



Bay Area Friends of Tibet

N E W S L E T T E R

Spring 1999 • Volume 10, Number 1

14th Annual Tibet Day Sunday, March 21st

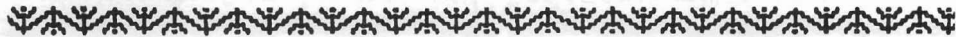
Come celebrate, enjoy and take home a part of Tibetan culture! Bay Area Friends of Tibet presents Tibet Day on Sunday, March 21st from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Fort Mason.

Over the last ten years the Tibetan community in the Bay Area has grown and developed into a local microcosm of Tibetan culture and society. As with most refugee communities, it has developed its own special ways of preserving its culture. At Tibet Day, Tibetans young and old will present aspects of their beautiful and intriguing culture. Beautiful handicrafts, including jewelry, clothing, rugs, and ritual objects will be

available. Enjoy song, dance, delicious food and friendship. Eugene H. Louie, staff photojournalist with the San Jose Mercury News, will present a slide show of photographs taken in India of the Tibetan Hunger Strike.



Tibet Day—Sunday, March 21st at Fort Mason Conference Center, San Francisco, California. 10a.m. to 5p.m. Admission: \$5.00 Adults, Children under 12 years and Seniors \$3.00, children under 5 years old free. For Information: 510-235-5984



Tibetan Uprising Day Wednesday, March 10th

As you know, March 10th, 1999, marks the 40th anniversary of the Tibetan people's uprising against the communist Chinese invasion. Tens of thousands of Tibetans lost their lives on this day, and His Holiness the Dalai Lama was forced to flee into exile, where he has remained ever since.

The people of Tibet are still suffering from various injustices at the hands of the Chinese government, including arbitrary arrest, torture, and execution; coerced abortion and sterilization; and restrictions on freedom of speech, press, and religion. The International Commission of Jurists has labeled the Tibet situation a genocide, and many other international human rights organizations have expressed their shock and outrage at the Chinese government's actions.

We, the Bay Area based Tibetan support groups and Tibetans, are organizing a rally to commemorate the tens of thousands of Tibetans who lost their lives on this day in 1959. Please join us and demonstrate with us in San Francisco to show your solidarity and support for the Tibetan people, who are still suffering under the Chinese occupation. Your presence on that day will be significant and will make a real difference for the Tibetan cause.

We will meet at Powell and Market Street in San Francisco at 11am. At 12:00pm we are going to have speeches by Tibetan supporters and local politicians at Union Square. Then we will march to the Chinese consulate to conclude the day's event.

Yours Sincerely,
Bay Area Friends of Tibet, Committee 100, International Committee of Lawyers for Tibet, Milarepa Fund, Students for a Free Tibet, Tibetan Association of Northern California.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. During work hours you can contact Tenzin Bhagen at Milarepa Fund. 415-553-8533.

Flight from Tibet

A Continuing Series... The Nepal Experience

By Raylene Samson

The thought of leaving Tibet is bittersweet despite what life has been reduced to by the Chinese government. Tibetan refugees frequently report that it is the will of seeing His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, that carries them over the land of snows. But what happens between the exodus from their homes and the embrace of the Tibetan government in exile is unnecessarily perilous.

"It was senseless. I kept thinking, "I am going to die and I will not live to see His Holiness."

—Nyima Dickyi

It is not debated that the border between Nepal and the Tibetan Himalayas is one of the most treacherous passes that one can make. There are no designated entry points between Tibet and Nepal's 625-mile border and the most common route for crossing is at the Nanpo-la Pass at 19,000 feet. In ideal conditions, it takes a minimum of one month to travel from Lhasa to the Nepal border, and more than 80% of Tibetan refugees are coming from the northern and eastern-most regions of Kham and Amdo adding up to an additional three months to their trek. Unfortunately, conditions are rarely ideal: blizzards, waist-deep snow, insufficient food and water, improper clothing, footwear, shelter and medicine are typical for Tibetan refugees. Those that survive frequently are malnourished, suffer from frostbite and other injuries, and severe trauma.

December of 1996 brought a new anti-crime campaign by the Chinese government into Ti-

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Message from the Board

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Flight from Tibet

Dear friends and associates of BAFoT, welcome to our 1999 Renaissance:

We are pleased to announce that we have been joined by two new board members, Rachel Humphrey and Harry Betancourt. They have proven to be an invaluable part of our reconstituted board.

