

INSIDE: The Beauty of Handmade Prayer Flags • Rowell Fund 2015 Grantees Inside Tibet: Torture and Self-Immolations • Petition to the U.S. Congress





# LODI GYARI REFLECTS ON 25 YEARS AT ICT

# **Tibetans Need More Friends Like You**

*Friends of Tibet* is a select group of ICT members who show their solidarity with Tibetans by providing convenient and impactful automated monthly contributions via credit card or bank account withdrawal.

Advantages of monthly giving include more of your financial support going to advance the Tibetan cause due to lower fundraising costs, and never having to renew your ICT membership.

The program is also advantageous to ICT by providing a reliable source of funding that allows us to sustain pressure on the Chinese government to stop oppressing Tibetans, and respond quickly to unexpected emergencies or opportunities to achieve a peaceful resolution to the situation in Tibet.

Most important is the advantage to Tibetans: ICT becoming an even stronger advocate for their rights thanks to Friends of Tibet!



Please join as an ICT Friend of Tibet today. Visit savetibet.org/friends-of-tibet to enroll in the program. If you have any questions about monthly giving or other ways to support ICT's work, contact Lizzy Ludwig at 202-580-6767 or lizzy.ludwig@savetibet.org

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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.

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INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR TIBET

# From the President

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#### Dear Friends,

It is only spring, but so much has already happened this year!

At the start of the year, His Holiness the Dalai Lama came to Washington, DC, and gave an audience to ICT Vice President Bhuchung Tsering, Associate Director for Chinese Engagement &

Tibetan Empowerment Programs Tencho Gyatso, and myself. It was a visit that made us feel very encouraged and energized to continue our work all over the world in support of the Tibetan people.

The next day, His Holiness was warmly welcomed by President Obama as he participated for the first time in the National Prayer Breakfast, an annual event sponsored by a bipartisan coalition of Members of Congress and attended by religious authorities from all over the world. The occasion also marked the first time the Dalai Lama and a U.S. President have been present together at a public event since His Holiness was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 2007. It was a clear signal of the significance of the Tibet issue to the American government and society as well as His Holiness's stature on the world stage.

At the same time, it was sobering to reflect that while the Dalai Lama is welcomed at the highest levels in Washington, DC, the Chinese authorities have engaged in an increasingly aggressive campaign against him. We at ICT continue to battle efforts to unjustly silence or skew the Tibetan issue in the international media. Late last year, a video posted by Tsering Woeser that showed a self-immolation by a Tibetan monk was deleted by Facebook under possible influence of the Chinese government. In response, ICT collected over twenty thousand signatures (from 130 countries!) through a Care2 petition asking CEO Mark Zuckerberg to let Tibetans be heard and to stop censoring images and video of self-immolations. Care2 Vice President Joe Baker and I delivered the signed petition in person to Facebook's offices in California at the end of January.

Another success came as Lobby Day 2015 was held in Washington, DC, in March, with Tibetan Americans and supporters of Tibet from across the country bringing even more energy to our cause. You can read about that event on page 9 of this issue. Please also take a few minutes to lend your support to the petition on page 11. And do not miss the story about the beautiful, handmade prayer flags made by Tibetan and Sherpa artisans on page 6.

Lastly, I am sure that you will join me in bidding a very fond and appreciative farewell to Lodi Gyaltsen Gyari, one of the early leaders of ICT, as he retires from his role as Executive Chairman (see page 4). We are profoundly grateful for all that he has done for the people of Tibet.

It has been a very active, energetic year so far—I look forward to sharing what the coming months bring as we continue to work hand in hand with you and the community of Tibet supporters around the world. Thank you for your continued dedication to our work together in support of Tibet!

In solidarity,

Matteo Mecacci

Cover, clockwise from top: Lodi Gyari, Richard Gere, Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Annette Lantos, ICT President Matteo Mecacci, and Senator Mark Kirk at the reception to honor Lodi Gyari on Capitol Hill (Photo: Sonam Zoksang); His Holiness the Dalai Lama meeting with President Barack Obama in 2011 (Photo: The White House); Lodi Gyari, The Honorable Greg Craig, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, The Honorable Julia Taft and Ambassador Paula Dobriansky in 2001 (Photo: Sonam Zoksang).



