

**Subject:** Urgent Action appeal to the UNWGAD

**From:** Tenzin Norgay <tenzinnorgay@tchrd.org>

**Date:** Thu, 30 Aug 2007 12:21:54 +0530

**To:** urgent-action@ohchr.org

**BCC:** tenzinnorgay@tchrd.org, ngagchoe@hotmail.com

To,

The UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention  
c/o Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights  
United Nations Office at Geneva  
CH-1211, Geneva 10  
Switzerland

Dear UNWGAD,

The Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD) and the Tibetan Women's Association (TWA) based in India wishes to register cases of arbitrary detention of two Tibetan women, O'dho and Apha Bhumo, on 19 July 2007, in Nyagchuka (Ch: Yajiang) County, Kardze "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture", Sichuan Province, China,

The aforementioned women have been arrested by the local police allegedly for garnering support for a mass solidarity protest in support of the wrongly imprisoned highly respected Buddhist teacher, Trulku Tenzin Delek, who was wrongly given death sentence in December 2002 (later commuted to life sentence) for false charges of causing "bomb explosion" incidents.

On 19 July 2007, the Chinese authorities in Lithang County prohibited the monks of Kham Nalanda Thekchen Jangchup Choeling Monastery (founded by Trulku Tenzin Delek) in Lithang from carrying a reception ceremony of Trulku Tenzin Delek's portrait during the inauguration of a newly built assembly prayer hall. The local Tibetans showed dismay over the authorities high handedness in the matter and consequently public protest broke out. 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", Sichuan Province, were arrested on 19 July 2007 by the Lithang County Public Security Bureau (PSB) officials on alleged 'crime' of instigating people to join their call for Trulku Tenzin Delek's release.

TCHRD and TWA seeks the urgent attention and intervention by the UNWGAD on the cases of arbitrary detention of the two women.

Thank you for your anticipated action.

Sincerely,

Tenzin Norgay  
Personnel for UN Affairs

on behalf of

**Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy**

Top Floor, Narthang Building, Gangchen Kyishong

Distt Kangra, Dharamsala -176215, India

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and

**Tibetan Women's Association**

8/31/2007 4:16 PM

Central Executive Committee, Bhagsunath Road, P.O Mcleod Ganj, Dharamsala-176219, Kangra (H.P) India  
Tel: 91-1892-221527,221198, Fax: 91-1892-221528  
E-mail: [tibwomen@yahoo.com](mailto:tibwomen@yahoo.com)

**Note:**

Please find attached the following

- Completed model questionnaire found on the web page of WGAD for O'dho and Apha Bhumo
- Pictures of O'dho and Apha Bhumo in jpeg format
- TCHRD press release in PDF format
- TWA press release (two pages) in jpeg format

The same communication will be transmitted via fax also at the no 41-022- 917.90.06.

<b>O'dho - model questionnaire.doc</b>	<b>Content-Type:</b> application/msword <b>Content-Encoding:</b> base64
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<b>Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy Press Release.pdf</b>	<b>Content-Type:</b> application/pdf <b>Content-Encoding:</b> base64
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<b>Apha Bhomo.jpg</b>	<b>Content-Type:</b> image/jpeg <b>Content-Encoding:</b> base64
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<b>O'dho.jpg</b>	<b>Content-Type:</b> image/jpeg <b>Content-Encoding:</b> base64
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<b>TWA press release page 2.jpg</b>	<b>Content-Type:</b> image/jpeg <b>Content-Encoding:</b> base64
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<b>TWA press release page 1.jpg</b>	<b>Content-Type:</b> image/jpeg <b>Content-Encoding:</b> base64
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<b>Apha Bhumo - model questionnaire.doc</b>	<b>Content-Type:</b> application/msword <b>Content-Encoding:</b> base64
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Annex V

MODEL QUESTIONNAIRE TO BE COMPLETED BY PERSONS ALLEGING  
ARBITRARY ARREST OR DETENTION <sup>71</sup>

I. IDENTITY

1. Family name: .....
2. First name: .....O'dho.....
3. Sex: Female
4. Birth date or age (at the time of detention): .....late 50s.....
5. Nationality/Nationalities:.....Tibetan.....



