

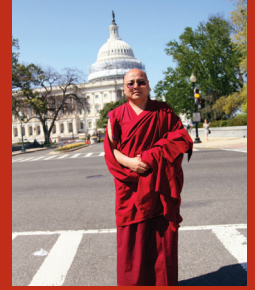
Tibet

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PRESS WATCH

INSIDE:

- Golog Jigme testimony in Congress
- Observing the Tibetan elections
- New book releases
- Petition to U.S. presidential candidates



SUMMER 2016

*A publication of the
International Campaign for Tibet*

INTERNATIONAL
CAMPAIGN
FOR TIBET



A CONVERSATION WITH THE DALAI LAMA

ICT WELCOMES HIS HOLINESS TO WASHINGTON, D.C.



Tania Makshanoff, ICT Mandala Society member, near her home in Sierra Madre, CA.

Member Profile: Tania Makshanoff

Tania Makshanoff's first exposure to the Land of Snows was on a Tibetan Buddhist trip to the Himalayas in 1996. She stepped off the plane in Ladakh, India, looked around at the breathtaking landscape and was overwhelmed by the beauty and love she felt. Deeply moved by the Tibetans she met during her trip and their remarkable pool of calm and compassion, Tania wanted to remain connected to Tibet.

The following year, she became a member of the International Campaign for Tibet. His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the resilience of the Tibetan people ground her every day and she feels honored to be part of ICT. Tania is particularly concerned about the preservation of the Tibetan Buddhist religion—something she feels it would be a great tragedy for the world to lose due to its focus on our deep inner truth.

Tania says, "I continue to support ICT for both the short-term goal of greater awareness of the Tibetan plight and the long-term goal of complete freedom of Tibet and the Tibetan people. I see it as a real possibility—maybe not in our lifetime, maybe not in our children's lifetime—but if we don't keep fighting for it, it won't ever happen."

"In the meantime, I feel that His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Tibetan Buddhism, and the Tibetan people deeply embody and hold the concepts and values of peace, love and

compassion for all the rest of the world. They hold the candle for us all, in our individual lives and in the world."

Wanting to support ICT in "an ongoing way," Tania joined the Mandala Society. By honoring ICT with a bequest in her will, Tania will make possible the enduring efforts for the work she cherishes.

Tania feels this quote from His Holiness sums up her motivation and deep connection to ICT's work:

"When I meet people in different parts of the world, I am always reminded that we are all basically alike: we are all human beings. Maybe we have different clothes, our skin is of a different color, or we speak different languages. That is on the surface. But basically, we are the same human beings..."

As a free spokesman for my captive countrymen and women, I feel it is my duty to speak out on their behalf... I speak to inform you of the sad situation in my country today and of the aspirations of my people, because in our struggle for freedom, truth is the only weapon we possess."

HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA

excerpt from his speech when accepting the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989



MANDALA SOCIETY YOUR LIVING LEGACY TO TIBET

Members of the Mandala Society create a legacy by committing to help future generations of Tibetans. Including the International Campaign for Tibet in your will or trust ensures future resources for ICT to promote a peaceful resolution to the occupation of Tibet.

Want to know more? Contact Cynthia Hurst at 202.580.6775 or cynthia.hurst@savetibet.org or use the envelope attached to this newsletter to request a call.



From the President



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Dear Friends,

As this issue of the *Tibet Press Watch* was being produced, we had the great privilege of welcoming His Holiness the Dalai Lama for a visit in Washington, D.C.

The International Campaign for Tibet has always enjoyed a close relationship with the 14th Dalai Lama, and a highlight of his visit was a special event for a select level of ICT members. The audience enjoyed listening as His Holiness had a conversation with our Board Chairman Richard Gere, during which he shared anecdotes from his youth that many longtime supporters in the audience had never heard before. As an organization, we were especially gratified to be recognized by His Holiness during this discussion as one of the crucial “hands” contributing to fulfilling his vision.

His Holiness also held a private audience with the members of the ICT Board and spent one-on-one time with each board member. He expressed his hope that the ICT community would come together in collective conversations to generate ideas for supporting Tibet. We look forward to extending the conversations that began during his visit with a wider circle of supporters like you.

