



17/10/98

བོད་ཀྱི་འགྲོ་བ་མིའི་ཐོབ་ཐང་དང་མང་གཞི་འཕེལ་རྒྱས་ལྗེ་གནས་ཁང་།
TIBETAN CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY

(Registered under Societies Registration Act 21 of 1860)

Report on the enforced or involuntary disappearance of a person

I. Identity of the person subjected to enforced or involuntary disappearance

1. Family name : Gyalpo
2. First name : Jigme
3. Sex : Male
4. Birth date or age (at time of disappearance) : 26
5. Nationality : Tibetan
6. Civil status (single, married, etc) : Single
7. Identity document : N/A
8. Profession : Farmer
9. Address of usual residence : Tsa-shod, Meldro Gongkar County, Tibetan Autonomous Region ("TAR")
10. *Reasons for Arrest* Political Activities : In April 1995 Jigme Gyalpo and Bhu-Khog carried out political activities by pasting posters in front of the township government office. The posters included slogans such as "Tibet is independent" and "Chinese quit Tibet" and drawings of the snow lion and snow-capped mountains resembling the Tibetan national flag. On the same night in April 1998, the two men were also reported to have destroyed the main gate of the township government office and to have taken down the Chinese national flag and dumped it in the garbage. He was subsequently sentenced to 6 years in Drapchi.

II. Date of disappearance Arrest

11. Year, month, day and hour when missing person was arrested or abducted : May 1998
12. Year, month, day and hour when missing person was last seen : May 1998
13. Other indications relating to the date of disappearance :
At the time of disappearance Jigme Gyalpo was serving 6 years in Drapchi prison. Up until May of this year, Jigme Gyalpo was permitted visitors in Drapchi. However, in an unprecedented display of violence on May 1 and 4, prison and police officials opened fire on prisoners staging peaceful demonstrations in Drapchi. Prison visits have subsequently been denied to Jigme Gyalpo, although it is reported that other prisoners are able to continue receiving visitors.

III. *Place of disappearance*

14. Place where missing person was arrested or abducted : Drapchi prison, Lhasa, "TAR"
15. Place where missing person was last seen : Drapchi
16. Other indications concerning the place of disappearance : It is believed that restriction on Jigme Gyalpo may be linked to his involvement in the Drapchi demonstration on 1 and 4 May 1998.

IV. *Forces believed to be responsible for the disappearance :*

17. If the person was arrested or abducted, please indicate who carried out the arrest: Public Security Bureau (PSB). The original arrest in May 1995 was carried out by PSB.
18. If a search took place of the missing person's domicile, office or place of work, (or that of any other person connection with him / her), before, during or after the disappearance, please indicate and describe the search : After Jigme Gyalpo activities in April 1995, an investigation was carried out. One month later more than 15 PSB officials in two trucks stormed his house at around 3 a.m without arrest warrant. Jigme was interrogated and beaten severely causing his ribs to be broken during his five months of detention on Meldro Gongkar county prison. He was later transferred to Gutsa Detention Centre, Lhasa, in October 1995. Jigme was later sentenced to six years imprisonment and was transferred to Drapchi prison.

V. National action (legal or other) on behalf of the missing person.

19. Nature of the action :

Other measures taken at the national level (letters, petitions, etc., or the steps taken before the civil or military authorities):

In China, recourse against arbitrary official action should be provided by the Administrative Litigation Law, adopted in 1992. However little is known about this procedure and it is seldom used. Our Tibetan sources indicate that they are not aware of such procedure.

VIII. *Information concerning the author of the present report*

The Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy is a non-governmental organisation based in Dharamsala. The main objective of the Centre is to monitor and research human rights developments in Tibet. This information is mainly sourced from people who have recently arrived from Tibet. The case is filed on behalf of the Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy.

20. Relationship with the missing person :
The Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy TCHRD is responsible for promotion, observation and protection of human rights situation in Tibet and the Tibetan community. It is the duty of TCHRD to report on any disappearance of Tibetan nationals. This information on Jigme Gyalpo was sourced from a family member.
21. Contact details for TCHRD are : Tel, +91 1892 23363 / 22510 / 22457 Fax :
+91 1892 23363/ 24957
Email: tchrd@tcrclinux.ernet.in or tchrd@tcrclinux.tibdsala.org.in

Please state whether the author of the present report wishes his / her identity to be kept confidential:

The report may be credited to TCHRD. However information relating to our source must be kept secret. The Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy remains in contact with the sources of allegations of human rights violations. There have been many cases of official reprisals, including the arrest and torture of relatives or associates of persons reporting human rights violations.

Date: October 17, 1998

Signature of author :

Kalsang Topgyal
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Dharamsala