



# འགྲོ་བུ་རྒྱལ་ཁོངས་ Rangzen Voice

International Tibet Independence Movement

Official Newsletter of ITIM

Fall-Winter / 2006

## Young and Old Tibetans “March for Tibet’s Independence”



Photo by David Huang  
Dawa Phutsok (L) and Tsering Youdon (R).

The 2006 “March for Tibet’s Independence” from Charlottesville, Virginia to Washington, D.C. was quite successful. In many ways, it had a greater impact than our previous walks and bike rides. The core group of walkers included 16 people (12 Tibetans & 4 Westerners) from Massachusetts, Illinois, New York, Indiana, Hawaii, Virginia, Vermont, New York, and Pennsylvania. The walkers ranged in age from 25 to 71! Many individuals joined the 10-day walk along the way, especially Tibetans from Charlottesville who not only walked, but sponsored many meals. One of the leaders of the Taiwan independence movement also joined us the last few days. We greatly appreciated his presence and the long-standing support we have received from the Taiwanese community for Tibet’s independence.

During the course of the walk, we gave presentations at a number of high schools and churches. These presentations were well received. We also stayed in many churches of various denominations (i.e., Unitarian Universalist, Presbyterian, Episcopal) and in Tibetan homes. The generosity of our hosts was incredible and will always be cherished.

The local media and the various Tibetan Radio Services (i.e., Radio Free Asia, Voice



Photo by David Huang  
Young Tibetan Walker.



Photo by David Huang  
Young Tibetan Walker.

of America, Voice of Tibet) provided excellent coverage of our activities and progress.

The last few days of the walk were truly remarkable. Thanks to the International Campaign for Tibet, the walkers were able to



Photo by David Huang  
Pala Dorje.

lobby their U.S. Congresspersons about awarding His Holiness The Dalai Lama the Congressional Gold Medal. The day spent on Capitol Hill was incredibly effective and empowering. Four Congresspersons agreed on the spot to endorse the Gold Medal resolution.

The last day of the walk also proved to be noteworthy. A carefully orchestrated demonstration in front of The PRC Embassy in D.C. turned out to be highly emotional for all those in attendance. China’s flag and Tibet’s flag were used in an action designed to stress to those in attendance the importance of strengthening the movement to secure Tibet’s independence. Four of the stars in China’s flag were also cut out symbolizing the fact that Tibet, East Turkistan, Southern Mongolia, and Manchuria should be independent countries and not represented in China’s flag.

The ITIM Board of Directors and the walkers want to thank all of you who supported this “March for Tibet’s Independence.” We will continue to walk until Tibetans once again rule Tibet.

For more walk details and images, visit [www.rangzen.org](http://www.rangzen.org).



Rangzen Voice

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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## Coming Home: Prospect of Return of HHDL to Homeland Gerry Baker, Vice President, ITIM

For the Tibetan people much was lost that night in 1959 when His Holiness and His entourage crossed the Lhasa river on His first steps toward exile. Looking back, some must have known that they would never see their homes again. Others, perhaps younger and more optimistic, thought world governments would rally to their cause. As we now know, events consigned the "Tibet issue" to the ongoing struggle between nations for ideological supremacy and righteousness was sacrificed to expediency. Today China attempts to rewrite history, to marginalize The Dalai Lama and subsume the Tibetan nation. Those of us who have been touched by the message of His Holiness and the plight of the Tibetan people continue to work towards that day when all Tibetans will be able to return home.

Forces are at work that will bring that day closer. China has made a choice. No longer a closed society economically it has yet to grasp that personal freedom is an essential ingredient for capitalism to thrive. China likes to think of itself as a great nation but as long as fear dictates its responses it will remain reactive and not worthy of its great history. Two recent events highlight for the world the repressive nature of China's current leadership. His Holiness The Dalai Lama has been awarded honorary citizenship by Canada and awarded the Congressional Gold Medal by the United States. Both of these honors were awarded to His Holiness for His service to mankind. China has officially protested both actions, thus exhibiting

its small-mindedness in refusing to recognize His achievements let alone begin earnest negotiations of the issues facing Tibet.

