



INTERNATIONAL
CAMPAIGN
FOR TIBET

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TIBET WATCH

SPRING 2021

INSIDE:

Path to Passage:
Tibetan Policy & Support Act

Release of Tashi Wangchuk

Celebrating Losar

Farewell to Matteo Mecacci

Petition to President Biden:
Support Tibet



HONORING THE PAST,
LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

A group of five Tibetan children are smiling and posing for a photo in a mountainous landscape. In the foreground, a boy with a blue and green striped shirt and a girl with a blue and white striped shirt are making peace signs. Behind them, three more children are visible, also smiling. The background shows a clear blue sky and a mountain range.

**WILL YOU HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE
FOR OUR FUTURE...**

...AND THE FUTURE OF TIBET?

savetibet.org/give



Photo: Morten Perriard

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Dear Friend,

I hope this issue of *Tibet Watch* finds you safe and healthy.

It is my honor to write to you as the Interim President of ICT. As you may know, our longtime president, Matteo Mecacci, was recently appointed Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights in Europe. I hope you'll take a moment to read about his legacy on page 10 of this issue, our tribute to him and his commitment to the people of Tibet.

As we move forward, I am joined by Tencho Gyatso, ICT's Director of Outreach and current Interim Vice President, in leading the organization in its ongoing work to help the Tibetan people in their peaceful struggle to secure freedom and human rights.

With passage of the Tibetan Policy and Support Act in December, 2021 began with a strong mandate for the US to support Tibet. We've detailed the pathway to passage of this pivotal new law—and the many years of work, including by Tibet supporters and ICT members like you, that went into its success—in our feature story on pages 4-5. ICT is now focused on ensuring full implementation of this legislation in the months ahead.

And with the new administration under President Biden taking office in late January, our team, including members of our Board, has been busy reaching out to diplomats and lawmakers—including Secretary of State Antony Blinken and the many freshmen members of Congress—to establish relationships, share ICT's mission and provide education on the situation in Tibet. Secretary Blinken's raising of Tibet during his first interaction with a Chinese leader is a positive development.

We now have a new opportunity to support the Tibetan people and you can help strengthen this work by signing the petition on page 11, urging President Biden to make good on his stated intentions for Tibet. We are counting on him to make the Land of Snows a priority in his dealings with China—and on members of our community of compassion to lend their voices in solidarity with Tibetans.

As we prepare this issue, the COVID-19 pandemic continues and we know that it has been a difficult year for many of you. We are especially grateful for your steadfast support and commitment to the people of Tibet during this challenging time.

With Tashi Delek and gratitude,



Bhuchung K. Tsering



PATH TO PASSAGE: THE TIBETAN POLICY AND SUPPORT ACT

A decade in the making, the Tibetan Policy and Support Act (TPSA) was signed into law on December 27, 2020! An update to the 2002 Tibetan Policy Act, this bipartisan bill launches a new era in US policy on Tibet, a historically independent country that has become one of the least free places on Earth under the oppressive rule of the Chinese government.

The passage of the TPSA is a major success for the Tibetan people that reflects ten years of work and perseverance by advocates, leaders, lawmakers and citizens. **ICT members played a key role in supporting, lobbying and advocating for this pivotal legislation—thank you!**

WHAT DOES THE BILL DO?

- ❖ Makes it official US policy that only His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Buddhist community can decide on a future Dalai Lama
- ❖ Strengthens diplomatic efforts through the office of the Special Coordinator for Tibetan issues in the State Department to push for negotiations between China and representatives of the Dalai Lama
- ❖ Addresses water security and climate change on the Tibetan plateau, which is warming nearly three times faster than the global average and provides water to more than 1 billion people across Asia
- ❖ Forbids China from opening a new consulate in the US until China allows a US consulate in Lhasa, Tibet
- ❖ Authorizes funding for humanitarian projects for Tibetans inside and outside Tibet until at least 2025

OCTOBER 1, 2019

The bill is hand-delivered by former ICT President Matteo Mecacci to the Dalai Lama during a Senate staff delegation to Dharamsala.



