



International Tibet Independence Movement

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Rangzen Voice

Official Newsletter of ITIM

Fall/2004

Rangzen Walkers Reach Miami Beach

The three day, 55+ mile, “March for Tibet’s Independence” from Delray Beach to Miami Beach was a great success. Led by Jigme Norbu and Ani Kelsang Palmo, the walkers contended with some harsh weather conditions. Throughout the walk from September 20 to 22, it rained very hard and the wind was quite strong. At times, the walkers were in ankle deep water as they pursued their goal of reaching Miami Beach. This did not stop them, and in fact, inspired them to think more frequently and seriously about the current atrocities of their brothers and sisters in Tibet. It also increased the walkers’ respect and admiration for the victims of the Florida hurricanes during this past September.

All along the route, the walkers were constantly encouraged by the response of the local communities. People were not only interested in the story about Tibet and how to help, they also spontaneously shared food, water, and other items with the walkers. Two Unitarian Churches housed the five walkers along the way, and these Churches also hosted successful presentations about Tibet given by the walkers. We are deeply indebted to the Unitarian community for supporting us once again during one of our walks.

Not only did this walk touch Floridians through one to one contact and local newspaper and television coverage, it also communicated a strong message of hope and inspiration to the people



Photo by Doug Herman for ITIM

Left to right: Yeshi (Chicago), Tenam (Indianapolis), Ani Kelsang (India), & Jigme (Bloomington).

inside of Tibet and the Tibetans in-exile throughout the world. On a number of occasions, the walkers were interviewed by Radio Free Asia, Voice of America, and Voice of Tibet; radio broadcasts heard worldwide by Tibetans. We are encouraged to do much more when hearing from Tibetans in Tibet and other places that they greatly value our walks and the sacrifices made by the walkers. For our walkers and the organizers, however, our sacrifices are considered minimal compared to the brutal and unthinkable conditions experienced by Tibetans in Tibet.

Thanks to all of you who supported this walk, especially the folks in Florida who assisted with various logistics. Our walks would be impossible without all of your assistance. A very special thanks to Doug Herman and Tenam for once again serving as the logistical coordinators. To see some beautiful pictures of the walk and to read detailed reports, visit www.rangzen.org.

A Free Tibet!
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A Free Tibet!



ITIM is a grassroots, volunteer, not for profit (501c3), educational organization co-founded on March 17, 1995 by Thubten Jigme Norbu and Larry Gerstein to achieve Tibet's independence through nonviolence.

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Rangzen Voice

Gedun Rabsal, Editor
Grabsal@aol.com

Mailing Address

ITIM
P.O. Box 592
Fishers, Indiana 46038 USA
Rangzen@aol.com email
www.rangzen.org website

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The Delegations and Myself:

Some Personal Reflections on Tibet's Future

Gedun Rabsal, Editor, Rangzen Voice

If someone came to me and asked, "Are you Chinese?" Certainly, I will say, "No. I am not Chinese. I am a Tibetan." Again, that same person may ask me with curiosity, "Alright! But you are willing to accept Chinese citizenship? Right?" I will surely say "No. Not at all." But this time, I think I am lying. I must be lying. Otherwise, how can I accept the idea of sending our delegations to China at this time and the circumstances of this Tibetan delegation negotiating with Chinese officials over Tibet's autonomy?

This is the third time since 2002 that a Tibetan delegation has visited China. Every time they have visited China, I am looking forward to reading some sort of astonishing story indicating the Tibet situation has been solved and we can all return home to Tibet. But the reality of each of their visits is always the same. The statements of the delegation always include some nice, routine words. For instance, I met this guy and that guy. I saw this place and that place. We had open and frank discussions. I was able to see Lhasa Jowo Rinpoche. That's all we have ever learned about the delegation's visits.

After their third visit this past September, I read the statement of Mr. Lodi Gyari (Leader of Tibetan exile delegation) on www.phayul.com. This time, I paid more attention to the reactions of the Tibetan people to this statement on the Phayul website. So far, I have read around 20 comments about this statement and 90 percent of these are somehow critical of this delegation. Commentators think, for example, that Tibetans are not going to get what they want from this Chinese leadership. Some say, "We can not trust the Chinese anymore to find a solution concerning Tibet as we did in 1951."