The Dalai Lama remains a focus for Tibetan freedom. The definitions of that freedom differ from Rangzen to true autonomy and China wants no part of either. But the die is cast. The free market economy opens China to world scrutiny. In its effort to show off its material progress, China by hosting the Olympic games in 2008, will magnify that scrutiny. As Tibet supporters, we need to take every opportunity to shine light on the words and actions of the Chinese leadership that are not congruent with standards of human rights and conduct. "Its an internal affair, mind your own business" has long been the response of the Chinese government to criticism. That argument weakens in a world economy where investment rides on a stable labor force and higher standards of living bring opportunities for education.

The time for dialogue between China and The Dalai Lama is now. The time for His Holiness to be able to return home is now. Through government actions such as those by Canada and the U.S. much support is leveraged for these goals. We must now build on this momentum and demand that China deal with this issue. We owe it to the man who has given us so much at such a high cost to His people to do everything we can to ensure that He will once again be able to stand upon the soil of His fatherland.

### Glimpse of ITIM Funding

ITIM regularly supports the activities and needs of Tibetan organizations and Tibetans. Thus far in 2006, ITIM has contributed \$4,156 to help the following organizations and Tibetans.

*Tibetan Sports Association-India.* ITIM contributed \$500 to the Men's Tibetan National Football Team to help offset the expense of their participation in the FIFA World Cup in Hamburg, Germany. ITIM also donated \$500 to support a football tournament for Tibetan girls from six Tibetan Schools in the Mandi and Kangra Districts of Himachal Pradesh, India.

*Tibetan Cultural Center (TCC)-Indiana.* ITIM purchased \$631 in sporting goods equipment (e.g., Basketball Backboard/Hoop, Soccer Goals, Badminton Set) and donated it to the TCC. This equipment was donated so that Tibetan teenagers from different parts of the USA who were attending a cultural camp at the TCC would have an opportunity to engage in some recreational activities. ITIM also donated \$150 for the reinstallation of the "Room for Remembrance: Reflections of Tibet."

*Mt. Kailash Tibetan Cultural Troupe-Chicago.* ITIM donated \$375 to this performance group of

Tibetan teenagers to offset their expense of traveling to Bloomington, Indiana. This Troupe participated in the "Tibetan Art Fair: Celebrating the Year of the Fire Dog," organized by the TCC.

*TYC-Portland & TYC-Minnesota.* These two Regional TYCs sent large groups of protestors to demonstrate against President Hu Jintao of The PRC when he visited Seattle and Washington, DC. ITIM donated a total of \$500 to these TYCs to help with their expenses when traveling to the demonstrations.

*Students for a Free Tibet (SFT).* To protest the opening of China's railroad to Lhasa, SFT orchestrated a highly effective "direct action" in Beijing. ITIM contributed \$500 to SFT to assist with the expenses of this activity.

*Phuntsog Nyidron.* ITIM donated \$500 to Phuntsog Nyidron to help with her personal expenses. Phuntsog-la was one of the "Drapchi 14" Tibetan Nuns imprisoned by the Chinese.

*Palden Gyatso.* ITIM donated \$500 to the Venerable Palden Gyatso to help with his personal expenses while he was on a speaking tour in the USA. Palden-la is a Monk who spent 33 years as a political prisoner in a PRC prison.