SEPTEMBER 2019

TPSA is introduced in the House by Jim McGovern (D-MA) and in the Senate by Marco Rubio (R-FL).

MARCH 12, 2019

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, along with additional key members of Congress, ICT leaders and other Tibet advocates discuss a new bill to increase US support for Tibetans.



2011

ICT, represented by Vice President Bhuchung Tsering, calls on Congress to update the 2002 Tibetan Policy Act.



2012

Tibetan Americans and Tibet supporters urge legislators to update the Tibetan Policy Act during Tibet Lobby Day.



2015

House passes a resolution calling for dialogue to address Tibetan grievances and condemn Chinese interference in the Dalai Lama's succession.

2014-2015

ICT consults with the Central Tibetan Administration and works behind the scenes with Congressional offices to draft an amendment to the Tibetan Policy Act.

APRIL 25, 2018

Senate passes the Tibetan Rights Day resolution, emphasizing that the Dalai Lama's succession is a matter to be determined solely by Tibetan Buddhists.



DECEMBER 19, 2018

The Reciprocal Access to Tibet Act (RATA) is signed into law! As the most important Tibet legislation in more than a decade, RATA provides momentum for what will become the Tibetan Policy and Support Act.



Rep. Jim McGovern
@RepMcGovern

Follow

Incredible news: last night, the President signed into law a bill that I introduced in the House of Representatives that will hold [#China](#) accountable for their human rights violations in [#Tibet](#). More info: [mcm.gov.house.gov/news/documents ...](https://mcm.gov.house.gov/news/documents...)

International Campaign for Tibet @SaveTibetOrg

"For too long, China has covered up their [#HumanRights](#) violations in Tibet by restricting travel. But actions have consequences. & today, we are one step closer to holding the Chinese officials who implement these restrictions accountable"
@RepMcGovern Reciprocal #AccessToTibet

7:58 AM - 20 Dec 2018

OCTOBER 21-22, 2019

Supporters advocate for the TPSA during a special mini-Tibet Lobby Day and the bill gains 7 co-sponsors.



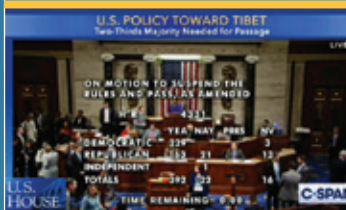
DECEMBER 18, 2019

The House Foreign Affairs Committee approves the bill, clearing the way for a vote on the House floor.



JANUARY 28, 2020

The TPSA passes the House and moves to the Senate.



MARCH 4-5, 2020

Speaker Pelosi meets with members of Congress, ICT leaders, representatives of the Dalai Lama and other Tibet advocates to strategize about the bill.

International Campaign for Tibet
@SaveTibetOrg

Members of our board and international staff met w/ @SpeakerPelosi in the US Capitol this week to discuss the situation in #Tibet! The Representative of the #DalaiLama @NgodupTsering7 and Professor Jolsang Negi of @EmoryUniversity were also present (Photo: Office of the Speaker)



10:11 AM · Mar 6, 2020

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2020

Final push! ICT members send 26,423 petitions to leaders of the Senate Foreign Relations committee, urging them to take up the TPSA. ICT staff continue meeting with key Congressional staffers to push for the bill. Ultimately, based on its overwhelming bipartisan support, House and Senate leaders attach the TPSA to a government spending bill.



SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

Mecacci speaks at a Congressional-Executive Commission on China hearing to draw attention to the human rights crisis in Tibet and advocate for passage of the TPSA.

JULY 16, 2020

ICT launches the *Tibet 2020* campaign, urging the US presidential candidates to take action for Tibet.



MARCH 23-24, 2020

Due to the pandemic, Tibet Lobby Day quickly and successfully goes virtual with 150 supporters calling on lawmakers to pass the TPSA.

DECEMBER 21, 2020

With just a few days left in the year, the bill passes Congress!



JUNE 30, 2020

ICT Chairman Richard Gere testifies in the Senate on Chinese influence on trade and asks senators to cosponsor the bill.