# Reflections on 25 Years at ICT



ICT Chairman Richard Gere and the Board of Directors hosted a reception to honor Lodi Gyari on Capitol Hill. Several Members of Congress and others who have supported the Tibetan cause for many years participated. Shown left to right are Lodi Gyari, Richard Gere, ICT President Matteo Mecacci, and House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi. Photo courtesy of Sonam Zoksang

# **My Personal Words of Gratitude**

By Lodi Gyaltsen Gyari

After 25 years with the International Campaign for Tibet, beginning with the establishment of the organization and ultimately serving as Executive Chairman of the Board, Lodi Gyari retired in December. What follows are excerpts from his remembrances of his years with ICT.

It is with humility and gratitude that I present these parting thoughts to the staff, members, supporters, and friends of the International Campaign for Tibet. For almost 25 years, I worked concurrently at ICT and as Special Envoy for His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and I relied heavily on your support and assistance in discharge of my duties.

Since its founding in 1988, the ICT team has devoted itself to supporting the Tibetan people and the vision of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. I am honored to have played a leadership role in this endeavor, from the inception of the organization to the present day. When ICT first opened, the United States had no positive coherent policy toward Tibet or His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and it provided no humanitarian or development assistance to the Tibetan people. Today, not only is His Holiness welcomed to the White House with respect when he visits Washington, DC, but the U.S. Congress has awarded him their highest civilian honor — the Congressional Gold Medal. And it has passed historic, comprehensive Tibet legislation, the Tibetan Policy Act, as well as allocated an estimated \$225 million for Tibet-related programs and projects.

Our work in Washington has impacted the course of history for the Tibetan people. During a recent visit to London, the President of the Tibetan Community in Britain, Tsering Passang, asked me to share the recipe for my success in advocating for the Tibet cause at an international level. As I said then, it is three-fold. First, I have a passionate belief in the cause of the Tibetan people and an unwavering commitment to serve under the leadership of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Second, I have sought out colleagues and associates who are wiser and more capable than myself-individuals who are willing to think creatively and not simply agree with everything I say. Finally, I have never been afraid to seek help, and I have been able to establish relationships of trust with people who have the power to assist us in our efforts. Thus, our success in Washington is not mine alone to celebrate; it is the success of a devoted and committed team.





Lodi Gyari meeting with Wang Zhaoguo, head of the Central United Front Work Department of the Chinese Communist Party in September 2002. As a representative of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Gyari led nine rounds of talks with representatives of the Chinese government. *Photo courtesy of the Central Tibetan Administration* 

His Holiness the Dalai Lama greets President Clinton and Vice President Gore with Lodi Gyari in the Vice President's office in 1995. *Photo courtesy of The White House* 

"We Tibetans believe that the more noble and righteous the cause, the more hindrances will occur. At ICT, we have never allowed these challenges to distract us from our mission." —Lodi Gyari

When institutions and individuals are involved in critically important work, there will always be obstacles and roadblocks. In fact, we Tibetans believe that the more noble and righteous the cause, the more hindrances will occur. At ICT, we have never allowed these challenges to distract us from our mission. I consider myself fortunate that I have been able to devote nearly five decades of my life to serving His Holiness and the Tibetan people uninterrupted. The benefit of my contribution will be judged by others and by history, but I have taken the Buddhist principle of "non-harming" very seriously and made this precept central to my conduct.

Tibet's Buddhist-inspired worldview is at the heart of our struggle, and it has been my privilege to create more awareness of our rich cultural heritage. I firmly believe that the core of the Tibetan people's struggle is to preserve its distinctive identity: the Tibetan Buddhist cultural heritage. I believe Buddhism is the most important vehicle for the future in developing a better understanding between the Tibetan and Chinese people.

We Tibetans must be mindful that it is our job to remain at the forefront of our struggle and to inspire those who support us. After all, the cause we are fighting for is the cause of our homeland. I have never felt that we were entitled to any political, economic, or humanitarian support. No government, institution, or individual owes us anything; we are no more special than any other people in similar circumstances. Thus, I strongly believe that we Tibetans must remain ever grateful for every bit of help and support that we have received.