Highlights of the Dalai Lama’s visit included his 4th meeting with President Obama, and meetings with leaders of U.S. Congress including House Speaker Paul Ryan and Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi. A statement released by The White House said that “the President emphasized his strong support for the preservation of Tibet’s unique religious, cultural, and linguistic traditions and the equal protection of human rights of Tibetans in China.” See pages 4-5 for detailed coverage of the events of his visit.

In this issue, you’ll also find an excerpt from powerful testimony before the U.S. Congress by Tibetan Monk Golog Jigme, whom ICT invited for his first visit to the U.S. As a result of his work on the documentary film “Leaving Fear Behind” on Tibetan views and feelings before the 2008 Beijing Olympics, Golog Jigme was subjected to imprisonment and torture by Chinese authorities. He is now one of the many important Tibet activists of our time. Golog Jigme fled Tibet for India in 2014, arriving to safety thanks to the Tibetans who risked their lives to harbor him in secret for twenty months. Turn to pages 6-7 for his firsthand account of abuses inside a Chinese prison.

Elsewhere in this issue you’ll find a report on the Tibetan Election Observation Mission, an international delegation that included current and former Members of Parliament, of which ICT’s Vice President Bhuchung Tsering and I were both members. Along with our fellow delegates, we traveled to Dharamsala, India, to witness the most recent Tibetan elections in exile (see page 9).

We are also proud to feature a Q&A with contemporary Tibetan artist Losang Gyatso (page 8), whose artwork appears in ICT’s 2017 calendar of contemporary Tibetan art. On the same page are two brief book reviews of noteworthy new releases in the publishing world that focus on the Tibet issue.

Finally, I hope you’ll take a few minutes to add your name to our petition to the American presidential candidates asking that they make resolving the Tibet issue a priority if elected (page 11).

As His Holiness the Dalai Lama reminded us during his visit, it is not prayer but action that is needed to achieve a peaceful resolution in Tibet. That action must be undertaken not by a few solitary individuals but by a much larger collective working together. Now more than ever we rely on our community of supporters as we seek justice for our Tibetan brothers and sisters. I am grateful you have joined with us to be part of this community.

In solidarity,

Matteo Mecacci

Cover Image: ICT hosted a conversation with our Chairman Richard Gere and His Holiness the Dalai Lama during his visit to Washington, D.C. Photo by OHHDL/Sonam Zoksang.

Dalai Lama in Washington, D.C.



His Holiness the Dalai Lama visited Washington, D.C. from June 12 to 16, 2016, meeting with ICT's Board of Directors, ICT members, government policy makers, youth leaders, and advocates for Tibet.



(Left) His Holiness gathered with ICT Board members and staff prior to his discussion with Board Chairman Richard Gere.

(Right) His Holiness pointed out his former rooms on a backdrop image of the Potala Palace in Lhasa. Photos by OHDDL/Sonam Zoksang.

Discussion with the International Campaign for Tibet

ICT was privileged to host a conversation between His Holiness the Dalai Lama and our Board Chairman Richard Gere in an intimate gathering of a select level of our members.

As he stepped onto the stage, and upon seeing an image of the Potala Palace as the backdrop, the Dalai Lama pointed out his rooms there. In the course of the conversation, the Dalai Lama shared his thoughts on the importance of Tibetan culture and its contributions to humanity and articulated the reasons for preserving this vital culture. He told personal anecdotes from his own experiences of growing up in Tibet, in addition to discussing the challenges of the Tibet issue. He also spoke to the June 12 tragedy in Orlando, reminding audience members not to conflate terrorism with the religion of Islam.

When asked what ICT members and other Americans can do to support Tibetans, he outlined his three commitments of promoting human values such as compassion, promoting religious harmony, and protecting Tibetan culture, language, and natural environment, and asked people to contribute to these “in whatever way you can.”

“I can say on behalf of six million Tibetan people, thank you. While I thank you, I also request you to please continue your help.”

—His Holiness the Dalai Lama speaking to ICT members

In response to a question about the possibility of resuming dialogue with Chinese authorities on resolving the Tibetan issue, he said, “The last meeting was in 2010. Since then the Chinese side has made clear they have little interest in dealing with our organization. Some reports say that after the 2008 crisis Hu Jintao was advised never to let the Dalai Lama come back. Since we’ve waited 57 years, we can wait a little longer. The determination of the people of Tibet is undiminished.”

His Holiness also emphasized that peace will not come through prayer but through action. He said that change requires the participation of many hands, and that ICT is one of those vital “hands” in the process.