DECEMBER 27, 2020

The Tibetan Policy and Support Act is signed into law.

TPSA officially becomes law

STATEMENTS & RELEASES

Bill Announcement

BUDGET & SPENDING | Issued on: December 27, 2020

BY PASSING THE TPSA,

Congress has not only upgraded its overall support for Tibet, but specifically laid a marker down on the global stage declaring that the international community will not accept China's interference in the Dalai Lama's succession and will oppose China's human rights abuses in Tibet for as long as they continue.

In the months ahead, ICT looks forward to working with other countries to adopt their own versions of this legislation, as well as ensure that the TPSA is fully implemented in the US.

We thank Congress for its bold leadership and members of our community of compassion for your commitment and determination to improving US policy in support of the Tibetan people.

TIBET TALKS OFFER INTEREST AND INSIGHT

Tibet Talks is ICT's series of live conversations about Tibet with engaging thinkers, leaders, activists and artists. Listen in and catch up at www.savetibet.org/live or in podcast format at www.savetibet.org/pod:

- ❖ Ngawang Sangdrol and Phuntsog Nyidron, two of the nuns featured in *Tibet in Chains*—a new book from ICT—share excerpts from their stories of captivity, survival, resistance and freedom. The book illuminates the lives of nine Tibetan nuns held in the notorious Draphchi Prison in the early 1990s and is available for download from Barnes & Noble, Amazon and Apple Books.
- ❖ Assistant Secretary Robert A. Destro, special coordinator for Tibetan issues, talks with three alumni of ICT's Tibetan Youth Leadership Program.
- ❖ Sharon Salzberg, meditation teacher and accomplished author, joins Matteo Mecacci to discuss her latest book, *Real Change*, and how to embody fundamental principles of mindfulness practice toward creating social change and a better world for all.



ICT PETITION TO UN HIGHLIGHTS PLIGHT OF POLITICAL PRISONERS



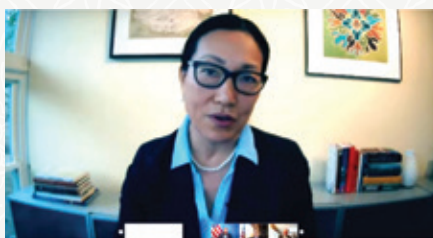
When 19-year-old monk Tenzin Nyima—known to friends and family as Tamey—was released from prison, his health was so poor that he could not talk or move. Due to beatings he sustained in custody, he died shortly thereafter. Tamey had been arrested for distributing leaflets and shouting slogans about Tibetan independence. Sadly, his death is part of a pattern of torture and mistreatment of political prisoners in Tibet.

In January and February, ICT members signed and sent more than 4,700 petitions to the UN High Commissioner, calling for an investigation into Tamey's case and the Chinese government's torture of political prisoners. ICT members also gave over seven thousand dollars to support our monitoring of political prisoners and to sustain our work with governments around the globe, pushing for freedom and fair treatment. [Thank you for your support in working toward justice for Tamey and all Tibetan political prisoners.](#)

ICT ADDRESSES RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AT US MISSION IN GENEVA EVENT

"Religious freedom and the succession of the Dalai Lama should be at the top of the human rights agenda in dealings with China", ICT's Interim Vice President Tencho Gyatso said at a US Mission in Geneva event on December 4, 2020. "The institution of the Dalai Lama," she said, "is the lifeline of the Tibetan people."

Gyatso was one of the main speakers at "Religious Freedom in Tibet: The Appointment of Buddhist Leaders and the Succession of the Dalai Lama," hosted by then Ambassador Andrew



Bremberg, permanent representative of the US to the Office of the UN and other international organizations in Geneva.

The online event also featured outgoing Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom Sam Brownback, outgoing Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues Robert A. Destro and President of the Central Tibetan Administration Dr. Lobsang Sangay.

