

Weekly Tibet News Digest

Bureau of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, New Delhi

14 March 2016

"No matter how small our voice may be but it is essential to speak up. Sometimes people say all is well with what is going on in the world, but it is wrong. In fact we are facing many problems."

His Holiness the Dalai Lama



His Holiness the Dalai Lama speaks during a debate about the Nobel Laureates on Human Rights "a view from civil society" at Geneva, Switzerland, on Friday, March 11, 2016. (Martial Trezzini/Keystone via AP)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Inside Tibet:

1. Tibetan Entrepreneur Has Been Illegally Detained, Family Says
2. Tibetan Monk Moved to Hospital Ahead of Release From Prison
3. China warns Taiwan on Dalai Lama invite, vows to continue current Tibet policy
4. China includes second railway line to Tibet in new five-year plan projects
5. Tibetan Woman Detained in Ngaba Following Solo Protest
6. Tibetan Self-Immolator's Family 'Pressured' by Police
7. Tibetan Monk Burns to Death in Kardze Protest

In Exile:

1. His Holiness the Dalai Lama Returns In Excellent Health
2. Dalai Lama-stalking Buddhist protesters declare end to its campaign
3. China howls but Dalai Lama draws crowd at human rights talk
4. US slams China's human rights record to UN council
5. CTA Pays Tribute to Peaceful Tibetan Demonstrators of 1989
6. Thousands attend tearful funeral of self-immolated Tibetan schoolboy
7. Taiwan's plans to invite Dalai Lama riles China

Statements:

1. Statement of Sikyong Dr. Lobsang Sangay
2. Statement of the Tibetan Parliament Exile
3. Joint Statement by Members of Parliament and Tibetan supporters of the Baltic states

Op-ed:

1. U.S. should speak out for Tibet: Nancy Pelosi & Jim McGovern
2. March to freedom

INSIDE TIBET

[Tibetan Entrepreneur Has Been Illegally Detained, Family Says](#)

nytimes.com, 10 March 2016

Tashi Wangchuk, 30, a Tibetan entrepreneur who is a vocal but moderate advocate for bilingual education in schools across Chinese-ruled Tibetan regions has been illegally detained by the police for one and a half months, his family said.

[Tibetan Monk Moved to Hospital Ahead of Release From Prison](#)

RFA, 09 March 2016

Jigme Gyatso, a high-profile Tibetan prisoner has been transferred to a medical facility in Lanzhou, capital of northwestern China's Gansu Province six months before his scheduled release from prison, sparking fears he may have been tortured while in custody.

[China warns Taiwan on Dalai Lama invite, vows to continue current Tibet policy](#)

Tibetan Review, 09 March 2016

Chinese and Tibetan delegates representing the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) at the Chinese National People's Congress, or Parliament, which opened on March 5, have condemned any possible visit by the Dalai Lama to Taiwan, vowed to continue to roll out

preferential financial policies to boost economic and social development in the region, and expressed determination to make Tibet become one of the world's top tourism destinations. But, critics say the principal beneficiaries of such policy are not local Tibetans but Chinese immigrants who are sought to be drawn to the region with such offers and who are meant to overwhelm the local Tibetan population.

[China includes second railway line to Tibet in new five-year plan projects](#)

Tibetan Review, 06 March 2016

After talking about it for years, China has formally included in its new five-year plan a project to build a second railway line to connect Tibet with China. The railway will be built between Tibet Autonomous Region's capital Lhasa and Chengdu, capital of Sichuan Province, according to the draft outline of the 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-2020).

[Tibetan Woman Detained in Ngaba Following Solo Protest](#)

RFA, 03 March 2016

Mangga, 33, was detained on March 1 in Ngaba (in Chinese, Aba) county's Meruma township in the Ngaba Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture, after she staged a solitary protest in her township opposing Chinese policies in Tibetan areas.

[Tibetan Self-Immolator's Family 'Pressured' by Police](#)

RFA, 03 March 2016

Authorities in southwestern China's Sichuan province are pressuring the family of Kalsang Wangdu, a Tibetan monk who burned himself to death on Monday to protest Chinese rule, ordering them to say the protester had died in a house fire.

[Tibetan Monk Burns to Death in Kardze Protest](#)

RFA, 01 March 2016

Kalsang Wangdu, a monk of the Maretsokha Aryaling monastery in Kardze (in Chinese, Ganzi) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture's Nyagrong (Xinlong) county set himself ablaze and died on Monday in southwestern China's Sichuan province in an apparent challenge to Beijing's rule in the first such protest in a Tibetan area of China this year.

