

FREE TIBET

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www.freetibet.org

Global protests
mark one year to
Beijing Olympics



• Protests in Tibet • One-year Olympic countdown • Campaigning in Beijing •

“If we cannot invite the Dalai Lama home, we will not have freedom of religion and happiness in Tibet.”

Tibetan nomad Runggye Adak addressing the crowd at Lithang horserace August



Yael Weisz-Rind, Director

Dear Friends,

The last few months have been very busy for Free Tibet Campaign as we prepared for the one-year countdown to the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. With the Games on the horizon, China's human rights record and its brutal policies in Tibet are being scrutinised ever more closely by the international community and world media.

You may have noticed a lot of press attention for the activists who unfurled a banner saying 'One World, One Dream, Free Tibet' on China's Great Wall. Other protests were taking place in Beijing and you can read about one campaigner's experience with the Chinese secret police on page 3.

But it's not just Western campaigners that have been challenging China. Within Tibet dissent is growing and protests are mounting as the Olympics turns world attention their way. On pages 4 and 5 you can read how Tibetans are increasingly standing up to China and making their voices heard despite the consequences. On page 5 you can take action for one such brave protester, Runggye Adak, to secure his safe release.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) is also under growing pressure over its inaction and indifference to the ideal of its own 'Olympic Truce'. The IOC's

dismissal of its role "to create a window of opportunities for dialogue, reconciliation and the resolution of conflicts" is at the centre of Free Tibet action. To be part of the 'IOC action' please go to page 7.

I would like to thank all those who took part in the events on August 8 to mark the Olympic countdown. Your active support was a great success and you joined thousands of other protesters around the world in making sure that Tibet is not forgotten at the Games (see page 9).

Finally, you still have a chance to win an amazing prize in our 2007 raffle, including a yacht trip in the Mediterranean and a holiday in Andalucia so you can catch up on some sunshine after our damp English summer! Your help is crucial to fund our campaigning activity in this busy year and you can help spread the message about Tibet whilst you sell tickets. To order more tickets contact us on 0207 324 4605.

Best wishes,

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Free Tibet Campaign stands for the Tibetans' right to determine their own future. It campaigns for an end to China's occupation of Tibet and for the Tibetans' fundamental human rights to be respected. Founded in 1987, Free Tibet Campaign generates active support by educating people about the situation in Tibet. It is independent of all governments and is funded by its members and supporters.

Views expressed in *Free Tibet* are not necessarily those of Free Tibet Campaign.

Design & layout: Catherine Quine

Cover: Tibetan activists and Tibetan Buddhist monks shout anti-Chinese slogans during a protest as they march towards the Indian Parliament in New Delhi, 8 August 2007. RAVEENDRAN/AFP/Getty Images

Putting ‘media freedom’ to the test in Beijing

Tibet activist, **Paul Golding**, reports from Beijing where he joined Students For a Free Tibet Director, **Lhadon Tethong**, in producing a live internet blog to highlight Tibet’s continued occupation in the build up to the Olympics.

It was the evening before the official Olympic one-year countdown ceremony in Tiananmen Square and Lhadon and I were bracing ourselves for inevitable arrest by Chinese Public Security Bureau (PSB) officials. We had just recorded the last of six video blogs to be placed on YouTube and broadcast to the world. Looking out the window, we could see our PSB ‘minders’ had increased from the usual six to a dozen and they were getting excited.

Six days earlier I had met Lhadon at Beijing Airport. The plan was to operate a live blog, looking at China’s preparations for the Games and at how Tibet was being used in propaganda to promote a ‘unified and harmonious society’. As far as we knew this was the first time activists had openly blogged in China.

During our first days we were very cautious. We knew we were being followed by the PSB, tracking our every move, filming us and, we were certain, tapping our mobile phones. But the longer we went without being arrested the more confident we became. By the

fifth day we were filming underneath the portrait of Mao outside the Forbidden City.

