

**Subject:** Case submission regarding enforced disappearance of a Tibetan monk, Adruk Lopoe, since 21 August 2007  
**From:** "Tenzin Norgay" <tenzinnorgay@tchrd.org>  
**Date:** Tue, 4 Sep 2007 20:20:00 +0530  
**To:** "Wgeid OHCHR" <Wgeid@ohchr.org>

To,

The UNWGEID  
OHCHR, Palais des Nations  
8-14 Avenue de la Paix  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland

Dear UNWGEID,

The Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD) based in India wishes to submit a communication regarding enforced disappearance of a Tibetan monk, Adruk Lopoe, since 21 August 2007.

His disappearance comes in the wake of recent political turmoil in Lithang County, Karze "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture", Sichuan Province, China, and spate of arbitrary arrests and detentions undertaken by the local police. TCHRD is gravely concerned about the whereabouts and well being of Adruk Lopoe. The Centre seeks the urgent intervention by the UNWGEID to ensure his whereabouts and thus prevent extra judicial killing or torture upon him.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Sincerely,

--

Tenzin Norgay  
Personnel for UN Affairs

Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD)  
Top Floor, Narthang Building  
C.T.A, Gangchen Kyishong  
Dharamsala, H.P-176215  
INDIA

phone: + 91 1892 223363, 229225  
fax: + 91 1892 224957  
email: [tenzinnorgay@tchrd.org](mailto:tenzinnorgay@tchrd.org) [tenzinnorgay@gmail.com](mailto:tenzinnorgay@gmail.com)  
website: [www.tchrd.org](http://www.tchrd.org)

<b>Appeal by family members.doc</b>	<b>Content-Type:</b> application/msword <b>Content-Encoding:</b> base64
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<b>Case submission to WGEID regarding Adruk Lopoe.doc</b>	<b>Content-Type:</b> application/msword <b>Content-Encoding:</b> base64
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**TCHRD press release on 22 August 2007.pdf**

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**TCHRD press release on 28 August 2007.pdf**

**Content-Type:** application/pdf

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Following is the English translation of an appeal made by Adruk Tsetan, brother of arrestee Adruk Lopoe, and Ronggye Jamyang, son of arrestee Ronggye Adrak. The original appeal in Tibetan language is scanned and enclosed below.

To,

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

On 1 August 2007, Ronggye Adrak, a Tibetan resident of Kharshul Village, Ponkar Township, Lithang County, Karze "Tibetan Autonomous Region, Sichuan Province, was arrested [by local Public Security Bureau] simply for calling "Unity amongst Tibetans" and "The return of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to Tibet". Consequently around ten thousand Tibetans called for the release of Ronggye Adrak if there is freedom of expression and religious freedom in Tibet. Unfortunately, Adruk Lopoe, nephew of Ronggye Adrak, and an artist friend, Kunkhen, were arrested on 21 and 22 August respectively. Their current whereabouts remain unknown as well as we do not even know whether they are dead or alive.

We appeal to your kind office to put pressure on China for an early release to them and also inquire about their current whereabouts and well-being.