We are also very pleased to announce our hiring of Giovanni Vassallo as our Communication Coordinator. He will be working on all aspects of our communications, which we are working to expand greatly. He will be updating our data base, working with our new web page, fund raising, event planning and helping us rebuild all our office systems. Giovanni founded a chapter of Students for a Free Tibet at Santa Rosa. He is now enrolled in graduate school at San Francisco State and is starting a chapter of Students for a Free Tibet there as well. Giovanni will be available in our office every Wednesday from 3:00PM until 8:00PM.

We are getting our phones fixed! Due to the age of our building's wiring the phone lines have been functioning very poorly. We apologize to those of you who have called for information and have not had your calls returned. By the time you read this the problems should be resolved.

We will be sharing our office space with the Tibetan Online Project for the next half-year. We are looking forward to the exchange of ideas and energy this will bring about and are proud to be present at the launching of another Tibetan Support Group. Welcome Dan and Yolanda!

We are developing our Web page. Our address will be: <http://www.friends-of-tibet.org> We hope to use our site as an effective tool for announcing activities and opening up a more active two-way communication with our members. We will use our page to highlight the activities and businesses of our local Tibetan community. We want to develop an active program of scholarships for local and overseas Tibetan students, ESL services, mentoring and other services to the Tibetan community. We also will use this page to link to other Tibetan Support Groups and for the political lobbying so necessary in the Tibetan struggle for freedom. We welcome your suggestions and feedback on our further development as well.

...We are planning a series of teas and special events featuring interesting people involved in the Tibetan cause and culture in addition to our Tibet Days in San Francisco and the East Bay. We had a very successful Tibet Day this fall at Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown's headquarters at Jack London Square. We also participated in his inaugural party. We operated a Tibetan food booth and initiated many newcomers into the experiences of momos and chai. T.A.N.C.'s performers were very warmly received at the inauguration.

We have renewed our commitment to helping the Tibetans to survive and thrive both here in the bay area and worldwide. We will continue to pressure the governments of the world to embrace this noble cause of the peaceful return of the Dalai Lama and the exile community to their homeland. We ask you to join us anew, recommit anew, to helping us help them who follow the Buddha against a sea of tyranny and deceit. With all our help, to paraphrase another people "next year in Lhasa."

Thank you for your participation and support over the past years, we look forward to working with you in the future.

The BAFoT Board of Directors,
Ventul Rinpoche
Bonnie McCalla
Max Butler
Tashi Choden
Sonam Gonsar
Diane Hume
Rachel Humphrey
Harry Betancourt



bet called "Strike Hard" which focussed on so-called "splittests" and religious institutions. The policy was indefinitely continued in August of 1997. Chinese rule has boasted through the Xinhua official news service that it has intensified armed border patrols because "the anti-splittest situation is still grave and the task of enduring stability of the borders and the region is still very formidable" consequently giving the border patrol direction to "persist in foiling plots and disruptive activities by the Dalai clique." The Tibetan government-in-exile has reported a sharp rise in refugees mostly nuns, monks, and children since the campaign began. In 1997 the number of Tibetan refugees entering India doubled; the Tibetan government-in-exile estimates the number to be 4,000 averaging 7 people per day.

Given the position of the Chinese government, little can be done about the flight from inside Tibet. Various press reports suggest that there is an unspoken agreement between China, Nepal and India about the passing of a limited number of Tibetan refugees. But what happens between Tibet and Dharamsala is a travesty that can be avoided.

Generously, in the past, the Nepali government has allowed Tibetan refugees to "pass through" Kathmandu on their way to India where they will be granted asylum. Some 20,000 Tibetans have resettled in Nepal. The Dalai Lama, The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), and the United States government all sponsor "transit camps" in Kathmandu to satisfy the most basic needs of the refugees. These transit camps, with frightfully little funding, administer limited health care, evaluate the need for asylum, and prepare travelers for the three day walk and then 12 hour bus ride to safe passage to India. However, these offices, particularly the UNHCR, consistently receive reports of beatings, gunshots, and sexual assault by Nepali police, corrupt border guards demanding false fees, and robbery by Nepalese "guides" charging an average of \$125 for passage, from Tibetans arriving in Nepal.

