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# Bay Area Friends of Tibet n e w s l e t t e r

Summer 1991 • Volume 2, Number 1

## BIG TURNOUT FOR MARCH AND RALLY

May 18th marked the biggest **March and Rally** ever for Bay Area Friends of Tibet, the International Committee of Lawyers for Tibet and Eco-Tibet, commonly known as the Tibet Support Coalition. The Tibet Support Coalition sponsored this event as a response to and against the People's Republic of China's celebration of the 40th anniversary of the 'liberation' of Tibet.

The march started under cloudy skies at 10:30 a.m. from the Dolores Street office and proceeded north to the Chinese Consulate. The Tibetan flags, banners and signs made the block-long entourage colorful and created quite an impression as the march participants made their way past City Hall and up Van Ness Avenue.

As the march participants arrived at the Chinese Consulate, shouts of 'Free Tibet' and 'China Out of Tibet' increased in volume. Once at the consulate, an estimated 350 people gathered to hear the



*Photo courtesy of EVAD.*

sounds of folk singers, guest speakers, and an introduction and invocation by Bay Area Tibetans. The invocation was led by the Namgyal Monks who were finishing the sand mandala created for the Tibetan 'Wisdom and Compassion' exhibition at S.F.'s Asian Art Museum.

The rally was highlighted by many wonderful speakers. Tashi Choekyi, board member of the Bay Area Friends of Tibet gave a moving speech about what it means to be a Tibetan born in exile. Guest speakers included David Brower, Chairman of Earth Island Institute and a great supporter of Tibet's environmental causes, and Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi (D-SF).

David Brower talked about the status of the environment in Tibet, and how the PRC is destroying it by clearcutting Tibet's forests, strip mining, using Tibetan land for nuclear waste dumping and annihilating Tibet's once abundant wildlife.

Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi's appearance was especially auspicious. She left the Desert Storm Parade at the Presidio so she could give us a very dynamic speech about China's Most Favored Nation (MFN) status in trade renewal and her views on Human Rights conditions **to this most important status.**

A special ceremony of presenting carnations in the auspicious colors of white, red, yellow and orange on the steps of the consulate closed the rally. The rally's organizers thought this was especially important and in keeping of His Holiness the Dalai Lama's nonviolent practice. The proceeds from the flower sales have gone to a deserving cause in the Tibetan Support Community.

# TIBET IN PRINT — Significant Essays & Articles

Reviewed by Marc Laidlaw

There are encouraging signs in the media that Tibet's wounds, far from having healed with the passage of time, are finally going to receive the attention they need from the rest of the world. Even several years ago it was rare to find mention of Tibet in the newspapers, these usually being incidental to accounts of disputes between China and India. Recently, however, there has been a steady flood of articles and essays about Tibet in the U.S. and abroad. The purpose of this column is to summarize the most significant books and articles that come to BAFOt, which will make them available by request.

By far the most substantial article in the popular press was featured in *Vanity Fair* for May, 1991. Alex Shoumatoff's "Letter From Lhasa: The Silent Killing of Tibet" is an engagingly written investigation into Tibet's current crisis, solidly grounded in the historical record and Shoumatoff's own excursions, including interviews with scholars, the Dalai Lama, and Tibetans in Lhasa and in exile. While there is plenty of interest here for the informed follower of Tibetan affairs, I cannot imagine a better introduction to the situation for the average reader.

Specific information on the Barkhor massacre of March 5-6, 1989 did not reach the free world until August, 1990, when a former PRC official released secret reports to the *London Observer*. A summary of this horrifying information—including a timetable compiled from military reports, detailing the provocations of plainclothes police disguised as Tibetan agitators—appeared in *The San Francisco Examiner* for August 13, 1990.

Several heartfelt essays on Tibet, lamenting its neglect by world leaders, have come from "On My Mind" columnist A.M. Rosenthal of *The New York Times*. "Every person has certain things about which he feels he must speak now and then, not because people listen but because they don't," Rosenthal states. And he is eloquent on this subject. His columns include "The Monk and the President" (March 4, 1990); "One Small Country" (March 19, 1991);

"Beijing Heart Attack" (April 19, 1991); and "Endangered Species" (May 24, 1991).

