kelsang Namtso by Chinese police at the Nangpa Pass. Because this incident — which resulted in the death of a nun and at least one other refugee — was actually witnessed and filmed by Western mountain climbers, it received unprecedented attention to the danger Tibetan refugees face when they pursue freedom.

We grieve at the cruelty of this incident, which is sadly representative of human rights abuses in Tibet. Media outlets all over the world, from the Associated Press and Reuters to the *New York Times* and *London Times*, have covered the Nangpa Pass shooting, providing an important opportunity for awareness.

I hope you will join us in educating others about Tibet, and find the newly designed *Tibet Press Watch* a publication that you can share with your friends and family.

This incident — which resulted in the death of a nun and at least one other refugee ... received unprecedented attention to the danger Tibetan refugees face when they pursue freedom.





A Capitol Hill reporter interviews Lodi Gyari, Special Envoy of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and ICT Executive Chair following his testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Above: A visit from the Dalai Lama is a cause célèbre for the Tibet movement in the media.

News Round-up



WITH YOUR SUPPORT

ICT's advocacy staff was able to act immediately to raise concern for the welfare and whereabouts of the refugee children taken into custody by Chinese border guards during the Nangpa Pass shooting incident.



THE TIMES

Chinese guards often detain some of the 3,000 Tibetans who try to cross into Nepal every year, but this was the first time guards had shot dead anyone in front of such a large number of foreigners. "We were shocked," said the police officer, who wants to return to Tibet. "You expect to encounter death on the mountains. But you don't expect to see someone shot in the back when they're posing no threat to anybody."

— The Times, Oct. 2006

Diplomat

"If the leadership in Beijing has the political will, I believe the differences can be resolved. From one angle, the gap we're trying to bridge may seem too vast. But from another angle, it may not only be bridgeable, but not that far to bridge. The Dalai Lama is a very practical, farsighted man."

— Lodi Gyaltsen Gyari, special envoy of the Dalai Lama

— The Washington Diplomat, Nov. 2006

* THE INDEPENDENT

"The Chinese government banned government workers, Communist Party cadres and students in Tibet from observing an important Buddhist festival, citing the need to keep a tighter grip on education and guidance. The ban applied to the Gaden Ngachoe religious festival, a key event in the Tibetan religious calendar that marks the death of the 14th century Buddhist teacher Tsongkhapa, who was a founder of the Gelugpa school of Tibetan Buddhism....

"The Chinese government claims to allow religious freedom in Tibet but this latest instruction on the festival of Gaden Ngachoe prevents a devotional activity that has been practiced by Tibetans for hundreds of years and is at the heart of their cultural identity," says Marybeth Markey, vice president of the ICT.

— The Independent, Oct. 2006

TheGuardian

Restrictions on religious freedom in the (Tibet Autonomous Region) have been tightened in what (Communist Party Secretary of Tibet) Zhang called a "fight to the death struggle" against the Dalai Lama in a speech in May. Patriotic re-education in nunneries and monasteries has driven more nuns and monks to face the dangers of the Nangpa La to escape Tibet. Most refugees travel in autumn and winter when deep snow reduces the chance of meeting border patrols, but conditions are severe.

— The Guardian, Oct. 2006





WITH YOUR SUPPORT

ICT was able to secure video footage by onlooking mountaineers exposing the September 30 shooting of a 17-year old Tibetan nun — and distribute it to the media.

EXCERPT FROM:

China takes heat after tragic flight of Tibetan teenager

The shooting death of a would-be refugee by a Chinese patrolman places the Middle Kingdom's human rights record under scrutiny.

By Daniel Pepper, Correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

NEW DELHI – Kelsang Namtso had become a Buddhist nun just last year, at the tender age of 16. Her friend, Dolma Palkyi, 16, wanted to go to India, and meet the Dalai Lama, the exiled spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism, before taking her vows.