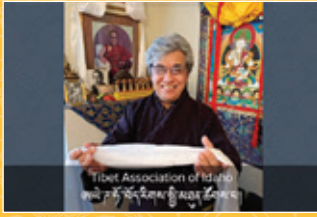
ROWELL FUND FOR TIBET ANNOUNCES 2021 GRANTEES

The Rowell Fund for Tibet has awarded over \$25,000 in grants to six Tibetan-led projects in 2021 that focus on humanitarian efforts, environmental protection, literature, women's issues, film and photography. The fund was established in memory of lifelong Tibet supporters Galen and Barbara Rowell, who tragically died in a plane crash in 2002.

This year's grants will support several projects based in India and directed by Tibetans in exile, including an environmental project for recycling paper in Dharamsala; a project to digitize documentation related to the resettlement of the Tibetan monastic community in Buxa; an eco-friendly waste management project at a nunnery within a Tibetan settle-

ment in Mundgod; a children's park at the Lakhawala Tibetan colony; a documentary on the life of a Tibetan refugee; and one project that is confidential in nature.

The generosity of ICT members help fund these important projects.



"The Biden administration is committed to preserving, protecting and honoring [Tibet's] linguistic, religious and cultural heritage."
— Antony Blinken,
Secretary of State

LOSAR TASHI DELEK



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May the year of the Iron Ox bring you abundant blessings of good health, beautiful memories and lasting serenity.

February 12, 2021 marked the first day of Losar and the Iron Ox Year 2148 in the Tibetan lunar calendar. This cherished time is dedicated to reflecting on the past year and setting intentions for the year ahead. Losar is a festive holiday marked by special foods, new clothes, gifts and music, and is celebrated through various religious and cultural traditions that may continue from three to fifteen days. Customarily, families create beautiful Losar altars that feature items like elaborate decorations, fruits honoring Tibet's farming traditions, photographs of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and statues of the Buddha.

This year ICT celebrated Losar virtually with the US State Department, through an event hosted by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Scott Busby. The reception featured musical performances, video greetings from Tibetan organizations across the US and speakers including Secretary of State Antony Blinken; ICT Chair Richard Gere; State Department Senior Official Lisa Peterson; Representative of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to the Americas Ngodup Tsering; and Lieutenant Commander Tenzin Jangchup, a Tibetan-American in US Public Health Service. Busby and others used the occasion to recognize Tibet's rich cultural heritage, affirm strong US support for Tibetans, and wish Tibetans inside Tibet and in exile a happy new year.



"We must stay true to our commitments to help Tibetans all over the world, especially inside Tibet."
— Richard Gere,
ICT Chairman

TIBETANS IN EXILE CONDUCT FIRST ROUND OF ELECTIONS FOR PRESIDENT AND PARLIAMENT



Several thousand Tibetans in exile voted on January 3, 2021 in the first of two rounds of elections for the president—Sikyong—and parliament of the Central Tibetan Administration.

The primary election was held to elect candidates, with the main elections to be held in early April 2021.

Results of the general election will be announced in May and new parliamentarians will then be sworn in.

POLITICAL PRISONER TASHI WANGCHUK RELEASED FROM PRISON AFTER FIVE YEARS



ICT welcomes the release of Tibetan language rights advocate Tashi Wangchuk, who, on January 28, 2021, completed a five-year prison sentence for speaking to Western media about the importance of protecting the Tibetan language.

The Chinese government falsely charged Tashi with breaking the law, held him for years despite an international call for his release, subjected him to a sham prosecution, and

caused him unimaginable physical and psychological damage, all while refusing to address his legitimate concerns about Tibetans' language rights. Although, as we go to print, Tashi remains incommunicado and may still be facing intense restrictions on his freedom, as Chinese authorities routinely harass former Tibetan political prisoners and deprive them of their rights.

We thank ICT members for their important role in advocating for Tashi's release through ongoing support and petitions. His case has been one of the most blatant examples of how China represses the Tibetan people, denies them their legal rights and abuses them whenever they try to exercise basic freedoms.

TIBETANS SENT TO MAINLAND CHINESE SCHOOLS FOR INDOCTRINATION

At the seventh Tibet Work Forum in August 2020, Chinese President Xi Jinping called for a patriotic re-education of Tibet's younger generation. In December 2020, Chinese state media reported that a propaganda team from the Tibet Autonomous Region visited Tibetan schools in Chinese cities to hold "National Unity Education Activities." One speaker from the TAR came to give a "[t]alk about the kindness of the party" and instructed students to "love the core, listen to the Party."