*The New York Times* for April 19, 1991, gave front page status to a photograph of the Dalai Lama's historic appearance in the Capitol rotunda; the adjoining article summarized his appeal for American aid and the encouraging reactions of Congress.

Britain's *The Tablet* for March 16, 1991, featured "The Rape of Tibet," offering one of the strongest arguments yet for British investigation of China's violations in Tibet: "For what faith can be placed in China's pledge that after resuming sovereignty over Hong Kong in 1997 there will be 'one country, two systems', if abuses in Tibet continue..." (A related snippet appeared on March 20, 1991, in *The San Francisco Chronicle*, noting that Prince Charles met twice with the Dalai Lama at an environmental conference while Prime Minister John Major refused to recognize him.)

The "Books" section of *The San Francisco Chronicle* for April 12, 1991, ran an article by Patricia Holt to accompany the publication of *The Anguish of Tibet* (Parallax Press, P.O. Box 7355, Berkeley, CA 94707, \$17). Holt interviewed Germany's Green Party members Petra Kelly and Gert Bastian, who describe the difficulty of gathering support for Tibet in the German parliament. Kelly and Bastian organized the first independent hearing on "Tibet and Human Rights" in 1989, from which they culled much of the information in *The Anguish of Tibet*. (This book was also edited by our very own Pat Aiello, Bay Area Friend of Tibet, Ed.)

"Tibet—Dilemma For World's Conscience" by David Lucas, appeared in the *Australian Law News* for December, 1990. Lucas recommends that Australia independently investigate allegations of human rights abuses in Tibet.

*Far Eastern Economic Review* for February 28, 1991, in the course of reporting the resumption of land trade between China and India, dwells on the importance of "the

agonising question of Tibet" in relations between the two giants.

The China section of the *Amnesty International Report 1990*, while focussing on 1989's Tiananmen Square massacre, devotes substantial space to human rights violations in Tibet throughout that year.

On April 10, 1991, *The Christian Science Monitor* printed "Tibet's Forgotten Tragedy" by Mark Sommer, which chronicles the life of a young exile monk and ends with an impassioned plea to preserve Tibet's remarkable culture, "far more essential to our survival and well-being than Middle Eastern oil. If by our neglect and complicity we allow this culture of wisdom to be extinguished, we may also diminish our own capacity to save ourselves."

*Tibet Brief*, the highly informative newsletter published by the International Committee of Lawyers For Tibet, is valuable for its pragmatic approach to the Tibetan crisis. The Spring 1991 issue discusses disturbing new regulations governing religion in the PRC.

Finally, as a promising sign of the pervasive interest in Tibet, Martha Bellisle's fine article on cultural and ecological devastation in "Tibet: A State of Siege," appeared in the Spring 1991 Patagonia *sportswear catalog*!



The Bay Area Friends of Tibet office at 347 Dolores Street has copies of the above mentioned articles. For more information and an updated list of the latest articles on Tibet, please send a SASE to the office.

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

### *A Guide to Tibetan News Resources*

The following publications are available for subscription. For those that are free of charge, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope, and donations are always welcome.

Tibet Brief, published by the International Committee of Lawyers For Tibet, 347 Dolores Street, Suite 206, San Francisco, CA 94110 (415) 252-5967. Quarterly, free of charge.

News Tibet, published by the Office of Tibet, 107 E. 31st Street, New York, NY 10016 (212) 213-5010. Quarterly, free of charge.

U.S.T.C. Newsletter, published by the U.S. Tibet Committee, 107 E. 31st Street, New York, NY 10016 (212) 213-5011. Quarterly, free of charge.

Tibet Press Watch, published by the International Campaign for Tibet, 1511 K Street, N.W., Suite 739, Washington, DC 20005 (202) 628-4123. Bimonthly, \$25 per annum.

Tibet Today, published by the Capitol Area Friends of Tibet, PO Box 66373, Washington, DC 20035. Quarterly, \$25 per annum.

