



Visit of Third Envoys to Beijing.

The third envoys of Tibetan Government in Exile (TGIE) arrived Beijing on 14 Sep 2004. Lodi Gyari, a representative of TGIE in U.S heads the envoys. The visit is followed up of previous two visits in 2002 and 2003.

United State welcomed the visit of the envoy and state that it hopes, it could lead to substantive dialogue. EU also welcomes the visit of Dalai Lama's envoys to Beijing and hoped that it will encourage a meaningful dialogue, leading to a peaceful and sustainable solution to Tibet.

TGIE had long relinquished the claim on independence and had opted for a genuine autonomy to accommodate both Tibetan and Chinese interests. EU and US supported Tibetans' claim for genuine autonomy for Tibet. What remains is whether China pays any heed to Tibetans' demand for genuine autonomy.

The recent release of white paper, which is complete rhetoric and rejects any claim on similar treatment of Tibet in line with Hongkong came as a shock to Tibetans' aspiration for genuine autonomy. The white paper is viewed by exile Tibetan communities, as a hardening of Chinese stand on Tibetan issue.

The timing of visit of the envoys are timed with visit of UN Human Rights investigator to China and upcoming EU- China dialogue on Human Rights. However TGIE is leaving no stone unturned in engaging China in negotiation and seeking a peaceful resolution to Tibet's issue. ❖

Obituary to Jampa Phuntsok, a Former Political Prisoner..

Jampa Phuntsok, a former political prisoner expired at 9.20 am on 16 Sep 04, Dharamsala. He was 79 years old. Gu Chu Sum pays its deepest tribute to his great deed and life long struggle for Tibetan people.

He was born in 1925, Dhar-yul, Phenpo Lhundup. He was a monk in Namgyal monastery in Tibet. Since he was the youngest monk in Namgyal monastery, he used to be playmate of -

One of their jobs was to carry wastes from the toilet and spread it in the fields.

He was imprisoned in Bari prison for one year and was shifted to Phenpo, where he underwent struggle session.

In 1966 he was taken to Kongpo prison, where he stayed until 1984. It was a big prison, he was forced to do hard labour. He worked in the metal shop for a while. In 1978 he was given the job of tending the pigs. He had more freedom as he got outside of the prison when he took the pigs out to forage.

He was released in 1984 after completing his sentences and went to Phenpo to live with his aunt. His sister who survived 20 years prison term lived in a shabby hut like a toilet. Two of his four brothers died in prison due to torture and starvation. He lost everything he had before Chinese invasion.



(Jampa Phuntsok leading a demonstration, Lhasa march 1988.)

His holiness Dalai Lama. He was at Namgyal Monastery for 11 years.

During the Chinese attack on Lhasa, he took part in the resistance and fought against Chinese. He was arrested and sentenced to 24 years for killing Chinese soldiers and supplying arms to the resistance movement.

During his prison term, he was subjected to severe torture and 'struggle session'. The Chinese told him that *"in the past you monks made everyone work for you, now it is your turn to work"*.

Then in 1985, he went to a place near Lhasa where people go to retreat. He stayed there until 1987. When he heard about the Drepung monks' demonstration in Sep, he was very much inspired. Although he doing spiritual practice, he felt the need to be very active and to do something for Tibet.

He became determined to do something and began praying that he could get the strength to do something for his country. He practice shouting, so that when the time come, his voice would not be a pitiful squeak. In 1988 Monlam Chenmo, he pioneered protest in Lhasa against Chinese and was detained for two years.

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The Gu-Chu-Sum Movement of Tibet

(Ex-Political Prisoner's Association)

"Gu-Chu-Sum" means 9-10-3 in Tibetan. It was named according to the month in which major demonstrations occurred in Lhasa. 9 is for September 27, 1987, 10 is for October 1, 1987, and 3 is for March 5, 1988. These demonstrations, carried by three main monasteries' monk in Lhasa, were suppressed mercilessly by the Chinese army. Demonstrators were imprisoned and tortured harshly and forced into hard labor. Some became maimed or even killed.