Meetings with U.S. Government Leaders

While in Washington, D.C., His Holiness the Dalai Lama met with President Barack Obama in the Map Room of The White House, and on Capitol Hill with House Speaker Paul Ryan, Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and a bipartisan group of members of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

At a bicameral luncheon at the U.S. Capitol in honor of the Dalai Lama, Speaker Paul Ryan said that “all of us are deeply honored to have His Holiness the Dalai Lama here today. The American people’s affection for him is well-known—and well-documented.”

Speaker Ryan added, “And it is that very simplicity—the simplicity of faith—that has captured the world’s imagination. It is almost as if he has no room in his soul for impatience or self-serving. All he has room for is kindness. It is inspiring to see.” He continued, “I still remember when he gave the opening prayer in the Senate a few years back. He said, ‘Speak or act with a pure mind and happiness will follow you like a shadow that never leaves.’ He said it is his favorite daily prayer. And I admit I can’t think of a better one.”

Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi met with the Dalai Lama and also organized a bipartisan meeting with Members of Congress and a bicameral luncheon at the U.S. Capitol along with Speaker Paul Ryan. In a statement, Leader Pelosi said, “As a revered figure to Tibetans and people around the world, His Holiness reminds us of our great responsibility to act to safeguard human rights, promote equality, and protect our environment. His friendship with the United States, and the respect he has from leaders on both sides of the aisle, serve as a powerful tribute to the righteousness of the cause of Tibetan autonomy.”



Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, Speaker Paul Ryan, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and ICT Board Chairman Richard Gere gathered on Capitol Hill. Photo by OHHDL/Sonam Zoksang.

Another of the Dalai Lama’s events on Capitol Hill was a meeting with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Subsequently, Senator Bob Corker (R-TN) the chairman of the Committee, said in a statement: “We were honored to welcome the Dalai Lama and Dr. Lobsang Sangay today for a discussion about issues important to the U.S. and the people of Tibet. At a time when our country is grappling with an increasingly unstable and uncertain world, we are inspired by his universal message, which reflects many of our own deeply-held values.”

Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD.), the ranking member of the Committee, said: “It was an honor to welcome the Dalai Lama and the Prime Minister [Sikyong Dr. Lobsang Sangay] to the Senate today, and have the opportunity to speak to them about issues ranging from human and religious rights to the environment to relations with China. As I continue to underscore the importance of protecting and uplifting basic human rights in the foreign policy of the United States as well as in the work of our partners and allies abroad, the Dalai Lama remains a source of inspiration and guidance to me.”

Public Talk at American University

Another notable event during his visit to Washington, D.C. was a talk to a packed Bender Arena at American University on “A Peaceful Mind in a Modern World.” ICT Board Chairman Richard Gere and House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi welcomed His Holiness at this event, along with Capital Area Tibetan Association President Jigme Gorap, whose organization hosted the event. His Holiness addressed the audience in English but also spoke directly to Tibetans in Tibetan language, urging them to appreciate the value of their culture and to be ambassadors for Tibet.

Visit to the US Institute of Peace (USIP) and National Endowment for Democracy (NED)

At USIP and NED, His Holiness interacted with youth leaders. The NED bestowed posthumous honors (received by a relative, Geshe Nyima) on Tibetan Buddhist monk Tenzin Delek Rinpoche, who died in a Chinese prison in July 2015 after 13 years of detention, and also honored the democratic accomplishments of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA). The CTA honors were accepted by Sikyong Dr. Lobsang Sangay.

Golog Jigme's U.S. Visit



Former Political Prisoner Golog Jigme Gives Powerful Testimony in Congress

On April 14, the Congressional-Executive Commission on China (CECC), a body created in 2000 to monitor human rights and rule of law in China, convened a hearing titled “China’s Pervasive Use of Torture.” Four witnesses testified at the hearing—including Golog Jigme, a respected Tibetan Buddhist monk, teacher and former political prisoner. Golog Jigme arrived safely in India in May 2014, after a perilous journey following 20 months of living in hiding. He survived torture and imprisonment by Chinese authorities after making a documentary film, “Leaving Fear Behind,” with Dhondup Wangchen on Tibetan views before the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Golog Jigme now lives in Switzerland and works as a human rights advocate for Tibetans. ICT was honored to facilitate his first visit to the United States and his first appearance before Congress. Golog Jigme’s testimony gave insight into torture in China through his own harrowing experiences as a prisoner on three separate occasions. At the conclusion of his testimony, he recommended that the U.S. urge China to release those who have been imprisoned for nonviolent expression of their views.