Sincerely,

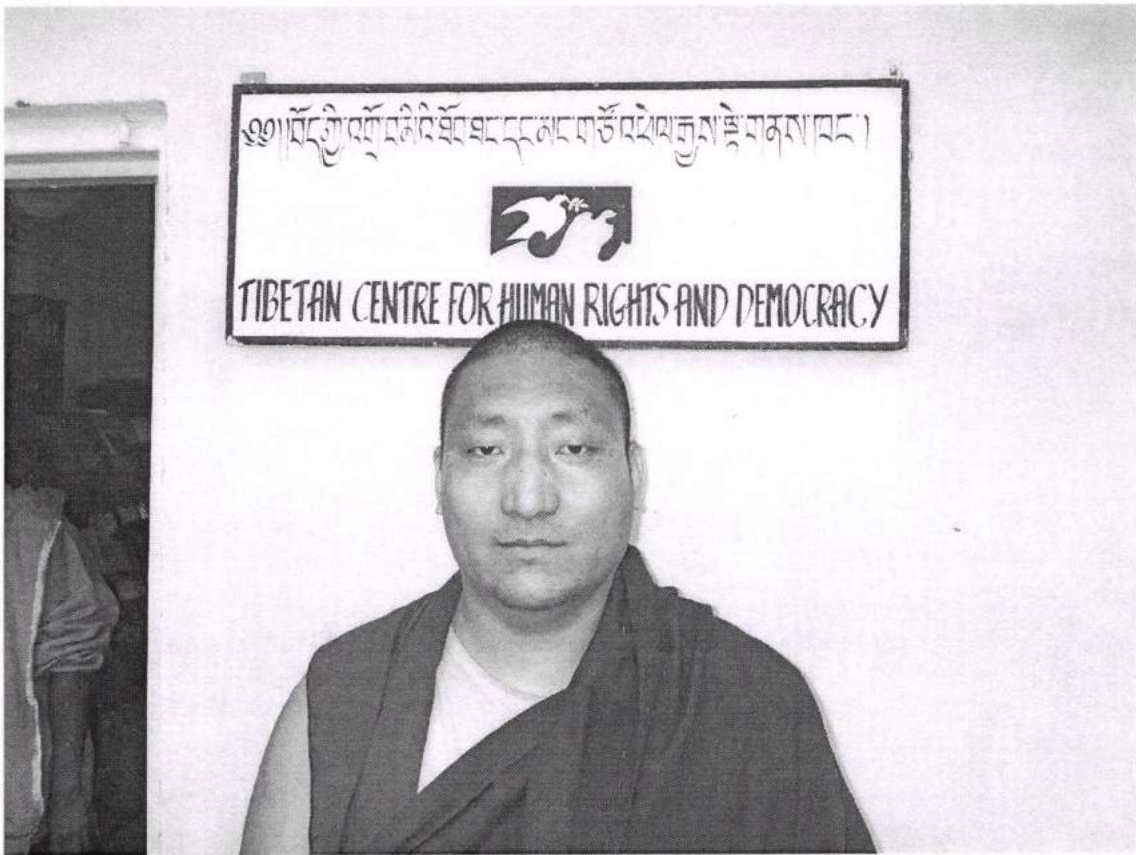
Adruk Tsetan (senior)  
Brother of Adruk Lopoe  
Drepung Gomang Monastery  
Mundgod, Karnataka, India

Ronggye Jamyang  
Son of Ronggye Adrak  
Drepung Gomang Monastery  
Mundgod, Karnataka, India

\*We are also friends of Kunkhen

Dated: 4 September 2007





Adruk Tsetan (senior), brother of arrestee Adruk Lopoe



Ronggye Jamyang, son of arrestee Ronggye Adruk



Daughters of Ronggye Adrak at Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy office

## Form to Submit a Communication on a Victim of an Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance



**Important:** Elements indicated with (\*) are mandatory.

**Note:** If any information contained in the report, besides the mandatory requested elements, should be kept confidential, please mark the word "CONFIDENTIAL" beside the relevant entry.

### CASES SUBMITTED BY ORGANISATIONS:

Please note that if this case is being submitted to the Working Group by an organisation, it is necessary for your organisation to carry out follow-up in the future on each case by conveying Government information to the family sent from the Working Group, and from the family to the Working Group until the fate or whereabouts of the person are determined. In that regard, please indicate whether the reported victim's family has given their direct consent that this case is being submitted by your organisation to the Working Group on their behalf and whether your organisation will be able to provide follow up information between the family and the Working Group.

\*Consent of victim's family given directly to your organisation to submit this case:

Yes, direct consent received from family

\*If this case is being submitted by an organisation, will it be able to provide follow up by conveying information between the family and the Working Group: Yes

#### 1. Identity of the disappeared person:

(a) Family name (\*): .....Aduksang.....

(b) First name (\*): .....Lopoe.....

(c) Sex: \_\_ male

(d) Date of birth: .....1962.....45 years old.....



**Aduksang Lopoe**  
 © TCHRD

(e) Identity document:...

picture enclosed

Nr: .....

Date of issue: ..... Place of issue: .....

(f) Address of usual residence:

Lithang Monastery in Lithang County, Karze "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture", Sichuan Province, China

(g) Indigenous: \_\_ no

(h) Pregnant: NA

**2. Date on which the disappearance occurred (at least as to the month and year) (\*):**

Date of disappearance: ..... 21 August 2007.....around 7 pm local time.....