## Is an Independent Tibetan Nation Out of the Question?

Thupten Anyetsang, Bloomington, Indiana

Just recently, we welcomed back to Dharamsala our fifth delegation of His Holiness The Dalai Lama's envoys that visited Beijing. The Tibetans in exile anticipate with high hopes returning to their beloved country assuming such discussions will lead to a concrete result. It is the case, whenever any Head of State, or world parliamentary leaders receives His Holiness, we the majority of Tibetan public always assume leaders were discussing the topic of self-determination for Tibetans and that our Independence from China is near. However, Tibet's fate as a nation remains unchanged after forty years. Instead the Chinese leadership today is no closer to accepting Tibet into nationhood than before. Their position is unchanged: Tibet is a part of China and will always be a part of the "Great Motherland." It is very true we have made extraordinary achievements in the public awareness of Tibet, in the field of education, in the preserving of our culture, and in the rebuilding of monasteries in exile etc. It is also true the world leaders and Parliamentary groups recognize Chinese human rights abuses and religious suppression in Tibet. World Leaders and parliamentary groups seem to be unable to press China for self-determination for the Tibetan people. China has hotly proclaimed it is an internal issue of the Chinese Government and will hear no outside opinion. But most importantly and sadly, no nation will assert Tibet has the right to self-determination even though the U.N. general assembly passed three resolutions in 1959, 1960 and 1967.

For over forty years, we have lobbied with peaceful demonstrations, peace walks, many hunger strikes, and peace concerts. All these years we have struggled for our rights through nonviolence, yet China has not made the slightest budge on the issue of Tibet's Independence. Now we have substituted the goal of self-determination and autonomy within Tibet while still existing as a part of China for that of outright Independence. We have had to give in too much just to establish a dialogue with the Chinese side. Our Prime Minister even instructed Tibetan exiles not to demonstrate during the visit of Chinese officials in the West in order not to antagonize them. His Holiness The Dalai Lama publicly stated we are not asking for Independence. His Holiness must realize the Chinese are not likely to give up any control of their province, the "Western Treasure House," or grant any "autonomy" to the Tibetan people. His Holiness has given up the issue of Independence (as a way for the

Chinese to save face), if He can achieve some sort of self-rule for Tibet even if it still remains under the Chinese flag. Just recently, a few Nobel Laureates appealed to China to grant autonomy to Western Tibet. That is only half of Tibet. What was formerly called Kham and Amdo have been made a part of Western China, leaving Western Tibet to be called the "Tibetan Autonomous Region." Why not ask for self-determination for all Tibetan people? In their ruthless annexation of Tibet, the Chinese committed religious repression, political torture, environmental destruction, and violated human rights and virtually violated every thing mankind cherishes. During the Cultural Revolution, even more atrocities were committed. The Chinese people suffered greatly during this period but Tibet was treated especially harshly.

As Buddhists, we look to the nonviolent approach of Mahatma Gandhi for a method of achieving our political goals. Mr. Gandhi got Indian Independence through peaceful strikes never giving up the goal of regaining Indian sovereignty from the British, while our approach is to give up our claim to our sovereignty and suzerainty to China as a bargaining strategy. Before Mr. Gandhi came from South Africa, the Indian Congress leaders were pursuing home rule from the British; we are also trying to achieve some sort of similar home rule. Mr. Gandhi told his Indian Congress leaders if they are pursuing a home rule for India, then he did not want any part of it. He didn't want anything less than full Independence from the British Raj. Finally, he did lead India to achieve full Independence through peaceful means.

We should not lose our determination to work towards full Independence. In reality, full autonomy can only be achieved by means of full Independence. Much time is spent appealing to release a few particular Tibetan prisoners, complaining about the building of the railroad, publicizing examples of the suppression of religious freedom, environmental damages, etc., but the call for an Independent Tibet is seldom if ever heard being uttered by world leaders. The whole of Tibet is under house arrest and there are hundreds of prisoners still in Chinese jails. What about them? Is it possible to have real autonomy and self-rule by Tibetans without Independence?

