



Tibetan Community in Switzerland & Liechtenstein

Tibeter Gemeinschaft in der Schweiz & Liechtenstein

1/2

Office of the United Nations
High Commissioner for Human Rights
Mrs. Navanethem Pillay
Palais Wilson
52 rue des Pâquis
CH-1201 Geneva

Horgen, 25th April 2012

Defender of Human Rights – 11th Action of TCSL 2-year Campaign Appeal to UN to send an independent fact-finding mission to Tibet now!

Appeal to UN: "Freedom for the Panchen Lama, arrested as a child and held as the world's youngest political prisoner"

Your Excellency

Commencing May 30, 2011, Tibetans and their supporters have started a 2-year campaign to appeal to the UN to send an independent fact-finding mission to Tibet.

We kindly invite you to come and visit us at the site of our 11th action on Place des Nations on April 25, from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The action will be staged with the motto "Freedom for the Panchen Lama, arrested as a child and held as the world's youngest political prisoner". Tibetans and their supporters will stage actions to demand the immediate release of the Panchen Lama who has been held incommunicado with his family since 1995.

Only three days after his recognition by His Holiness the Dalai Lama as the 11th reincarnation of the Panchen Lama, Tibet's second most important spiritual leader, the then 6-year old boy Gedhun Choekyi Nyima disappeared with his family and has never been seen since in the public. It is widely assumed that he and his family members were arrested by China's security forces to prevent him from assuming his religious duties. Despite numerous requests by foreign diplomats and United Nations bodies, including the UN Committee Against Torture, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, as well as the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, for an independent investigation of his well-being and whereabouts, no access has been given to Gedhun Choekyi Nyima or his family who have been held incommunicado for almost 17 years.



Tibetan Community in Switzerland & Liechtenstein

Tibeter Gemeinschaft in der Schweiz & Liechtenstein

As it is the Panchen Lama who plays a crucial role in the recognition of the next reincarnation of the Dalai Lama, China's objectives behind the disappearance of the Panchen Lama are clear. Meanwhile the Chinese government has installed a fake Panchen Lama, who is not recognized by the Tibetan people, planning that he will once recognize a "Dalai Lama" obedient to the Communist Party and with him grasp ultimate control over Tibetan Buddhism. Thus, Gedhun Choekyi Nyima has been rightfully called the world's youngest political prisoner. On the day of this event, he will turn 23 years.

We appeal to you, Your Excellency, and to the United Nations to support our demands to send an independent fact-finding mission with unhindered access to Tibet now and support our following demands:

That China allows immediate access for independent rapporteurs to visit the Panchen Lama and his family

That the Panchen Lama and his family be released from their arrest and granted unrestricted freedom of movement.

Yours sincerely

Mr. Tsering Wangdak Batsang :
Horgen Section of the TCSL

Mr. Drongdu Sonam Dorje:
Lausanne Section of the TCSL

Kopie: UN General Secretary, Mr. Ban Ki Moon