In September 1991, we decided to organize the association for prisoners of conscience with our fellow Tibetans who were also in exile in India after regaining release from the Chinese prisons in Tibet. Because we have all suffered imprisonment and merciless persecutions for peacefully demonstrating for the basic rights of free speech and expression of religion, we felt a deep responsibility to our people and to engage in alleviating their suffering.

We feel a duty to inform the world about our experiences and treatment by the Chinese government, in hopes that China will be made to honor human rights by the standards of U.N.O., and that the world will support our struggle for a just and peaceful resolution to the illegal occupation of Tibet.

Message from Yeshe Togden, President Gu Chu Sum Movement of Tibet.

I am very happy to present the first publication of Tibetan Envoy News-letter. It has been our long time wish to bring out a newsletter. This newsletter is just a beginning of our endeavor to highlight the situations in Tibet. It is our sincere effort to provide information on our activities and also highlight Tibet related news. Especially to disseminate information we receive with regard to the plight of political prisoners and human rights violations in Tibet.

China is engaging and investing heavily on propaganda on Tibet. China publish glossy magazine like China's Tibet and use various media to distort facts and spread false information on Tibet to international community. Recently we had organised a discussion and talk on 'Anglo Tibetan Treaty', to counter Chinese false propaganda. The Chinese has made a movie on the historical event 'Red River Valley'; built a museum and also publish various literatures. We had also organised an essay writing from the various Tibetan historians and experts to commend on Chinese version of the event. We will be publishing those articles soon.

The former political prisoners in exile felt that struggle for Tibet's independence must be continued with more vigour. On this basis, Gu Chu Sum Movement of Tibet was started in Sep 1991. Our other objectives are to assist former political prisoners in rehabilitation, by providing accommodation, equipping them with necessary skills in order to be self-reliant and to start organised activism.

General body meeting will be held from 26-28 Sep, 2004. Our pledge to continue to work for Tibetan cause will be reaffirmed in the general body meetings. Agendas for the next term will be decided and new executive member will be elected democratically.

We are also bringing out three books on the ex political prisoners. I am sure new executive members will carry on the activities of Gu Chu Sum further heights and success.

At such a critical time with a going war on terrorism, parallel efforts must be taken to encourage a peaceful resolution of conflicting issues. In the preamble of Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that

"Whereas disregards and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed the highest aspiration of the common people".

The support for Tibet's issue stands to the witness that our cause is just and based on truth. I take this opportunity to extend our heart-felt appreciation and gratitude to NGOs, governments and individuals that had support Tibet's cause. ❖

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After his release, he wanted to go to India to be with His Holiness, but he was afraid he would be a burden. His friends persuaded him to come, so he could tell people about Tibet and what happens there. He came to exile in Oct 1991. In exile he stayed in Namgyal monastery, Dharamsala. He was in charge of Kalachakra temple, Tsuglhag Khang and was also an active member of Gu Chu Movement of Tibet.

Despite hardship and imprisonment of 26 years in prison, he remained active and dedicated to Tibetan cause. His struggle for Tibetan cause was an inspiration and exemplary for all Tibetans. He was a great patriot and his demise was a great loss to Tibetan people and its struggle. ❖

A Threat to Justice Anywhere is a Threat to Justice Everywhere.

The trial of Trulku and Lobsang stand to a testimony that China's judicial system as a mere tool to further Communist party's stability. Any voice of dissent or threat to their authority is relentlessly suppressed. Same fate was meted to Trulku Tenzin Delek.