We broadcast from a number of venues including the Olympic Stadium (the Bird’s Nest) and Tiananmen Square but probably the most disturbing site was the Ethnic Minorities Park. Built for the Olympics, this massive theme park ‘celebrates’ China’s minorities, with the Tibetan area serving as the showpiece. Young Tibetans are employed to perform traditional dances and Chinese propaganda is everywhere, claiming the Tibetan people are glad of, and benefitting from, China’s ‘liberation’.

By day six our story was getting international media attention and we were doing live interviews. We had even taken our message directly to IOC President, Jacques Rogge, at his hotel. We were also ecstatic to hear that day, that six activists had successfully raised a banner saying “One World, One Dream, Free Tibet” on the Great Wall.

On 8 August we planned to go to Tiananmen Square to witness the countdown ceremony. However, as we expected, six hours before the ceremony, we were arrested by at least thirty police and PSB officials.

Lhadon and I were questioned and told that we had “broken the law” and were “destabilising society” but no charges were laid. We were told, repeatedly, that Tibet was part of China and after ten hours we were deported, and, much to our relief, united with the ‘Great Wall Six’ on the plane to Hong Kong.

TV crews greeted us at Hong Kong airport and there followed a string of interviews. We had succeeded. The message that Tibet had not been forgotten was relayed across the world. Though China’s claims of media freedom were exposed as a sham, they cannot hide the truth.

Paul and Lhadon’s blog can be seen at www.beijingwideopen.org

Below: Paul and Lhadon at the Olympic countdown clock, Tiananmen Square, Beijing





NG HAN GUAN/ PPA PHOTOS

Protest at horserace leads to arrests

Protests are growing within Tibet as China gears up for the 2008 Olympic Games and cracks down on freedom of expression.

High on a plateau 4,000 metres above sea level, the town of Lithang in the eastern Tibetan area of Kham is host to a spectacular annual horse race. Attracting up to 50,000 spectators and participants, Tibetan nomads, Chinese and Western tourists flock to the area at the beginning of August every year to witness Khampa horsemen displaying their legendary skills.

This year the race has become notable for something more than the usual colourful spectacle. Runggye Adak, a nomad from the Kham region of Tibet, seized the microphone and addressed the crowd as he presented a *kathak* (ceremonial scarf) to the chief lama of Lithang monastery at the opening ceremony. Reports of his exact words are difficult to obtain but it is understood that Runggye called for the Dalai Lama to be allowed to return to Tibet, for the release of the Panchen Lama and of local lama Tenzin Deleg Rinpoche. One eyewitness reported massive support from

the crowd as Runggye said,

“If we cannot invite the Dalai Lama home, we will not have freedom of religion and happiness in Tibet.”

Runggye’s speech resulted in his arrest and continued detention but also sparked weeks of protest in the town as thousands of Khampa nomads besieged the local county office where he was held, fearing for his safety. China responded with a military clamp-down and dozens more people have since been arrested, including Runggye’s nephew Adak Lopoe, after armed police stormed his home village weeks later.

The incident highlights growing dissent amongst Tibetans following China’s recent crack-down on religious freedom and the escalation of its patriotic re-education programme in the monasteries. International support for the Tibetan cause and the spotlight of global media attention brought by the Olympics can only help Tibetans feel that they are supported in their stand against oppression.

Above: A Khampa horseman in traditional costume shows off his skills

In Lihang, tension had been building for weeks, after Chinese authorities demanded monks at Lihang Monastery sign a petition stating the Dalai Lama was not welcome to return to Tibet. This followed other protests in July when two elderly women were arrested for encouraging people to join their call for the release of Tenzin Deleg Rinpoche.

But it is not only the suppression of religious freedom that has sparked public protest in Tibet.

In June, another area of Kham saw mass protests after a mining company found rich mineral deposits on the sacred Yala mountain. Twenty-two people were arrested after the road to the mine was blocked and several Tibetans staged a hunger strike in protest at the desecration of this sacred site. A local lama speaking after the riots said; "For us, the Yala mountain is sacred. When the mine owner began exploiting it, people were enraged and tried to stop it."

