



Tibetan Community in Switzerland & Liechtenstein

Tibeter Gemeinschaft in der Schweiz & Liechtenstein

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

Birmenstorf, 29th September 2011

Your Excellency

With deep sadness and anguish, we have to learn that two young Tibetan monks of Kirti Monastery set themselves on fire on September 26, 2011. Two fatal cases of self-immolation have already occurred this year, one of them also at Kirti Monastery. Before setting themselves on fire, the two monks aged only 18 and 19 years raised slogans against the wrong policies of the Chinese government in Tibet and the continued repression on Kirti Monastery.

In view of the continued repression, “patriotic re-education”, witch hunting and incarceration of monks at Kirti monastery that has been going on since 2008 and particularly since March of this year, many monks see no other way than committing these drastic actions as an act of desperation.

The Government of the People’s Republic of China with their repressive policies in the whole of Tibet, resulting in atrocious human rights violations, is ultimately responsible for the root causes of these terrible acts.

Your Excellency, we have already been alerting you to the manifold aspects of human rights violations in Tibet through our regular actions on the Place des Nations, and we have also alerted you to the first two cases of self-immolation with fatal outcome through our memo dated 19th August 2011.

Please support our case by sending a fact-finding mission with unhindered access to Tibet.

Please let us also reiterate the demands of our memorandum dated 30th May 2011, demanding your support and urgent action:

- Immediate withdrawal of all security forces from Kirti and Nyitso monasteries where the acts of self-immolation occurred;
- Full freedom of movement for all monks and lay people within and around these monasteries;
- Disclosure of the whereabouts of the 300 monks of Kirti Monastery who were deported and their immediate release from confinement;



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- Immediate end to all actions that inhibit the freedom to exercise religious activities at Kirti, Nyitso and all other Tibetan monasteries;
- Initiation of a meaningful dialogue with the envoys of His Holiness the Dalai Lama for a peaceful and amicable resolution of the Tibet issue.

In addition, we demand that full and unrestricted medical care is provided to the two Kirti monks who have apparently survived with serious injuries.

We thank you for your kind consideration and urgent action. We did not receive any replies to our previous letters. Humbly, we are asking you to send us a reply.

Yours sincerely

S. Memmishofer

S. Memmishofer-Pasang
President of the Tibetan Community in Switzerland & Liechtenstein