In my opinion, the new railroad is good for Tibet provided it benefits Tibetans rather than

enhances the Chinese military build up and the transfer of Han Chinese populations to Tibet. We live in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Economic development is a necessity. We will need major super highways, electricity and running water in every Tibetan home, and modern telecommunications systems and we need modern hospitals all over Tibet. We need airports and factories that can fulfill our domestic needs. We need a school system that meets international standards. We need high tech industries and a bus system our people can use to travel throughout the nation with ease. Assuming China decides to grant Tibet a full autonomy for three of our provinces to live under China, we will still need all the above to compete within the growing modern economic system. His Holiness also welcomes the railway system if this will enhance Tibetan economic development and employment opportunities for Tibetan people.

The bottom line is quite clear, we not only need religious freedom and economic development, we need to have the power to make our own decisions concerning the use of these and the control of our own destiny as Tibetans. The Chinese government has demonstrated time and again they do not serve the interests of the Tibetan people; they serve their own political ends and will go to any lengths to achieve them, regardless of world opinion. We demand every inch of land taken from us and only then will we have parity with the Chinese and the possibility of an equal dialogue with Chinese leaders on how to maintain our common international boundary just like early treaties between the two countries. "Tibetan people will live happily in land of Tibet and Chinese will live happily in the land of China." We need to keep our demands strong to negotiate with inflexible Communist leaders. Tibet must have freedom of religion, freedom to direct economic development, freedom of speech and movement, and lastly political freedom to make the decisions that affect the fate of the Tibetan people.

We must get back every inch of Tibet's Land that belonged to us since King Ngyatri Tsenpo, King Sangtsen Gampo, and The Dalai Lamas. We must never forget the sacrifices made by the courageous Tibetan Freedom Fighters who gave up their lives in order Tibet might continue to be free. Long live His Holiness The Dalai Lama; long live the people of Tibet. As long as we never give up, someday Tibet will be free!!!

## Why We Must Keep Helping China

Gail Henrie, ITIM Secretary



Stupa at the base of Mt. Kalish, Tibet.

Photo by Gail Henrie

I was in Tibet June 21 to 25: June 21 in Lhasa, June 22 in Shagatse, June 23 in Gyantse, and June 24 and 25 in Lhasa. Prior to that, I spent two and a half weeks traveling through China (Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Shenzhen). I loved China and I loved Tibet. They are very different. Unless you spend time in each, you won't realize that. My time in China was spent in urban areas, working on potential covertures between our U.S. heartland business owners and counter parts in China.

In Tibet, there were omnipresent PRC authorities - far more noticeable than in China proper. The secret police were everywhere, even in the halls of our hotel. There were officials, military personnel, military vehicles, checkpoints and armed guards everywhere. I lived for a year under the dictatorship of Francisco Franco in Spain. This was remarkably similar, even down to the secret police that were easily identified by their bearing, classy clothes, and 24-hour sunglasses.

One of the hardest things to experience was the underlying fear in Tibet of not just the Chinese but each other. Everyone is careful what he or she says. My ever-patient guide cautioned me several times when not to speak, especially about The Panchen Lama

at Tashi Lhunpo Monastery. Tibetans know how to survive. They live with their situation with tremendous dignity and stoicism and do their best. They say very little about the Chinese, if at all. Their Buddhist practice gives them a tie to what was and must be preserved.

I was completely open about my feelings about Tibet and my work with the independence movement before we applied for visas. If anyone was questioned about me, they could not report anything the Chinese did not already know. I left out my computer and digital cameras so they could check my pictures. At least one "disappeared" from my hard drive, but they were basically very generous with what I got to take out. I was able to give a friend's mother vitamins, which we did in the open in front of the hotel. It was perfectly legal. The Chinese let it happen. This woman was an ex-political prisoner who happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time and ended up in prison. She is no threat to anyone and never was.

I hope China becomes very prosperous and stable. I hope my clients can do lots of business there. But for China to really prosper, they must "play fair" in the eyes of the world. If they can't guarantee the safety of their citizens and those under their control



Photo by Gail Henrie

Storefront in Lhasa, Tibet.

and enforce their own laws, how can outside businesses and other countries be assured they will be treated fairly and their investments protected? There have been infrastructure improvements but at what cost? People seem to have enough to eat and there is new housing, but they are afraid to talk to each other.