In conclusion, I express my deep felt gratitude to my mentors, my friends, my family, my colleagues, and supporters like you for making my work more meaningful in serving His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the great people of Tibet. Your devotion to the people of Tibet has helped make ICT the most effective Tibet support organization in the world. We are not only the largest, but we also have the best human and material resources—and we have delivered tangible results time and again. It has been my deep honor to be at the forefront of ICT for so many years, and I continue to be moved by the community we have built together. I hope you will join me in remaining committed to our crucial mission.

To read the full document, visit: bit.ly/lodi-gyari

# Arts and Culture

# Handmade Tibetan Prayer Flags

Carrying goodwill to all living beings



"The beauty of the gold ink, the rich colors, the ecological sourcing of the paper, the age-old symbolism—all of it combines to make a wonderfully sweet gift.

– Мас МсСоу

Left: Business owner Mac McCoy with Nima Sherpa, who runs Tibetan Handicraft Production.



The bark of the lokta plant (Himalayan daphne), a sustainably harvested shrub that grows high in the Himalayas and quickly regenerates, is used to make the prayer flag paper. Ethnically Tibetan Sherpas in Nepal harvest the bark and produce the beautiful, durable paper for Tibet Collection.

The lokta fibers are used to make a pulp that is diluted in water and floated over a fine screen in a simple wooden frame, then drained and left to dry in the sun.

Opposite page: The sheets of paper are peeled from the frames, dipped into dye solution, and screen-printed before being stacked for further drying.

At one time, a set of Tibetan prayer flags was an unfamiliar sight to most Americans. Today, the strings of colorful flags flutter in the wind not only at temples in Tibet and mountain peaks in the Himalayas, but also at homes and businesses in the United States, Europe, and around the world. A powerful symbol of international support for Tibet, the colored cloth flags likely originated long ago in pre-Buddhist times. The Bon religion, which began in Tibet around the eleventh century, may have been the first to use them for ceremonial purposes.

Contemporary prayer flags come in different kinds, but the most popular variety is known as *lung-ta*. These are normally square pieces of cloth strung together horizontally in a sequence representing the five elements: blue (for the sky and space), white (air and wind), red (fire), green (water), and yellow (earth). By hanging them in high places, their blessings and prayers are carried by the air and wind all across the globe.

Each year, ICT sends members a set of very special lung-ta produced by the Fair Trade line known as Tibet Collection. The line is a brand of dZi Inc., an import company created by Mac McCoy in 1990 to bring high quality, hand-made goods from Tibetan artisans to American consumers.

After a transformative 1985 trip to Tibet and the region which included a stay in a Tibetan Buddhist monastery in Kathmandu and an audience with His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Dharamsala—McCoy wanted to do something to help preserve the rich cultural heritage he had witnessed firsthand. He partnered with a group of American businessmen and select offices of the Tibetan government-in-exile to launch the Tibetan Handicraft Development Project, an initiative to promote employment opportunities for exiled Tibetans living in settlements in India. The project incorporated as dZi Inc., and the business has since expanded into Nepal.

Each set of prayer flags produced by Tibet Collection for ICT is made from handmade, sustainably harvested *lokta* paper that has been screen-printed with an image from a traditional wood block stamp carved by a Tibetan artisan. The words "lung-ta" literally mean "wind horse" and describe the common symbol that appears on each flag. This mythical being is said to combine the speed of the wind and the strength of the horse and to bring good fortune. On its back, it bears a flaming three-part jewel that represents the Buddha, the Dharma (the teachings of the Buddha), and the Sangha (the community of Buddhists). The Tibetan text surrounding the wind horse includes the essential Buddhist mantra "Om Mani Padme Hum."

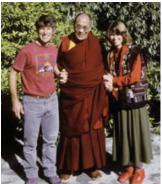
The tiny flags, which measure just two by two inches, have proved very popular among ICT supporters. McCoy says, "The beauty of the gold ink, the rich colors, the ecological sourcing of the paper, the age-old symbolism—all of it combines to make a wonderfully sweet gift. I see the flags hanging in people's windows, and it's so great to think how far they've spread."

These prayer flags, along with several other varieties, are available for purchase from ICT's online store. Order today by visiting www.savetibetstore.org or calling (877) 259-9209.