6. (a) Identity document (if any): ..... picture of O'dho
- (b) Issued by: .....
- (c) On (date): .....
- (d) No.:

7. Profession and/or activity (if believed to be relevant to the arrest/detention):  
.....Nomad.....

8. Address of usual residence:

Othok Village, Sholong Township, Nyagchuka (Ch: *Yajiang*) County, Karze "Tibetan  
Autonomous Prefecture", Sichuan Province, China



Native village: Othok Village, Sholong Township, Nyagchuka (Ch: *Yajiang*) County, Kardze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture "TAP" Sichuan Province, China

## II. Arrest <sup>8/</sup>

1. Date of arrest... 19 July 2007.....
2. Place of arrest (as detailed as possible):  
.....Lithang (Ch: Litang) County, Kardze "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture", Sichuan Province, China.....
3. Forces who carried out the arrest or are believed to have carried it out:  
.....First arrested by Lithang County Public Security Bureau and transferred the case to Nyagchuka County PSB where she hails from.....
4. Did they show a warrant or other decision by a public authority?  
(No)
5. Authority who issued the warrant or decision:  
  
No warrant produced
6. Relevant legislation applied (if known):  
  
...Currently under detention, no legislation is known to be applied as of yet.....

## III. Detention <sup>8/</sup>

1. Date of detention: ..... 19 July 2007 .....
2. Duration of detention (if not known, probable duration): .....probably would be held in detention for six months as per Chinese laws and thereafter given prison term for "incitement to subvert state power".....
3. Forces holding the detainee under custody:  
.....Nyagchuka County Public Security Bureau officers.....
4. Places of detention (indicate any transfer and present place of detention):  
  
..... First arrested by Lithang County PSB and thereafter transferred to to Nyagchuka County Public Security Bureau. ....
5. Authorities that ordered the detention: .....

6. Reasons for the detention imputed by the authorities:

Instigating people to join a mass call for wrongly imprisoned Buddhist teacher Trulku Tenzin Delek's release

7. Relevant legislation applied (if known):

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

IV. Describe the circumstances of the arrest and/or the detention and indicate precise reasons why you consider the arrest or detention to be arbitrary <sup>9/</sup>

O'dho, age late 50's, and resident of Othok Village, Sholong Township, Nyagchuka County, Kardze "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture" ("TAP") Sichuan Province, was arrested on 19 July 2007 by the Lithang County Public Security Bureau (PSB) officials on alleged 'crime' of instigating people to join a call for wrongly imprisoned Buddhist teacher Trulku Tenzin Delek's release.

The local populace of Nyagchuka County held a reception ceremony at Kham Nalanda Thekchen Jangchup Choeling Monastery in Lithang County, which was interrupted by local authorities objecting to placing a portrait of Trulku Tenzin Delek on to the throne of a newly constructed assembly prayer hall in the monastery. The monastery was founded by Trulku Tenzin Delek in 1987 and named Kham Nalanda Thekchen Jangchup Choeling by the late Panchen Lama. It was reported that a large number of general public present during the ceremony have exhibited clear signs of disapproval of authorities' decree and highhandedness in handling the matter.

In the aftermath of the incident, a huge public protest by the local Tibetan people was held while some went to lodge their complaint to the higher authorities in Chengdu, Sichuan Province; another group of Tibetans went to lodge a similar complaint to the Nyagchuka PSB officials. O'dho and Apha Bhomo, like other locals of Lithang and surrounding areas are ardent supporters of Trulku Tenzin Delek and called upon the authorities that Trulku, was wrongly convicted and is innocent.

Lithang County PSB after investigation into the matter began to filter out few individuals for their outspokenness. Accordingly O'dho was arrested as she was identified as "challenging the authorities". After arrest, when her family members went to visit her in the Detention Centre, the authorities denied them their visitation right.