I came back humbled by the courage of the Tibetans, and more convinced than ever that if we had not been helping China to be accountable, things in Tibet AND China would be far worse. We must continue our efforts. We must continue to demonstrate nonviolence and compassion for all involved. We should set the tone we want China to follow.

It is also obvious Tibet is not part of China by choice, and that a free, independent Tibet is the only answer. I honestly believe this is best for China too.

Bhod Rangzen!



**Help Release  
The Panchen Lama**  
[www.rangzen.org](http://www.rangzen.org)

**Missing 11 years: Free  
The Panchen Lama Now!**

བློ་གསལ་པོ་ཚོ།  
ལྷ་མིའི་ཅ་ལག་མ་ཉོ་དང།  
**Buy Tibetan!  
Boycott China's  
Goods!**

## Khorwa: Tibet-The Land and Its People Douglas F. Herman, ITIM Board Member

In the summer of 2002, I crossed the Himalayan Mountains and entered Tibet just learning how to control a camera. Prior to embarking upon this journey, my only exposure to Tibetan culture was mistaken for Nepalese during a thirty-eight day trek throughout the Annapurna Region of Nepal. In 1997, I had attended a Tibetan Freedom Concert and had seen 'Seven Years in Tibet.' I knew who The Dalai Lama was but nothing tangible of Tibetan history. In 1996, I was studying Chinese language and culture in Beijing and knew that it would require some really



Photographer unknown

Consul John Zavrel (L) and Douglas F. Herman (R).

hard independent travel to reach Tibet...hard traveling I was simply not interested in taking. When I started my Chinese language studies in 1994, I had no concept of Tibet as a historically independent nation, and it never came up in my studies of Chinese culture. When I first started really caring about my education in 1990, I had no idea there was a place called Tibet, and if asked I wouldn't have been able to locate it on a map of Asia.

There was a moment in the silence before people began filtering into the Museum of European Art in Clarence, N.Y. for the opening of "Khorwa: Tibet-The Land & its People," I forgot which pictures still needed to be sprayed with Windex to remove the dust from the glass. No one's heels were clacking on the surface of the smooth tiled floor. No one was inside that room beside myself. I stood at the center of the room in silence surrounded by three years of photographic effort focused on increasing awareness of Tibet. Surrounded much the same as I was when inside the Himalayan Mountains, when inside the Jokhang by prostrating pilgrims, when wandering the countryside in deafening silence. Surrounded by something unspoken, by my thoughts and emotions, by my confusion and my clarity in mission.

It is now 2006 and I can find Tibet on a globe in a thrift shop on South Street in Philadelphia. I can remember more Tibetan than Chinese. This past summer my photography students organized and performed in their own Tibetan Freedom Concert attended by 400 people. When I get in a taxi in New York City I can tell the difference between a Nepalese driver and a Tibetan one. So much has changed since I was a schoolboy but there are still millions of schoolboys out there just like me in 1990, regardless of their age. It is 2006 and I hope this work changes something. For more info on "Khorwa: Tibet- The Land & Its People" visit [www.meaus.com](http://www.meaus.com).

བོད་རང་བཙུན། **Independence for Tibet!**

## Our Common Desire Kimberly Pearl Namgyal, Indianapolis, Indiana

On September 11, I attended an Interfaith Prayer Service for world peace. As each representative of Christianity, Judaism, Muslim, Quaker, Native American, and Buddhism led us in prayer, it seemed to me the world has become more interconnected since those terrible attacks on my country. We all have a common desire for world peace.

Geshe-la Jinpa Sonam, of the Indiana Buddhist Center ([www.indianabuddhist.org](http://www.indianabuddhist.org)), said the suffering human beings experience is caused mainly by our negative mentality - ignorance, hatred and attachment. "It is therefore important for all of us to practice genuinely what our spiritual master has taught us of virtuous deeds, loving kindness and compassion to benefit each other and every sentient being," Geshe-la instructed.