Images: (Top Left) Golog Jigme in front of the U.S. Capitol during his visit. (Top Right) Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi posted this image to Twitter of receiving a traditional *khata* scarf from Golog Jigme. (Above) Golog Jigme visited the ICT office and met with staff members during his stay in Washington, D.C.

MY STORY

(in Brief)

AN EXCERPT FROM GOLOG JIGME'S WRITTEN STATEMENT TO CONGRESS ON THE PERVASIVE USE OF TORTURE IN CHINA

My name is Golog Jigme, and I am also known as Jigme Gyatso. I was born into a Tibetan nomadic family in eastern Tibet, and when I was a teenager joined the Labrang Monastery in Kanlho, Amdo (Gansu province). I was involved in various social causes while at Labrang, including teaching children about Tibetan culture and promoting the Tibetan language, and I was engaged in social welfare work, such as relief efforts following the Yushu earthquake in 2010.

In 2008, I worked with the filmmaker Dhondup Wangchen to interview a wide range of Tibetans—including nomads, elders, monks and people in remote areas—about their thoughts and feelings before the Beijing Olympics, which became the documentary film “Leaving Fear Behind.” We wanted the world outside Tibet to understand the reality of what was happening in Tibet; and for people to hear the voices of Tibetans themselves, discussing their feelings and experiences.

As a result of this work, Dhondup Wangchen was imprisoned for six years. I was detained three times during the period from 2008 to 2012. While in Chinese custody for seven months in 2008, I was severely tortured. Chinese officials accused me of shooting the film “Leaving Fear Behind” and of being a member of the Tibetan Youth Congress, and they also accused me of not denouncing His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

In April 2009, I was detained again, and accused of disclosing State secrets. I was held for several months, and was subjected to severe beatings, but not tortured brutally like during my first detention in 2008.

In September 2012, I was detained yet again but managed to escape from the detention facility. Chinese security officers had accused me of being the main instigator of the self-immolations protest across Tibet, among other baseless allegations. After my escape from detention, I went into hiding for more than a year and a half before I escaped to India, in May 2014. I arrived in Switzerland in January 2015, where I have been granted political asylum.

I was never formally arrested. I was given two separate detention warrants (*juliuzheng*), but only after I had been released. During my three detentions, I was never given any document setting forth formal charges against me. I was never given a trial. Neither my monastery nor my family was informed of my whereabouts; I was held incommunicado. I had no access to a lawyer. I never received any medical treatment.

Here I will describe in brief the torture I suffered at the hands of Chinese security officers. If I were to describe everything, it would take a very long time, so I will summarize. At the outset, I would like to emphasize that I am walking proof of Chinese government torture. Today, I still have severe back pain, scars on my wrists and ankles, and other injuries from the torture that still cause pain in my knees, ribs, and eyes. The first incarceration, in 2008, was the most difficult for me because I was brutally tortured. For one month and 22 days I was tortured continuously. I was forced to sit in the “tiger chair” (also known as the “iron chair”) day and night. This was the worst form of torture I experienced during my three detentions. My arms were handcuffed in front of me on a small metal table, and my legs were bent beneath the seat and strapped to the chair with iron cuffs. My joints suffered horribly and at one point my feet became so swollen that all my toenails fell off. I still have scars on my wrists and ankles from when I was turned backwards in the chair and suspended from the ceiling, for hours at a time. I was deprived of sleep and given very little to eat. The pain of thirst was the second worst torture; I was given only a very small amount of water, and felt unbearably thirsty because of blood loss from my body. During the first and second detentions, I was subjected to severe beatings and kicking; some of my ribs were broken and my knee joints were dislocated.

During the third detention in 2012, Chinese security officers told me I would be transferred to Lanzhou City Military Hospital for a medical exam to see if I had any diseases, and that if they found something I would be given “necessary injections.” I protested the transfer, but they were insistent. It became clear to me that their plan was to kill me in the hospital by injecting me with some kind of drug that would kill me. I was fortunate that I was able to escape before they moved me to the hospital. While I was in hiding, I learned that the Chinese government had issued a warrant for my arrest accusing me of murder, and offered a large sum of money to anyone who could provide information about my whereabouts. I am deeply grateful to the people who risked so much in order to arrange things and help me get out of the country. My safe escape was a collective effort, and the people who gave so much are an ongoing source of inspiration for me.



