# Weekly Tibet News Digest

Bureau of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, New Delhi

28 September 2015

His Holiness the Dalai Lama is in the United States for a medical check-up. The doctors have advised His Holiness to rest for the next several weeks. As a result, His Holiness' planned October U.S. visit has been cancelled. We deeply regret the inconvenience caused by this decision and apologize to all the people who have worked so hard in organizing the visit as well as to the public. We thank you for your support and understanding.

The Office of His Holiness the Dalai Lama Dated: September 25, 2015



His Holiness the Dalai Lama with his old friend and China expert Jonathan Mirsky in London, England on September 21, 2015. Photo/Ian Cumming

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#### INSIDE TIBET

#### Tibet rakes in \$3 billion from tourism

PTI, The Times of India, September 27, 2015

Over 14.3 million tourists visited Tibet in the first eight months of 2015 raking up a revenue of \$3 billion for the remote Himalayan region bordering India. The tourism has generated 19 billion yuan (USD 3 billion) for the Autonomous Province in tourism revenue, the tourism development commission said.

## **Hundreds of Tibetan Monks Attend Annual Gathering in Golog**

RFA, September 25, 2015

Over 700 Buddhist monks converged this week for Jang Gunchoe (Winter Teachings) in Ragya monastery in Golog, northwestern China's Qinghai province. The event is said to be proceeding in a subdued atmosphere due to unprecedented Chinese restrictions in the area.

# A Dozen Tibetans Detained in Sichuan After Reoccupying Grabbed Land

RFA, September 24, 2015

Residents of Thangkor town in Dzoege (in Chinese, Ruo'ergai) county in the Ngaba (Aba) Tibetan

Autonomous Prefecture had appealed to the government for the return of their land on May 15 as no developer had begun construction and local authorities were leasing it out to private individuals. At least 12 Tibetans were taken into custody, including six who had assisted in writing up the appeal.

#### IN EXILE

# **Engage in Dialogue with the Dalai Lama, President Obama Urges Chinese President Xi Jinping**

CTA, September 26, 2015

In a big boost to the Tibetan movement and the Middle Way Approach of the Central Tibetan Administration, US President Barack Obama yesterday urged Chinese President Xi Jinping, who is currently on his first official visit to the US, to engage in dialogue with His Holiness the Dalai Lama or his representatives.

#### His Holiness the Dalai Lama Cancels October U.S. Visit

Dalailama.com, September 25, 2015

His Holiness the Dalai Lama is in the United States for a medical check-up. The doctors have advised His Holiness to rest for the next several weeks. As a result, His Holiness' planned October U.S. visit has been cancelled.

### 10th Session of 15th Tibetan Parliament Concludes

CTA, September 25, 2015

The 10th and the final session of the 15th Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile concluded this afternoon after ten days of active deliberation and discussion on a wide range of issues facing Tibet and the Tibetan people. The 10th session also discussed the activities and annual reports presented by the various departments of the Central Tibetan Administration.

# NGO coalition rally at White House to highlight China's human rights abuses

ICT, September 24, 2015

As President Obama hosts Chinese President Xi Jinping for a state visit, a coalition of human rights groups will hold a rally at Lafayette Park, near the White House, on September 25, 2015 to highlight China's dismal human rights record and to urge President Obama to send a strong message to the Chinese leadership that human rights abuses in China must end.

# **COLUMN**

### **Starbucks and disneyfication of Tibetan culture in Amdo**

TCHRD, September 26, 2015

On Friday 11 September 2015, Starbucks opened two new stores in Xining, the capital city of Qinghai Province on the Tibetan Plateau and in the Tibetan region of Amdo. Despite Starbucks's voluntary commitments to respect human rights and benefit local communities there is no evidence that Starbucks has taken any measures to ensure that it is not complicit in nor benefitting from human rights violations.

#### **Timid on Tibet**

by Ellen Bork, World Affairs, September 24, 2015

The world has acquiesced to the conquest of Tibet, while China keeps making more demands, insisting on Tibet as a "core interest" and projecting its Tibet-related demands abroad, including, for example, by pressing neighboring Nepal to repatriate Tibetan refugees. Washington and London need to start talking about Tibet in historically truthful terms, and counter the Communist Party's policies with a vision of freedom for both China and Tibet.

# **EDITORIAL: China needs to grant genuine autonomy to Tibetan people**

The Asahi Shimbun, September 23, 2015

There was a time when dialogue existed between Beijing and the government-in-exile, but this has not been the case for some years. Matters concerning the Dalai Lama's successor are also unclear. And as foreign media are restricted from entering the autonomous region, the outside world hears little of Tibet's voice. The rest of the world needs to take a genuine interest to ensure that the Tibetan people can live in peace. And for that, each country must continue to urge China to reopen dialogue with the government-in-exile and improve conditions in Tibet.

## Why Tibet Could Be the Best Opportunity for Xi Jinping

by Matteo Mecacci, The Huffington Post, September 22, 2015

The Tibetan issue represents an important opportunity for Xi Jinping. By embracing the Dalai Lama's sincere offer for dialogue based on his Middle Way Approach, and his decision to devolve his political authority to Tibetan institutions in exile -- clearly indicating that he has no interest in going back to Tibet to rule -- Xi Jinping would show that he is open to find some solutions to difficult and longstanding political issues that are of concern for the international community.

# PRESS RELEASE

#### We are willing to die for Tibet

TYC, September 27, 2015

Around 500 Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC) members and Tibetan supporters will gather for a "Peace March" followed by a protest at the United Nations in Delhi on Monday Sept 28. TYC has initiated an "Indefinite Hunger Strike" for Tibet at Jantar Mantar in Delhi from Sept 10.

#### **STATEMENTS**

### China's Human Rights Violation Criticised at UNHRC Session

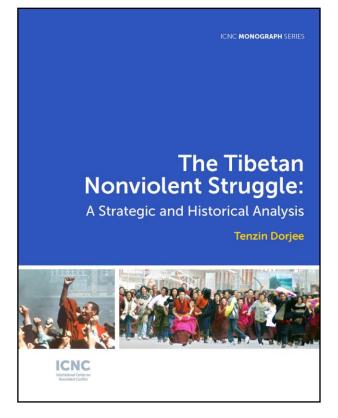
CTA, September 23, 2015

China's deteriorating human rights situation has been criticised by many western governments including the EU at the ongoing 30th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council on 21 September 2015.

Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Oral Statement on Death in detention by Dr. Dawa Tsultrim, Society for Threatened Peoples

#### MONOGRAPH



ICNC Monograph titled "The Tibetan Nonviolent Struggle: A Strategic and Historical Analysis" written by Tenzin Dorjee, was recently published by Washington, D.C. based International Center on Nonviolent Conflict. ISBN is 978-1-943271-02-3.

The Weekly Tibet News Digest is a collection of different articles, columns and Tibet related news published in websites. The views expressed are of the authors and do not necessarily reflect endorsement by Bureau of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, New Delhi.

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