The local Chinese government sold the mountain to the Sichuan Nongge Shan Mining Co. Ltd for 100 million yuan, (over £6 million) of which only 200,000 yuan went to local residents. Mining was subsequently suspended and the local authority announced that they would stop any activities which 'do not help the public'.

Public defiance has also been seen in Tibet's capital, Lhasa. On 14 March this year Radio Free Asia reported that hundreds of Tibetans took part in an extremely rare act of protest when worshippers conducted incense-burning ceremonies on the capital's streets as an

offering for the long life of the Dalai Lama. These offerings, as well as observance of the Dalai Lama's birthday, have been forbidden since June 2001 when the Lhasa City Government expressly banned ceremonies associated with the Dalai Lama. The protests were dispersed by authorities and several arrests made, but it marked a growing confidence and unity in the Tibetan population as protests took place city-wide. This defiance was a direct response to the official vilification campaigns directed at the Dalai Lama by the Chinese authorities and in particular to Party Secretary for Tibet, Zhang Qingli, who has made increasingly vitriolic public denunciations of the Dalai Lama since his appointment in May 2006.

Whilst it is encouraging to see that Tibetans are standing up to the Chinese authorities, it is crucial to remember the serious risk they place themselves in by speaking out. Arrests are usually accompanied by beatings and often torture and the prisoners' families are frequently persecuted by authorities in retaliation. It is vital that we support those brave enough to stand up and demand their immediate release.

Runggye Adak has been charged with 'provocation to subvert State power', a charge which carries a lengthy prison sentence. Please join the campaign for the release of Runggye Adak and his nephew (see Action below and overleaf).

"If we cannot invite the Dalai Lama home, we will not have freedom of religion and happiness in Tibet."

Below: Chinese military official at Lihang horserace.



ICT

Action

Secure the release of Runggye Adak

Please write to those listed below with the following demands:

- That the authorities immediately release Runggye Adak.
- That Runggye Adak is not subjected to ill treatment and torture.
- That the Chinese authorities respect the Tibetans' rights to freedom of opinion and expression as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

1. Chinese Ambassador in London
Madam Fu Ying, Ambassador of the
People's Republic of China to the
United Kingdom
Chinese Embassy Address: 49-51
Portland Place London W1B 1JL
Email: press@chinese-embassy.org.uk

2. Governor of Sichuan Province
Jiang Jufen,
Address: c/o Protocol and Press
Division of Foreign Affairs Office of
Sichuan Province
100 Dongsanduan, Yihuanlu,
Chengdu 610021
Phone/Fax: +86 28 8435 6789



Runggye Adak

Political prisoner



Name: Adak Lopoe
Age: 45 years
Arrested: 21 August 2007
Reason: Arbitrary arrest
From: Lithang Monastery, Lithang County, Kardze Prefecture
Prison: Unknown location

Adak Lopoe has reportedly been singled out by Chinese authorities as being the 'splittist' force behind his uncle Runggye Adak's protest (see pages 4 and 5). Adak Lopoe was arrested on 21 August 2007 in Lithang but was transferred to an unknown location. He is a respected figure in the Lithang area and is well known for

his opposition to deforestation and hunting, and is a proponent of education for the young. Locals believe that his outspoken views on these issues might have infuriated the authorities.

Adak Lopoe became a monk at the age of eight and joined Lithang Monastery where he excelled in his studies and became a chant master. At the height of the patriotic re-education campaign in 1997/98 he was appointed Deputy Director of the

Democratic Management Committee (DMC) of Lithang Monastery, an administrative body implementing government policies. The patriotic re-education campaign, called "Love Religion, Love Country" is directed at cementing allegiance to the Communist Party, denouncing the Dalai Lama and stamping out political dissent in monasteries. Adak Lopoe resigned from the post as he deemed the position contrary to his spiritual beliefs. (Source: ICT and TCHRD)

Action

Write to those listed below and ask for the immediate release of Adak Lopoe and for an end to arbitrary detention in Tibet.