The full transcript of Golog Jigme's testimony is available at <http://bit.ly/jigme-statement>.

...

Arts & Culture

Artist Losang Gyatso

Losang Gyatso's artwork is featured in ICT's 2017 calendar of contemporary Tibetan art, available at savetibetstore.org.

You were born in Tibet and then lived in Britain, India, and the U.S.—when did you first realize you were an artist?

I'm not sure if I had any sudden realization, but I do remember feeling great pleasure and satisfaction when practicing handwriting, both Tibetan and English. Some of my first drawings were in fact watching and copying my grandfather turning two or three letters into birds and animals with just a few extra pen strokes. It was pure magic and I was hooked the first time I learned to turn the Tibetan letters Ah and Ha into a monkey.

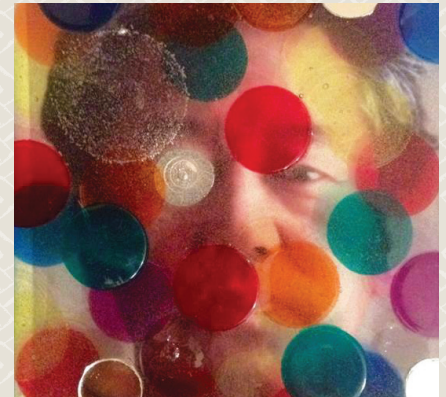
Tell us about the piece that will be included in ICT's 2017 calendar.

That piece was created for a series of painting collections from different countries titled *Imago Mundi*, and my piece is in the one titled *Tibet: Made By Tibetans*. The fact that the whole idea behind *Imago Mundi* was to capture a

people through a set of a hundred or two hundred paintings imposed on me the obligation to say something about me as a Tibetan today, which is that I'm not fully in control of who I am, or at least who I'm perceived to be. Most people in the world all have such strong and often conflicting ideas of who Tibetans are, to the point that they in fact never see us for who we truly are...a people pretty much exactly like themselves.

What role does the arts and artists themselves have in the Tibet issue?

The arts traditionally served to express and vivify religion in Tibet, and it has taken a long time for Tibetan writers and artists to harness their potential to be an exploration of and witness to our experience. However, the last two decades have seen a remarkable growth in literature especially, but also in the visual arts, of people looking at their condition and taking charge of



Losang Gyatso's piece is included in ICT's calendar for 2017.

telling their stories, which is finding a lot of receptivity amongst average Tibetans. Of course many are somewhat unsure of how to react to some of the new literature and visual arts being produced since many of the works demand entirely new ways of seeing and therefore defining ourselves, but I think that more and more are beginning to enjoy participating in this new experiment in cultural self-determination.

New Publications of Note

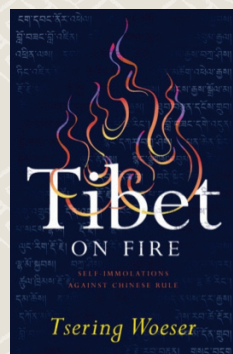


ETHNIC CONFLICT & PROTEST IN TIBET & XINJIANG

Edited by Ben Hillman and Gray Tuttle, 2016

Tibet supporters who want to dig deeper into the "unrest in China's West" may be interested in this collection of essays, written by authors with direct experience in Tibet and East Turkestan. Françoise Robin's analysis of how Tibetans came to embrace the language of human rights is particularly interesting, as is Eric D. Mortensen's study of Tibetan identity in Gyalthang, called "Shangri-La" by the Chinese state. Mortensen writes about how broader Tibetan politics are changing Gyalthang, "in part owing to the sense of pan-Tibetan solidarity precipitated by the recent self-immolations in nearby regions."

The piece closes with a dedication to the town's inhabitants following a devastating fire in early 2014. Mortensen concludes that although there haven't been any self-immolations in Gyalthang itself, it's impossible to escape the sense that Tibet is burning.



TIBET ON FIRE: SELF-IMMOLATIONS AGAINST CHINESE RULE

By Tsering Woeser, 2016

"If Tibetans saw even a sliver of an opportunity to hold demonstrations, then they would not resort to self-immolation."

