## Weekly Tibet News Digest

Bureau of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, New Delhi

20 April 2016

"Time moves on; nothing can stop it.
The 20th century has gone and
we're more than 15 years into the
21st century. The past can't be
changed, but we do have the
opportunity to shape the future and
create a happier world."

His Holiness the Dalai Lama at the American Embassy School, 08 April 2016



His Holiness the Dalai Lama speaking at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in New Delhi, India on April 9, 2016 Photo/Tenzin Choejor/OHHDL

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### INSIDE TIBET

<u>Tibetan Protest Monk Released From</u> Prison in Uncertain Health

RFA, 19 April 2016

Authorities in western China's Sichuan province have freed Buruna Rinpoche, a senior Tibetan religious figure jailed since 2009 for resisting political reeducation campaigns at his monastery, returning him to his home in uncertain health.

China's ill-advised development policy led to protest by Tibetan graduates

TCHRD, 12 April 2016

A group of Tibetan graduates staged a peaceful protest against unfair dismissals from jobs that later ended in detention in Machu (Ch: Maqu) County in Kanlho (Ch: Gannan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Gansu Province, in Tibet's Amdo province.

## <u>Tibetans Sentenced For Attempt to Retake</u> <u>Community Land</u>

RFA, 11 April 2016

A group of four Tibetans was sentenced on Monday to up to three years in prison for their attempt last year to reclaim land seized by local authorities in western China's Sichuan province.

### <u>Tibetan Monk Released From Prison After</u> <u>Being Held Incommunicado For Years</u>

RFA, 08 April 2016

Authorities in northwestern China's Gansu province have freed from jail Aku Tenzin Gyatso, a Tibetan monk at Gansu's Labrang monastery held incommunicado for almost five years, releasing him amid warnings to supporters and family members not to photograph him on his return.

## Revoke discriminatory, unjust verdict against Tibetan writer Shokjang

TCHRD, 07 April 2016

On 17 February 2016, the Malho (Ch: Huangnan) Intermediate People's Court sentenced Shokjang to three years imprisonment and two years deprivation of political rights for "inciting separatism". Shokjang had rejected the court verdict, calling it groundless, and decided to appeal against the verdict.

### No home but the hills for Tibet's nomad

Gulf News, AFP, 01 April 2016

Since 2000, government statistics show that urban residents have leaped by about 60 percent in the Tibet region itself. The region's top Party official, Chen Quanguo, has said each village should become a "fortress" to "guard against and combat the infiltration of Tibetan separatist forces".

### IN EXILE

## His Holiness the Dalai Lama joins 270 Religious Leaders to Sign Interfaith Climate Statement

Tibet.net, 20 April 2016

Nobel Peace Laureates His Holiness the Dalai Lama joined over 270 leaders of the world's major religions including Buddhism, Christianity, Islam and Judaism to express support for a strong climate action on Monday, 18 April. It was submitted in New York to the U.N. climate Chief Christiana Figueres.

## US Congress Holds Hearing on China's Pervasive Use of Torture, Golog Jigme Testifies

Tibet.net, 18 April 2016

China's pervasive use of torture was the subject of a hearing convened by the Congressional-Executive Commission on China (CECC) on April 14, 2016 in the U.S. Congress. Kusho Golog Jigme, the well-known former Tibetan political prisoner and torture survivor testifies in the U.S. Congress.

## His Holiness the Dalai Lama Expresses Sympathy and Support for the Victims of Earthquakes in Japan and Ecuador

Dalailama.com, 18 April 2016

His Holiness the Dalai Lama has written to President of Ecuador, Rafael Correa and Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe to express his sadness at the injuries, loss of life and destruction of property in their respective countries as a result of recent devastating earthquakes.