1. Chinese Ambassador in London
Madam Fu Ying, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the United Kingdom
Address: Chinese Embassy
49-51 Portland Place
London W1B 1JL
Email: press@chinese-embassy.org.uk
2. Governor of Sichuan Province
Jiang Jufen
Address: c/o Protocol and Press Division of Foreign Affairs Office of Sichuan Province
100 Dongsanduan, Yihuanlu, Chengdu 610021
Phone/Fax: +86 28 8435 6789

Phuntsog Nyidrol to visit UK

On 21 November 2007 we will be hosting a talk by Tibetan nun Phuntsog Nyidrol who served 15 years in Tibet's Drapchi prison and may have been Tibet's longest-serving female political prisoner. She was arrested in 1989 at the age of 19 for peaceful demonstration against China's rule and was initially sentenced to nine years imprisonment.

Phuntsog was one of the 14 Drapchi nuns whose sentence was extended in 1993 after they secretly recorded songs in prison which were subsequently smuggled to the outside world and distributed widely on CD. She remained under strict surveillance after her release and had serious health problems arising from years of maltreatment and torture. Phuntsog won the 1995 Reebok Human Rights Award which she was able to accept in 2004 after her release from prison and arrival into exile.



Phuntsog Nyidrol

After years of intense campaigning for her release it will be an amazing opportunity for Free Tibet Campaign and its supporters to meet this courageous woman.

Please check the events section of our website for the exact time and location of the talk closer to the date or call a member of staff on 0207 324 4605:

www.freetibet.org/events/diary

Success!

China has punished the General responsible for the shooting of two unarmed Tibetans as they crossed the Nang Pa La Pass into Nepal last September. Kelsang Namtso aged 17 and Kunsang Namgyal, 20, both died after Chinese soldiers opened fire on a group of Tibetans, witnessed by European climbers. The remaining Tibetans in the group, including many children, were subsequently detained and allegedly subjected to torture and beatings.

Following intense campaigning pressure and worldwide public outcry, China, which had previously claimed the soldiers acted in 'self-defence', was forced to conduct an inquiry into the shootings and has now forced General Meng Jingxi to step down. The general, who is a member of the Communist Party's Central Committee, has been forced into early retirement as a result of the inquiry.

IOC under pressure after Great Wall protest

On the eve of celebrations in Beijing to mark the one-year countdown to next year's Olympic Games, Tibet activists daringly abseiled over the Great Wall of China and unfurled a large banner reading "One World, One Dream – Free Tibet" in English and Chinese.

Live footage of the action which was organised by Students for a Free Tibet and Free Tibet Campaign, was beamed to the world's media (you can see this on our website) and viewed by thousands on YouTube as well as the story being covered here in The Guardian and getting huge coverage in Canada.

The six activists from UK, Canada and USA were detained immediately after the action and held for a period of 36 hours. Two further activists, Lhadon Tethong and former Free Tibet Campaign staff member, Paul Golding, were detained the following day as they made their way to Tiananmen Square to report on the one-year countdown.

The action came as International Olympic Committee (IOC) President, Jacques Rogge, flew into Beijing for the countdown celebrations. He was

greeted with a barrage of criticisms over media freedoms and Tibet whilst Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, issued reports criticising China for moving backwards on human rights and using the Olympics to justify social repression.

In the UK, Tory MEP Edward McMillan-Scott, Vice-President of the European Parliament, launched a campaign demanding that British Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, consider shunning the Beijing Games

whilst British Olympic Association Chief, Simon Clegg, also faced persistent media questioning.

The IOC holds its next full Executive Board Meeting in Lausanne in December and Free Tibet Campaign is urging all supporters to send action postcards/emails to the IOC, making clear their dissatisfaction at the ongoing silence and reluctance by the IOC to use its influence with the Chinese authorities to improve human rights.(see Action below)



Activists unfurl their banner on the Great Wall of China

STUDENTS FOR A FREE TIBET

Action

Write to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and demand it keeps its promise.