This slim volume, with a striking cover by Chinese artist Ai Weiwei, is an important look at the unprecedented wave of self-immolation protests in Tibet. Author Tsering Woeser, who lives under close watch in Beijing, examines the origin of self-immolations in Tibet, discusses the motivations and goals of the protesters, and calls on Chinese authorities to stop the protests by ending the heavy-handed repression that gave birth to them.

Tibet Elections

International Delegation of Parliamentarians Observes Tibetan Elections in Exile



Every five years, around 150,000 Tibetans in exile, living in over 30 countries, elect both the political leader of the Central Tibetan Administration (Sikyong) and the Members of the Parliament in exile (45 seats) in two rounds. In March, a delegation of Parliamentarians, accompanied by ICT's president and vice president, traveled to Dharamsala, India, to observe the Tibetan elections that took place on March 20.

Coordinated by ICT, the 2016 Tibetan Election Observation Mission (TEOM) was an initiative by the International Network of Parliamentarians on Tibet. The delegation was formed with the goal of supporting the democratic process chosen by Tibetans in exile to represent the aspirations of the Tibetan people. The members were: Hon. Thomas Mann, Member of the European Parliament and Chair of the International Network of Parliamentarians on Tibet; Hon. Andre' Gattolin, Senator (France); Hon. Lisa Singh, Senator (Australia); Hon. Consiglio di Nino, former Senator, Chair of Canada Tibet Committee (Canada); Hon. Norman Baker, former MP, President of UK Tibet Society (UK); Hon. Matteo Mecacci, President of the International Campaign for Tibet, former MP, (Italy); Ms. Zsuzsa Anna, Assistant to Laszlo Tokes Member of the European Parliament (Hungary); Mr. Bhuchung Tsering, Vice President of the International Campaign for Tibet.

Prior to the election, the delegation had briefings in Dharamsala with representatives of the Central Tibetan Administration, the Central Election Commission and NGOs. On March 20 they observed the voting process in both Dharamsala and Bir.

For the position of Sikyong, two candidates competed—the incumbent Lobsang Sangay and Speaker of the Parliament Penpa Tsering—while for the Parliament in exile 94 candidates

vied for election. Lobsang Sangay was re-elected as Sikyong this year. For a discussion of the results, see Bhuchung Tsering's blog post "Tasks Before the Re-Elected Sikyong" at <http://bit.ly/sikyong-election>.

Following the elections, the delegation released a statement that read, in part:

We are pleased to see how Tibetans all over the free world have once again strongly embraced democracy as the best way to achieve the aspirations of a better future for the Tibetan people, which unfortunately continues to be denied to 6 millions [sic] Tibetans in Tibet...

Voting in these elections, Tibetans in exile are reaffirming their support for a political solution, while the Chinese Government continues to impose severe authoritarian policies, which undermine the very existence of Tibetan identity.

We call on the international community, national Parliaments, Governments and NGOs to stand behind and support an exiled community who seeks a political solution to a six decades long conflict, through the means of nonviolent actions and negotiations.

The delegation found that voting was conducted peacefully and in a calm and orderly manner on Election Day. Members of the delegation also described the campaigning by the candidates for Sikyong as taking place on a level playing field, as well as the coverage of the campaign by independent groups, including Tibetan language media services, which organized debates between the candidates.

The delegation will publish a final report in September, including recommendations on the following:

- Campaign finance regulation
- Participation of women
- Regional voting systems and the representation of religious sects in the Parliament
- Need to ensure all Tibetans in the free world are able to vote

In a press conference after the elections, the delegation thanked the Indian government for its hospitality toward the Tibetan people as well as the Central Tibetan Administration for its support of the observation mission. The delegation also expressed its readiness to conduct further election observation outside Tibet—as well as within Tibet itself in the future.

Image: Members of the delegation, including international parliamentarians (pictured here with members of the Tibetan Election Commission) traveled to India to observe the electoral process in March.

Inside Tibet

In Memoriam

JOHN KENNETH (KEN) KNAUS, FRIEND OF TIBETANS 1923-2016



Author of two books on Tibet, John Kenneth Knaus was a former CIA officer who was involved with its Tibetan program from the late 1950s to early 1960s.

In 1958, he first met Tibetans when he was asked by the CIA to lecture to a group of “foreign nationals” on communism. That began his life-long interest in the Tibetan people.

He then volunteered to serve in the CIA program to support the Tibetans, cooperating with Tibetan freedom fighters as they utilized American assistance to challenge Chinese invasion and occupation.