Finding a spiritual master is not always easy! If The People's Republic of China hadn't illegally occupied Tibet, I may have missed finding my spiritual masters, His Holiness The Dalai Lama and Geshe Jinpa Sonam. His Holiness continues to seek a peaceful solution to the Tibet issue through dialogue with the Chinese leadership. He has been recognized throughout the world for His advocacy of non-violence, human rights, and religious harmony.

I recently asked Venerable Lobsang Chukyi if so many people have the same hope of world peace, why hasn't it been accomplished? She replied we are closer than we think.

We are truly one human family. Acts of virtuous deeds, loving kindness, and compassion towards each other and all sentient beings will ripple and be felt all over the world. It must start within our own mind-stream and move forward to our friends and families, as our children are our future. Our practice should continue towards our community and leaders, but most of all towards our enemies, our greatest teachers, challenging us to develop tolerance, patience, and compassion. It is extremely essential to encourage and support each and everyone in their practice! Our younger generations will be even better at it than we are. So yes, world peace is possible and we have to be close, all sentient beings are relying on it!

## Reject Railway Demonstration Chicago



In solidarity with others worldwide, individuals gathered on June 30th at China's Consulate-Chicago to protest the China-Tibet railway. About 10 persons from Minnesota, 5 from Madison, 25 from Chicago, and one from Indiana participated including many young Tibetans. Representatives from Tibetan Alliance of Chicago, Regional Tibetan Youth Congress-Minnesota, and ITIM were present. A Tibetan requested a Chicago police officer give The PRC officials a declaration written in Chinese rejecting the railway. This officer agreed to this request.