[His Holiness the Dalai Lama Returns In Excellent Health](#)

Tibet.net, 13 March 2016

His Holiness the Dalai Lama returned to his official residence in Dharamshala after a month-long treatment at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, USA. Hundreds of Tibetan and non-Tibetan devotees offered warm welcome to His Holiness the Dalai Lama with flowers and traditional Tibetan scarves.

[Dalai Lama-stalking Buddhist protesters declare end to its campaign](#)

Tibetan Review, 13 March 2016

A group made up largely of a section of Western followers that worships a controversial Tibetan spirit and has hounded Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, during his overseas visits over the last several years has declared an end to its demonstrations and disbanded.

Similar: [Buddhist group leading global anti-Dalai Lama protests disbands](#)

[China howls but Dalai Lama draws crowd at human rights talk](#)

Post Bulletin, AP, 11 March 2016

The Dalai Lama appeared Friday at a Geneva human rights conference, despite China's plea to diplomats to stay away from the event. Hundreds of supporters of the Dalai Lama, some waving Tibetan flags, rallied at the giant three-legged chair landmark outside the U.N. complex as he attended the packed-house conference nearby at Geneva's Graduate Institute.

[US slams China's human rights record to UN council](#)

ucanews.com, 11 March 2016

In a statement by the United States, Japan, Australia, Germany, the United Kingdom and seven other European states, the U.S. ambassador to the UN rights body noted China's "deteriorating human rights record," listing forced confessions and mass detentions among major concerns.

[CTA Pays Tribute to Peaceful Tibetan Demonstrators of 1989](#)

Tibet.net, 08 March 2016

The Department of Religion and Culture of the Central Tibetan Administration, held an hour-long prayer service in remembrance of the sacrifices made by the peaceful Tibetan demonstrators who took part in the protests of 1989 in Tibet.

IN EXILE

[Thousands attend tearful funeral of self-immolated Tibetan schoolboy](#)

Tibetan Review, 08 March 2016

Thousands of Tibetans, joined by supporters, took part in an emotionally charged funeral ceremony at Dharamshala, India, on Mar 6 of 16-year-old schoolboy Dorje Tsering who had self-immolated on Feb 29.

[Taiwan's plans to invite Dalai Lama riles China](#)

The Hindu, PTI, 07 March 2016

According to reports, Taiwanese President-elect Tsai Ing-wen is considering inviting the highest-ranking figure in Tibetan Buddhism to visit in his capacity as a religious leader.

10 MARCH 2016 UPDATE

57TH TIBETAN NATIONAL UPRISING DAY

STATEMENTS

[Statement of Sikyong Dr. Lobsang Sangay](#)

Tibet.net, 10 March 2016

We the Kashag of the Central Tibetan Administration firmly believe that the longstanding issue of Tibet can be resolved through dialogue between the envoys of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and representatives of the Chinese government. We remain fully committed to the Middle Way Approach, which clearly seeks genuine autonomy for the Tibetan people within China. It is hoped the leaders in Beijing will see reason with the Middle Way Approach, instead of distorting it, and step forward to engage in dialogue with His Holiness the Dalai Lama's envoys.

[Statement of the Tibetan Parliament Exile](#)

Tibet.net, 10 March 2016

On our part the Central Tibetan Administration remains committed to striving to reach a peaceful settlement with China on the basis of the mutually beneficial middle way approach. This being the case, if the leaders of China are unequivocal in words and deeds in their stated aim of doing something beneficial to the people of Tibet, it should grant our historical region a meaningful autonomy in keeping with the provisions of its law on regional autonomy for ethnic minority regions.

[Joint Statement by Members of Parliament and Tibetan supporters of the Baltic states on Sino-Tibetan dialogue](#)

Tibet.net, March 2016

We, the undersigned Members of Parliament and Baltic Tibetan supporters, are available and willing to assist resumption of a meaningful dialogue between the Chinese government and Tibetan leadership in-exile to help find a peaceful and sustainable solution for the Chinese and Tibetan nations in Tibet.

OP-ED

[U.S. should speak out for Tibet: Nancy Pelosi & Jim McGovern](#)

by Nancy Pelosi and Jim McGovern, USA Today, 10 March 2016

As we mark today's anniversary of the 1959 uprising in Tibet, the deteriorating human rights situation throughout China is deeply troubling. However, our trip has led us to believe there is a narrow but real opportunity to encourage the Chinese government to re-evaluate its policy toward Tibet.

[March to freedom](#)

by Youdon Aukatsang, Times of India blogs, 09 March 2016

Despite resistance and appeals from his people, HH the Dalai Lama first semi-retired in 2001 and then fully retired from political responsibilities in 2011. He shared his wishes to fully devolve his political powers with his people on March 10, 2011 and then on March 14 presented his proposal to the Tibetan Parliament in exile. He passed on his political leadership to the democratically elected leader henceforth named Sikyong.