Lobsang Dhondup and Trulku Tenzin Delek were arrested in connection with series of bomb blast in Chengdu, 2001, in which 12 person were injured and one died. On 2 Dec 2003, Kardze Intermediate Court, Sichuan Province sentenced Trulku Tenzin Delek to death penalty with two years of suspension on the charged of "causing explosions" and "inciting separatism". Along with him, Lobsang Dhondup was given an immediate death sentence and life long deprivation of political rights on the charge of "causing explosions", "inciting separatism" and "illegal possession of guns and ammunitions". Lobsang Dhondup death sentence was carried out immediately after the trial on 26 Jan 2003.

The trial of Trulku and Lobsang Dhondup was closed and secret one. The Chinese justify that the closed trial was conducted because it involves State secret.

There is not sufficient evidence to prove both Trulku and Lobsang Tenzin's involvement in Chengdu explosions. The Chinese authority claims that they have the confession of Lobsang Dhondup and Trulku with them but nature of Tibetan resistance movement and their Buddhist philosophy of non-violence.

Trulku had asserted his innocence both in Court during the trial and also in a recorded tape secretly smuggled out of Tibet in which he says 'I have been wrongly accused. I have always said we should not so much raise a hand against another.'

Unfair Trial of Trulku and Lobsang Dhondup.

The case of unfair trial and unjust execution of Lobsang Dhondup without sufficient prove and death penalty to Trulku put China's efforts to review its domestic legislation in line with international standard to litmus test.

'Human Rights Watch states that many reasons remain for questioning the courts that upheld the original sentences. The trial was procedurally flawed, the court was neither independent impartial, and the defendants were denied access to independent legal counsel. Lawyers chosen by members of Tenzin Delek's family were not permitted to defend him at his appeal hearing'

It is widely believed that Trulku and Lobsang Dhondup were wrongly framed, due to growing influence of Trulku among Tibetans and Chinese devotees.

Denial of Right to Life.

Right to life is a fundamental right. It forms the basis of all other rights. Death penalty is considered as an infringement on very the right to life. Article 3 of Universal Declaration of Human Rights which is the

common standard of achievement for all persons and all nations states that 'everyone has the right to life and liberty and security of person.'

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights Second Optional Protocol on the Abolition of Death Penalty states that 'all measures of abolition of death penalty should be considered as progress in the enjoyment of the right to life.'

Although there are diverse views on the abolition of death penalty. Many States justify their practice saying that it is meant for only hard core criminals. More and more states are reforming their criminal laws in keeping with reformation as the main objective of judiciary. Indian Supreme Court upheld the death penalty 'under the rarest of rare case only'

China is one of the leading countries where death penalty is widely used. The Communist regime use execution to clean out rampant corruption, political dissents and political prisoners. After Sep 11, China had used many terror laws to execute any dissidents. During a press conference at Chinese Embassy in Washington D.C, Xiawen Ye, the Director of State Administration of Religious compared Trulku Tenzin Delek to Osama Bin Laden.

Activism to save life of Trulku Tenzin Delek had been carried out all over the world. In May 2004, Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC) undertook Hunger Strike unto death, their main demand is unconditional release of Trulku Tenzin Delek. TYC had the assurance of UN Personnel that Trulku case will be discussed during Special Rapporteur visit to China in June. Postponements of Special Rapporteur on Torture June visit to China raise serious doubts on China's commitment to justice and fundamental human rights. It is perceived as China's evasion to confront its human rights abuses. China's non-compliance with international human rights standard law is a breach of its obligation towards international treaties. ❖

Centenary of Anglo Tibet Treaty:

On 7 Sep 2004, Gu Chu Sum Movement of Tibet organised a talk and discussion at Yougling School hall to mark the centenary of Anglo Tibet treaty. Member of ATPD and expert Namgyal Wangdue la was the main speaker. He has an authority over the subject, since he is personally from Gyantse, where a major



(Member of ATPD Namgyal Wangdue la and Yeshi Togden la during a discussion on 7 Sep 04.)

battle broke in 1904. He authored many books on the wars.