Dolma says she managed to save nearly \$1,400 for the arduous journey through the Himalayas. Half would go to the smugglers. In early September, the girls loaded their backpacks with yak butter, cheese, and barley, and finally set off.

Seventeen days later, Kelsang lay dying in the snow after an attack, captured by Western tourists' cameras, that is becoming an international incident and a



SAFELY IN INDIA: Three Buddhist nuns (right to left) Dechen Palmo, Tenzin Dolma, and Tenzin Wangmo were among 41 Tibetan refugees who arrived in New Delhi Sunday.

walking directly behind Kelsang. They never saw the Chinese policemen. "When the shooting was going on I just prayed along. She was unsuccessful, she says: "There was a monk from the group who said, 'She is dead — if we don't run away we will all be finished."

[T]hey dropped everything ... and ran until evening. That night, lacking food and blankets, they huddled together for warmth.

About half the group was captured by Chinese police. The Chinese Foreign Ministry announced the death of a second victim, a 23-year-old male, days later in a hospital, stating he died from "oxygen shortage." China's official news agency, Xinhua, reported on Oct. 12 that Chinese police opened fire in self-defense after the Tibetans attacked them.

Human rights groups say the Tibetans were unarmed, and that the male victim died from gunshot wounds.

Rights groups don't know how many refugees die along the way each year, but they say a significant number fall into crevasses, die of hunger, or are shot by Chinese police.

But never before has such an event been documented so well. A Romanian cameraman and other Western tourists who were in the region to climb Cho Oyu, about 12 miles west of Mount Everest, say they saw the Chinese patrolmen shoot the Tibetan refugees.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry announced ... he died from "oxygen shortage"

stain on China's human rights record.

... The group was walking single file and had just reached the 18,753-foot Nangpa La Pass when they heard the distinct "zing" of bullets passing on either side. "They were shooting all around," says Tenzin Wangmo, one of three nuns to His Holiness the Dali Lama to kindly save us," she recounted softly.

When a bullet hit young Kelsang, she collapsed into the snow, crying that she had been hit and asked for help. ... Ms. Wangmo says she made an attempt to grab the fallen woman's arm and pull her



News and Occasions

In Summary

Dalai Lama issues annual March 10th statement. To mark the anniversary of the 1959 Tibetan National Uprising, the Dalai Lama said that his call for a single administration of all Tibetans within the People's Republic of China is "sincere, just and transparent." For the full statement, visit www.savetibet.org/news.

Bhuchung K. Tsering, ICT Vice President of Special Programs, testified before the United States Commission on International Religious **Freedom** in a hearing on "The Many Faces of China's Repression: Human Rights and U.S. Diplomacy in China." For a transcript of his testimony,

visit www.savetibet.org/news.



"Dangerous Crossings" report documents plight of Tibetan refugees.

In March, ICT released the annual report on the state of Tibetan refugees. To order a copy of the report, please email *members@savetibet.org*. It is also available for download from www.savetibet.org/refugees.

Chairman of the Tibetan Cabinet visits Washington, D.C.

Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche, the elected Kalon Tripa of the Tibet Government in Exile, met in March with policy makers in Washington, D.C. and gave a public talk at ICT.

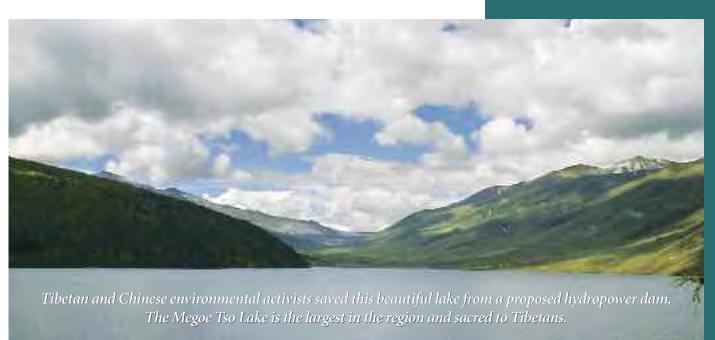
Tibetan activists win protection of sacred lake. After protests by local Tibetans and Chinese environmental activists, the Ganzi Prefecture's Party Committee and government in Sichuan Province of China cancelled a planned hydropower dam on the Megoe Tso Lake in Tibet. The lake is a major destination for Buddhist pilgrims and tourists and sustains one of the most bio-diverse ecosystems on Earth.