Despite the controversy surrounding the CIA's involvement in the Tibetan issue, Ken Knaus was an individual who genuinely cared about the Tibetan people and contributed to finding a solution to their plight.

HARRY WU, HUMAN RIGHTS CHAMPION 1937-2016



Harry Wu was a staunch human rights defender whose life-long mission was the documentation and exposure of forced labor camps (*laogai*) in China, where he was imprisoned himself for 19 years. Having experienced the brutality of the camps, Wu com-

pared them to the Soviet gulags and the Nazi concentration camps and demanded that the world recognize the human rights violations perpetrated within them.

Harry was also a dear friend to the Tibetan people who had great respect for His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Richard Gere, ICT's Chairman of the Board, said, “Harry was fearless, tenacious, and completely committed. This was his life's work. He survived years of torture in *laogai* to become one of the fiercest international champions of human rights and democracy everywhere. He informed the world, in horrifying personal detail, that the brutal Chinese penal system was focused on political prisoners and ‘troublemakers’ like him. We remember his steadfast commitment to fighting brutality and injustice in China and beyond.”

SOLO PROTESTS CONTINUE



In the last issue, we reported on a trend of peaceful solo protests undertaken by individual protestors in Tibet, particularly in Ngaba and Kardze. In this different pattern of protests, the young men and women who demonstrated have not harmed themselves.

On June 7, 2016, Kirti monk Losang Tsering, in his 20s, staged a peaceful protest by marching along the main street of Ngaba county town holding aloft a photograph of the Dalai Lama and shouting, “May His Holiness the Dalai Lama live for 10,000 years!” and “Freedom for Tibet.” He was immediately arrested and taken away by police, and his current circumstances and wellbeing are unknown.

A new report by ICT traces the pattern of peaceful solo protests and the harsh response by Chinese authorities. Full report is available at <http://bit.ly/protest-ngaba>.

SELF-IMMOLATION REPORT

One self-immolation has occurred since our last report, bringing the total to 145 self-immolations since 2009. Each issue, we present with sadness those individuals who have most recently chosen this act of protest.

March 23, 2016: Sonam Tso, Tibetan mother of five in her 50s, burned herself to death in southwestern China's Sichuan province in a challenge to Beijing's rule, a source in the region told Radio Free Asia's Tibetan Service. She self-immolated near a monastery in Dzoerge (in Chinese, Ruo'ergai) county in the Ngaba (Aba) Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture, the source said.

Wellbeing: Deceased

The most up-to-date information and analysis on the self-immolations inside Tibet is available at savetibet.org.

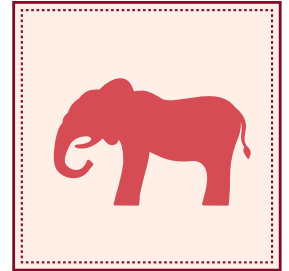
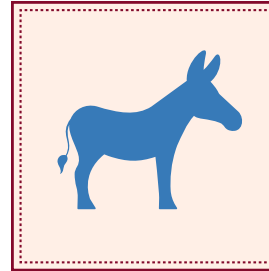
Call to Action

Petition to the American Presidential Candidates: MAKE TIBET A PRIORITY

Whoever is elected in November, the next President of the United States of America must make Tibet a priority if Tibetans are to have any chance of living in peace and freedom.

You can help make sure that happens by signing the below petition to the Democratic and Republican presidential candidates and returning it to us in the attached envelope as soon as possible.

We plan to deliver all petitions signed by ICT members to the candidates' campaign offices in early October. That way, our message will arrive on their desk early—before all the special interest groups are clamoring for the President-elect's attention after Election Day.



PLEASE CLIP HERE

PETITION TO DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE HILLARY CLINTON AND REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE DONALD TRUMP

If you are elected, you will have the ability – as well as a responsibility – to implement the U.S. Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 “to support the aspirations of the Tibetan people to safeguard their distinct identity.” Therefore, I urge you to make resolving the Tibetan issue a priority through strong, principled leadership that includes:

- Pressing the People’s Republic of China to end religious and cultural persecution and all interference in the religious affairs of the Tibetan people;
- Calling for the immediate release of all Tibetans being unjustly imprisoned for peacefully expressing their political or religious views; and,
- Demanding reciprocal access to Tibet for U.S. officials, journalists and private citizens just as we do the same for Chinese citizens across the United States.