7 Sep 2004 marks the Centenary of Anglo Tibet Treaty signed on Sep 07 1904. The treaty was signed in front of Potala Palace with Bhutan and Nepal as a witness to the treaty.

Ven Yeshi Togden, President of Gu Chu Sum, said although the battle between Tibet and British was a tragic, but off late China used this historical event to portray how Tibetan fought against imperial force to stay united with mother land. (China) A movie called Nubchu Marpo (Red RiveValley), based on the Anglo Tibetan Battle was made. The movie di-

starts the historical facts and also fabricated role of Chinese women was added.

The speaker emphasizes the need to counter Chinese propaganda. Chinese even called the town of Gyantse Martyrs' town. He said to check Chinese lies, is within our hand. He said, "all we have to do is to speak truth and nothing else".

He also states that Tibet enjoys independence during that period and China had no control over Tibet. He further sate that Tibetans fought the battle bravely and wholeheartedly without any external help.

China never fails to come up with a false records, fact and figures to assert its position.

China's Tibet Magazine is result of such misdeeds. South Korea also felt victim to China's false fabrication of historical events. Recently South Korean Legislator Kim Moon-soo of Grand National Party called for the need to collaborate with neighboring countries like Vietnam and Tibet to deal with China's effort to twist history.

China had created a museum on war between British and Tibet, in Gyantse Tibet and also published many books and articles on it. We do not need to be reminded of British incursion. What is more tragic and unforgettable is death of 1.2 million Tibetan and destruction of 600 monasteries due to China's forceful invasion of Tibet.

Life Outside Prison Brings Neither 'Joy nor Freedom'.

For the political prisoners release from prison is of no joy. Life outside prison brings neither joy nor freedom. All the doors or openings to lead a normal life are shut and their movements severely curbed. Most of them are left in poor health and cripple after ill treatment and malnutrition in prison. For those who try to sustain themselves by seeking an employment, has no scope in both government and private sectors. In the case of private sectors, employees are put under severe threat and pressure for employing any political prisoners.

Such acts discourage people from employing any political prisoners. Public display of support for the political prisoners is also blacklisted as anti government. All these factors lead to abject poverty and isolations of political prisoners. There are many such political prisoners, who are homeless, mentally retarded, involuntarily unemployed, and destitute in Tibet.

Nyidon and her friend Nyima and Nyichung from Potok nunnery, Phenpo Dzong protested in Lhasa Bhakor on 21 March 1994. They were arrested and sentenced to 5 years of imprisonment in Drapchi prison. On their release on 20 March 1999, they could not go back to their nunnery. Nyidon was admitted in hospital for medication due to her poor health for some time, but her family could not afford medical expenses. She had to discontinue her medication.

"If there is some festivals in Lhasa, Police will force me to leave Lhasa, suspecting that I might indulge in protest again" she said.

Third General Body Meeting of Gu Chu Sum Movement of Tibet.

Third General Body Meeting of Gu Chu Sum Movement of Tibet will be held from 26-28 Sep, 2004 for three days. Venue of meeting is CTA Staff Mess Hall, Gangchen Kyishong, Dharamsala. General Body of Gu Chu Sum is held once every three year and during the meeting annual reports and accounts will be read. New executive members will be elected for a term of three years. Next term's agendas will be discussed and decided collectively.

Gu Chu Sum Movement of Tibet was started on 21 Sep 1991. The first General Body meeting was held in 1997. The main objective is to rehabilitate ex political prisoners. We provide one-year comprehensive education teaching English, Tibetan and computer skills. Also highlights grave human rights violations in Tibet and publish books on political prisoners.

Initially there were 33 members. All the members are political prisoners or family members of political prisoners. At present there are 300 members. Any one interested in proceedings of meeting are welcome.