O'dho is a mother of nine children and it is learnt that two of her sons, Kalsang Sungrab and Tenzin Tsoknyi, were barred from attending their respective schools after O'dho's arrest. The authorities also put restriction on the family members movement.



TCHRD considers the case to be an arbitrary detention since

- a) The local police did not have a warrant to arrest her
- b) No specific legislation is announced although "incitement to subvert state power" probably might have been evoked. Joining and encouraging others to join mass peaceful support campaign for someone cannot be identified as "incitement to subvert state power".
- c) Garnering mass support for a wrongly imprisoned Buddhist teacher is not a crime
- d) O'dho is a mother of nine children. The authorities should take this into consideration. Instead the authorities barred two of her children, Kalsang Sungrab and Tenzin Tsoknyi, from attending their respective schools. Moreover, the family has been put under close surveillance and their movements restricted including the children.
- e) The TCHRD considers the police action of arresting her out of many in the crowd to set an example to others and thereby intimidate the group psychologically. This practice is absolutely against the human rights laws.

V. Indicate internal steps, including domestic remedies, taken especially with the legal and administrative authorities, particularly for the purpose of establishing the detention and, as appropriate, their results or the reasons why such steps or remedies were ineffective or why they were not taken

The local authorities dismissed and intimidated the family members and few other concerned individuals when they approached and made their appeal to release O'dho. The authorities accuse O'dho of challenging the authorities and engaging in "splittist activities" while all she did was to join and call others to show their support for the wrongly imprisoned Buddhist teacher, Tenzin Delek.


VI. Full name and address of the person(s) submitting the information (telephone and fax number, if possible) <sup>10/</sup>

Tenzin Norgay

Personnel for UN Affairs

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website: [www.tchrd.org](http://www.tchrd.org)

Date: 30 August 2007      Signature: 

Annex V

MODEL QUESTIONNAIRE TO BE COMPLETED BY PERSONS ALLEGING  
ARBITRARY ARREST OR DETENTION <sup>71</sup>

I. IDENTITY

1. Family name: .....
2. First name: .....Apha Bhumo.....
3. Sex: Female
4. Birth date or age (at the time of detention): .....late 50s.....
5. Nationality/Nationalities:.....Tibetan.....



6. (a) Identity document (if any): .....picture of Apha Bhumo

(b) Issued by: .....

(c) On (date): .....

(d) No.:

7. Profession and/or activity (if believed to be relevant to the arrest/detention):  
.....Nomad.....

8. Address of usual residence:

Othok Village, Sholong Township, Nyagchuka (Ch: *Yajiang*) County, Karze "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture", Sichuan Province, China

Native village: Othok Village, Sholong Township, Nyagchuka (Ch: *Yajiang*) County, Kardze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture "TAP" Sichuan Province, China

## II. Arrest <sup>8/</sup>

1. Date of arrest...19 July 2007.....

2. Place of arrest (as detailed as possible):

.....Lithang (Ch: Litang) County, Kardze "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture",  
Sichuan Province, China.....

3. Forces who carried out the arrest or are believed to have carried it out:

.....First arrested by Lithang County Public Security Bureau and transferred the  
case to Nyagchuka County PSB where she hails from.....

4. Did they show a warrant or other decision by a public authority?

(No)

5. Authority who issued the warrant or decision:

No warrant produced

6. Relevant legislation applied (if known):

...Currently under detention, no legislation is known to be applied as of yet.....

## III. Detention <sup>8/</sup>

1. Date of detention: .....19 July 2007 .....

2. Duration of detention (if not known, probable duration): .....probably would be held  
in detention for six months as per Chinese laws and thereafter given prison term for  
"incitement to subvert state power".....

3. Forces holding the detainee under custody:

.....Nyagchuka County Public Security Bureau officers.....