**3. Place of arrest or abduction, or where the disappeared person was last seen (\*):**

Location (if possible street, city, province or other relevant indications):

Adruk Lopoe was last seen at Lithang County Public Security Bureau, Karze "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture", Sichuan Province, China

**4. Forces (State or State-supported) believed to be responsible for the disappearance (\*):**

(a) If the perpetrators are believed to be State agents, please specify (military, police, persons in uniform or civilian clothes, agents of security services, unit to which they belong, rank and functions, etc.) and indicate why they are believed to be responsible; be as precise as possible:

**Lithang County Public Security Bureau**

On 1 August 2007, a Tibetan, Ronggye A'drak, was arrested for staging a public protest speaking about the importance of the Dalai Lama's return to Tibet to a large Tibetan crowd gathered for the annual horseracing festival. In the aftermath of his arrest by the local police, the local Tibetan populace staged solidarity sit-ins and other forms of protest towards the authorities. Gradually the authorities began to identify the leaders among the public and subsequently arrested every individual suspected of being leaders.

On 21 August 2007, a large number of Lithang Public Security Bureau (PSB) and People's Armed Police (PAP) came to Adruk Lopoe's home at Yonru Kharshul Village, Lithang County, to arrest him. When the forces found that he was not in the house, they took along two of his brothers, Adruk Nyima and Adruk Gyatso, as hostage to the PSB office. Few hours later upon hearing the news of his brothers being arrested, he voluntarily appeared at the PSB office and told the officers that he was the person they were looking for and demanded the release of his brothers. Six hours later, his brothers were released by the officers but unfortunately took away Adruk Lopoe to an unknown location. To this day, nobody knows his whereabouts. They fear that the state agents might have taken him to a secret place for detention and torture.

At time of release, Adruk Nyima and Adruk Gyatso asked why their brother, Adruk Lopoe, is being arrested. In return the Lithang County Public Security Bureau told them that they received orders from higher authorities, however, they did not reveal who ordered and also the nature of order.



(b) If identification as State agents is not possible, why do you believe that Government authorities, or persons linked to them, are responsible for the incident?

.....  
.....

(c) If there are witnesses to the incident, indicate their names. If they wish to remain anonymous, indicate if they are relatives, by-passers, etc.; if there is evidence, please specify:

Adruk Lopoe's two brothers were the eyewitnesses that he indeed appeared in front of the PSB officers. They last saw him there.

**5. Action taken by the relatives or others to locate the person (inquiries with police, jail, human rights commission, habeas corpus petition etc.) (\*):**

(a) Indicate if complaints have been filed, **when**, by **whom**, and before **which organ**.

.....  
.....

(b) Other steps taken:

.....  
.....  
.....

(b) If action was not possible, please explain why:

According to local sources including Adruk Lopoe's family, on 22 August, just a day after Adruk Lopoe's arrest, Lithang County Public Security Bureau put up official notices at prominent places like the market and the PSB office stating that "Adruk Lopoe has committed grave crime. Anyone coming forward to inquire about him or lodging complaints are also liable to be arrested and face rigorous imprisonment between five to ten years and three to seven years depending on the circumstances."

In light of such an officially threatening notice, the family members despite their strong urge to inquire about Adruk are literally gagged. Any inquiries into his well-being or whereabouts could also implicate them in similar situation or perhaps thrown into prison for intervention into the PSB work. Therefore, they did not approach any of the local authorities out of intimidation and threats posed to them.

It is a well-known fact that the police in Tibetan areas of China do not follow international human rights standards while arresting or detaining individuals. Rule of law is virtually non-existent. At the time of arrest, the police do not show warrants for arrest; neither do they reveal the location of the arrestee. Any attempt to pursue whereabouts often land family members in immense hardships and are suspected of being partners in 'crime'. Therefore lodging of formal complaint as a standard human right is not available.

**6. Identity of the person or organization submitting the report (\*):**

(a) Family name:.....

(b) First name:..... Mr. Tenzin Norgay (Personnel for UN Affairs)

(c) Relationship with the disappeared person: .....

(d) Organization (if applicable, see also below):.

Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD).

(e) Address (telephone, fax, e-mail):

Top Floor Narthang Building, Gangchen Kyishong, Dharamsala, H.P.-176215, India

Tel: +91 1892 223363 , 229225 Fax: +91 1892 224957 Email: [tenzinnorgay@tchrd.org](mailto:tenzinnorgay@tchrd.org) Website: [www.tchrd.org](http://www.tchrd.org)

(f) Please state whether you would like **your identity** to be kept **confidential**

**No request for confidentiality:**

#### **Additional Information on the case**

Please indicate any other relevant information that has not been answered in the previous questions. If one of the mandatory elements noted (\*) in this report could not be answered, please indicate why.