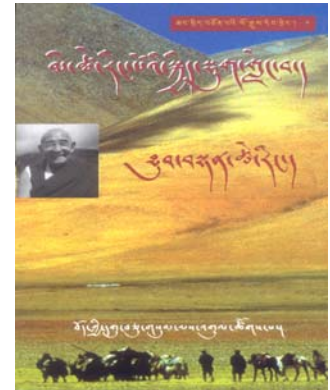
She tried to find a job in Lhasa, but no one gave her job. So along with her friend Nyima, she started small restaurant in 2002. Initially it runs well, but later their customers were harassed and warned not to go to their restaurant. The polices constantly harassed them to close down their restaurant and they were accused of conspiring against the state by gathering splittist groups. So, they closed their restaurant within a month.

"I realize that there is no life for me in Tibet" said Nyima.

Since there is no options left, she also escaped to India along with Nyidon, in March 04. Those who escaped to exile are the fortunate ones. The journey from Tibet to India via Nepal is very risky and tough due to strict border security. A reliable guide is must, who do not abandon them in the middle of journey. For a guide 3000 yuan has to be paid. The recent instances of forced deportation have made journey even more dangerous. Many people who could not afford to pay such amount are left behind to suffer.

Release of three books on ex-political prisoners.

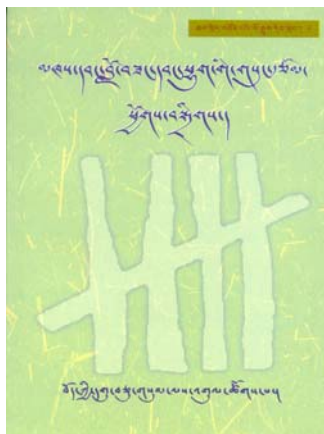
Gu Chu Sum is bring book Vol 7, 8 and 9 , on the life of political prisoners on 26 Sep, at inaguaration of third general body meeting. The books will be released by Chief Guest of the program Mr Kelsang Yeshe la, former Chief Cabinet Minister.



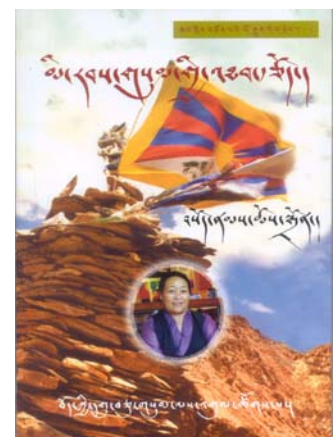
Discussing the vicitudes of my long life, a biography of Thupten Tsering
Written & edited by Lobsang Tashi
Cover & design Sonam Tsewang

Total apathy towards political prisoners in society sends strong signals to potential voice of dissents. It is common knowledge in Tibet that anyone who indulges in political activities is destined to be shunned and suffer. Even family members of political prisoners are subjected to harassment and sufferings.

Under the absolute control of China, any voice of dissent are ruthlessly suppressed. Every time, when a peaceful resistance is meted with a despotic crackdown, they turn to exile and Dalai Lama to reaffirm their belief and to show their defiance against Chinese rule in Tibet. This journey across will continue as long as there is no freedom for Tibetan people in Tibet



A Compiled works of Professor Lobsang Wangchuk.
Edited by Lobsang Tashi
Cover & design Sonam Tsewang



Struggle of Three Generations
Biography of Sonam Choedon
Written by Tsering Sonam
Edited by Lobsang Tashi.
Cover & design Sonam Tsewang

The Gu-Chu-Sum Movement of Tibet
Ex-Political Prisoners' Association

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Our Activities

- Organizing exhibitions, lectures, talks, and interviews with former prisoners.
- Publishing the annual magazine "Tibetan Envoy".
- Organizing education and job training programs.
- Providing housing, employment, medical care, and economic assistance to former prisoners.
- Sending money and clothing to the prisoners and their families in Tibet.
- Maintaining a database of political prisoners and ascertaining the health conditions and treatment of political prisoners in Tibet.

If undelivered, kindly return to

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