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is a dear friend of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and a supporter of Tibet issues in Congress. Here, she greets Professor Samdhong Rinpoche, the elected Chairman of the Tibetan Cabinet, during his February visit to Capitol Hill.



The Cabinet Chariman poses for a photo with Tom Lantos, Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.



Mind Dalah amad Cort

America Celebrates the Dalai La

Washington, D.C., October 2007

DALAI LAMA IN THE U.S.



ABOUT THE GOLD MEDAL



SUPPORT HIS D.C. VISIT



ABOUT THE DALAI LAMA



ABOUT TIBET



"...In recognition of and outstanding coi peace, non-violence rights, and religious understanding."

United States Congression to be awarded October 20 His Holiness the 14th Dala



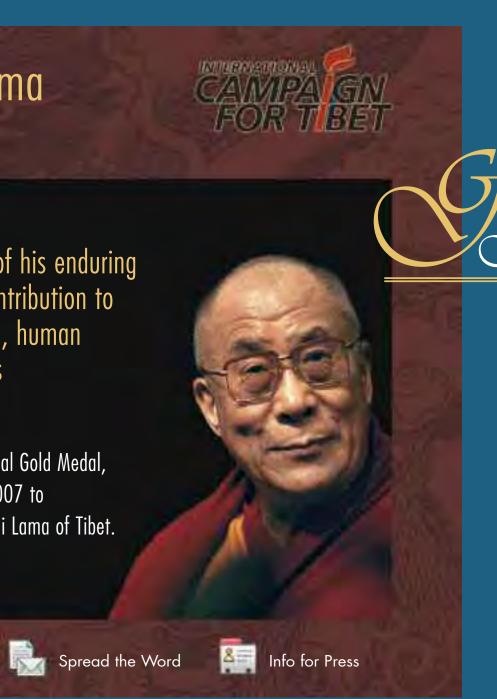
Sign Up for Updates

VOLUNTEER

Learn about volunteer opportunities and sign up to help with an event in your area. Volunteering is a great way to donate your time and energy to the Tibet issue while also getting a behind-the-scenes view of the activities.

SIGN UP FOR UPDATES

Subscribe to email updates Dalai Lama's visits to the U notified about any public ev dates, and other informatio you're among the first to k released details of events.



Join His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Richard Gere and special guests for ICT's Gold Medal Award celebrations! Purchase tickets for the October 18th Gold Medal Gala, special receptions, festivities for the Tibetan community and more. Tickets are only available through the DalaiLamaDC.org website on a first-come, first-serve basis!

about the

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EVENTS IN DC AND YOUR AREA

Get the details of Dalai Lama teachings, public talks, private audiences and other events happening throughout the United States with the most up-to-date details. Find out how to purchase tickets, volunteer, or connect with your local Buddhist and Tibetan organizations for these special occasions.

America Awards the Dalai Lama the

The U.S. Congressional Gold Medal

His Holiness Dalai Lama in the U.S.

Preliminary Schedule of Events

SPRING EVENTS

April 24-25, Maui, Hawaii

In his first trip to Maui, His Holiness will give a free public talk on *A Human Approach to World Peace* at the Maui Arts & Cultural Center and a teaching on Geshe Langri Thangpa's *Eight Verses for Training the Mind (Lojong Tsikqyema)*.

For details about this event, contact the Maui Tibetan Buddhist Dharma Center at www.mauidharmacenter.org or mauidharma@earthlink.net.