Dear President Rogge,

I strongly urge the IOC to fulfil its pledge that it would ensure China improves its human rights record in the run up to the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

In April 2002 you said: "the IOC is a responsible organisation and ... if human rights are not acted upon to our satisfaction then we will act".

But on April 25th 2007, when pressed on issues of China's stance on human rights in Tibet, the IOC said: "We are not in a position that we can give instructions to governments as to how they ought to behave".

- Despite your promise, the staging of the Games in Beijing has not improved human rights in China and Tibet
- Free and unrestricted reporting from China and Tibet was a condition of the Games being awarded to China.

Yet foreign journalists now need special permits to go to Tibet and are under surveillance there

- Without free reporting you are giving China license to hide its systematic human rights abuses in Tibet

Time is running out for you to act.

I demand that the IOC forces China to drop its insistence on special permits to Tibet for journalists and commits to remove any surveillance of journalists and their interviewees.

Jacques Rogge
President International Olympic Committee
Chateau De Vidy
Case Postale 356
1007 Lausanne, Switzerland
Fax: +41-21-621-6216
jacques.rogge@ioc.olympic.org

Tibet's tradition of reincarnation under threat

The Chinese government announced a new set of regulations on 13 July 2007 stating that only China can approve reincarnated lamas (tulku) in Tibet.

The new measures come into effect on 1 September and are clearly aimed at furthering China's grip on Tibet's religious institutions and undermining the belief system of reincarnation that is unique to Tibet dating back to the 12th century.

The new regulations passed by the State Administration of Religious Affairs (SARA) threaten to destroy Tibetan Buddhism's core philosophy of reincarnation by placing the selection, a mystical process, in the hands of the atheist government of China. Reincarnate lamas, revered by Tibetans, play a significant role in

Tibetan religious, social and political life.

The regulation is also designed to make sure that no lamas can be recognised from outside Tibet (by exiled spiritual leaders) and that the Chinese government will select and educate the 'next Dalai Lama'. However, the Dalai Lama has already announced publicly that if at the time of his death Tibet remains occupied, he will reincarnate outside Tibet away

from the control of the Chinese authorities.

The new law will apply not just to Tibetan Autonomous Region (TAR), but to the other Tibetan regions as well.



Left: Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the 11th Panchen Lama, Right: Gyaltzen Norbu, the Chinese identified Panchen Lama

Everest highway on hold

Earlier this year, China announced ambitious plans for the longest torch relay in Olympic history, crossing five continents and reaching the summit of the world's highest mountain, Everest

(Chomolungma in Tibetan). The £10 million project planned to turn a 67 mile stone and dirt path into a tarmac highway winding from the bottom of the mountain up to Everest

base camp at 17,060 feet (5,200 metres).

Following an outcry from environmentalists, China appears to have backed down, promising an environmental impact survey and insisting that no final decision has been made on building the road which will now take place in two stages.

Tibetan Autonomous Region (TAR) Vice Chairman Hao Peng, said "In the first stage, we are doing basic maintenance work on the existing road built of sand and stone. It's set to complete in mid August ... But the plan is subject to a feasibility study and environment assessment before it is approved. That will probably take a pretty long time."

Meanwhile reports suggest that a mountaineering school in Tibet is training Tibetans to carry the torch to the peak next May.

Whilst China claims that the road is necessary for tourists and mountaineers, it is also seen as another aspect of control and a visible symbol of China's dominance of the region. The project also falls within a wider plan to pave 80 per cent of Tibet's roads by the year 2010, to help with the extraction of Tibet's vast mineral resources.



Workers stand on the construction site of the highway to Mount Everest, at Dingri County, Tibet. June 2007

AP/PA PHOTOS

No Olympics pay for Tibetans

Free Tibet Campaign has learned that China has been duping Tibetans into travelling to Beijing with promises of well-paid work on the Olympics, only for their salaries to remain unpaid.