In 1995, there was a dramatic change in the Nepalese government's treatment of Tibetan refugees, despite claims that there was no alteration in the deportation policy. UNHCR reports estimated that 400 Tibetan refugees were repatriated in 1995 as evidence to the contrary. Numerous reports have been substantiated that refugees were turned over by Nepali officials to Chinese soldiers. The refugees were subsequently detained, tortured, and forced into labor, despite their age or state of health. In

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Bay Area Friends of Tibet NEWSLETTER

A Quarterly Publication of
Bay Area Friends of Tibet
Volume 10, No. 1
Winter 1999

Editorial Collective

Ventul Rinpoche
Max Butler
Jamie Delman
Diane Hume
Bonnie McCalla
Raylene Samson
Jigme Yugay

The Editorial Collective seeks more volunteers. The Newsletter accepts, at its discretion, Tibet-related advertisements that do not necessarily represent the views of BAFoT. Please contact BAFoT for information.

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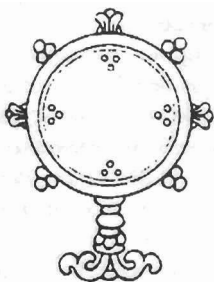
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Flight from Tibet

response, the Nepali government issued a statement that the refugees had requested to be "repatriated." It seems more than ironic that this change occurred after the Communist Party won a general election and began talks with the Chinese government. Reports of raids of book stores selling iFree Tibeti stickers further substantiate the change in policy.

International customary law clearly dictates the minimum requirement for the treatment of refugees, particularly when they have formally applied for asylum. Most basically, the UN Convention on Torture and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, ratified by Nepal, Article 14 states that "Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution." In response to the change in treatment to Tibetan Refugees, the U.S. government, Australia, and the UNHCR pressured the Nepali government to abide by internationally recognized standards and threatened to cut financial aid.

The problem of Tibetan refugees passage through Nepal has not subsided. Reports of abuse at the Nepali border and forced repatriation persist throughout 1998. The Clinton Administration's insistence on renewing China's most-favored nation status guarantees that human rights will not be linked to the relationship between China and the US, essentially guaranteeing that the oppression of Tibetans inside Tibet will continue. It is imperative, in light of these facts, that the means for Tibetans to reach the safe haven of exile are improved with a clear and enforced policy with Nepal and India.



Viewpoint on Religious Persecution by China

By Max Butler

The US State Department is finally understanding that it cannot turn its back on the growing persecution of religion that is now going on in China. It has become a political issue and one that may figure prominently in the upcoming election in 2000. It has become political because there are many Christians in the United States, who see the persecution of their brothers and sisters in China as very disturbing. We all should be very disturbed as we view a totalitarian oligarchy in action, using whatever method it can to suppress free religious expression and belief. Currently in Tibet and all over China there is a sweeping campaign to promote atheism and to equate private religious belief with treason against the state. However, this persecution of religion is just a part of a much bigger persecution going on in China.

A regime that now has no other ideology than that contained in the slogan "To get rich is glorious"—is being forced every day by growing unemployment, the exhaustion of natural resources and incredible corruption to suppress any and all signs of free thought. Free trade unions are forbidden, free religious groups are forbidden, free political parties are forbidden, free magazines and newspapers are forbidden, a free internet is forbidden, any vehicle for free expression is ultimately forbidden, because it is seen as a threat to state security. It really is only a threat to the Chinese Communist Party, which now is no more than an organized crime syndicate. It represents about two percent of the Chinese people and it controls most of China's wealth. The disparity between the rich and the poor in China has grown in direct proportion with its economic development. Now the multitude of poor workers, who get paid on the average of ten cents an hour want to share in the glory of getting rich. This has made the Communist leadership very nervous and very vulnerable. The repression of religion is part and parcel of a much larger repression that is now going on.

The deepening economic crisis in Asia has been a powerful catalyst for the political

changes that are now gaining momentum in China. The Chinese Communists are desperately trying to keep from devaluating the Yuan. If the Yuan is devaluated there will be a financial panic in China. China's delicately balanced house of economic cards will collapse and so will the Chinese Communist Party, because more and more Chinese realize how useless and harmful it is. The Communist leadership is therefor desperate to save itself and will use whatever means necessary to do just that, regardless of whether or not these means are an offense to Heaven or Earth.