Thank you,

Sign Here _____

Name _____ State _____ Zip Code _____



Stay Informed, Stay Connected

Via our websites and social media, you can keep informed about the Tibet movement and the work of ICT. “Like” us, “share” us, and help us spread the word.



Join us for the online conversation at our blog at weblog.savetibet.org.

Visit our website in Chinese at liaowangxizang.net.



“Like” us on Facebook.
International Campaign for Tibet



For up-to-the-minute news, follow

[@SaveTibetOrg](https://twitter.com/SaveTibetOrg) (ENGLISH)

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[@LiaoWangXiZang](https://twitter.com/LiaoWangXiZang) (CHINESE) 中文

Share us with your contacts and join in the Tibet conversation. The more people who care about Tibet, the bigger the impact we can have!

Name

Name 1

ALT ADDR 2

ALT ADDR 1

DELADDR

City, State Zipcode



2017 CALENDAR: CONTEMPORARY TIBETAN ART

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The Dalai Lama's visit with President Obama was the fourth such meeting during his two terms in office. Along with meetings with Congressional leaders, it was a reflection of the continued support for the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan people within U.S. institutions and among the American public. Official White House Photo by Pete Souza.

For your convenience...

Please use this envelope to request information and, if you choose, to make a contribution to support ICT's work.

PLEASE PLACE POSTAGE HERE



INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR TIBET
PO BOX 9005
WALDORF MD 20604-9005



NM216

To change your address or contact preferences, please write to us at 1825 Jefferson Place, NW, Washington, DC 20036. To obtain financial information about the International Campaign for Tibet, write to us at the same address, contact the state agencies as noted below or see our website at www.savetibet.org. ICT is in compliance with all state registrations required.

Colorado: Colorado residents may obtain copies of registration and financial documents from the office of the Secretary of State, (303) 894-2680, <http://www.sos.state.co.us/>. Reg. No. 2002300505804. **Florida:** A full and fair description of the programs and activities of the International Campaign for Tibet and its financial statement are available upon request at the address indicated above. **Illinois:** Contracts and reports regarding the International Campaign for Tibet are on file with the Illinois Attorney General. **Maryland:** For the cost of postage and copying, documents and information filed under the Maryland charitable organizations laws can be obtained from the Secretary of State, Charitable Division, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401. (800) 825-4510. **Michigan:** MICS No. 14251. **Mississippi:** The official registration and financial information of the International Campaign for Tibet may be obtained from the Mississippi Secretary of State's office by calling 1-888-236-6167. **New Jersey:** INFORMATION FILED WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONCERNING THIS CHARITABLE SOLICITATION AND THE PERCENTAGE OF CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED BY THE CHARITY DURING THE LAST REPORTING PERIOD THAT WERE DEDICATED TO THE CHARITABLE PURPOSE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY BY CALLING (973) 504-6215 AND IS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/ocp.htm#charity. **New York:** Upon request, a copy of the latest annual report can be obtained from the organization or from the Office of the Attorney General by writing the Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. **North Carolina:** Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at (888) 830-4989. **Pennsylvania:** The official registration of the International Campaign for Tibet may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. **Virginia:** Financial statements are available from the State Office of Consumer Affairs, PO Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218. **Washington:** The notice of solicitation required by the Charitable Solicitation Act is on file with the Washington Secretary of State, and information relating to financial affairs of the International Campaign for Tibet is available from the Secretary of State, and the toll free number for Washington residents: 1-800-332-4483. **West Virginia:** West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol Charleston, WV 25305. Inquiries can be made to Matteo Mecacci at the International Campaign for Tibet, WV Reg. No. 52-1570071. REGISTRATION IN THE ABOVE STATES DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR TIBET BY THE STATE.

To obtain the latest financial information about the International Campaign for Tibet, write to us at 1825 Jefferson Place, NW, Washington DC 20036 or visit our website at www.savetibet.org.

Thank you from all of us at ICT!

- Including ICT in my will or estate plan
- Becoming a *Friend of Tibet* monthly donor

Please send me information about:



Help further ICT's work for justice in Tibet with a tax-deductible contribution.

My check for \$_____ is enclosed, payable to International Campaign for Tibet.

I prefer to charge my gift of \$_____ to my:
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CARD NUMBER EXP. DATE

SIGNATURE DATE

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