*Following is, as it appears in TCHRD press release available at <http://tchrd.org/press/2007/pr20070828.html>*

Adruk Lopoe was born in 1962 to Adruk Wangdue (father) and Ronggye Tsewang Dolma (mother) in Yonru Kharshul Village, Ponkar Township, Lithang County, Kardze "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture" ("TAP") Sichuan Province. He was the eldest among seven children of Adruktsang family. At the age of eight, Adruk Lopoe was ordained as a monk and joined the Lithang Monastery. Over the years, Adruk Lopoe excelled in Buddhist studies that he was later appointed a chant master (Tib: Omzey) of the Monastery. Adruk also worked as the disciplinary master (Tib: Geykoe) at Yonru Rabgyeling Monastery for few years, one of the 113 smaller monasteries affiliated to Lithang Monastery.

It is also learnt that Adruk just before his arrest on 21 August 2007 was on a short break after a yearlong meditation retreat at Yonru Rabgyeling Monastery, Lithang County. Adruk Lopoe has been arbitrarily detained after calling for the release of Ronggye A'drak, who is still in the custody of Lithang PSB Detention Centre after speaking about the importance of the Dalai Lama's return to Tibet to a large Tibetan crowd gathered for the horse-race festival earlier this month.

Adruk Lopoe was also a very strong proponent of the need of education for the youth and a leading advocate against deforestation, lumbering and wildlife hunting in Kardze. The local populace believe that, his genuine calls and concerns over the years may have infuriated the authorities that he was put under a close watch and thus arrested him. Adruk Lopoe is a well-known and respected figure in the area.

During 1997-98, at the height of 'Patriotic re-education' campaign launched by the Chinese authorities across monasteries and nunneries in Tibet, Adruk Lopoe was appointed a Deputy Director of the Democratic Management Committee (DMC) of Lithang Monastery. The DMCs (Tib: Mangtso Dak nyer u-yon lhan Khang) are administrative organs established in 1962 in religious institutions in Tibet and reconstructed under the 1996 "patriotic re-education" campaign. He, however, resigned from the post fully understanding its spiritual and political ramification that it goes against religious vows in denouncing his spiritual leader-the Dalai Lama.

The DMC carries out the "patriotic re-education" campaign along with County PSB and government officials. The patriotic re-education campaign was started in 1996 in Tibet and

carried out across all the religious institutions in Tibet. The campaign introduced a series of political texts into monastic studies as a mandatory requirement. The requirement also stressed allegiance to the State and the denunciation of the Dalai Lama. The patriotic re-education campaign was also meant to target and suppress any sign of political unrest in religious institutions, which the Chinese authorities deem as a source of political dissidence.

Date: 4 September 2007

Signature of author:



Address to submit cases:

e-mail: [wgeid@ohchr.org](mailto:wgeid@ohchr.org)

fax: 4122 917 9006, attn: WGEID

post: WGEID  
OHCHR, Palais des Nations  
8-14 Avenue de la Paix  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland



Press

22 August 2007 [press release]

China arrest three nephews of Ronggye A'drak in Lithang

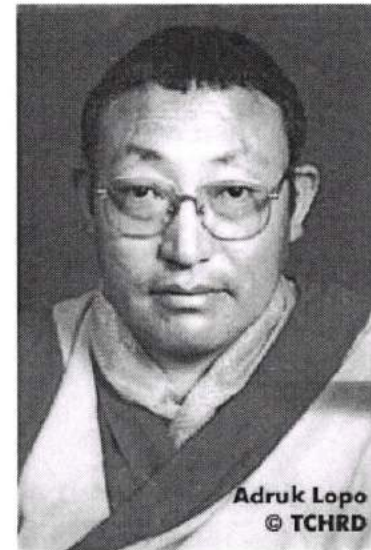
The Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD) received confirmed information from reliable sources that three more Tibetans were arrested from Yonru Kharshul Village, Ponkar Township, Lithang County in connection with Ronggye A'drak's case following continued mass protest by his supporters.

In the aftermath of Ronggye A'drak's arrest, severe restrictions were imposed in Lithang and surrounding areas for the fear of massive popular uprising. Supporters of Ronggye A'drak are known to have stationed outside the County Public Security Bureau (PSB) Office for weeks after his arrest on 1 August 2007 demanding his early release. In an attempt to intimidate the supporters of Ronggye A'drak, the Lithang County government sent additional contingents of People's Armed Police (PAP) as a reinforcement to monitor and restrict the activities of his supporters.