My major concern of this "negotiation show" is how long we need to wait to accomplish "The Middle Path Policy" goal. Already, we have spent over 25 years pursuing this policy. Do we need to spend another 25 years pursuing this

policy? I will tell you something. In the next 25 years, Tibet will be gone forever! You may not find a Tibetan settlement in India. You may not find a Tibetan who can write Tibetan in Lhasa. Tibetan traditional landmarks will be situated in places that look like a ghost town or an empty temple.

In Tibet, Tibetan religious centers have been reopened, pressured, and some shut down during the past two decades. Leading Tibetan figures are gone forever such as The 10th Panchen Lama, Khenpo Jigme Phuntsok, Tseten Shabdrung, Muge Samten and so on. Young kids in Tibet are no longer learning Tibetan and are no longer singing Tibetan songs. Our way of life has been changing as a result of the so called Chinese modernization. Inside Tibet, there is no Tibetan leader who can effectively save Tibetans from these problems.

What are we going to see in the next two decades? Tibetans will have a hard time finding a unique spiritual leader to whom they can have faith in inside Tibet. Further, a railroad is on its way to Lhasa. It will transport millions of Chinese and the Chinese culture into Tibet. There is no doubt, when this railroad is complete, our genocide will be complete. Our language, heritage, identity, religion, livelihood, environment, and countryside, for instance, will be totally destroyed by this systematic policy and mode of foreign transportation. What are we going to do?

If the negotiations with the Chinese government are not producing the intended results, why should we waste our time now? Why should we keep our hopes on an empty goal? Let's clear our own path toward Rangzen. Let's keep our hopes on the best option for our future and not something less.

Also, I do not want my children to be Chinese Citizens. I do not want to become a Chinese Citizen either. These are my heartfelt emotions about the ongoing negotiations.

After studying Tibetan history, culture, politics, and religion for the past five years, and working actively with Tibet support groups for the past four, I set foot in Tibet for the first time in July 2004. Although the time spent was limited, my experiences were not.

As an activist working for Tibet, I had heard many stories of what the situation within Tibet is like, and I hoped to find out firsthand. I had many experiences that completed the unfinished picture, and I now feel more confident in my understanding of life there. These experiences have led me to know that the Chinese have a tight military grip over Tibet, the police (Chinese and Tibetan) are present everywhere, and that the Tibetan citizens seem to be constantly aware of their presence.

For example, in the Jokhang Temple, the holiest pilgrimage site in Tibet, we were not exempt from the uniformed presence. As I waited quietly in line to present offerings of Khata to the statue of Jowo Rinpoche, I suddenly felt a shove, and realized that there was a uniformed policeman pushing me and other Tibetans, telling us and others to hurry. Initially I felt shocked at this, but after a few moments I realized that I should have expected such a disturbance, even in the presence of the most revered image of the Buddha in Tibet. I felt as though I would never be allowed to forget that the Chinese Government always has someone watching nearby.

In the Barkhor, conversing lightly with a Tibetan vendor, I asked her name after 10 minutes of conversation. I noticed her demeanor change, her smile leaving her face, and her eyes drifted over my shoulder. She said she didn't want to tell me, and I realized that she was staring at a uniformed officer just twenty yards away. The situation became clear to me, and I told her it was no problem, I understood. Our conversation ended, I purchased my item, and continued through the endless stalls. Leaving Tibet, I hoped that I did not put her in any danger, the possibility of her being questioned after I left looming, as is common practice in Tibet.