Tibet Information Network, a news update of the latest political activities in Tibet. 7 Beck Road, London E8 4RE, UK. Tel: 01 249 9240. \$75 per annum.

## OUR NEW OFFICE

Bay Area Friends of Tibet (BAFoT) is still in the process of setting up our new office, which we share with The International Committee of Lawyers for Tibet (ICLT) and the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO). The office is a clearing house for information and the central location for all projects.

Many people contributed to the creation of this new space. John Maier, Executive Director of ICLT, made it possible when he learned that this beautiful, sunny room was available at the same time that he heard that BAFOt was looking for an office. Thanks also go to Bill Weisberg, Mark Fine, Mark Nolan, and Glen Ingram, as well as many other ICLT and BAFOt volunteers, for painting, cleaning, etc. Julia Shepardson worked on the floors, and Ralph Davies should be particularly noted for his installation of new door-locks, the securing of bookshelves, and much other useful work. Gabe Aiello's contribution of a copier is highly appreciated.

Julia Shepardson is the office manager. She is usually at the office from 10-3 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mark Warner provides valuable help as well, including his expertise as an accountant. But we have yet to fully organize the several years'-worth of files that we have inherited, and we need much more office help to manage the many upcoming events and resources for which we are responsible. Those who are interested please call 241-9197 to set up an appointment.

## Let Us Hear From YOU!

### *Bay Area Friends of Tibet Membership*

- 25.00 Annual Membership
- 40.00 Family Rate
- 15.00 Student
- I enclose a donation of \_\_\_\_\_ to support Tibetan Culture and Human Rights



## ARE YOU UPGRADING?

BAFOt is in immediate need of at least one more computer and laser printer to support its expanding activities. Our new activities will include assistance with the Resettlement Project for at least 50 and probably more than 100 Tibetan refugees.

Our only computer at this point is an original IBM PC. We would like to acquire at least a "286" or "AT" type of computer with a hard drive to accommodate graphics and desktop publishing. Our wish would be for a "386" with VGA monitor. We could also use any assistance regarding parts or peripherals to upgrade our current system, or to upgrade future systems that we might acquire.

If you have any equipment to donate or leads or recommendations about sources, please contact the BAFOt office. All contributions are TAX DEDUCTABLE.

Bay Area Friends of Tibet  
Newsletter  
A Quarterly Publication  
published by Bay Area  
Friends of Tibet

Vol. 2, No. 1  
Summer 1991

Editor: Christinne Schneider  
Feature articles by:  
Ralph Davies  
Tashi Dhondup  
Marc Laidlaw  
Christinne Schneider  
Julia Shepardson  
Alex Turner

Layout & Typesetting  
*courtesy of*  
Nancy Havell  
Desktop Publishing  
707-577-0633

# BROTHERS IN BUSINESS

## — A Tibetan Success Story

By Alex Turner

The "Lama Brothers" are three of the Bay Area's most familiar landmarks, at least to those interested in things Tibetan. Dorje Lama can be found at the Tibet Shop on Polk Street, brother Dorje T., board member of BAFoT and officer of TANC is an electrical engineer at VOYSYS Corp., and brother Tshering owns the Himalayan Shop on 18th Street in San Francisco. I visited the latter on a sunny afternoon in June. A feeling of peacefulness came over me as I walked up the hill to the store, but then, just before entering, several police cars sped by with their sirens wailing. Upon entering, before I had a chance to introduce myself, Tshering merrily began a conversation with me on the subject of the difficulties of the law enforcement profession and the unknown destination of the chase.

As we spoke, I glanced around at the exquisite art objects and clothing that fill the little shop. The prices seemed reasonable and the quality high. Both traditional and innovative styles were represented. Tshering had been able to observe the excitement outside through a wooden half door that somehow places the store in another time, and lends it much of its charm.

When I finally communicated my mission, Tshering told me his life story in great detail, spicing it up with observations on politics and religion that all seemed to come from the kind of generous-hearted attitude Tibetans are so famous for cultivating. For example, he says that he feels the reason why Tibetans have been so relatively successful in exile is because they are more "carefree and fun-loving" than the peoples around them, adding of course that Tibetans are also helped by their great affinity for religion.