According to the source, "Lithang PSB officers along with PAP forces as per the order given by the higher authorities, arrested a few leading supporters who have been demanding the release of Ronggye A'drak for the past few weeks."

"On the evening of 21 August 2007, a large number of Lithang PSB and PAP forces suddenly stormed into A'drak's native village, Yonru Kharshul Village, Lithang County, Kardze "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture" (TAP), Sichuan Province and arrested three of his nephews. It was confirmed by the source that the Lithang PSB and PAP forces first stomped into the house of A'drak and enquired about Adruk Lopoe, a monk of Lithang Monastery who has been leading the call for his release. In the absence of Adruk Lopoe, the PSB

officers and PAP forces arbitrarily detained two of his brothers, Adruk Gyatso and Adruk Nyima and forcibly took them to the local PSB Detention Centre. The PSB officers and PAP forces even ransacked their entire house looking for any evidence

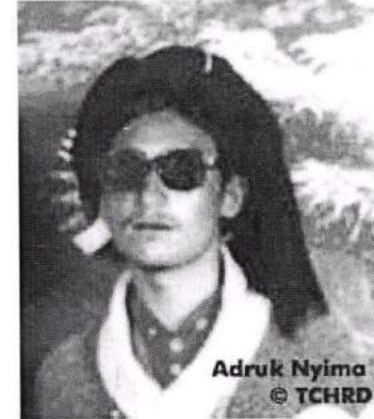


that they could charge them with."

The source further told the Centre that "Adruk Lopoe after learning about the arrest of his two brothers went to Lithang County PSB Office after a few hours and told the officer that 'I am the person you are looking for and I demand the release of my two brothers'. However, the PSB officers arrested him without complying with his demand."

TCHRD is highly concerned about the well being of Ronggye A'drak and three of his nephews who are all being arbitrarily detained by the Lithang County PSB officers and PAP forces. Torture being endemic and a regular feature in the Chinese administered prisons and detention centres, the Centre expresses its deepest concern about the well-being and safety of Ronggye A'drak and three of his nephews.

As the present situation in Lithang is still known to be tense after the authorities' arrest of Ronggye A'drak and three of his nephews, the Centre calls upon the People's Republic of China (PRC) to stop the practice of arbitrary detention and urgently seeks the intervention and support of the international civil society groups and the relevant UN mandates on promotion and protection of human rights in securing their early release. The Centre deems the case as an outright clampdown on the freedom of opinion and expression and deprivation of liberty by arbitrary detention.



Freedom of expression is a fundamental human right which is prerequisite to the enjoyment of all human rights. Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that, "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers". Article 35 of the Constitution of the PRC guarantees "freedom of expression, of the press, of assembly, of association, of procession and of demonstration".

To learn more about the arrest of Ronggye A'drak and deployment of armed forces in Lithang after his arrest, please click below:

A Tibetan arrested in Lithang for political demonstration

Ronggye A'drak's fate remains uncertain

Rungyal Adrak: the Tibetan who spoke up for Freedom, Truth and Justice

To view Tibetan Press Release on 22 August 2007 [click here](#)

To view Tibetan Press Release on 18 August 2007 [click here](#)



## Press

28 August 2007 [press release]

### The Chinese authorities transfer Adruk Lopoe to an unknown location, arrest another Tibetan nomad

The current fate and whereabouts of Adruk Lopoe, a 45-year old monk who was arrested by the Lithang County Public Security Bureau (PSB) officials on the evening of 21 August 2007, still remain unknown. According to confirmed information received by the Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD), the Lithang County PSB officials released Adruk Gyatso and Adruk Nyima- two brothers of Adruk Lopoe six hours after their detention but they are still known to be under close surveillance. Following a brief detention at Lithang County PSB Detention Centre, Adruk Lopoe was known to have been transferred to other an unknown location by the authorities.

