

URGENT ACTION

FEARS FOR TIBETAN MONK DETAINED IN CHINA

Tibetan monk Choephel Dawa has not been heard from since he was detained by police on 28 March. It is not known where he is being held, or the charges against him, and he is at risk of torture and other ill-treatment.



Tibetan monk **Choephel Dawa**, 27, was detained by local police in Sog County, Nagchu Prefecture, Tibet Autonomous Region, on the night of 28 March. It is not known where he is being held, and he has not had any access to lawyers or his family. While the reason for his detention is unknown, people in the local area believe it is due to him sharing photographs of the Dalai Lama on WeChat, a popular messaging platform in China.

Choephel Dawa is from Sok Tsanden Monastery in Yagla Township, Sog County. The monastery and those living in the village are under tight surveillance by the Chinese authorities due to the history of activism in the area. Choephel Dawa was previously detained in January 2012 and served a two-year prison sentence due to possessing photos on his mobile phone of self-immolations by Tibetans in protest against Chinese rule.

Torture and other ill-treatment remain endemic in all places of detention in China, and this risk is even greater for those who are not allowed access to their family or lawyer.

Please write immediately in Chinese, English or your own language:

- Urging the authorities to immediately disclose the whereabouts and legal status of Choephel Dawa;
- Calling on them to ensure he has regular access to a lawyer and family, and is protected from torture and other ill-treatment;
- Calling on them to immediately and unconditionally release Choephel Dawa, unless he is charged with an internationally recognizable criminal offence.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 10 JUNE 2015 TO:

Commissioner of Nagqu Prefectural

Administrative Office

Tan Yongshou

Nagqu Prefectural Administrative Office

No.26, Zhejiang West Road, Naqu Zhen,

Nagqu County, Nagchu Prefecture,

Tibet Autonomous Region, 852000

People's Republic of China

Chairman of Tibet Autonomous Region

Losang Jamcan

The People's Government of the Tibet

Autonomous Region,

No. 1, Kangang East Road,

Chengguan District,

Lhasa City,

Tibet Autonomous Region, 850000

People's Republic of China

And copies to:

Minister of Public Security of the

People's Republic of China

Guo Shengkun

Ministry of Public Security of the

People's Republic of China,

No. 14, East Changan Street,

Beijing, 100741

People's Republic of China

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ethnic Tibetans in China face discrimination and restrictions on their rights to freedom of religion, expression, association and assembly. Since the mass protests in 2008 against Chinese rule, the Chinese government has stepped up repression in Tibetan areas and imposed intrusive military and security controls. The authorities continue to subject Tibetans to "patriotic education", which forces them to denounce the Dalai Lama and express support for the Chinese Communist Party. Tibetan monasteries and nunneries have been a major target of the Chinese authorities' patriotic education campaigns.

Name: Choephel Dawa

Gender m/f: Male

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