The Lama brothers' shops were the first of their kind in the Bay Area; however, these days they have much competition. Tshering started the Himalayan Shop in 1974 in Palo Alto, while he was a student at San Jose State. He says that at first it was just to make a little extra money, and he had no idea that he would be making a career of it.

After several moves and an experiment in the Himalayan food business, he settled in the current location about ten years ago. Since then he has seen the neighborhood change drastically; largely, he observes, due to the ravages of AIDS. He also remarks that the general knowledge of Buddhism among his customers has increased dramatically since his arrival in America.

Tshering came to America as a young man from Nepal, where he was part of a family of traders whose fortunes declined due to the communist invasion of Tibet. He says many of the long term Tibetan immigrants to the Bay Area knew each other from their student days back in Nepal and nearby regions, because before the flood of refugees caused by the Chinese occupation there was a real sense of community among the Tibetan traders living south of the Himalayas, and it was those people who had the means to be the first to come to America when changing conditions demanded it.

Years of picnics and cultural events have cemented that feeling of camaraderie, but Tshering reminded me of H.H. the Dalai Lama's injunctions to the expatriate Tibetans during his speech here, advising younger Americanized Tibetans not to forget their roots and to put real effort into learning and remembering the Tibetan language. Tshering for his part runs his store as much as an information exchange as a business, helping Tibetans and Westerners alike to preserve a fragment of the vast store of cultural knowledge that was Tibet.

Tshering has high hopes for the future of Tibet, since he observes the further crumbling of Chinese Communism, and a slowly growing awareness among those from the PRC of the fact that Tibet might not be a part of China after all. He mentions a relative in N.Y. State who has managed to put together a Chinese language newspaper for this purpose, which appears to be having some effect. He says that the Chinese people who have visited his shop are clearly unhappy with the situation in their country, but also, understandably, they are very afraid.

So for those who are looking for beautiful Himalayan fashions, fine quality Dharma goods, the latest information on political changes in Central Asia, or just good conversation and advice, please visit the Lama Brothers' two stores. The Himalayan Shop is at 3895 18th St, and the Tibet Shop is located at 1807 Polk.



### TIBETAN ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

This year will mark the first anniversary of the Tibetan Association of Northern California (TANC). You might be wondering why another organization, when there is the Bay Area Friends of Tibet? TANC was formed specifically for Tibetans and their families. It was formed with several purposes in mind, but all in the interest of the local Tibetan Community.

TANC will be working closely with BAFoT and other Tibetan Support Groups, but its primary goal is to form close unity among all Tibetans so they can promote and preserve their cultural heritage and serve and support each other. It also gives the Tibetans an opportunity to get together on a regular basis and have fun. For more information contact Tsewang Tatz at (415) 658 5173.

## Eco-Tibet Report:

### The Book Project

## PRECIOUS VASE:

### The Tibetan People and Their Land

Twice each year, in the spring and in the fall, trusted monks of traditional Tibet were sent out as representatives of the government to the mountains and rivers of the kingdom. To each sacred place, they brought a vase marked with the government's seals, and filled with precious offerings for the Earth itself: gold, silver, gems, and the most potent Tibetan medicines. Sejayphumba, literally "precious vase of nourishment for the Earth," epitomizes the Tibetan Buddhist reverence for the Earth and all its creatures. The precious vase is a token of appreciation for the benefits that the Tibetan people have received from the Earth, used to restore the land's fertility, and to protect it from pollution, erosion, and the like.

The Eco-Tibet Book Project has adopted *Precious Vase* as the title and theme of a book that will explore the rich tapestry of Tibetan culture and the traditional Tibetan relationship to the environment. The book is meant to celebrate and chronicle an exemplary way of life that is disappearing as a result of the Chinese invasion and occupation of Tibet. This work comes at a critical time in Tibet's history. The effects of the Chinese occupation are now felt in every facet of Tibetan life. Environmental destruction threatens all of Tibet, as well as areas far beyond its borders: deforestation, overgrazing, endangered species hunting, potential waste disposal, and disruption of the human ecology are a few of the critical problems confronting the region. But *Precious Vase* will not stop there: we will provide a vision of what Tibet could be, restored to its state of ecological balance as an example for the rest of the world.