## Donations Received Charlottesville, VA, to Washington, DC, "March for Tibet's Independence," Summer 2006

Lhundup Amdo	20.00	Formosan Assoc. for Public Affairs	200.00	A.D. Nation	50.00	Tibetan Assn. of Northern California	250.00
Anonymous	10.00	Friends of Maui Dharma Center	410.00	Tsewang Ngodup	10.00	Tibetan Assn. of Southern California	350.00
Gerry & Bert Baker	108.00	Dhondup & Tsering Gonsar	50.00	Tsewang Ngodup & Tashi Chozom	10.00	Tibetan Women's Assn. of NY/NJ	505.00
Karsang Baro	25.00	Jeffrey Granett	115.00	Tsering Ngodup, Bodhi Tree LLC	50.00	Julie Tisthammer	50.00
Tenzin Barshee	20.00	Kunsang Gyaltzen	100.00	Tenzin Nyandak	25.00	Tsamla Tsamla & Jang C. Sherpa	105.00
Linda & Harry Bates	100.00	Sangay Gyatso	10.00	Thinley Nyandak	35.00	Tashi Tsechen	5.00
Boston Tibetan Donations	105.00	Baro Gyurme	20.00	Lester Padriga	33.00	Bhuchung K. Tsering	20.00
Bull Run Unitarian Universalists	500.00	Carrie Hill	35.00	Sonam Palkyi	30.00	Dawa Tsering	15.00
Janet Butorac	200.00	International Campaign for Tibet	350.00	Gyurmey Pangshing	25.00	Pasang Tsering	10.00
Capital Area Tibetan Association	200.00	Neville Jacobs	50.00	Presbyterian Church Members	22.00	Thapkey Tsering	25.00
Charlottesville Supporters	32.00	Tsewang Jaheltsang	10.00	Valerie Purvin	200.00	Dawa Tsering (Portland)	20.00
Stephen & Louisa Chen	250.00	Jamyang	15.00	Tibetan Youth Congress Bay Area	100.00	Dorjee Tseten	10.00
Chicago Tibetans	50.00	Tenzin Jamyang	100.00	Tibetan Youth Congress NY & NJ	500.00	Tashi Tso & Chewang Lama	120.00
Kalsang Chodak	25.00	Tenzing Jamyang	10.00	Tibetan Youth Congress Seattle	50.00	Jampa Tsondue	25.00
TenzinChoeoden	5.00	Tenzin Jigme	5.00	Tibetan Youth Congress Toronto	130.26	Gyamtso Tsumpa	21.00
Ngawang Choedhar	10.00	Ngawang Jimpa	25.00	Emily Rothman	250.00	U.S. Tibet Committee	115.00
Thinley Choegyral (Vancouver)	30.00	John	10.00	Ratna Samhel	25.00	UTSO Tibetan Boutique	55.00
Dorjee Choephel	25.00	Tenzin Jordhen	50.00	Norbu Samphel	10.00	Phuntsok Wangdak	50.00
Tsering Choephel (Vancouver)	25.00	Tenzin Kalsang	25.00	Tenzin Dawa Samphel	10.00	Norbu Wangdue	35.00
Pasang Chok	25.00	Ngawang Kalsang (Vancouver)	20.00	Gyaltzen Tsering Samsur	100.00	Samten Wangmo	25.00
Committee of 100 for Tibet	200.00	Lary	50.00	Santa Barbara Friends of Tibet	75.00	Tashi Wangmo	50.00
Kunya S. Desjardins	50.00	Bhu Lhakpa	20.00	Namgyal Shallung	20.00	World Fed. of Taiwanese Assoc.	500.00
Dho Dho	38.00	Sonam Lhamo	10.00	Srs of St. Benedict, M. Funk Outreach	75.00	World United Fomosans for Indep.	200.00
Nyima Dhondup	27.00	Kunsang Lolowogma	20.00	Nyima Tashi	100.00	Yama	20.00
Ngawang Dhondup (Portland)	25.00	Manassas Unitarian Universalists	671.25	Xiangpa Tengda	80.00	Julia & Ruey Yang	300.00
Dhondup Dinkhang	30.00	Doris McDaniels	50.00	Tenzin	10.00	Sonam Yangzom	50.00
Dickyi Dolkar	10.00	Members, Tibetan Assn. of Santa Fe	376.00	Tibet Center New Mexico Inc.	105.00	Tsering Yangzom	25.00
Tashi Dondup & Family	25.00	David & Leslie Morris	30.00	Tibetan Alliance of Chicago	100.00	Tseten Zurkhang	50.00
Nyima Dorjee	25.00	Richard Most	32.00	Tibetan Association of Austin, Texas	50.00	<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>\$11,025.51</b>
Tseten Dorjee	10.00	Tenzin Namgyal	5.00	Tibetan Association of Boston	125.00		
Tsultrim Dorjee	25.00	Namgyal	13.00	Tibetan Association of Colorado	300.00		
Dawn G. Engle	100.00	Namlha	22.00	Tibetan Association of Ithaca	75.00		

### Meal Sponsors

Lhundup Amdo  
Tsering Amdo  
Charlottesville Tibetans  
Tenzin Chodon  
Rinzin C. Dengkhim  
Sonam Dickey  
Sonam Doma  
Gyatso & Dolma

Karma & Choedon  
Dorjee Nargee & Family  
Tenzin Norzin  
Samdup Phuti  
Rabten Shatsang & Family  
Tenzin Thoesam & Family  
Gyaltzen Tsangpo & Family  
Dorjee Tso & Friends  
Tashi Youdon

### Karma Zurkhang

### Driving Support

Tenzin Choedon  
Seldon

### Housing Sponsors

Bull Run Unitarian Universalists Church  
Gyatso & Dolma

Manassas Unitarian Universalists Church  
Piedmont Episcopal Church  
Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church, Catlett  
Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church, Culpeper  
Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church Unitarian  
Universalists  
Gyaltzen Tsangpo & Family  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax

## Scenes From 2006 March



Photo by David Huang



Photo by David Huang



Photo by David Huang



Photo by David Huang



Photographer unknown  
Phuntsog Nyidron with ITIM Board Members.