My final day in Lhasa, I visited the summer palace of The Dalai Lama's,

A reality check concerning Tibet

Mary-Kate Oreovicz, President, Indiana University Students for a Free Tibet



A Chinese policeman in front of the Jokhang Temple, Lhasa, Tibet. Photo by Mary-Kate Oreovicz

the Potala. This immense series of buildings and temples, totaling 13 floors in all, has been transformed from a once busy center of Tibetan government and religion to a museum. Two experiences proved to me that the Tibetans living in the Tibetan Autonomous Region (T.A.R.) have been marginalized, and that the Chinese Communist Party fears the notion of any outsider learning the truth about the situation in Tibet, and will do whatever it takes to prevent one from asking "dangerous" questions. First, upon arrival in the Potala, I met an elderly disabled Tibetan woman who had asked me to walk through the palace with her. We did not get out of the first hallway when a uniformed police officer grabbed her left hand, and with me still holding her right hand, pulled us back to the entrance. He spoke quickly and harshly, and motioned for me to continue back inside. She was forced to leave. Later I learned that Tibetans are allowed in on specific days, and must use a separate entrance. This pilgrimage site is restricted from use by Tibetans, as are most sites in Lhasa.

Just before exiting the palace, I visited three rooms that once housed His Holiness The Dalai Lama. A sign inside noted that a significance of these rooms is because they once were "...where Chinese officials were met with." I felt a wave of mixed emotions swell up

inside of me, and when I left these rooms, the attendant, a Tibetan man called to me, "Bumo!" (Girl!). I approached him, and after explaining that I understood Tibetan, he asked me if I "understood these rooms." I answered yes, and that they were very important. We never spoke His Holiness' name, but after just a few minutes of talking, a uniformed police officer approached and physically placed himself between me and the Tibetan man, who sat just two feet in front of me. With the officer's back to me, the message rang clear, we were not to continue this conversation. Then I left, once again fearing the possible repercussions of our time spent talking.

Tibet was beautiful, and it felt incredible to be there. I met some amazing individuals, and enjoyed a few candid conversations. The experience will stay with me for my lifetime. However, there is a constant energy, which to me felt like this: an invisible line exists, put in place by the Chinese Communist Party, all are aware of it, and yet only part of the population needs to concern itself with the worries of getting to close, or worse, crossing it. The Tibetans are these people, and though they never asked for that line, sadly, they have no choice but to observe it, for the punishment is often heavy-handed and unreasonable.

Another Rangzen Walk!

ITIM is planning another "March for Tibet's Independence." This time we will walk from Indianapolis to China's Consulate in Chicago. This 220+ mile walk will begin on November 30 and end on December 10th. December 10th is the Anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and His Holiness The Dalai Lama receiving the Nobel Peace Prize. Jigme Norbu (son of Taktser Rinpoche and nephew of His Holiness The Dalai Lama) will once again lead this walk.

Why walk so soon after our Florida walk? Because we have not achieved our objective of returning Tibet to the Tibetans! Given the outcome of the

Why Walk?

I believe that ITIM should support the walks because it provides education about the current situation of Tibet and Tibetan political prisoners to members of our community who may not otherwise be exposed to it.

--Paula Berbeco, ITIM Treasurer

"Talk the talk or walk the walk." This is a saying we use to show the difference between those who are willing only to speak about an issue and those who are willing to put their words into action. ITIM is not content to just talk the talk. Those who join walks sponsored by ITIM are not content to just talk the talk. By virtue of putting one foot in front of another, be it for a day, a week, or for a month, we are backing up our words with our actions. We are walking the talk. We are walking for those who have no voice. We are walking for Tibetans who cannot walk in protest. To those who walk, every step is a step closer to a free Tibet. Every blister, ache or pain lessens the pain of those in Tibet. Each walker carries a message for those along the way who care to listen. They also carry a message for all those in Tibet who are able to hear it, and that message is : "You are not forgotten, your hopes and dreams of a free Tibet are not forgotten. We will continue to walk until you are free."

--Gerry Baker, ITIM Vice President

recent Tibetan delegation that visited China, it is essential that we continue to actively mobilize worldwide support to secure Tibet's independence and that we also devote more energy and resources to secure the release of Tibetan political prisoners, especially The Panchen Lama (Gendhun Choekyi Nyima), and Tenzin Delek Rinpoche.

How can you help?

1. Make a financial donation of any amount (Operating budget is \$4000).
2. Serve as a cosponsor.

3. Participate in the demonstration on Friday, December 10th.
4. Create a web link about this walk.
5. Walk with us for any amount of time!

Please note that if you are willing to make a financial donation, make checks payable to ITIM which is a 501(c)3 not for profit organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by U.S. law. For more information about this walk, visit www.rangzen.org. As always, thanks much for considering our request and your ongoing support. Thug Je Che!