If you are interested in learning more about any of Eco-Tibet's projects, please contact D'Arcy Richardson through the BAFOt office. Our next group meeting will be held on Sunday, August 25 at 11 a.m. at the office.

## Upcoming Events...

### AUGUST

**Tibetan Dance & Opera:** Chaksam-Pa will perform *Sukyinima*.

- Thursday, August 15 at 1 pm;
  - Friday, August 16 at 6 pm; and
  - Saturday, August 17 at 1pm
- at the Music Concourse at Golden Gate Park. For more information, call 474-3914.

**Art Exhibit:** *Year of Tibet Portfolio*, Haines Gallery, 49 Geary St, SF, Aug 8-27. Contemporary photos published by Richard Gere & Phil Borden, with 100% of proceeds to benefit Tibet House.

### SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

**Academic Symposium:** "Tibetan Culture in Today's World: Lessons from a Traditional Culture for Contemporary Problems", Saturday, Sept. 28, afternoon & evening, U.C. Berkeley. For more information, call 254-0109. Sponsored by JFK University and U.C. Berkeley.

**Peace Drum Festival:** Drum fest, info fair & bazaar to educate the public about Social & Global developments, with Tibet Support Group participation. September 28, 2:00 pm Golden Gate Park Panhandle, free.

**Gyoto Monks:** Butter sculpture carving at CA Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, Sept. 1- Oct. 3.

## CHAKSAM-PA *Tibetan Dance & Opera Company*

Bring your food and picnic baskets for this opera festival in the park, performed by Chaksam-Pa August 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>. Bring your friends and tell them that Lhamo is presented in its original form for the first time in America. This theatrical tradition was one of the most popular Tibetan entertainments, especially loved by Tibetans in central and western Tibet. For the last forty years, this art form has been literally abandoned by the Chinese due to its themes relating to the life stories of the Buddha, and because it portrays a strong aspect of the life and culture of the Tibetan people. As a result, now there is only one group in Lhasa maintaining this tradition.

The Lhamo Opera is very important to all of the participants. After each performance performers and audience alike will join

together in a very special ceremony of Tibetan people known as Lha sang. An offering of incense and barley flour to the local deities and protectors will be conducted for world peace and harmony, particularly to the gods and deities of Tibet to share our hope with them. In 1989 when H.H. the Dalai Lama was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, the Tibetan people throughout the world celebrated this Lha sang ceremony to show their happiness. The Tibetans in Tibet also tried to celebrate with this ceremony, but were stopped by the Chinese government.

Followed by these performances in San Francisco, Chaksam-Pa, with its eight Tibetan performers, will conduct a national tour, with stops in Oregon, New York and other places yet to be disclosed. This tour

is to share Tibetan Opera with the American people and let people know about Tibetan culture, art and Tibet's current tragic situation. This tour will be a large financial commitment and Chaksam-Pa is desperately seeking organizational and individual support. Your financial support is crucial for Chaksam-Pa to achieve this project. Please send your contribution to our address:

Chaksam-Pa Tibetan Dance  
and Opera Company  
PO Box 460727  
San Francisco, CA 94146

Chaksam-Pa is a non-profit organization and your donations tax deductible.

# Resettlement Project News

## SPONSORS NEEDED NOW

The Bay Area Friends of Tibet has issued a call for sponsors for 100 Tibetan immigrants who will settle in the Bay Area. The Tibetans coming to the Bay Area are part of a group of 1,000 Tibetans who will be admitted to the United States as a result of the 1990 Federal Immigration Act. The first Tibetans are expected to arrive late this year or early next year. The government requires each of the Tibetans to have a sponsor before they will be given entry.

Sponsors will be asked to do a variety of tasks ranging from picking up the person they're sponsoring at the airport to providing up to 3 months interim housing and helping find permanent housing. Another big part of what we'll ask sponsors to do is to help acclimate the new arrivals to American culture. This could mean teaching them to use mass transit, buy food at our supermarkets, get social security cards or, in some cases, how to use appliances safely.