# US State Department Releases 2015 Annual Human Rights Report, Mentions Severe Repression and Human Rights Abuses in Tibet

Tibet.net, 15 April 2016

2015 Annual Human Rights Report of the US Department of State mentioned that overall in China in 2015 "repression and coercion markedly increased during the year against organizations and individuals involved in civil and political rights advocacy and public interest and ethnic minority issues."

## His Holiness the Dalai Lama Expresses Condolences over Kerala Temple Fire

Dalailama.com. 12 April 2016

Moved by deep sadness at the injury and tragic loss of life suffered by pilgrims in a fire at Puttingal Devi temple in Kollam early on Sunday, His Holiness the Dalai Lama has written to Kerala Chief Minister Shri Oommen Chandy.

### INTERVIEW

## The Dalai Lama Speaks Exclusively To NDTV

NDTV, 7 April 2016



One of the world's most revered leaders and a Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, the Dalai Lama spoke exclusively to NDTV.

## **COLUMN**

### The Plan for a Chengdu to Lhasa Railway

Gabriel Lafitte, Rukor.org, 20 April 2016

China has now announced, as part of the 13th Five-Year Plan to 2020 that it will fund and proceed with a highly ambitious rail line from Chengdu, capital of Sichuan province, to Lhasa via Nyingtri. This rail line, tunnelling and bridging its way through precipitous Kham, or eastern Tibet, and deep into central Tibet could take as much as three successive Five-Year Plans to build.

### Water War: This River Could Sink China-India Relations

by Joel Wuthnow, The National Interest, 19 April 2016

The Brahmaputra originates in Tibet, and meanders across the LAC and into the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh. This is one of two major contested regions along the Sino-Indian border, the other being Aksai Chin to the far west. Chinese troops conducted a major offensive in Arunachal Pradesh as part of a border conflict with India in 1962, before withdrawing pending negotiations. Beijing claims sovereignty over this territory, which it refers to as "southern Tibet," while New Delhi regards it as rightfully India's territory under a 1914 treaty.

## Xi Jinping in quandary over Panama Papers

by Tenzin Tseten, TPI, 13 April 2016

Chinese President Xi Jinping was indirectly involved in the Panama scandal. That is to say his brother in law secretly owns several offshore companies. However, the story became more interesting after the ICIJ disclosed family members of at least three of the seven incumbent members of China's Politburo Standing Committee who secretly own offshore companies arranged through Mossack Fonseca, a law firm based in Panama.

### China signals policy shift on Dalai Lama

by Jayadeva Ranade, Hindustan Times, 05 April 2016

A discernible shift in Beijing's policy towards the Dalai Lama was seen at the 4th plenary session of the 12th National People's Congress (NPC), China's version of a parliament, which concluded on March 15, 2016.

## **DELHI EVENTS**

**TIBET HOUSE, DELHI** 

## 3-day Intensive Course with meditation on Arya Nagarjuna's 'Dharmadhatustava'

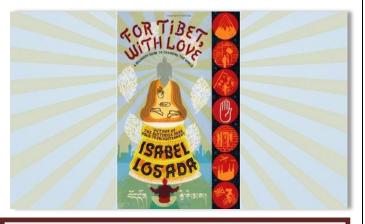
Friday, April 29, 2016 to Sunday, May 1, 2016 ENTRY BY <u>REGISTRATION</u> | NO FEE APPLICABLE Last day for registration is Wednesday, April 27, 2016 Click here to <u>REGISTER</u> online or send an email to office@tibethouse.in

### **BOOK REVIEW**

## Voice of sanity: Why the Tibetan cause is a deeper search for self

by Thubten Samphel, Hindustan Times, 02 April 2016

Isabel Losada is a writer in search of a cause. She finds it in Tibet, 'the greatest lost cause on the planet', according to some. In finding Tibet, she hints to the readers that she finds something of herself.



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Bureau of His Holiness the Dalai Lama 10-B, Ring Road, Lajpat Nagar 4, New Delhi 24 Phone: +91-11-26474798 Fax: +911-11-26461914