As part of the Chinese government's ostensible plan to improve "Tibet's backward education and lack of talents," special schools and classes have been established in several Chinese cities since 1985. Chinese authorities increasingly view these schools and their Tibetan students as avenues for indoctrination to secure Tibetan support for the CCP.



RICHARD GERE'S TESTIMONY ON CHINESE CENSORSHIP PROMPTS INVESTIGATION

Following a hearing on June 30, 2020, where ICT Chairman Richard Gere testified about Chinese censorship hurting US interests, particularly when it comes to Tibet, senators asked the US International Trade Commission to investigate.

Outgoing Senate Finance Committee Chair Chuck Grassley (R-IA) wrote to the commission in early January 2021 to request an inquiry of up to 18 months to investigate and describe foreign censorship practices that impede trade, and to estimate the economic costs of foreign censorship on different US business sectors. The investigation could help increase the role human rights play in trade policies and add to the momentum of US support for Tibet.

SELF-IMMOLATION REPORTEDLY UNCOVERED FIVE YEARS LATER

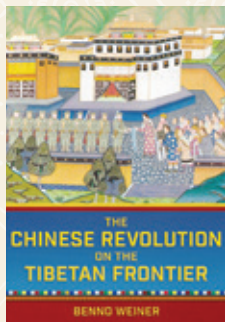
In January 2021, the self-immolation of a Tibetan man named Shurmo (26 years old) came to light after the Chinese government succeeded in keeping it hidden for more than five years. According to the Central Tibetan Administration, Shurmo died after lighting his body on fire on September 17, 2015 near a bus station in his native Shagchukha village in Nagchu prefecture in the Tibet Autonomous Region. His self-immolation was in protest of Chinese repression. Authorities arrested him and took him to the hospital, where he died later that day.

This latest confirmation brings the total number of self-immolations in Tibet to 157 since 2009. We report with sadness each individual who has chosen this act of protest.

NEW BOOKS REVEAL TIBET'S HIDDEN HISTORY UNDER CHINESE RULE

When Beijing explains how Tibet became a part of the People's Republic of China, the story is simple: Tibet has always been a part of China, they say, and in 1950 the Chinese army "liberated" the grateful people of Tibet and peacefully integrated them into a new, multi-ethnic Chinese nation.

We know this is false, but Tibet has been sealed off by the Communist Party for decades in an effort to prevent Tibetans from telling their stories. Now, a trio of new books explores these events. In 1949, China's People's Liberation Army swept the murderous Hui warlord Ma Bufang out of power and took control of northern Tibet. A CCP official assigned to the area assured local Tibetans that "the old era of rule through bullying and cruelty is gone and will not return."



Benno Weiner's *The Chinese Revolution on the Tibetan Frontier* follows what happened next in the nomadic region of Tsekhog, where government policies that initially preserved some of Tibet's traditional power structures eventually gave way to hard-line Maoist rule. Soon, the Communist Party revealed itself to be far more intrusive than anything Tibetans had experienced before.

Weiner maps out a rising tide of resistance in northern Tibet that culminated in a 1958 mass uprising, to which China responded using tactics including "torture, extrajudicial killings, the emptying of population centers, mass incarcerations, and strategy-induced famine and epidemics." A new era of rule through cruelty had begun, one which carries on to the present day.

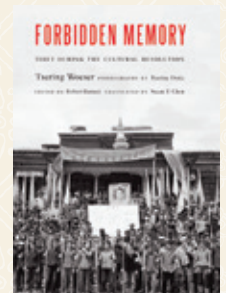
Xiaoyuan Liu's *To the End of Revolution* covers the same period, focusing on the written records left by senior CCP leaders in Lhasa and Beijing, including Mao Zedong him-

self. Liu's close study of their decision-making paints a clear portrait of the men who invaded Tibet: deeply ignorant of its history, culture and society, with policies that change drastically in response to the whims of a handful of senior leaders.