April 27–29, San Francisco, California

His Holiness will give a two-day teaching on Je Tsongkhapa's *In Praise of Dependent Origination (Tendrel Toepa)* at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium organized by the Gyuto Vajrayana Center in San Jose, California.

For details about these events, please visit www.dalailamabay2007.com. Tickets for the teaching are available through Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com.

May 1, Houston, Texas

His Holiness will give a talk at Rice University sponsored by Rice University and The Boniuk Center for Religious Tolerance.

Talks open to the public will include *Meaning of Compassion in Every-day Life* and *Tolerance and Universal Responsibility in a Global Village*. Details available online at *www.rice.edu/dalailama*.

May 3-5, Madison, Wisconsin

His Holiness will give teachings on *Tokchod Donlekma and Lamrim Dudon* and also confer the *Green Tara Empowerment (Doljang Jenang)* at the request of Geshe Lhundup Sopa of Deer Park Center. Teachings will be followed by a public talk.

For information about the Madison, Wisconsin events, please contact the Deer Park Buddhist Center at www.deerparkcenter.org or deerpark@tds.net.

May 6, Chicago, Illinois

His Holiness will give a public talk on *Finding Inner Peace in a World of Turmoil* and also give a teaching on *Eight Versus for Training the Mind*.

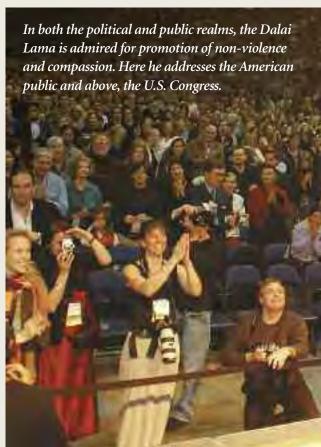
Details of the teachings forthcoming at www.dalailamachicago.com.

May 9, Amherst, Massachusetts

His Holiness will give a public talk to members of Smith College and Hampshire College communities with a live broadcast on Pioneer Valley-area local television.

For details, visit www.smith.edu/dalailama.





Highest Honor—



WITH YOUR SUPPORT

Tibetan refugees who successfully escape can find medical treatment, food, shelter and a new beginning at refugee reception centers in Nepal and India.

OCTOBER ITINERARY

October 11-14, New York City, New York

October 15-19, Washington, D.C.

His Holiness will receive the Congressional Gold Medal and participate in events celebrating the award.

Please join ICT during this visit for the October 18th Gold Medal Gala celebration. Details on this and other October events are available at www.DalaiLamaDC.org.

Medal Gala

October 20–22, Atlanta, Georgia www.dailalama.emory.edu

October 24–26, Bloomington, Indiana www.tibetancc.com



The History of the Congressional Gold Medal

The nation's highest civilian honor

The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest expression of national appreciation for exceptional service and lifetime contributions.

The medal has been awarded to individuals and groups from all walks of life. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King, Pope John Paul II, the Navajo Code Talkers, Rosa Parks and Elie Wiesel are among those who have been honored.

This September, more than two-thirds of Congress, from both sides of the aisle, voted to award Tibet's exiled leader, the Dalai Lama, the Congressional Gold Medal. The award is in recognition of the Dalai Lama's advocacy of religious harmony, non-violence, and human rights throughout the world and for his efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Tibet issue through dialogue with the Chinese leadership.

Thank you to Congressional Gold Medal Bill co-sponsors:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TOM LANTOS (D)
ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN (R)

SENATE

DIANNE FEINSTEIN (D) CRAIG THOMAS (R)

Your ICT Contributions at Work—



Denise Clegg Director of Development

Dear Friend,

In March, Chairman Tom Lantos opened House Foreign Affairs Committee hearings on Tibet by saying, "In a world marred daily by deadly violence, the patient and peaceful struggle of Tibetans for their religious and cultural freedom is a powerful source of inspiration."