Adruk Lopoe was born in 1962 to Adruk Wangdue (father) and Ronggye Tsewang Dolma (mother) in Yonru Kharshul Village, Ponkar Township, Lithang County, Kardze "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture" ("TAP") Sichuan Province. He was the eldest among seven children of Aduksang family. At the age of eight, Adruk Lopoe was ordained as a monk and joined the Lithang Monastery. Over the years, Adruk Lopoe excelled in Buddhist studies that he was later appointed a chant master (Tib: Omzey) of the Monastery. Adruk also worked as the disciplinary master (Tib: Geykoe) at Yonru Rabgyeling Monastery for few years, one of the 113 smaller monasteries affiliated to Lithang Monastery. It is also learnt that Adruk just before his arrest on 21 August 2007 was on a short break after a yearlong meditation retreat at Yonru Rabgyeling Monastery, Lithang County. Adruk Lopoe has been arbitrarily detained after calling for the release of Ronggye A'drak, who is still in the custody of Lithang PSB Detention Centre after speaking about the importance of the Dalai Lama's return to Tibet to a large Tibetan crowd gathered for the horse-race festival earlier this month.

Adruk Lopoe was also a very strong proponent of the need of education for the youth and a leading advocate against deforestation, lumbering and wildlife hunting in Kardze. The local populace believe that, his genuine calls and concerns over the years may have infuriated the authorities that he was put under a close watch and thus arrested him. Adruk Lopoe is a well-known and respected figure in the area.

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In yet another incident, on 19 August 2007, Lothok, a 36-year old Tibetan nomad and a father of five children from Drakar Latse Village, Lithang County was arbitrarily detained from a guesthouse in Chengdu, the provincial capital of Sichuan Province. At the same time, the proprietor of the guesthouse was also briefly detained and released after short interrogation. However, the authorities have given no specific reason for the arrest of Lothok, and no particular information on his whereabouts. This is the fourth known detention in the series of arbitrary detention in connection with the arrest of A'drak since 1 August 2007 although two of his nephews were released, however, Adruk Lopoe, Lothok and A'drak still continue to be detained by the concerned Chinese authorities.

Since the beginning of 2000, Kardze remains a hotspot of peaceful political protests from where a large number of Tibetans were arrested for their open defiance of calling for freedom and their courage to demonstrate unflinching faith in their spiritual leaders. The latest arrest of Ronggye A'drak, his nephews, Lothok and two female supporters of Trulku Tenzin Delek this month clearly demonstrates the political unrest in Kardze particularly in Lithang County. The situation still remains to be tense.

TCHRD considers the recent calls of the Tibetan people in Lithang area a genuine expression of their concerns and despairs that continue to exist in all other part of Tibet as a result of China's repressive policies. The government of People's Republic of China (PRC) should immediately address the concerns of local Tibetan people rather than suppressing them with iron fist.

TCHRD calls upon the PRC government, a member of the UN Human Rights Council to put an end to the rampant practice of arbitrary detention and respect the Tibetan people's right to freedom of expression, faith and peaceful expression of their aspirations which are enshrined in the constitution and major UN human rights treaties and covenants that she is party to.

**List of arrests and detentions in Lithang in chronological order:**

- a) China intensified restriction in Trulku Tenzin Delek Monastery. On 19 July 2007 the Chinese authorities in Lithang County prohibited the monks of Kham Nalanda Thekchen Jangchup Choeling Monastery in Lithang from carrying a reception ceremony of Trulku Tenzin Delek's portrait during the inauguration of a newly built assembly prayer hall.
- b) Two Tibetan women, O'dho and Apha Bhomo, both in their late 50's and residents of Othok Village, Nyagchuka County, Kardze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture "TAP" Sichuan Province, were arrested on 19 July 2007 by the Nyagchuka County Public Security Bureau (PSB) officials on alleged 'crime' of instigating people to join their call for Trulku Tenzin Delek's release.
- c) 1 August 2007, Ronggye A'drak was arrested for staging a public protest speaking about the importance of the Dalai Lama's

return to Tibet to a large Tibetan crowd gathered for the annual horse-race festival. Currently known to be detained at Lithang County PSB Detention Centre.

d) 19 August 2007, Lothok, a Tibetan nomad and father of five children from Dakar Latse Village, Lithang County was arbitrarily detained from a guesthouse in Chengdu, Sichuan.

e) 21 August 2007, a large number of Lithang PSB and PAP forces suddenly stormed into Ronggye A'drak's native village, Yonru Kharshul Village, Lithang County, arbitrarily arrested three of his nephews Adruk Lopoe, Adruk Nyima and Adruk Gyatso. Although Nyima and Gyatso were released six hours after their arrest, Adruk Lopoe still continue to be detained and shifted to an unknown location.