4. Places of detention (indicate any transfer and present place of detention):

123

..... First arrested by Lithang County PSB and thereafter transferred to to Nyagchuka County Public Security Bureau. ....

5. Authorities that ordered the detention: .....

.....Lithang County Public Security Bureau.....

6. Reasons for the detention imputed by the authorities:

Instigating people to join a mass call for wrongly imprisoned Buddhist teacher Trulku Tenzin Delek's release

7. Relevant legislation applied (if known):

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

IV. Describe the circumstances of the arrest and/or the detention and indicate precise reasons why you consider the arrest or detention to be arbitrary <sup>9/</sup>

Apha Bhumo, aged late 50's, and resident of Othok Village, Sholong Township, Nyagchuka County, Kardze "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture" ("TAP") Sichuan Province, was arrested on 19 July 2007 by the Lithang County Public Security Bureau (PSB) officials on alleged 'crime' of instigating people to join a call for wrongly imprisoned Buddhist teacher Trulku Tenzin Delek's release.

The local populace of Nyagchuka County held a reception ceremony at Kham Nalanda Thekchen Jangchup Choeling Monastery in Lithang County, which was interrupted by local authorities objecting to placing a portrait of Trulku Tenzin Delek on to the throne of a newly constructed assembly prayer hall in the monastery. The monastery was founded by Trulku Tenzin Delek in 1987 and named Kham Nalanda Thekchen Jangchup Choeling by the late Panchen Lama. It was reported that a large number of general public present during the ceremony have exhibited clear signs of disapproval of authorities' decree and highhandedness in handling the matter.

In the aftermath of the incident, a huge public protest by the local Tibetan people was held while some went to lodge their complaint to the higher authorities in Chengdu, Sichuan Province; another group of Tibetans went to lodge a similar complaint to the Nyagchuka PSB officials. Apha Bhumo and O'dho, like other locals of Lithang and surrounding areas are ardent supporters of Trulku Tenzin Delek and called upon the authorities that Trulku, was wrongly convicted and is innocent.

Lithang County PSB after investigation into the matter began to filter out few individuals for their outspokenness. Accordingly Apha Bhumo was arrested as she was identified as "challenging the authorities". After arrest, when her family members went to visit her in the Detention Centre, the authorities denied them their visitation right.

TCHRD considers the case to be an arbitrary detention since

- a) The local police did not have a warrant to arrest her
- b) No specific legislation is announced although "incitement to subvert state power" probably might have been evoked. Joining and encouraging others to join mass peaceful support campaign for someone cannot be identified as "incitement to subvert state power".
- c) Garnering mass support for a wrongly imprisoned Buddhist teacher is not a crime
- d) The TCHRD considers the police action of arresting her out of many in the crowd to set an example to others and thereby intimidate the group psychologically. This practice is absolutely against the human rights laws.

V. Indicate internal steps, including domestic remedies, taken especially with the legal and administrative authorities, particularly for the purpose of establishing the detention and, as appropriate, their results or the reasons why such steps or remedies were ineffective or why they were not taken

---Not known---

VI. Full name and address of the person(s) submitting the information (telephone and fax number, if possible) <sup>10/</sup>

Tenzin Norgay

Personnel for UN Affairs

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Date: 30 August 2007      Signature: 





Press

23 August 2007 [press release]

### China arrest two Tibetan women for expressing support for Trulku Tenzin Delek in Lithang

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, according to confirmed information received by the Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD). Both women are currently detained at Nyagchuka County PSB Detention Centre and authorities are known to have denied visitation right to their relatives. O'dho, a mother of nine children, was born in Sholong Township, Nyagchuka County, Kardze "TAP", Sichuan Province. In addition, it was learnt that both O'dho's sons, Kalsang Sungrab and Tenzin Tsoknyi were barred from attending their respective schools. Tenzin Tsoknyi who was studying at a private school in Lithang County was barred from attending the school and authorities even put restriction on their movement.