# **Recent Successes**

## Seven Rowell Fund Grants Awarded to Tibetan Artists and Organizations





The Board of Advisors of the Rowell Fund for Tibet has selected seven Tibetan grantees for financial support totaling \$40,000 for 2015. The winners were chosen from 48 project proposals, with individual grants ranging from \$3,000 to \$7,000. The winning projects will be carried out in India, Europe, and the United States.

The Rowell Fund for Tibet was established in 2003 in memory of the late Galen Rowell and his wife Barbara Rowell, pictured left with His Holiness the Dalai Lama, who died tragically in a plane crash in 2002. Galen Rowell was an internationally known outdoor photographer whose "Rainbow Over the Potala Palace," pictured left, has become has become an iconic photo for adventure travelers and Tibet supporters.

Established by friends and family of Galen and Barbara in cooperation with the International Campaign for Tibet, the Rowell Fund supports the work of Tibetans living in any country who are working to communicate issues of importance to broader Tibetan or international audiences through photography, film-making, writing, journalism, and projects that support women's empowerment.

Terri Baker, member of the Rowell Fund Board of Advisors, said, "This year the Rowell Fund grants are even more meaningful to us. In September, along with representatives of ICT, we were able to travel to Dharamsala, where we met several previous grantees and reviewed their projects firsthand. We were impressed and inspired by the quality of their work, their dedication, and their enthusiasm. We are proud of how the Rowell Fund grants have helped them and others pursue their vision for preserving and fostering the Tibetan culture and identity. We are grateful to them and to ICT for renewing our energy and commitment to the Rowell Fund."

## **2015 GRANTEES**

Takna Jigme Sangpo, former Tibetan political prisoner, now residing in Switzerland, for writing his memoir in English. A teacher, Sangpo was accused of "corrupting the minds of children." He was sentenced to 41 years but was released on medical parole in 2002 thanks to international pressure.

The Tibet Museum, Dharamsala, for expanding and improving its photo exhibits. Established in 1998 and located in the main temple complex in McLeod Ganj, the museum is dedicated to informing the public about the Chinese occupation of Tibet as well as strengthening Tibetan culture among the exile community. www.tibetmuseum.org

*Tibetan Review*, Delhi, to develop its online project. A monthly publication in English language, the *Tibetan Review*  is a "readers' magazine" founded in 1967 that publishes news and features on the situation in Tibet. It is editorially independent and is not funded by any government. www.tibetanreview.net

Thupten Nyima Chakrishar, New York, for the Conserve Tibet project to recover and preserve at-risk video and audio material of historical and cultural importance to the Tibetan people. www.conservetibet.org

**Tsering Wangmo** for photographic documentation of the Tibetan nomads in Ladakh, north India. A female photographer with a background in journalism and mass communications, Wangmo will capture an ancient way of life in an area with strong ties to Tibetan Buddhist culture. Nangchen History Project, Dharamsala, for compiling the history of the Nangchen region of Tibet. A remote area that was once an independent kingdom, Nangchen contains Buddhist monasteries that are thousands of years old and many other well preserved aspects of Tibetan culture and history.

#### Tibetan National Sports Association,

Dharamsala, for a Tibetan women's football training and empowerment camp. The TNSA was founded by Kasur Jetsun Pema, former president of the Tibetan Children's Village, to engage and energize Tibetan youth. www.tibetansports.org/

To learn more about the Rowell Fund for Tibet, please visit bit.ly/rowell-2015

## 2015 Lobby Day Draws Friends of Tibet to Washington, DC



Left: A delegation from Northern Virginia convenes for Tibet Lobby Day. Right: Thupten Tserig, an attendee from Maryland, presents Senator Ben Cardin with a traditional ceremonial scarf known as a *khata*.

Tibetan-Americans and friends of Tibet converged in Washington, DC, for the Seventh Annual Tibet Lobby Day on March 2-3, 2015. A collaboration of International Campaign for Tibet and other Tibet support groups and Tibetan associations in the United States, the event offers the opportunity for Tibet supporters to communicate directly with elected representatives. In face-to-face meetings, supporters can urge members of Congress to advocate for concrete actions toward resolving the Tibet crisis and supporting Tibetans in their efforts to protect their culture, religion, and identity.

