



བོད་ཀྱི་འགྲོ་བ་མིའི་ཐོབ་ཐང་དང་
མང་གཙོ་འཕེལ་ཁྱེས་
ལྗོངས་ལྟེ་གནས་ལུང་།

**TIBETAN
CENTRE FOR
HUMAN
RIGHTS AND
DEMOCRACY**

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His Holiness the Dalai Lama

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Executive Director
Lobsang Nyandak

Date: 26 October 2000

Ms. Tamara Kunanayakam
Secretary
UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance
Office of the UN High commissioner for Human Rights
Palais Wilson
1201 Geneva

Dear Kunanayakam,

Sub: Cases of disappearance occurred in the Chinese administered Tibet

I am approaching the distinguish members of the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances today, firstly to thank the working group for its repeated expression of concern on the emerging pattern of disappearances in Tibet. The Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy remain indebted to the working group and its dedicated staff to help us to determine the whereabouts of disappeared Tibetan political prisoners and help to prevent inhuman treatment of prisoners. We highly appreciate the timely communication to the Chinese authorities and to us which in fact encourages and serves as an added supplement to further our effort to minimise recurring human rights abuses including cases of disappearances in Tibet. In 1999 the centre has received communication concerning cases of Bhu-Khog and Jigme Gyalpo. But still number of disappearance cases continue to occur in Tibet that evidently indicate that human rights of the Tibetan people continue to be tampered.

There are a total of ⁵⁴57 known unresolved cases of disappearance occurred in Chinese administered Tibet since 1996. Of these Chinese authorities acknowledged the captivity of Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the eleven Panchen Lama recognized by the Dalai Lama and his parents but their whereabouts are still not known. We have, so far, submitted several cases to the working group for their attention including eleven year-old Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, Bhu-khog, Jigme Gyalpo, Gaye Phuntsok, Tsering Dorjee, Ngawang Samphel. Out of these submissions in the last two years the Centre has received communication from working group on Bhu-Khog and Jigme Gyalpo.

Released. Released
on Medical
leave.

release
after 15 days

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ལྷན་ཁག་གི་ལས་ཁུངས་

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I feel it worthwhile to mention that many of the disappeared cases were prominently reported in the working group report E/CN.4/1997/34. We are thankful for the same. We pray to the working group not to discontinue considering cases where it considers that it can no longer play any useful role in trying to elucidate them, in particular if the source could not provide any follow-up information on the cases. Due to many difficulties in obtaining information in Tibet and the nature of the case (cases which occurred in rural Tibet), the only primary source is the recent Tibetan escapees from Tibet.

In such cases before considering the case clarified, should make every effort to investigate the reasons behind the action or non-action of the source or the family concerned.

I am enclosing herewith the cases that were submitted earlier to the working group as a reminder for immediate action to follow-up the matter with Chinese authorities to locate the disappeared cases and their well-being at the earliest possible.

Thank you for your co-operation and many best wishes in your endeavour.

Sincerely yours

Kalsang Topgyal (Mr.)
Personnel for UN Affairs

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Report on the enforced or involuntary disappearance of a person

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

1. Family name : N/A
2. First name : Tsering
3. Second name: Dorje
4. Sex : Male
5. Birth date or age (at time of disappearance) : 26
6. Nationality : Tibetan
7. Civil status (single, married, etc) : Single
8. Identity document : N/A
9. Profession : Translator
10. Address of usual residence:
 Rebkong county in Malho Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture
 (Ch: Huangnan TAP).
11. Activities: Tsering Dorje was detained on August 15, 1999 while working as a translator for two foreign Tibet specialists, Gabriel Lafitte and Daja Meston, who were travelling in the region to investigate the impact of the proposed World Bank development project. While the two foreigners have been released, the whereabouts and physical condition of Tsering is still unknown. Tsering became a junior middle school teacher in 1997. In Summer of 1998 he worked as an official translator for the Brussels-based non-governmental organisation Medecins Sans Frontieres in Yushu county (Jyekudo Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture), Qinghai. Tsering Dorje was employed to carry out translation work for the project, which concentrated on primary health care and hygiene education for the Khampa herding community in the area. He was also employed last year as official translator on a project funded by the European Union in Darlag County, Golog Prefecture, Qinghai. The project, which was aimed at increasing the productivity of livestock, improving pasture and generating