The protests were sparked after reception ceremony at Kham Nalanda Thekchen Jangchup Choeling Monastery was interrupted by Chinese officials objecting to placing a portrait of Trulku Tenzin Delek on to the throne of a newly constructed assembly prayer hall (Tib: Dhukhang). The monastery was founded by Trulku Tenzin Delek in 1987 and named Kham Nalanda Thekchen Jangchup Choeling by late Panchen Lama. It was reported that a large number of general public present during the ceremony have exhibited a clear sign of disapproval of authorities' decree and highhandedness in handling the matter.

In the aftermath of the incident, a huge public protest by the local Tibetan people was held while some went to lodge their complaint to the higher authorities in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, while other group of Tibetans from Nyagchuka County who went to lodge a similar complaint regarding authorities highhandedness in dealing with the matter were known to have been detained by Nyagchuka PSB officials. O'dho and Apha Bhomo, like other locals of Lithang and surrounding areas are ardent supporters of Trulku Tenzin Delek and called upon the authorities that Trulku, was wrongly convicted and is innocent.

The current situation in Lithang and other surrounding areas are reeling under high tension following recent spate of public protests. The authorities are known to be taking no chances by keeping constant surveillance on any suspects. The recent cases of arbitrary arrest and detention were recorded from the area highlighting a clear violation of fundamental human rights of the Tibetan people.

TCHRD expresses its deepest concerns at the recent series of arbitrary arrest and detention of Tibetans in Lithang area for exercising their fundamental human rights in peaceful and non-violence means. The Centre calls for the immediate and unconditional release of O'dho and Apha Bhomo arbitrarily detained solely for having participated in peaceful demonstrations, during which opinions were expressed peacefully and the readmission of O'dho's children to their respected schools and also to lift the ban on their movement.

TCHRD calls upon the People's Republic of China (PRC) to stop the practice of arbitrary arrest and 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.

TCHRD once again calls upon the PRC government to give Trulku Tenzin Delek a free and fair re-trial as per the international standard legal norms and practices. The Centre believes that Trulku is innocent and was wrongly implicated in the bombing incidents and urges the Chinese authorities to ascertain his whereabouts, well-being and release him unconditionally.

To learn more about recent spate of arrest and detention of Tibetans from Lithang County and on Trulku Tenzin Delek, please click below:

[China intensifies restriction in Trulku Tenzin Delek's Monastery](#)

[Unjust Sentence: A Special Report on Trulku Tenzin Delek \(in PDF\)](#)

[A Tibetan arrested in Lithang for political demonstration](#)

[Ronggye A'drak's fate remains uncertain](#)

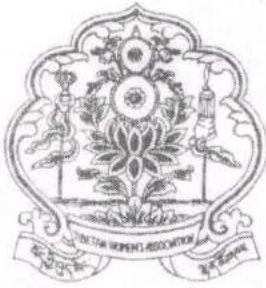
[Rungyal Adrak: the Tibetan who spoke up for Freedom, Truth and Justice](#)

[To view Tibetan Press Release on 23 August 2007 click here](#)

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

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





ཁོད་ཀྱི་བུད་མེད་ལྷན་ཚོགས་ཀྱི་དབུས་སྐྱོན་ལས་ཁང་།

## **Tibetan Women's Association (Central)**

(Registered under the Societies Act XXI of 1860)

Central Executive Committee, Bhagsunag Road, P.O. Mcleod Ganj - 176219  
Dharamsala, Distt. Kangra (H.P.) India

Press Release  
27/08/07

### **O'dho and Apha Bhomo: A Revolution in Making**

The Nyagchuka County Public Security Bureau (PSB) officials arrested two Tibetan women, O'dho and Apha Bhomo, on 19 July 2007 allegedly for leading a peaceful demonstration and motivating others to join them in support of the wrongly imprisoned Buddhist teacher, Tenzin Delek Rinpoche. The women, both in their late 50's and residents of Othok Village, Nyagchuka County, Kardze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture "TAP", Sichuan Province, are reportedly being detained at Nyagchuka County PSB Detention Centre. As a further action to curb nationalism of the Tibetan women, the local authorities barred sons of O'dho, Kalsang Sungrab and Tenzin Tsoknyi, from attending their respective schools and their families' movements are also restricted.