The Tibetans will not be admitted to the United States until they have jobs. In fact, so far we've obtained commitments for more jobs than sponsors. So the sponsorship issue is what could hold up the first arrivals. The goal of the Bay Area Cluster is to have fifty jobs and sponsors by October, 1991.

We are looking to obtain permanent housing, furnishings, household goods, medical and dental care, and educational opportunities such as lessons in English as a second language.

### I would like to help by:

- becoming a sponsor, please send me an application
- providing a job(s) for Tibetan Immigrants
- providing free or low cost medical care
- providing free or low cost dental care
- providing low cost permanent housing
- donating furnishings and household goods
- donating money, check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ made out to *Bay Area Friends of Tibet*, enclosed
- helping with fund raising

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (h)

\_\_\_\_\_ (w)

**TIBETAN U.S.  
RESETTLEMENT PROJECT  
BAY AREA CLUSTER**

347 Dolores Street, Suite 206  
San Francisco, CA 94110  
(415) 241-9197  
626-0865 (Fax)

We're trying to anticipate as many of the Tibetan's needs as possible to minimize the sponsor's responsibilities. But, no matter how successful we are, sponsorship will require time and a real commitment.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or would like more information about sponsorship or any other aspects of the resettlement project, please fill out the form provided.

## VOLUNTEER POSITIONS OPEN

The Tibetan U.S. Resettlement Project is looking for volunteers to head up both the Housing Committee and the Fundraising Committee of the Bay Area Cluster. The housing committee will be locating affordable housing for the new Tibetan Immigrants in the Bay Area. Ideally, the Tibetans will be able to share living space in a group housing situation.

The fundraising committee needs someone to write grant proposals and head up the committee for the Resettlement Project. The new immigrants will be entering the U. S. through special immigration provisions for displaced foreign nationals. The immigrant status entitles them to work authorization but also disqualifies them from any form of welfare for the first three years of their residence. It is therefore necessary to provide them with other sources of financial assistance particularly for the first few months after their arrival.

Anyone wishing to apply for these positions should call the office.



## TIBET REPRESENTED AT U.N.'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM

Two Tibetan girls, Tenzin Dolkar and Tenzin Dachen, took part in United Nations Children and the Environmental Global Youth Forum at the U.N. General Assembly on June 5 and 6. Children from Brazil, Canada, Caribbean, Columbia, Netherlands, Tibet and United Kingdom took part in the workshop.

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*"My name is Tenzin. I am a Tibetan but have never been able to see my homeland, Tibet..."*

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Tenzin Dolkar, 13, read a brief statement at the General Assembly. She said, "My name is Tenzin. I am a Tibetan but have never been able to see my homeland, Tibet. I am told it is very beautiful — with snow-capped mountains and clear blue lakes... My father says that when he was a child, Tibet used to have many wild animals. Thousands of blue sheeps, wild yaks, wild donkeys and antelopes would graze near the villages. It makes me sad that in such a short time, all of these beautiful animals have been killed."

The young Tibetan girl said that the deforestation in Tibet must stop. She cited that similar Amazon forest effects could develop if deforestation continues in Tibet.

The United Nations Environmental Program issued His Holiness the Dalai Lama's message on its official stationary which read, "If our generation exploits everything available—the trees, the water, the minerals—without any care for the coming generations and the future, then we are at fault, aren't we. But if we have a genuine sense of universal responsibility as our central motivation, then our relationship with the environment will be well balanced."

## ENVIRONMENTAL PRIZE FOR THE DALAI LAMA

United Earth, an environmental organization dedicated to promote respect for environment, in early June announced its newly established "Earth Prize" in cooperation with the United Nations Environmental Program. His Holiness the Dalai Lama was awarded the prestigious inaugural Earth Prize for Outstanding Contribution to Ethics and the Environment. The prizes were awarded to individuals, corporations and organizations worldwide for environmental leadership and humanitarian excellence.

Other recipients of environmental prizes included Mexican President Carlos Salina de Gortau; Dr. Geo Harlem Brundtland, the Prime Minister of Norway; Mr. Ted Turner; and on behalf of Unicef, Mr. James Grant, General Secretary of Unicef.