Recently the US Assistant Secretary of State, Harold Koh asked that he be allowed to see the Panchen Lama when he is in Beijing later this year to continue the human rights talks between the US and China. Ever since his kidnapping four years ago, the Chinese have kept the Panchen Lama and his parents in secret detention and have allowed only their keepers to see them. The Chinese representative, Wang Guang Ya, who received Mr. Koh's request, responded by saying such a meeting would not be necessary, because the Panchen Lama is "fine" and his parents do not want to be disturbed. The Chinese representative then asked Mr. Koh if he "trusted" in his answer. Mr. Koh parried by asking Mr. Wang whether he trusted the sincerity of his request. Trust is a rather rare virtue these days in China.

Perhaps, the State Department is waking up and realizing the grave danger that the current situation in China presents to the United States and the rest of the World. Again it is being vocal about human rights abuses in China. Congratulations! Since 1994 there has been no political will to point out and challenge the worsening human rights record of China, except on the part of a few statespersons such as Rep. Nancy Pelosi. Possibly, the enormity of what the Chinese Communists did when they kidnapped and replaced the Panchen Lama has now sunk in. I hope so, because any intelligent freedom loving person should be able to grasp the implications of that terrible crime.

Are You a BAFoT Member?

BAFoT operates through the generous contributions of its members. If you are not a member, please join today. Send to: Bay Area Friends of Tibet, 2288 Fulton St., #312, Berkeley, CA 94704 / (510) 548-5879 / fax (510) 548-3785 / E-mail BAFOT@IGC.APC.ORG



- Annual Membership \$25
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- Newsletter Only \$10
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BAFoT is a nonsectarian, nonprofit 501(c) (3) organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Windhorse Flies

Windhorse, veteran documentarian Paul Wagner's first feature film is a powerful drama and a must-see for all Tibet supporters.

This amazing low-budget, high production value movie includes scenes secretly shot in Lhasa on digital video that were later transferred to 35mm film. The film crew posed as western tourists.

Windhorse shows the devastating impact of the Chinese Occupation on one (fictional) Tibetan family: a grandfather executed within earshot of his grandchildren, a Tibetan nun tortured for political protest, a young, unemployed Tibetan man who turns to alcohol in despair, a daughter facing a wrenching moral decision, and a spirited grandmother who refuses to heed the Chinese ban on displaying images of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Even watching the credits roll by was especially poignant as several actors and crew are listed as "NAME WITHHELD"—not to protect their own identity, but out of fear of reprisals by the Chinese Government on their relatives still living in Tibet.

The Chinese government has unsuccessfully tried to suppress the showing of *Windhorse* in several cities, and has requested that it be withdrawn from film festivals in Washington, D.C., and Honolulu.

Windhorse was shown in San Francisco and in Berkeley in February and will be shown in 75 American cities over the next several months. The *Windhorse* screenings provides the perfect opportunity for Tibetan support groups throughout the US to sponsor demonstrations and to keep the struggle for Tibetan freedom in the public eye.

Tibetan Owned Businesses Thrive

La Peña Hosts Monthly Tibetan Dinner

La Peña was founded as a cultural center by Chileans in the 70's during the Allende period. Out of that grew poetry readings, musical performances, and also a restaurant.

Several months ago, La Peña, in Berkeley, began hosting a monthly Tibetan restaurant. Here is the story of yet another successful enterprise started by Bay Area Tibetans.

On Losar, I spoke with Jampa Surkhang about the monthly dinner he and his sister Yangchen Surkhang have been operating out of La Peña each second Tuesday. Yangchen does the cooking. They wanted to "bring attention to the Tibetan community in the Bay Area," while giving Yangchen a venue to test recipes for the cookbook she is currently writing. The lobby of La Peña provides an opportunity for Tibetan small business owners to display and sell rugs, jewelry and other artifacts.

Jampa described the growth and success of the monthly dinners. "There has been a very good response" said Jampa, "the first time it was mainly friends, bringing friends. The second time La Peña advertised the dinner and leaflets were handed out." The turn-out was so good that there was barely enough food to take care of the walk-ins.

The third dinner was a special buffet on Losar eve and featured live music by *Chaksampa*. The menu included hors

d'oeuvres, momos, several Himalayan dishes and dessert. Traditional Losar "treats" were also served.

Due to the success of prior monthly dinners at La Peña, and to the overwhelming response to this special Losar evening, Jampa had to turn down several reservations.

The next monthly dinner is on Tuesday, March 9th, the eve of Uprising Day. The Tibetan restaurant has plans for observance of that fateful day in Tibetan history. I look forward to showing my solidarity with Tibetans and other friends of Tibet, on uprising day; a Tibetan meal at La Peña is a truly inspiring way to join with the Bay Area Tibetan community to begin this years commemoration of Uprising Day.