ICT Chair Richard Gere, Special Envoy Lodi Gyari and U.S. Under Secretary of State Paula Dobriansky testified about the status of negotiations between the Dalai Lama's representatives and the Chinese Government.

Your support made these hearings possible. Chairman Lantos noted, "Two decades ago, when His Holiness presented his Five Point Peace Plan for Tibet to the Human Rights Caucus, no other U.S. government body would give him an audience. Twenty years later, his characteristically quiet plea on behalf of his people is heard loud and clear by the President of the United States and government leaders around the globe."



Ranking Republican Committee member Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, pictured here with other members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, remarked in her opening testimony that: "With such international acclaim, one must ask the question: why does Beijing continue to refuse to sit down and talk to this distinguished Nobel Peace Prize laureate about his 'middle way approach'? The reason is clear — cultural domination by China requires religious suppression in Tibet."



ICT was founded in 1988. Over the last nineteen years, ICT supporters have ensured that the Dalai Lama and Tibetan people are heard in Congress and that U.S. leaders steadfastly promote a negotiated solution to the situation in Tibet.

As ICT supporters, we stand in solidarity with Tibetans. We also benefit from the Tibetan people, who not only inspire us, but who are willing to share their unique culture and take courageous actions which foster peace for all of us. Working with you and ICT, I am frequently reminded of Mahatma Gandhi's teaching, "You must be the change you want to see in the world."

When considering Tibet, some skeptics say, "change will never happen." But we say it *is* happening. Profound change does not happen in a single symbolic moment — such as the fall of the Berlin Wall — but in the countless actions and conditions which create a tipping point.

Last year, thousands of you called and wrote your representatives, sent financial support to ICT and raised awareness for

An Impact for Tibet

Profound change does not happen in a single symbolic moment ... but in the countless actions and conditions which create a tipping point.



Tibet around the Congressional Gold Medal bills. This October the Dalai Lama will be presented with the prestigious award by the U.S. Congress — a sea change of recognition for the Tibet struggle.

the Dalai Lama; and Richard Gere, ICT Chairman.

This momentum is reflected around the world. In the last two months alone, a comprehensive resolution on Tibet passed in the European Parliament, and motions on Tibet in Canada, Austria, Scotland, and initiatives in several other countries were launched.

Who knows what great symbolic moment will embody justice in Tibet? We can be confident it will reflect a world profoundly transformed by the Tibetan struggle — as each of us has been changed already by choosing compassion and standing in solidarity with Tibet.

With gratitude,

Funding for Tibet and Tibetans

Last year, with your contributions, ICT was able to secure direct U.S. aid for Tibetans, including:

- \$2 million for Tibetan refugees;
- \$4 million in Economic Support Funds for NGOs promoting sustainable economic development, cultural heritage preservation, and environmental conservation in Tibet, as well as NGOs providing direct support to Tibetan communities;
- \$600,000 in scholarships for Tibetans to study in U.S. institutions;
- \$500,000 in grants for Tibetan student exchange programs; and
- \$250,000 for human rights and democracybuilding projects in the Tibetan exile community.

Catching Up with ICT Members Jennifer and Bucky Lasek

In April 2006, professional skateboarder Bucky Lasek won the 30th Anniversary Toyota Pro Celebrity race and donated all of his cash winnings as well as a full-page ad in *People* Magazine to ICT. Bucky is a five-time X Games gold medalist and two-time Dew Tour Champion and is a hero to young athletes and Tibet activists around the world.

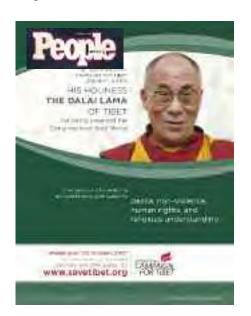
Bucky and his wife Jennifer are long-time ICT supporters, generous to Tibet in every way — even putting Tibet in their spotlight. They hand out t-shirts and stickers at events, highlight Tibet on merchandise, and keep the issue of Tibet in the news. We caught up with them recently to ask about their views on the Tibet movement.



