

from Tenzin Norgay <tenzinnorgay@tchrd.org>
to wgad@ohchr.org
info <info@tibetatun.org>,
bcc Tenzin Samphel Kayta
<samphel@tibetoffice.ch> hide details
date Sat, May 16, 2009 at 11:05 AM 11:05 AM Reply
Fwd: Seeking urgent (0 minutes ago)
subject intervention for Tibetan monk
Kelsang Gyatso arrested on 13
April 2009
mailed-by tchrd.org

Dear WGAD,

Pursuant to my case submission regarding the arbitrary detention of Mr. Kelsang Gyatso on 13 April 2009, I wish to inform the Working Group about the safe arrival of five Tibetan monks from Labrang County, China, out of which three monks were colleagues of Mr. Kelsang Gyatso who had participated in the media briefing on 9 April last year. The three monks who managed to escape from Tibet is gravely concerned about the safety of their colleague Kelsang as he will be subjected to torture during his arbitrary detention by the County Public Security Bureau.

Please find below links of two news articles regarding the arrival of the monks in India.

The Tibet Post International (11 May 2009)

<http://www.thetibetpost.com/en/news/tibet/141-tibet-hero-implores-international-community-be-strong-and-unitedlike-those-inside-of-tibet->

Radio Free Asia (9 May 2009)

<http://www.rfa.org/english/news/tibet/escape-05092009123135.html>

Best regards,

Tenzin Norgay

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from Tenzin Norgay <tenzinnorgay@tchrd.org>
to wgad@ohchr.org
info <info@tibetatun.org>,
bcc Tenzin Samphel Kayta
<samphel@tibetoffice.ch>
date Sat, May 2, 2009 at 4:53 PM
subject Seeking urgent intervention for
Tibetan monk Kelsang Gyatso
arrested on 13 April 2009
mailed-by tchrd.org

hide
details Reply
May 2

Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
c/o Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
United Nations Office at Geneva
8-14, avenue de la Paix
1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

2 May 2009, Dharamsala, India

Dear WGAD,

The Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD) seeks your urgent intervention in the case of arbitrary detention of a 36-year-old Tibetan monk, Kelsang Gyatso, who was arrested on 13 April 2009 while travelling from Xiahe County in Gansu Province to Tsoed City in Kanlho, China.

Kelsang was wanted by the Xiahe County Public Security Bureau for his participation in a group of monks' defiant briefing to a government managed tour for a media group to the Labrang TashiKhyil Monastery in Xiahe County, Gannan "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture", Gansu Province on 9 April 2009. The sudden display of emotions and defiant briefing by the monks caused much embarrassment to the authorities. Two monks from the group were disappeared involuntarily within days after the incident by the authorities and they are reported to be missing till date. Many monks left the monastery to escape arrest. Kelsang too left the monastery.

However, after several months in another location Kelsang had to return to the Labrang Monastery upon hearing about his uncle's grave health conditions. Despite his best efforts, his uncle passed away. On 13 April 2009, while he was travelling from Xiahe County to Tsoed City in a bus, he was picked up a group of police officers waiting for him on the road. He is currently known to be in Xiahe County Public Security Bureau Detention Centre. Please find

The TCHRD fears that the authorities will torture and perhaps also eliminate him for the 9 April 2009 incident that had caused major embarrassment to the government. Two monks, Thabkhey and Tsundue, have been missing till date and many in the area feel that they have been killed by government agents. A similar fate might also be met to Kelsang Gyatso. The TCHRD appeals the WGAD to immediately send an urgent intervention to the Chinese authorities regarding the arbitrary detention of Kelsang and thereby secure his life also. Please find attached the detail information enclosed in the model questionnaire provided by the working group on its web page.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

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Tenzin Norgay

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NOTE: Related information on the briefing by the monks to the media group on 9 April 2009 and also about protests staged by the Tibetans in March 2008

1) Monks defiant briefing to the media tour organized by the government [video on youtube.com]

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sNRuQ2-kPoI&eurl=http%3A%2F%2Fagamsgecko.blogspot.com%2F2008%2F04%2Fvideo-labrang-monks-crash-ccp-media.html&feature=player_embedded

2) Youtube video with translation of the monks briefing to the media personnels

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_j3dm7phbZs&feature=related

3) Protesting monks storm media tour in western China - [Reuters, 9 April 2008]

<http://www.reuters.com/article/topNews/idUSPEK17816120080409?sp=true>

4) Situation extremely tense in Xiahe County, defiant monks in front of media tour disappears - [9 May 2008]

<http://tchrd.org/press/2008/pr20080509b.html>

5) Fresh Pictures: thousands of Tibetans demonstrated in (Amdo Labrang), Sangchu County, Gansu Province in North Eastern Tibet on 14 March 2008 - [15 March 2008]

<http://tchrd.org/press/2008/pr20080315.html>

6) Mobile phone pictures depict intensity of demonstration in Amdo Labrang - [14 March 2008]

<http://tchrd.org/press/2008/pr20080314b.html>

7) Fresh protests in Amdo Labrang - [15 March 2008]

<http://tchrd.org/press/2008/pr20080315b.html>