Around ITIM

International Festival

ITIM will host a booth at the International Festival to be held at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis on November 4 through 7. At our booth, we will display some Tibetan cultural items, distribute free literature on Tibet, and sell our merchandise. This is a very exciting opportunity for us to spread the word about Tibet, since 1000's of people attend this festival. We look forward to meeting many of you at this festival. For further information on the festival, visit www.indyinternationalfestival.org.

Punjabi and Tibetan Mela

ITIM will once again collaborate with the Central Indiana Sikh community cohosting an event as part of the Spirit and Place Festival. This event will take place on Saturday, November 13, from 2 to 4pm at The Sikh Temple, 10950 Southeastern Avenue, Indianapolis. The following activities will take place during this exciting cross-cultural program: Tibetan Buddhist chanting, traditional Sikh dances (Bhangra/Giddha) by Punjabi boys and girls, introduction to Bhangra, hands on turban tying experience, Tibetan dancing and singing, and a tour of the Temple's Sanctuary (Sikh Gurudwara). Further information, visit www.spiritandplace.org.

North American TSG Conference

Gedun Rabsal (ITIM Vice President) and Larry Gerstein (ITIM President) will attend the North American Tibet Support Group (TSG) Conference at the Tolstoy Foundation

in Valley Cottage, New York on November 13 and 14. Approximately 45 leaders of the TSG movement and Tibetan Associations will participate in this gathering. The International Tibet Support Network and the Office of Tibet in New York are coordinating this small, but intense Conference. In general, the purpose of this meeting is for the attendees to get acquainted and build connections, to review the Tibet movement's recent accomplishments and challenges, and to agree on a strong common focus for the movement.

Gomang Monks To Visit Indiana

ITIM will host a group of seven Gomang Tibetan Monks from June 6 to 13. The Monks will be visiting the United States and sharing their sacred arts. The group will be led by Khensur Rinpoche Tsultrim Phuntsok (former Abbot of Drepung Gomang Monastery) and Geshe Tenpa Chomphel (translator). Since this tour will emphasize the "Sacred" as well as the "Arts of Tibet," Rinpoche and Geshe will give retreats, teachings, and pujas to enable the public to experience in an in-depth manner the spiritual aspects of Tibetan Buddhism. The other five Monks in the group are Tibetan artists. They are experts in Thangka art, decorative painting, butter sculpture, and mask making. They will present art programs and "hands-on" workshops. If you are interesting in hosting the Monks and/or volunteering while they are in Central Indiana, please contact Thia Dillon at: evenspirit@sbcglobal.net. For further information on the Monks' tour visit www.gomang.org.

On September 3, 2004, Taktser Rinpoche (Thubten Jigme Norbu) was honored with the Rangzen Award given by the Central Executive Committee of the Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC) in India. The TYC is the largest and oldest NGO in the Tibetan exile community. Rinpoche is the oldest brother of His Holiness The Dalai Lama, Former Abbot of Kumbum Monastery in Amdo, Founder of the Tibetan Cultural Center in Bloomington, Indiana, Co-Founder of the International Tibet Independence Movement, Co-Founder of the Committee of 100 for Tibet, and Co-Founder of Rangzen Alliance. Throughout His life, Rinpoche has been a very strong and unwavering advocate of Tibet's independence and leader of the Rangzen movement. He also has been tireless in His effort to preserve and promote Tibetan culture.

Rinpoche has led numerous ITIM "Marches for Tibet's Independence" and has inspired many other walks around the world. In 1997, for instance, at the age of 75, Rinpoche led a three month, 600+ mile ITIM walk for Tibet's independence from Toronto to New York City during the height of the winter. During the first three weeks of this walk, the snow was up to the walkers' knees and most of the walkers were sick with bad colds! When asked why He wished to walk in the middle of the winter from Toronto, Rinpoche replied, "The weather is more like Tibet, and besides, any suffering we might experience is nothing compared to what the Tibetans endure inside Tibet."