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## AWARD WINNING VIDEO NOW AVAILABLE

*Tibet in Exile*, a new documentary on Tibetan culture, follows the dramatic story of children being smuggled by relatives from Chinese occupied Tibet to Dharamsala, India, home of the Dalai Lama. The program includes rare photographs of Tibet and archival footage of the Dalai Lama's escape across the Himalayas in 1959, as well as the Chinese Army's recent attacks on Tibetan monks. *Tibet in Exile* presents a clear overview of the Tibetan situation, while providing an intimate portrait of the exile community and the Dalai Lama.

Broadcast on PBS in New York, May 1991, winner of Special Merit Award, Earthpeace International Film Festival. Videocassette now available for \$29.95 plus \$3.50 shipping and handling. Checks should be made out to: *Tibet in Exile*. Running time: 30 minutes.

For cassettes and information on community and school presentations, contact: Barbara Banks, 1830 Allston Way, Berkeley, CA 94703. (415) 548-3359.

Funded in part by BAFoT.

## HAIGHT STREET FAIR A BIG SUCCESS

June 9th marked another precedent-setting day for Bay Area Friends of Tibet — our first Street Fair table! Pablo Heising, producer of this event, in San Francisco, graciously offered us a space *free of charge*.

With the help of the day's coordinator and new member Kathy Robles, Dave Chapman, Justin Lowe and Sara Meghrouni, Ralph Davies, Christinne Schneider, Lennis Lyons and another new member, Reuben Haller, the day was a great success. We sold books, prayer flags, t-shirts and bumper stickers and made over \$200. More important, we got to educate and connect with many people that may not be aware of the Tibetan Cause.

Prompted by this success, Christinne Schneider has proposed tabling at another street fair in August. We need at least 10 people to help, with 2-hour shifts each. Anyone interested in helping is encouraged to contact the office.

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## POLITICAL ACTION

Senate Congressional Resolution 41 has been amended onto Foreign Relations Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 92/93. We urge you to contact your Senators asking that they support this pivotal piece of legislation! Following approval of this bill in the Senate, it will be considered in conference with the House bill (HR 145). HR 145, introduced on May 7, 1991 by Congressman Gilman (R-NY), declares Tibet an illegally occupied country whose true representatives are the Tibetan government-in-exile and His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

We URGE you to contact your House representatives asking them to co-sponsor HR 145 and to support the Senate language in conference. Most likely, the members of Congress participating in the conference will be: Congressman Fascell (D-FL), Congressman Solarz (D-NY), Congressman Berman (D-CA), Congresswoman Snowe (R-ME), Senator Pell (D-RI), Senator Cranston (D-CA), Senator Helms (R-NC), and Senator John Kerry (D-MA). The Foreign Relations bill is a "must-pass" piece of legislation that

*(continued on back)*

## Political Action

*(Continued from previous page)*

requires enactment by the President. Also, please contact your Senate and House Representatives expressing your outrage concerning the Bush administration's position on MFN. Moreover, DO NOT let your representatives forget Tibet during the course of this debate.

Ask your representatives to adopt legislation which fully denies China the right to MFN. House members should be urged to support Congressman Gerald B. Solomon's (R-NY) bill HR 2188 and Senate members should be asked to support Senator Patrick Moynihan's (D-NY) resolution S38.

At a minimum, request that your representative support Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi's (D-CA) resolution HR 2212, which places conditions on MFN renewal.

*Note: Congress has until September 3 to vote to deny or condition China's MFN extension, and 15 legislative days after that in which to override a veto.*



*BAFoT Boardmember Tashi Choekyi gives a heart rending speech at the May 18th Rally while fellow boardmember Phurpa (Phil) Ladenla looks on. Photo courtesy of EVAD.*

Address letters to:  
The U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20525

The U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

You can also call contact your Congressional representatives' offices directly by calling the Capitol Hill Switchboard at (202) 224-3121.

## Bay Area Friends of Tibet

347 Dolores Street, Suite 206  
San Francisco, CA 94110