### Financial Summary 2006 March

<i>Money Received</i>	
Donations	11,025.51
Walk T-shirts sales	3,647.00
Other Merchandise	435.00
<b>Total Money Received</b>	<b>15,107.51</b>

<i>Money Spent</i>	
Bank Service Charge	9.00
Contract Services	300.00
Food	1,212.52
Marketing & Advertising	548.18
Postage & Shipping	135.10
Printing, Copying, Publications	368.23
Supplies	467.95
Telephone/Phone cards	30.08
Airplane, Bus, Taxi	1,093.80
Gasoline	734.61
Tolls	16.95
Vehicle Rental	1,581.44
Hospital & Medical Supplies	568.00
Walk T-shirts	2,297.53
<b>Total Money Spent</b>	<b>9,363.39</b>

<b>Total Money Received</b>	<b>15,107.51</b>
<b>Total Money Spent</b>	<b>9,363.39</b>
<b>Total Money Remaining*</b>	<b>5,744.12</b>

\*Note. This money will be used to continue to support, for instance, Tibetans, Tibet projects, and future "Marches and Bike Rides for Tibet's Independence."

## His Holiness The Dalai Lama Earns Congressional Gold Medal



Photo by David Huang

2006 Walkers for Tibet's Independence Meeting with Congressman Mike Pence.

The International Campaign for Tibet (ICT) successfully spearheaded a campaign to award His Holiness The Dalai Lama the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal. This is the highest civilian honor granted by the U.S. Congress. His Holiness was recognized for His advocacy work linked with religious harmony, non-violence, and human rights throughout the world, and for His efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Tibet issue through dialogue with the Chinese leadership.

The Congress has expressed its deep appreciation to individuals who have made outstanding contributions through the occasional commissioning of Gold Medals. Some previous recipients of the Medal include George Washington, Pope John Paul II, Nelson Mandela, and Elie Wiesel. In October 2006, President George Bush is expected to sign the bill awarding His Holiness the Medal. Once the bill becomes law, Congressional leaders will consult with the U.S. Mint on a design for the Medal. The Medal will feature a portrait of His Holiness. The Medal will also be produced in Bronze and made available for sale to the public. It is anticipated the ceremony to award His Holiness the Gold Medal will take place in Fall 2007.

Participants in the 2006 "March for Tibet's Independence" from Charlottesville to Washington, D.C. were instrumental in helping to secure the necessary Congressional votes to secure the Gold Medal for His Holiness. During their walk, they visited the halls of Congress and successfully lobbied Congressional officials about the Medal Campaign. Charlotte Oldham-Moore, Susan Mizrahi, and other staff members from ICT accompanied the walkers and they assisted with arranging meetings and providing the walkers with the necessary materials and briefings.

ITIM supporters throughout the U.S.A. also successfully lobbied their Congresspersons about the Medal Campaign.

Thanks to all of you who participated in this campaign, and a very special thanks to ICT for having the vision and wisdom to pursue this award for His Holiness. This recognition for His Holiness was long overdue and this accomplishment is definitely a major milestone in the movement to return Tibet to Tibetans.

### Support Tibetan Owned Indiana Restaurants

**Anyetsang's Little Tibet**  
415 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomington  
**Café Django**  
116 North Grant Street, Bloomington  
**Snow Lion Restaurant**  
113 South Grant, Bloomington

### Indiana Tibetan Centers

**Tibetan Cultural Center**  
3655 Snoddy Road, Bloomington  
www.tibetanc.org  
**Indiana Buddhist Center**  
263 North Madison Ave, Greenwood  
www.IndianaBuddhist.org

### Tibetan Education And Children's Healthcare Fund

www.teachfund.org

### 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 Tuesday of each month at All Souls Unitarian Church (5805 E. 56<sup>th</sup> St., Indianapolis).

### Support ITIM

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
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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 46037-0592 USA**

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