When one compares Rinpoche's Toronto walk to His walk when He was forced to leave His Monastery in Amdo in 1949, it is easy to understand why walking in the winter was of little concern to Rinpoche. After being under house arrest by the Chinese military for six months, Rinpoche set out for Lhasa accompanied by the Chinese military, 60 or so of His attendants and Kumbum Monks, and about 150 animals. In order to leave His Monastery, Rinpoche falsely agreed to China's demands. That is, to convince His brother, His Holiness The 14th Dalai Lama, to accept China's rule, and if His Holiness refused, to kill His Holiness. During the long pilgrimage, over 1000 Tibetans and 10,000 animals (e.g., horses, yak, sheep, donkeys, dogs) joined Rinpoche's caravan to Lhasa. As Rinpoche had privately predicted, Tibetan bandits also joined His caravan and overtook the Chinese military. This allowed Rinpoche to reach Lhasa and to be the first to inform His Holiness about China's invasion of Amdo. It is worth noting again that this event occurred in 1949; 10 years prior to China's brutal occupation of Lhasa and Tibet in 1959. It is also worth noting that in 1949 His Holiness was only 14 years old, and in response to Rinpoche's plea to reach out to the world community for support and assistance, His Holiness dismissed the urgency of taking action.

(Continued on page six)

Taktser Rinpoche Receives Rangzen Award



Photo by Katie Murphy for ITIM
Taktser Rinpoche in NY at end of 1997 March for Tibet's Independence.

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Why Tibet?

When I first read stories about U.S. history, I was appalled when I discovered what we had done to the Native Americans. The story of the Trail of Tears and the words of Chief Joseph—"I will fight no more forever" -- when he finally acknowledged defeat at Bear's Paw -- broke my heart many years ago. I felt ashamed to be an American.

When I learned about the devastation of Tibet by the Chinese Communists, my heart agonized again. I realize that the Chinese are doing to Tibetans in four decades what it took our people 400 years to do to the Native Americans. They are destroying homes and villages, and sacred places. They are wiping out a way of life. Again, I felt ashamed to be a member of the human race.

But then I learned not to hate myself or swallow myself in despair when I became acquainted with the teachings of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. I learned that the best way to encounter a negative experience—whether it is in the past or in the present or perhaps in the future—is to respond with compassion and a determination to be of help to whoever is in need. With this in mind, I have decided to devote the rest of my life to loving and serving the human race (including the Chinese) and above all the Tibetans—and their country, Tibet.

--Mary Pattison, ITIM Supporter

Taktser Rinpoche Receives...

(Continued from page five)

Currently 82 years old, Rinpoche continues to inspire countless Tibetans and others to stand up and speak out for Tibet's independence. Recently, Jigme Norbu, Rinpoche's son, accepted the Rangzen Award on His father's behalf at a large gathering of Tibetans in New York City hosted by the Regional Tibetan Youth Congress of New York and New Jersey. An English translation of the text of the Rangzen Award follows.

Tibetan Youth Congress: Rangzen Award

Here, the Tibetan Youth Congress is extending great appreciation and praise to the fruitful achievements of Taktser Rinpoche, elder brother of His Holiness The Dalai Lama who is enriched with dedication and nationalism. And, who has done and is continuously doing great work for the Tibet independence movement. Along with this recognition, the Tibetan Youth Congress offers this Rangzen Award to Taktser Rinpoche, elder brother of His Holiness The Dalai Lama, on the opening ceremony of the 12th General Body Meeting of the Tibetan Youth Congress.

Signed by,
Kalsang Phuntsok Godrukpa, President
Tsultrim Dorjee, General Secretary

Tibetan Youth Congress, Central Executive Committee
September, 3 2004 (Tibetan Year 2131)

Why Tibet?

My interest in Tibet began at age 20, sparked by a mentor with whom I studied religion, philosophy and psychoanalysis in New York City. The emphasis of our studies was Christianity, Buddhism, Confucianism and Zoroastrianism, but it was Tibetan Buddhism that struck the most responsive chord for me. I was particularly impressed by the depth of spirituality of Tibetan culture - that the religion was so closely intertwined with all aspects of life. Even the Tibetan written language was first developed in order to transmit and record Buddhist teachings from India. Last year, I attended an international conference on Tibetan medicine and again was struck by how their medical system is integrated with their spirituality in a way that's so different from Western medicine. My longstanding rather private interest in Tibet became more public since joining ITIM two years ago.