Prices are \$18.50 for non-vegetarian, \$16.50 for vegetarian. All dinners include hors d'oeuvres, a main course and dessert. For reservations call Yangchen Surkhang at 510-594-2452. La Peña is at 3105 Shattuck Ave. in Berkeley.

Café Tibet To Open in Berkeley

We are quite heartened to see yet another Tibetan owned business ready to open in the Bay Area. We excitedly anticipate the opening of Café Tibet, which is owned by husband and wife team, Samten and Dhonyo.

Café Tibet is a welcome addition to the smorgasbord of international fare in downtown Berkeley, and will provide students and others with an introduction to the sumptuous specialties of Tibetan cuisine.

We hope you join us in patronizing Café Tibet, and by doing so help insure that Tibetan owned businesses thrive, while encouraging other Bay Area Tibetans with entrepreneurial aspirations.

BAFOT would like to congratulate Samten and Dhonyo on their new enterprise and wish them lots of success.

Café Tibet, located on University Avenue near Shattuck, in downtown Berkeley is currently under renovation and will open for business in several weeks.

Tibet Shop Moves to the Castro

Dorje's Tibet Shop will be moving to the Castro. Forced to leave their Polk Street location of many years, because of the scheduled demolition of their building, they will be on the corner of Castro and 19th Streets on March 15. Best of luck in your new location!

Tibet Calendar

Tibetan Restaurant at La Peña

Tuesday, March 9th, 1999, 6:30-8:30PM See story above for details.

40th Anniversary of the Tibetan Uprising

Wednesday, March 10th, 1999, A variety of activities will take place in the Bay Area.

Tibet Day

Sunday, March 21, 1999, 10AM-5:00 PM. At Fort Mason Conference Center, San Francisco. For info call BAFoT, (510) 235-5984.

Panchen Lama's 10th Birthday

Thursday, April 25, 1999, Candlelight vigils will be held around the globe for the world's youngest political prisoner.

Most Favored Nation Status for China Decision Made

May, Date and location of rally to be announced.

10th Anniversary of Tiananmen Square Massacre

June 4, 1999, Date and location of rally to be announced.

Tibetan Freedom Concerts in Amsterdam, Chicago, Sydney and Tokyo

June 12-13, 1999, The Milarepa Fund presents four international concerts over two days. See the Milarepa Fund Website for more info at www.Milarepa.org

Volunteers are needed for all BAFoT sponsored events. Join the fun!

L.A. Resolution

Below is a copy of the text of the resolution on Tibet that was adopted by the Los Angeles City Council on January 8, 1999.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the independent country of Tibet was invaded in 1949-50, and has ever since experienced problems with human rights violations, suppression of Tibetan Buddhism, destruction of Tibetan culture, and widespread racism and discrimination against Tibetans; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has stated that "Tibet, including those areas incorporated into the Chinese Provinces of Sichuan, Yunnan, Gansu and Qinghai, is an occupied country under the established principles of international law whose true representatives are the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Government in exile as recognized by the Tibetan people;" and

WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly passed Resolutions 1353 (1959), 1773 (1961), and 2079 (1965), calling for the cessation of practices which deprive the Tibetan people of their fundamental human rights and freedoms, including their right to self-determination; and

WHEREAS, the Tibetan Government-in-exile advocates economic development in Tibet, but has stated that development should be small-scale, decentralized initiatives in which Tibetans have control, and that any development which intensifies and promotes the transfer of Chinese into Tibet or which leads to the destruction of Tibet's fragile environment should be opposed; and

WHEREAS, the leader of the Tibetan people, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, recipient of the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize, has repeatedly tried to conduct negotiations with China concerning the status of Tibet without preconditions; and

WHEREAS, the Tibetan freedom movement is based on Buddhist non-violent principles, even in the face of brutal repression, and the Tibetan people have called upon the world community to actively support their struggle for human rights, economic justice, and self-determination; and

WHEREAS, a viable solution to the question of Tibet is to support the recommendations of the International Commission of Jurists which include the following:

to enter into discussions with the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Government-in-exile on a solution to the question of Tibet based on the will of the Tibetan people;

(continued on page 6)

Chinese Democracy Movement Activists Debate Tibetan Issues

Reprint from *World Tibet News*
January 25, 1999

Representatives of Chinese democracy movement activists, who were having a conference on *China in the 21st Century* in New York, participated in a very interesting session on Tibet on January 24, 1999. Mr. Wei Jingsheng, Mr. Dawa Tsering and Mr. Xu Mingxu were the three panelists. This session was hosted by the Sino-Tibetan Study Group.