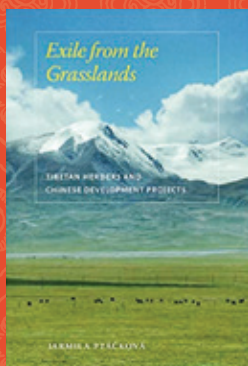
Liu captures a telling moment as China's leaders convince themselves that direct Maoist rule in Kham would entice the Tibetan authorities in Lhasa to speed up their own "socialist transformation." In reality, the constant flow of Khampa refugees arriving in Lhasa served as a dire cautionary tale for the Tibetan government. When conditions finally deteriorated beyond the point of no return, Mao was all too ready to sweep in and destroy the last vestiges of the agreements he had made with Tibet.



Picking up a few years after Weiner and Liu, Tsering Woesser's *Forbidden Memory* provides a rare glimpse into Tibet during China's Cultural Revolution. It's a very personal project for Woesser, who started with a box of photographs taken by her late father during those years. She interviewed survivors and pieced together a history of one of Tibet's darkest moments, including violent "struggle sessions" against monks and the ransacking of sacred places like Lhasa's Jokhang Temple.



What came of Mao's designs on Tibet? The Chairman is long gone, but his legacy carries on. Woesser writes about where the people in her father's photographs ended up. Maoist theory held that Tibetan Buddhism would wither away, and yet many of the survivors immediately resumed their practice after the ban on religion was lifted. Tibet's culture of compassion lives on in spite of decades of Chinese misrule.



EXILE FROM THE GRASSLANDS

Jarmila Ptackova, 2020

If Weiner's book gives you an interest in Tsekhog, consider reading *Exile from the Grasslands* for an update on the Tibetan county. Ptackova spent time in the area studying the impacts of China's drive to resettle Tibetan nomads into bleak, shoddy housing. "There is nothing to do here," one of them tells her, "no work...They told us it would be good and advantageous for us to move, but it is not really good here."



OUR GRATITUDE & BEST WISHES TO MATTEO MECACCI

INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR TIBET PRESIDENT 2013-2020



Matteo Mecacci began his leadership of ICT in December 2013. A global advocate for human rights and democracy, Matteo previously served as a Member of Parliament in Italy and a leader in the Tibet movement at the governmental level.

During his time with ICT, Matteo built on Tibet's longstanding support in Washington, DC and strengthened our organization's relationships with members on both sides of the aisle, as well as in European capitals. He spearheaded new legislative achievements such as passage of the Reciprocal Access to Tibet Act of 2018, legislation requiring the State Department to monitor rivers in the Tibetan Plateau, and the influential Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020. Throughout, Matteo has been deeply committed to ICT's mission and a passionate supporter of His Holiness

the Dalai Lama's vision for Tibet and the Tibetan community.

Matteo was recently appointed by the Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as the new Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, which promotes democratic elections, human rights and rule of law.

We thank Matteo from the bottom of our hearts for his leadership at ICT and his advocacy for Tibetans, and we wish him well in the important work he is undertaking as Director of ODIHR.

ICT continues to further the work of our mission under the leadership of Interim President Bhuchung K. Tsering and Interim Vice President Tencho Gyatso.

"We were happy to have Matteo join us as President during an exceptionally challenging time for human rights and democracy in the world... Matteo has done a terrific job in leading our international efforts and we are sad to see him leave, but this is an extraordinary opportunity—not only for Matteo—but for us to continue our work together for human rights."

— **Richard Gere, ICT Chairman**

"When Matteo stepped into the role of President, Special Envoy Lodi Gyari, the long-standing bedrock of ICT, was retiring as executive chair of our Board and we were establishing objectives to maximize impact in the next five years. Matteo took up the challenge, and in

his seven years with ICT, established the continued relevance and effectiveness of our organization. Our entire team thanks Matteo for his leadership."

— **Bhuchung Tsering, ICT Interim President**

"I want to congratulate Matteo on his new position with OSCE. I know ICT will miss you, just as we are also all enormously grateful for what you have contributed. Best wishes for a healthy, fulfilling 2021."