My involvement in ITIM stemmed from a small notice in NUVO Newsweekly noting the time and place of the group's meetings. I confess that part of my original motive for attending a meeting was a desire to meet people with whom I might share interests and values. As I learned more about the Free Tibet movement, the value of the cause itself took precedence over my social needs. I was hooked. Tibetan culture offers a unique perspective and its loss would diminish our world. The Tibetan people seem uniquely unqualified to fight their own oppression by virtue of their commitment to non-violence. It therefore falls to the rest of the world to speak and act on their behalf.

--Valerie Purvin, ITIM Supporter



Photo by RTYC-NY & NJ

Jigme Norbu with Taktser Rinpoche's Tibetan Youth Congress Rangzen Award in New York City.

When I was eight years old, my eleven-year-old brother and I were forced to take refuge in India after the Chinese brutally took over the peaceful nation of Tibet. I left behind parents, younger brothers and sisters, and many loved ones, not knowing the fate of my life ahead. The collaboration of His Holiness The Dalai Lama with the government of India gave me the opportunity to study and educate myself through college. I was also given a chance to serve in the Tibetan exile government, Central Executive Committee of the Tibetan Youth Congress and the private sector.

Perhaps with my past karmic connection to Indiana, I was brought to America, the land of opportunity, for further education in the Land of Lincoln, the Illinois State and thereafter the Hoosier State. I worked for both the city and county governments in Bloomington, and big corporations such as Rogers Group Investments, Inc. Once again, my karma allowed me to get married to my beautiful wife, Lhamo, and have two wonderful sons. Tenzin is an Indiana University graduate and Rinzin is a junior at Bloomington High School North. I am very fortunate. Our dream of having a home and business has come to fruition, and we have a very humble first place award-winning restaurant, which we named Anyetsang's Little Tibet. Through our restaurant, we were able to educate many Americans and others, about the history of Tibet and its' people. From our restaurant, we were able to fund a village School in Tibet for small children from six to nine years old over several years and able to make small monetary contributions to several monks in India.

We have been mentioned in many newspapers such as Bod-Kyi-Dus-Bab (Tibet Times), The New York Post, Indianapolis Monthly, Bloomington Independent, The Herald-Times, The Indiana Daily Student and The New York Times. "Little Tibet is exactly the kind of restaurant I want to see succeed. Its charming ambiance and tight-knit staff is a welcome turn from the indifferent and apathetic personnel at many

I am a Tibetan Hoosier

Thupten Anyetsang



Photo by ITIM

Thupten Anyetsang at Monument Circle, Indianapolis on the 10th of March, 2003.

Bloomington restaurants... food was simply wonderful. Those willing to try something different, at (Little Tibet) offer one of the more rewarding and unique dining experiences in town," Indiana Daily Student. Most importantly, I want to give credit to our past and present employees for their untiring contribution to this restaurant and a big thanks to our customers.

I have been an American citizen for over two decades, and have received everything a person could ask for. Yet my heart and mind always go back to Tibet and its people--my people--suffering from oppression under Chinese rule. Although much of the Tibetan culture must struggle to survive in exile, the hopes and aspirations of the Tibetan people for the freedom of their country, have not weakened. The awarding of the 1989 Nobel Peace prize to His Holiness The 14th Dalai Lama is a sign of the great esteem and veneration that He has earned as He struggles to help Tibetan realize their dream of living in a free and Independent Tibet. In the mean time, negotiations about the future of Tibet continue between The Dalai Lama and the Chinese government. At the same time, the Tibetan people must also continue for Tibet's just cause. Finally, I want to give my special thanks to Professor Larry

Gerstein the President of ITIM for his continuous fight for the right of Tibetan people.

With my life in Bloomington, Indiana as an American citizen and my hopes in Tibet, who exactly am I? A Tibetan or an American? I am both. I am a Hoosier, a Tibetan Hoosier.