Bucky Lasek flashes a Tibet flag sticker during a skateboard competition.



Jennifer and Bucky Lasek, shown here arriving at the 13th annual ESPY awards, generously donated the full-page People Magazine ad which ran in March.



TPW: What inspires you about Tibet?

J&B: Everything. The people, their resolve, their culture, their art. The beauty of the land ... and of course His Holiness.

TPW: How did you learn about Tibet?

J&B: The Tibetan Freedom Concert ... (we could not attend) being Beastie Boys fans we wanted to go to see them ... and wondered "what does Tibetan freedom mean? What's going on there?" After seeing a few movies about Tibet, we had an idea of what had happened. In 1999 a mailer from ICT came to our home ... we became aware of what was happening to the people, the land and their very beautiful culture. We started making contributions and educating ourselves and our children. Putting the Tibetan Flag sticker on the skateboard at competitions was what we saw as a way to spark conversation. People ask "what flag is that?"

TPW: You've done such amazing promotion of ICT and Tibet. When people ask you about Tibet, what is the first thing you tell them?

J&B: Well I should tell them that ignorance isn't so blissful and they should pay more attention to human rights. I do tell them that the people of Tibet are being forced away from their own peaceful ways and beliefs. This type of wrong-doing is being carried out by the type of beings that hold materialistic things higher than humanity. We could learn a lot from their situation.

TPW: You reach an audience of hundreds of thousands of young people and have children of your own. What can we do to make young people more aware of Tibet, and how can we inspire future generations to work for peace and justice?

J&B: By educating ourselves and our children about different cultures and showing them by example. I believe it was Ghandi who said "be the change you want to see in the world." Don't wait for change to be proactive even if it's just making yourself better educated on national and international issues. Raising compassionate children is most important to us ... it's a chain reaction then ... it spreads.

BECOME A GOLD MEDAL GALA UNDERWRITER





This October, the U.S. Congress will award the Dalai Lama with the Congressional Gold Medal,

our nation's highest civilian honor. The International Campaign for Tibet will host the Dalai Lama's visit to Washington, D.C. as well as a very special Gold Medal Gala celebration on October 18, 2007.

We will join leaders in government, business, philanthropy and social justice for a high-profile, special event to honor the Dalai Lama's lifelong work for religious harmony, non-violence, and peaceful diplomacy throughout the world.



ICT is seeking corporate, individual and community underwriters for this special event. Your sponsorship now will allow 100% of ticket donations to directly support ICT programs benefiting Tibet.

In gratitude and recognition, underwriters will receive:

- Tickets to the Gold Medal Gala
- Special recognition at the event, online and in print materials
- Commemorative Congressional Gold Medals

Opportunities are available starting at \$5,000.

For more information about becoming a Gold Medal Gala Underwriter, please visit www.DalaiLamaDC.org/events. Individual tickets will be available in July.



Actions You Can Take

Stay informed by joining the ICT Action Network. Receive monthly email updates and action alerts. Sign up at *www.savetibet.org*.

Join the "Beijing 2008: Race for Tibet" team.
Tell China to prioritize human rights and negotiate with the Dalai Lama before the Beijing 2008 Olympics.

www.RaceforTibet.org.

Volunteer with a Tibet Support Group.For a list of these organizations in your area, visit the TSG Global Directory at *www.tibet.org*.

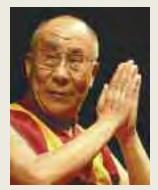
There are so many ways you can take action to support the International Campaign for Tibet and the Tibetan people.

Visit www.savetibet.org or contact ICT at action@savetibet.org or 202-785-1515.



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U.S. Congress Passes Bill to Award the Dalai Lama the Congressional Gold Medal

Events updates inside