— **Helen T., ICT Partner for Tibet**

"I would like to express my sincere gratitude to you, Matteo, for your unwavering support, and especially for

the dedication and commitment you have shown to the Tibet cause."

— **Speaker Pema Jungney, Tibetan Parliament in Exile**

"We are exceedingly grateful to Matteo for his active leadership as the director of the International Campaign for Tibet in legislative advocacy and focusing governments and the international community on the dire human rights situation in Tibet. We thank him for representing the voice and the aspirations of the Tibetan people at significant global platforms. Once again, sincere congratulations and best wishes."

— **Sikyong Dr. Lobsang Sangay, Central Tibetan Administration**

CALLING ALL MEMBERS:

URGE PRESIDENT BIDEN TO FULFILL HIS PLEDGE FOR TIBET



His Holiness the Dalai Lama and President Biden greet each other in 2003.

During his presidential campaign, President Biden made a strong statement of his intentions regarding Tibet. He promised to stand up for Tibetans in several key ways, including by pressuring Chinese leaders to resume dialogue with representatives of His Holiness the Dalai Lama:

“As President, I’ll put values back at the center of American foreign policy. I’ll meet with His Holiness the Dalai Lama, appoint a new Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues and insist that the Chinese government restore access to Tibet for US citizens, including our diplomats and journalists.

I’ll work with our allies in pressing Beijing to return to direct dialogue with the representatives of the Tibetan people to achieve meaningful autonomy, respect for human rights and the preservation of Tibet’s environment as well as its unique cultural, linguistic and religious traditions... A Biden-Harris administration will stand up for the people of Tibet.”

JOIN ICT IN URGING PRESIDENT BIDEN TO FULFILL HIS PLEDGE FOR TIBET.

Raise your voice and stand in solidarity with the Tibetan people by signing and sending the member petition below.

PLEASE CLIP HERE & MAIL YOUR PETITION IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE



TO: PRESIDENT BIDEN
FROM: A CONCERNED CITIZEN

Dear President Biden,

Tibet supporters across the United States were heartened by your statement during the 2020 campaign, which promised to strengthen American support for the people of Tibet.

Now that you have reached the highest office in the land, we are calling on you to follow through on these commitments. In particular, we ask that you:

- Make the Tibet issue and a return to negotiations with representatives of His Holiness the Dalai Lama one of your most consistent requests in both public and private conversations with Xi Jinping and the government of the People’s Republic of China. The US played an important role in facilitating dialogue before, and we should do so again now.
- Promptly meet with His Holiness the Dalai Lama, one of the most admired figures both in America and around the world. Such a meeting should take place in the Oval Office, as befits a meeting with a universally respected religious leader and Nobel Peace Prize laureate.
- Implement the Reciprocal Access to Tibet Act and the Tibetan Policy and Support Act to the fullest extent of both laws. Our bipartisan tradition of support for Tibet in Congress has resulted in legislation designed to help the Tibetan people, and your White House should embody that support as well.

I thank you again for your statement and hope to see that the Biden-Harris administration will, indeed, stand up for Tibet.

Sincerely,

Signature _____

Name _____ State _____ Zip Code _____


INTERNATIONAL
CAMPAIGN
FOR TIBET

Stay Informed, Stay Connected

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



Visit us at savetibet.org or in Chinese at liaowangxizang.net

Join the online conversation at weblog.savetibet.org



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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!

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((CITY, STATE ZIP))



JOIN THE MANDALA SOCIETY

Invest in the future of the Tibetan people through your estate plans.

Contact Brian Ahern at
202.580.6770 to learn more.

OHHDL



“
You should think, the past is past. From today, in this new year, I may be physically the same, I may have the same name, but I will live my life in a more compassionate way, a more meaningful way.
”

So it would be better to celebrate a
Happy New Year in a very peaceful, gentle way.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama delivered a New Year's address from his residence in Dharamsala on the first of the year. He encouraged people to commit to living a life of service to others, even if they have not done so in the past.



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