ITIM's 10th Anniversary

In 2005, ITIM will celebrate its 10th Anniversary. ITIM was founded by Taktser Rinpoche and Larry Gerstein on March 17, 1995 during the first "March for Tibet's Independence" from Bloomington to Indianapolis. To celebrate this exciting milestone, ITIM will host a series of events and sponsor some special projects. Stay tune for details about these activities in the upcoming issues of Rangzen Voice and on our website. In advance, thanks so very much to all of you for helping ITIM reach this milestone and for accomplishing many important objectives!

**Buy Tibetan!
Boycott China's Goods!**



**Help Release
The Panchen Lama
www.rangzen.org**

RANGZEN TSANGMA (Complete Independence)

Tsewang Rigzin, Board Member, ITIM

Born in Exile, I have never seen my FATHERLAND. I dream of my beloved country day and night. And, I miss my brothers and sisters in Tibet very much. I stand and will fight for Complete Independence for Tibet because Tibet was a FREE COUNTRY before the brutal occupation by the damn Communist Chinese regime in 1959. It is our birthright to fight for Complete Independence and it will be a grave injustice to those who sacrificed their life for our country if we achieve anything less than Complete Independence.

Tibet is flooded with Chinese and nuclear waste these days and the completion of the rail line from Golmud to Lhasa will solidify the Chinese goal of making Tibetans an insignificant minority in our own country. And, the day won't be far when the insignificant minority will be completely wiped out due to ongoing torture, rape and execution. We are at a very critical time in our history and unfortunately time is not on our side.

For now, let's all concentrate on securing the release of Tulku Tenzin Delek whom could be executed in early December. We have prevailed in secur-

ing the release of many political prisoners in the past and we will be able to secure the release of Tulku Tenzin Delek. I seriously hope the Chinese realize the consequences of executing Tulku Tenzin Delek. They have pushed us so far and there is no room left to push us except for us to retaliate.

Sometimes, I wonder how long we have to keep writing petitions, sending e-mails and faxes to different heads of the world, organizing demonstrations, Walking and Riding for Tibet's Independence, etc. These campaigns do produce results but have not resulted in the ultimate goal of Complete Independence. I believe it's high time for us to put all options on the table and take the fight to the Chinese and FREE TIBET before 2008.

Let's get up, stand up and fight for Complete Independence for Tibet.

"ASK NOT WHAT YOUR COUNTRY CAN DO FOR YOU—ASK WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR COUNTRY" President John F. Kennedy, January 20, 1961.

Free Tenzin Delek Rinpoche

Support ITIM

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

email _____

Yes, I want to support ITIM! I have enclosed a check of:

- \$10
- \$20
- \$50
- \$100
- Other

Please make checks payable to **ITIM** and mail to:

ITIM

P.O. Box 592

Fishers, Indiana 46038 USA

ITIM is a 501c3 not for profit organization and donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by U.S. law.

Indiana Tibetan Centers

Tibetan Cultural Center

3655 Snoddy Road, Bloomington
www.tibetanc.org

Indiana Buddhist Center

263 North Madison Ave, Greenwood
www.IndianaBuddhist.org

Support

Tibetan Owned Indiana Restaurants

Anyetsang's Little Tibet

415 East 4th Street, Bloomington

Café Django

116 North Grant Street, Bloomington

Snow Lion Restaurant

113 South Grant, Bloomington

ITIM Committees and Meetings

The committees listed below meet on a regular basis in Indianapolis and also accomplish their missions through e-mail and phone correspondence. We welcome your participation in the work of these committees, even if you do not live in Indiana. Email rangzen@aol.com for further information about the work of these committees and about becoming a committee member and/or joining ITIM.

Program. Coordinates various educational, religious, and advocacy campaigns and programs including hosting monks and nuns.

Rangzen House. Coordinates vocational and educational training, employment and housing opportunities, and a host of social services for Tibetans who are interested in relocating or have already relocated to Central Indiana.

Tashi Lhunpo Monastery. Coordinates worldwide campaign to assist this Monastery and to secure the release of The Panchen Lama, Gendhun Choekyi Nyima.

General Meetings. ITIM meets 7pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at All Souls Unitarian Church (5805 E. 56th St., Indianapolis).