Hundreds of Tibetans are understood to have traveled from Amdo to Beijing in April this year but many returned weeks later due to unpaid wages.

Local government authorities had promised that Tibetans working in Beijing would be paid 1000 yuan (about £66) per month but, according to the source, none of those who had returned had been paid anything.

It is understood that a few people who consistently asked the authorities about unpaid salaries were paid, but a source speaking to Tibet Watch (our sister organisation) said that when Tibetans reminded the authorities

about the unpaid wages, they were told: "You will be paid well during the Olympics and after you have been employed by the government. Until then you need to work hard".

People returning to Tibet had to escape, knowing that the Chinese authorities would not allow them to leave freely.

Since arriving in Beijing they had been trained in military drill exercises as well as being given instruction in stadium guard duties, tour guide duties and hotel and restaurant services. After each month, they would be moved to a new place with a new trainer making it difficult to claim wages. At the time of writing the source was not able to confirm which government department was responsible for the Tibetans' training in Beijing.

August 8 in pictures

Around the world, supporters of Tibetan freedom marked the one-year countdown to the Olympics with mass protests.



Tokyo: Protesters don Team Tibet T-shirts for a fun run



London: Free Tibet Campaign delivers thousands of supporters' postcards to the Foreign & Commonwealth Office.



New York: protesters at a baseball game



Seattle: Team Tibet presence at a major league baseball game



India: the Tibetan football team in action against Delhi XI

- **Anniversary of the opening of the Golmud-Lhasa Railway.**
The China People's Daily reported on 30 July 2007 that the number of tourists travelling to the TAR in the first six months of 2007 reached 1.1 million, an increase of 86% over the same period for the previous year. The increase is directly attributable to the Golmud-Lhasa Railway which opened on 1 July 2006. On 9 May 2007 Xinhua reported statistics from the Development and Reform Commission of the TAR that the region was expected to host three million tourists this year, a figure that exceeds the total population of the TAR.
- **The Dalai Lama visited Australia** in June, despite Chinese objections, meeting both Prime Minister, John Howard, and Leader of the Opposition, Kevin Rudd. He addressed a forum organised by The Australia Tibet Council at Monash University and spoke at The National Press Club. He also addressed more than 50 Federal Members of Parliament at a highly successful reception held at Parliament House.
- **The Australian Olympic Committee attempted to gag** its Beijing athletes ordering them not to discuss controversial topics such as human rights and Tibet. The guidelines stirred up a media controversy with many former athletes condemning the plans. John Coates, President of the Australian Olympic Committee was later forced to pledge that Australian athletes would be free to express their opinions on any subject.
- **A massive statue of Guru Rinpoche** (Padmasambhava) was destroyed by the Chinese People's Army at Samye, Tibet's oldest monastery in May 2007. The statue, worth 800,000 Chinese Yuan (over £53,000), donated by wealthy Chinese devotees was torn down because it did not receive an official permit before building.

Last Chance to win £1000!

Tickets are still available for the Free Tibet Raffle, so this is your chance to win one of six fabulous prizes!

With a grand prize of £1,000, your Christmas celebrations could be bigger and better than ever!

The eco-sailing holiday for two in the Mediterranean is a great opportunity to embark on an adventure of a lifetime. You and a partner could go dolphin spotting in turquoise waters and participate in ecological projects with experts to help preserve rare species of sea turtles and seals.

Another amazing prize is a one-week walking holiday in Andalucia, along the ancient trade routes of the Moors. After a long day on your feet, you can relax in Casa Ana, a traditional Spanish country house where you will eat well and live comfortably in beautiful, tranquil surroundings and breath-taking views of the Alpajurras mountain range. Expect delectable vegetarian food and a wonderful experience of the great outdoors.

Day for Tibet – Sunday 28 October

This is a big year for Free Tibet Campaign!

In the build-up to the Beijing 2008 Olympics, the media spotlight will be firmly placed on China, and you can help us show the world what lies behind the Olympic facade.