The success of each Tibet Lobby Day depends on the participation and efforts of Tibet supporters. This year, approximately 100 supporters from 15 states attended. They visited more than 150 offices to ask Congress to continue funding for Tibet programs in the annual appropriations bill, to support legislation on Tibet and related issues, and to urge Secretary of State John Kerry to take up the cause of Tibetan political prisoners, specifically those needing medical attention. Additional supporters participated digitally by sending online messages to House and Senate offices of 49 states as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. "As a former Tibetan political prisoner who benefited from international support during my imprisonment by the Chinese authorities, the Tibet Lobby Day provided me, as a Tibetan American now, with the opportunity to do something concrete for the Tibetan people," said Ngawang Sangdrol from Massachusetts, who has been a regular participant of the Tibet Lobby Day. "From my own experience, I can vouch for the fact that any such actions taken internationally do positively impact the Tibetans in Tibet," Sangdrol added.

The U.S. Congress has long been a bulwark of support for Tibet, from giving His Holiness the Dalai Lama his first parliamentary forum in 1987, to millions of dollars in Tibet support programs every year. But continuing to remind our Members of Congress of their longstanding commitment to Tibet is of vital importance. Faced with the well-funded lobbying might of the Chinese Embassy, Lobby Day offers a critical forum to speak out and let elected representatives know the breadth and depth of support for the cause of Tibet amongst their constituents and ensure that Tibet remains on their legislative agendas.



# ICT President Calls for Freedom of Religion at UN

On March 11, ICT President Matteo Mecacci delivered a statement to the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief during the 28th United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva. Mecacci said, "[Demonization of Tibetan Buddhists] systematically takes place in the People's Republic of China...China's Criminal Law is used to prosecute individuals whose religious activities are equated with 'separatism.'" He said that monks and nuns make up 44% of political prisoners in Tibet.

Left: Executive Director of ICT Germany Kai Muller and ICT President Matteo Mecacci at the UN.

# Inside Tibet

# The Case of Tendar

Twenty-eight year old Tendar's death following torture was included in a video released by the Tibetan government in exile in March. A Tibetan blogger described the images as follows: "One of his legs was cut with many bloody knife wounds, and a nail had been driven into a toenail on his right foot. A great deal of flesh had been cut away from his bottom, where the wound was rotting and infested with insects. Where his waist had been beaten with electric batons, the flesh had started to decay. There were many wounds on his back and on his face...Because he had not received any medical care, he was already on the verge of death."

Tendar worked in the customer services department of a Chinese telecommunications company and lived in Lhasa. On March 14, 2008, when Tibetan protests turned violent in Lhasa, he may have tried to intervene as an elderly monk was beaten by Chinese security personnel. He was shot and taken away by police, and family members had no idea as to his whereabouts.

Tibetan sources believe that Tendar was only released to his family when the authorities knew there was no hope of recovery in order to avoid responsibility for his death under their charge. He died at home shortly thereafter.

# Special Report: Torture and Impunity

One of ICT's key programs is monitoring and reporting on the situation inside Tibet. At left is an extract from a recently published report that highlights 28 cases of torture. Read the complete report at bit.ly/prisoner-torture

Since the unrest in 2008 and crackdown in Tibet, the Chinese authorities have adopted a harsher approach to suppressing dissent, and there has been a significant spike in Tibetan political prisoners. Although officially prohibited, a pattern of torture in Tibet is evident, and a younger generation of Tibetans is paying with their lives for any expression of Tibetan identity not directly sanctioned by the state. Despite the dangers, Tibetans continue to assert their national identity and defend their culture.

# Self-Immolation Report

Four additional self-immolations have occurred since our last report, bringing the total to 138 self-immolations since 2009. Each issue, we present with sadness those individuals who have most recently chosen this act of protest.



## April 16, 2015

Yeshi Kandro, a Tibetan nun in her forties, set fire to herself in Kardze (Ganzi). She called for the long life of the Dalai Lama, for the Dalai Lama to be invited to Tibet, and for freedom for Tibet as she set herself alight.