EVENTS

DHARAMSHALA

Hundreds of Tibetans and supporters today gathered at the courtyard of Thekchen Choeling Tsuglakhang laden with people carrying Tibetan flag to participate in the official commemoration of the 57th Tibetan National Uprising day. (Source: [Phayul](#))

TOKYO

Tibetans and Tibet supporters in Tokyo gathered on 6 March at Shibuya Miyahsita Koen (Park) to commemorate the 57th Tibetan National Uprising Day, beginning from 1959. It was held on March 6 due to non-availability of march-route on the usually held date. (Source: [Tibet.net](#))

DELHI

Over a thousand of Tibetans and Indian supporters marched from Ramlila ground to Jantar Mantar to commemorate the 57th Tibetan National Uprising Day. Shanta Kumar, MP and Convenor of All Party Indian Parliamentary Forum for Tibet, and Baashistha Narian Singh, MP among other Indian supporters spoke in support of Tibet. Tibetan students protested in front of the Chinese embassy.

CANBERRA

Tibetan community members and Australian Tibet supporters gathered outside the Chinese Embassy in Canberra to protest against the repressive policies of the Chinese government in Tibet. The protesters then marched towards the city centre at Garema Place. Christina Hobbs from the Green party, Dr. McComas Taylor from ANU and Alice Dagleish from the Amnesty International spoke about the dire situation in Tibet. (Source: Tibet.net)

MINNEAPOLIS

More than 400 demonstrators, chanting "Free Tibet" and "Long live the Dalai Lama" marched through downtown Minneapolis Thursday, shortly before noon, to mark the 57th anniversary of the uprising in Tibet against communist China occupation. (Source: [Star Tribune](http://StarTribune))

AMHERST

The Select Board at the request of three from the Tibetan community has issued a proclamation naming March 10 as Tibet day. UMass Students For a Free Tibet hold a vigil outside the Student Union on March 10 to draw attention to the deteriorating situation in Tibet. (Source: Masslive)

SANTA FE

Dozens of members of Santa Fe's Tibetan community and their supporters gathered at the center on Hickox Street to pray. Then, showing their unity with more than a million Tibetans across the world, they marched to raise awareness of a people without a nation. (Source: santafenewmexican.com)

ITHACA

Members of Ithaca's Tibetan community gathered Thursday on the Commons to mark the 57th anniversary of Tibetan National Uprising Day. About 55 people, including monks from the Namgyal Monastery Institute of Buddhist Studies, joined the rally.

CALGARY

A rally was held outside City Hall on Thursday morning to commemorate the 57th anniversary of the Tibetan uprising and to call on the Canadian government to support dialogue between Tibet and the ruling Chinese government. (Source: CTV Calgary)

BERLIN

Hundreds of cities, municipalities and administrative districts throughout Germany are raising the Tibetan flag on public buildings in solidarity with the Tibetans in Tibet. In Berlin, TID and the Association of Tibetans in Germany (VTD) are organizing a demonstration in front of the Chinese Embassy. (Source: Tibet Post International)

LONDON

On the eve of the 57th anniversary of the Tibetan National Uprising, Tibet Society has appealed the UK and international governments to stand by the principles of freedom and democracy and urge China to seek a peaceful resolution to the Tibet crisis. (Source: Tibet Post International)

BRUSSELS

Over 250 Tibetans and European friends gathered in Schuman Square next to the European Commission and Council to commemorate 10th March. The Tibetan Community in Belgium, Regional Tibetan Youth Association, Tibetan Cultural Center, Chushi Gangdruk and Global Tibetan Volunteers for Truth organized the commemoration. (Source: Tibet.net)

PARIS

Over 400 Tibetans and supporters gathered today to mark the 57th anniversary of the 10 March 1959 peaceful uprising at the historical Trocadero Square. Senator Andre Gattolin, Vice President of the Tibet Group in the French Senate addressed the gathering underlining strong support for Tibet in the French parliament. After the commemoration event, Tibetans and supporters marched up to Chinese embassy, raising slogans. (Source: Tibet.net)

MOSCOW

Around 200 friends and supporters of Tibet including Telo Tulku Rinpoche, the Honorary Representative of His Holiness the Dalai Lama based to Russia, Mongolia and CIS countries, gathered at a hall in the center of Moscow to mark the 57th anniversary of the Tibetan National Uprising Day on 10 March. Source: Tibet.net)

PRAGUE

This year more than 700 municipalities across the Czech Republic are partaking in the "Flag for Tibet" event. Examples include a Tibetan flag prominently displayed in the main square in the Czech town of Jihlava, one displayed on the central building of the Liberec Regional Authority, and one displayed on the town hall buildings of both the Prague 10 and Prague 4 districts. (Source: radio.cz)