Day for Tibet is your opportunity to be at the heart of the campaign by organising fun activities in your area to raise money and raise awareness of what is happening in Tibet. This year Day for Tibet is on 28 October.

We are hoping to raise over £10,000 to help our campaigning activities in the coming year. And the more we can raise, the more we can do to make Tibet visible during the 2008 Olympics.

Either with your friends, or as a Free Tibet Local Group, you can help by organising a sponsored event like a fun-run or screening *The Forbidden Team* film in your local hall. Or you can organise your own Olympic sporting challenge, – you can do it all

Buy your raffle tickets now and you could win a weekend away at the Eco-Lodge in Lincolnshire, bio-organic wines, champagne or Tibet DVDs, including the critically-acclaimed Martin Scorsese film *Kundun*.

Tickets are only £1, so please buy and sell as many tickets as you can to your friends and family. Special mystery prizes go to the top ticket sellers!

Please remember, all the proceeds from the raffle help support our vital work for Tibetan freedom.

To order more raffle tickets call us on **020 7324 4605** or email: **mail@freetibet.org**. Each ticket book contains 10 tickets, so please let us know how many books you require. The raffle will be drawn on 3 December 2007.

Special thanks go to all of our prize donors for their very generous support: Mystic Blue Eco Sailing and Diving, Bootlace Walking Tours, Casa Ana, International Business School Eco-lodge, Vintage Roots and Meridian Trust.

to fuel the push for change in Tibet!

And for the daredevils amongst you, why not take part in our skydiving challenge and freefall for Tibet? Go to www.freetibet.org/events for how to take part.

If you are interested in organising any sponsored or fundraising event for the benefit of Free Tibet Campaign, now is the time to act. For more information, ideas, sponsorship forms, petitions, t-shirts or a Tibetan flag to fly at an event, please call Gabriel on **0207 324 4605** or contact us at **mail@freetibet.org**.

Calling all runners!

If you are running in the 2008 London Marathon or Great North Run why not do it for Tibet and make a difference by getting sponsored or simply wearing Team Tibet colours to make sure the cause is noticed! Let us know you are entering and we can put you in touch with other runners in the same event so you can run together as Team Tibet!

Monday 1 October

LONDON Demonstration on Chinese National Day, 1 October, 2pm outside Chinese Embassy, 49-51 Portland Place, London W1B 1JL

October

LONDON/CARDIFF/EDINBURGH Talk by Rebiya Kadeer, human rights activist from the Uighur region of Northern China. Hear her amazing story of courage and adversity. Admission free

Monday 1

7pm at The Human Rights Action Centre, 17-25 New Inn Yard, London EC2A 3EA

Tuesday 2

5.30pm at National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay, Cardiff CF99 1NA

Thursday 4

7pm at Playfair Library Hall, Old College, University of Edinburgh, South Bridge, Edinburgh EH8 9YL www.guljavigil.org

Tuesday 6 November

LONDON Support Free Tibet Campaign at our comedy night at the Shaw Theatre London. With Simon Amstell, Ava Vidal, Robin Ince and a host of others. For more details call Cristiana on 0207 324 4605.

Sunday 21 October to Saturday 27 October

CUMBRIA Buddhist Himalaya Festival. A series of lectures, films and events exploring the culture and geography of the region. Features talks by Thomas Laird author of the Story of Tibet. Rheghed Centre, Cumbria. For more details call 01768 868000 or visit www.himalayan-festival.com

21 November

LONDON Talk by former political prisoner and nun Phuntsog Nyidrol, (see page 6). For further details contact the office on 020 7324 4605 or check our website: www.freetibet.org/events/diary

Every Wednesday:

Vigil for Tibetan Freedom. 6-8pm. Opposite the Chinese Embassy, 49-51 Portland Place, London W1. Contact Tibet Vigil on 020 7813 1922.

Christmas gift ideas



Mandala T-shirt

Price: £18.00

With a Mandala motif on the front and a Free Tibet logo on the back, this elegant and eco-friendly design is made from a mixture of 30% organic cotton and 70% sustainable bamboo, leaving you cool in the summer and warm in the winter.