Tenzin Delek Rinpoche is a highly respected Tibetan Buddhist teacher who spearheaded the activities for environmental protection, preservation of Tibetan Buddhism and culture. He was arrested on false charges of carrying out series of bombing incidents in 2002 in Chengdu, Sichuan Province. Prior to his imprisonment, Tenzin Delek Rinpoche had built a monastery called *Kham Nalanda Thekchen Jangchup Choeling*. On 18 July 2007, a ceremony was in session for the monastery's newly constructed assembly prayer hall (Tib: *Dhukhang*). The monks were in the process of enthroning a portrait of Tenzin Delek Rinpoche when Chinese officials interrupted the assembly and objected others from enthroning the portrait.

A large number of public present during the ceremony exhibited clear signs of disapproval of the authorities' harsh ruling and for interrupting the ceremony. In the aftermath of the incident, there was a huge public protest by the local Tibetans; some went to lodge their complaint to the higher authorities in Chengdu, while another group of Tibetans went to lodge a similar complaint to Nyagchuka PSB officials.

The constitution of the People's Republic of China (PRC) guarantees freedom of expression and religious freedom, but in practicality these rights are profoundly curtailed. Following O'dho and Apha's arrest, there has been continuous political unrest in the area. Chinese officials have also arrested Rongye Adak and many others, suspecting them of "splittist" activities when all they did was merely exercise their freedom of expression.

Tibetan Women's Association (TWA) strongly condemns Nyagchuka County PSB's abuse of rights of the Tibetan people. As one of the Co-Chair of Human Rights Campaign Working of





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## **Tibetan Women's Association (Central)**

(Registered under the Societies Act XXI of 1860)

Central Executive Committee, Bhagsunag Road, P.O. Mcleod Ganj - 176219  
Dharamsala, Distt. Kangra (H.P.) India

International Tibet Support Network (ITSN), Dr. B. Tsering, TWA's President, is in the process of drafting a protest letter with ITSN's Director and International Coordinator to express our grave concerns regarding the arbitrary detention of O'dho, Apha Bhomo, Rongye Adak and Adruk Lopo. The letter would be sent to the PRC's Ministry of Justice and to the Governor of Sichuan Province on behalf of all Tibetan NGOs and Tibet Support Groups (TSG). The letter will also be sent to the entire TSG network worldwide so that they can write to their respective Government representatives.

TWA and the Tibetan Center for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD) are also jointly registering a case of arbitrary detention of the two Tibetan women to the United Nation's Working Group on Arbitrary Detention. Tibetan People's Movement is organizing a candle light vigil and signature campaign in Dharamsala, India, on 28 August 2007 for the immediate release of O'dho, Apha Bhomo, Rongye Adak and Adruk Lopo. There will also be an internationally coordinated campaign by all the regional TWAs on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2007 for the same purpose.

TWA calls upon the International Olympics Committee to hold China accountable for all the promises of freedom and human rights that they made prior to receiving the bid to host 2008 Olympics. Contrary to China's promise, human rights situation in China has worsen over the past year. TWA also urges the United Nations and the International community to support us in our effort to release O'dho, Apha Bhomo, Rongye Adak, Adruk Lopo and other prisoners of conscience.

Tibetan Women's Association was founded in 1959 when thousands of Tibetan women gathered in Lhasa, the capital of Tibet to protest against the illegal occupation of Tibet by Communist China. Today, TWA has 14,000 members from 47 regional chapters across the globe. It is a democratic organization and their members elect the members of the Central as well as the Regional Working Committees.



### **Contact:**

Dr. B. Tsering, President: 941 833 5155

Tenzin Bhuti, Vice-President: 941 811 8153

Tsering Yangzom, General Secretary: 941 835 5846