Xu Mingxu, who had lived in Tibet from 1982 to 1986, is a known Beijing apologist. He therefore spoke about how the Tibet issue was being used by the "Whites" against the "Asians." He ridiculed charges of cultural destruction and lack of economic development in Tibet. Xu also maintained that the Dalai Lama had still not given up the independence of Tibet; that while China wanted conditional talks, Dharamsala was asking for unconditional talks. He also ridiculed charges that China had killed 1.2 million Tibetans.

Xu was followed by Dawa Tsering, editor of the Chinese-language Tibetan Bulletin published from Dharamsala. Dawa touched on major issues affecting the Tibetan people today. He explained that historically Tibet was an independent nation and that the reason why the Dalai Lama was urging for a solution less than independence for the future is to take into consideration the interest of both Tibetans and Chinese. Dawa said that when we talked of Tibetan identity being

destroyed we were not talking about physical death of people, but about the death of their culture and identity. He referred to the case of the Manchu people who still living have died.

Wei Jingsheng spoke next and criticised Xu for his wild statements. Wei said that he was aware of the Tibetan situation and that what Dawa had said about the destruction of the Tibetan people and culture was less than what actually happened.

On the matter of Tibetan independence, Wei said he personally did not favour independence for Tibet and will urge Tibetans not to demand it. However, he said he can only go thus far since he believed that self-determination is the right of the Tibetan people.

Several delegations spoke thereafter and almost all of them criticised Xu Mingxu as being someone who was mouthing Beijing's slogans. A few who challenged Dawa's assertion held the position that what had happened in Tibet had happened in China, too. To this, Dawa had responded that the destruction in China itself had not affected the survival of the Chinese people, while it was threatening the survival of the Tibetan people.

The conference was also attended by Dr. Dawa Rabgyal of the Office of Tibet in New York. Mr. Dawa Tsering is currently with International Campaign for Tibet assisting us in our China outreach programme.

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More Than Meets The Eye

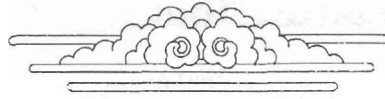
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L.A. Resolution

to ensure respect for the fundamental human rights of the Tibetan people;
 to end those practices which threaten to erode the distinct cultural, religious and national identity of the Tibetan people. In particular, cease policies which result in the movement of Chinese to Tibetan territory;
 to cooperate with the United Nations mechanisms for the protection of human rights;
 to allow unrestricted access to Tibet by independent human rights monitors;
 to support the right of the Tibetan people to control economic development in Tibet;
 and to call upon individuals and companies doing business in Tibet to follow the development guidelines of the Tibetan Government-in-exile:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Los Angeles endorses and supports the recommendations of the International Commission of Jurists relative to the status of Tibet and the people of Tibet as listed in the text of this Resolution.

Presented: _____
 Rita Walters
 Seconded: _____
 Jackie Goldberg



BAFoT Wish List

There are a number of specific types of help we could use:

- We could use funding for a new computer. We would like an iMac. The cost of this computer would be around \$1,000, leasing it would cost \$30 a month. Our current computer is years out of date and very slow.
 - Professional accounting services, including tax preparation would be greatly appreciated.
 - Financial assistance for Tibetan students in India. We are currently seeking scholarship assistance for a large family headed by a widow. One daughter is struggling to complete college and two children are still in elementary school.
 - Volunteers for a variety of work. Just ask, we'll be happy to have your assistance.
- Thank you,
 The BAFoT Board




Seeking Jobs and Tutors For Tibetans

With the success of the family reunification project, many hard-working Tibetans are now seeking employment. The newly-arrived Tibetans have a wide variety of skills and backgrounds.

BAFoT is serving as a clearinghouse. At present, more ESL tutors and job offers (full- and part-time: housecleaning, babysitting, painting, clerical, gardening, etc.) are needed. If you can contribute, even an hour a week, to help someone with reading, etc., or if you have a job or job referral to offer, please call BAFoT at (510) 548-1271 or Sonam Gonsar at (510) 658-1266.

Thank you!




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