Available in women's sizes S,M,L; men's sizes M,L,XL.



Team Tibet Hoodie

Price: £35.00

Support Tibet at the Beijing Olympics by wearing a Team Tibet hoodie. A Free Tibet logo and Olympic slogan are printed on the back.

Available in women's sizes S,M,L; men's sizes M,L,XL.



OM T-shirt

Price: £18.00

The vibrant design features the prayer 'Om mani padme hum' written in Tibetan and the Free Tibet logo on the back. Made from 100% organic, ethical cotton.

Available in women's sizes S,M,L; men's sizes M,L,XL.



Double Vajra Silk Cushion Cover

Price: £18.00

Soft, silky and stylish, decorated with a crossed Vajra motif. The rich embroidery will liven up any room with colour.



The Story of Tibet by Thomas Laird

(hardback book)

Price: £18.99

The Dalai Lama's personal account of Tibet's ancient history, exploring

His Holiness' views on history, science, reincarnation, Buddhism and much more. A fascinating book crucial to our understanding of Tibet and Buddhism.

Garden at Dawn

Greeting Card

Price: £4.99

by Ian

Cumming.

Pack of 10 cards (blank inside)

Ideal for Christmas and any other occasion.



Tsemo

Monastery

Greeting Card

Price: £4.99

by Ian Cumming.

Pack of 10 cards (blank inside)

Ideal for Christmas and any other occasion.



2008 Calendar

Price:

£10.99



TIBET: Cry of the Snow Lion DVD

Price: £19.99

This award-winning documentary narrated by Martin Sheen, tells the epic story of five

decades of Tibetan history from the Chinese invasion in 1950 to today.

ALL PHOTOS: SARAH CRESSWELL

To order...

Visit the merchandise page on our website www.freetibet.org/merchandise to view our full range of products and to order online quickly and securely.

Or call **020 7324 4605** to speak to a member of staff and place your order over the phone.

All proceeds help to fund our vital work for a free Tibet

JOIN OUR

CAMPAIGN SCHEME

URGENT

One of the most important aspects of our work at Free Tibet Campaign is the immediacy with which we respond to violations of the freedoms of Tibet and its people. Our letter and email campaigns make it clear to governments, corporations and influential people that the world is watching and judging them.

If you are not doing so already, you can help with this vital work by joining our Urgent Campaign Scheme. Past successes include:

FREE



Phuntsog Nyidrol

In 1989 Phuntsog Nyidrol, aged only 19, was given a nine-year sentence for taking part in a peaceful demonstration. In 1993 her sentence was extended to 17 years in for secretly recording songs with 13 other nuns (the group became known as the 'Drapchi 14'). Our protests made it impossible for the Chinese authorities to simply let her die in prison (as many before her have). In March 2006 she was allowed to leave Tibet to seek medical treatment in the USA.

PUNISHED



General Meng Jingxi

The Chinese government was forced to punish the general responsible for shooting at Nangpa La Pass of two unarmed Tibetans trying to reach Nepal. Western eyewitnesses and our protests made it impossible for China to maintain its lie that the shooting was 'self defence'. General Meng Jingxi was forced to step down on 7 August 2007.

FREE



Ngawang Sangdrol

Ngawang Sangdrol was released in 2002 after serving 11 years of a 21 year prison sentence. Arrested for participating in a peaceful protest, Ngawang continued to stand up to the Chinese authorities whilst in prison and was subjected to beatings, solitary confinement and torture. She left Tibet in 2003 and now lives in exile.

To continue with this vital work, we need more members to join our Urgent Campaign Scheme. We need you to send urgent messages to government officials, international decision-makers and company directors.

If you think you can help Tibet in this way please contact us. For Free Tibet Campaign members there is no subscription fee to the Urgent Campaign Scheme, but we ask you to help by making a donation towards the cost if you can.

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email: mail@freetibet.org

or join online via: www.freetibet.org/campaigns/urgent