Wellbeing: Deceased



### December 23, 2014

Kalsang Yeshe, a Tibetan monk known for his work teaching others about Buddhism, set fire to himself and died in Tawu, the Tibetan area of Kham, according to reports from Tibetans in exile. According to the same sources, he selfimmolated near a police station that had been established recently by his monastery, Nyitso,

where repression of monks and local people has been particularly intense in recent years.

#### Wellbeing: Deceased



Tseypey



Sangye Khar

## December 22, 2014

A 19 year-old girl who self-immolated in the center of a town in Ngaba (Chinese: Aba) in the Tibetan area of Amdo was identified by exile sources as Tseypey, the fourth of six children from a family in Meruma township.

Wellbeing: Deceased

## December 16, 2014

Sangye Khar, is believed to be from a semi-nomadic area in Kanlho, Gansu. His self-immolation took place in Amchok town in Sangchu (Xiahe) county, Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Gansu. Details were sketchy due to security restrictions in the area.

### Wellbeing: Unknown

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

# Take Action



# **Calling All Supporters:**

Ask the 114th Congress to Support Tibet

Earlier this spring, the voice of Tibetan-Americans and Tibet supporters reverberated in the halls of Congress during another successful Tibet Lobby Day. To follow up on that success and ensure that Tibet remains at the forefront of

Congressional business, we need our community of supporters to take action.

Historically, Congress has identified the Tibet issue as a problem that must be addressed—but also one that can be solved. Since 1987, when His Holiness the Dalai Lama first spoke before the U.S. Congress, it has shown genuine and powerful support for the Tibet issue. Over the years, Congress has approved a range of policies and funded numerous programs to help the Tibetan people and the Dalai Lama in the quest for rights and dignity.

Since the 114th Congress is in its first term, ICT is asking our committed community members to reach out to their elected officials to encourage their support for Tibet. In the year of His Holiness the Dalai Lama's 80th birthday, it is more important than ever to ensure U.S. Congressional support on critical Tibetan programs that make a difference in the lives of the Tibetan people and uphold American values.

We ask all members and supporters to clip, sign, and return the petition to ICT in the attached envelope so we can deliver them together for maximum effectiveness. Please consider copying this page and asking friends and family to join in the effort to ask the 114th Congress to support Tibet. Thank you.

### PLEASE CLIP HERE

To: My Members of Congress

From: A Concerned Constituent

I thank Congress for its leadership on Tibetan issues and its commitment to providing programmatic and political support for Tibetans in Tibet and those in exile during this very difficult time.

I ask the 114th Congress to continue to help Tibetans protect and promote their rights, culture, identity, and dignity. Congress can make a positive difference in the lives of the Tibetan people by supporting these three items:

Zip Code

- 1. Preserve funding for Tibet programs in the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill, including economic development; humanitarian assistance; Tibetan language broadcasts through Voice of America and Radio Free Asia; and scholarship and exchange programs.
- 2. Pass the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (S. 284 in the Senate & H.R. 624 in the House) to hold Chinese officials accountable for human rights abuses in Tibet.
- **3. HOUSE: Pass the Reciprocity to Tibet Act H.R. 1112.** This bipartisan bill promotes access to Tibetan areas for U.S. officials, journalists, and citizens.

Respectfully,

(Sign Here) \_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_

State\_\_\_\_





visit us at savetibet.org

## 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 (ENGLISH) @SaveTibet\_Tibet (TIBETAN) র্বন্ত্র্র্র্ব্ব @LiaoWangXiZang (CHINESE) 中文

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

# Small Gifts, Big Difference

The *Friends of Tibet* are a small inner circle of supporters of the International Campaign for Tibet who pledge to make a monthly automated gift. The steady, reliable support of our *Friends of Tibet* gives us the ability to act (and not just react) in defense of the people and culture of Tibet. Take the next step in your support by joining the *Friends of Tibet* today. Enroll online at *www.savetibet.org/friends-of-tibet*, or by contacting Lizzy Ludwig at *lizzy.ludwig@savetibet.org* or (202) 580-6767.



His Holiness the Dalai Lama posing for a group photo with one of the performing troupes on the opening day of the 20th Shoton Festival in Dharamsala, India on March 27, 2015. Photo/Tenzin Choejor/OHHDL