



## **Tibet: 60 years of foreign occupation & oppression by China**

***Geneva, December 10, 2009: The Tibetan Community in Switzerland and Liechtenstein is organizing an authorized rally in Geneva on Thursday, the International Human Rights Day. Tibetans all over the world commemorate 2009, as 60 years of foreign occupation of their homeland and 50 years of oppression with ongoing human rights violations being committed by the People's Republic of China. Living under the alien domination, the Tibetan people are denied of the equal benefits of development with their fundamental right of freedom of expression and opinion, assembly and association, religion, and the freedom to maintain their unique culture and tradition.***

### **Tibet is an exclusion zone with no fair jurisdiction**

Since March 10, 2008, the Chinese authorities inflicted the Tibetan people with arbitrary trials leading to death sentences and many years of rigorous imprisonment, the denial of medical assistance to injured Tibetans or restricting the freedom of movement of people to get their daily needs and by closing Tibet to the foreign media and the international community, including the United Nations and its human rights mechanisms bodies.

Mrs. Navanethem Pillay, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights said at the 12th session of the UN Human Rights Council (HRC): "I followed with concern the recent disturbances in the Xinjiang Autonomous Region and those previously in the Tibetan Autonomous Region and surrounding areas. While condemning such violence and urging the Chinese authorities to respect human rights in upholding the law, I also encourage them to reflect on the underlying causes of such incidents, which include discrimination and the failure to protect minority rights."

As to the nature crackdowns and intimidation in Tibet, the Chinese authorities in Chamdo stated: "Twenty-nine security defense-teams consisting of 318 security defense-team personnel maintained 24-hour patrols throughout the entire county, and have strengthened control efforts in focus areas such as filling stations, power plants, hydropower plants, and county government and county Party office buildings; Public Security Bureau departments have carried out 10 concentrated checking activities, and strengthened management of entertainment centre and over the floating population and idle workers [a reference to Chinese migrant workers and the unemployed]; four card checkpoints have been established at major roads and bridges across the Jinsha [Tibetan: Drichu] river, and checks on people coming and going have been strengthened."

The Tibetan Community in Switzerland and Liechtenstein is convinced that with the lack of due process and the independence of the judiciary, trials in general and in particular for the four Tibetans who are believed to have been executed in October this year, violated international human rights standards. The right to a fair trial is a fundamental human right as affirmed by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) which China signed in 1998.

"We are deeply concerned about continued human rights abuses and stalled rule of law reform documented in the Commission's 2009 Annual Report. Many Chinese government policies designed to address social unrest and bolster the Communist Party's authority are resulting in a period of declining human rights for Chinese citizens," said Senator Byron L. Dorgan, Chairman of the Commission in a joint statement with Representative Sander Levin, Co-chairman of the Commission. The US Congressional-Executive Commission on China's 2009 report on Tibet (page 274–300) was released on October 16, 2009. <http://www.cecc.gov/pages/annualRpt/annualRpt09/CECCannRpt2009.pdf>.

On October 29, 2009 the European Union condemned the recent executions of two Tibetans, which were confirmed by China, in a Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the EU and recalled China that in case the death penalty is maintained, internationally recognized minimum standards must be respected. These include all possible safeguards to ensure a fair trial and adequate representation. [http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms\\_Data/docs/pressData/en/cfsp/110853.pdf](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/cfsp/110853.pdf).



Tibetan Community in Switzerland & Liechtenstein

Tibeter Gemeinschaft in der Schweiz & Liechtenstein

The Tibetan Community in Switzerland and Liechtenstein condemns the arbitrary, disproportionate and brutal response by the Chinese authorities following the Tibetan Uprising of 2008 and heavy-handed crackdowns on renewed protests on the Tibetan Plateau this year. We urge for your support to the six million Tibetan people in their non-violent resistance against China's repressive policies.

### **Rally program:**

11h Geneva, Maison des Associations, rue des Savoises 15 (near Place du Cirque)  
12h March to Palais Wilson, Headquarter UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
13h March to Place des Nations, UN Headquarter  
14h Assembly at Place des Nations

Program includes National Anthem, Minute's silence in commemoration of suppression victims, Prayers and several guest speakers.

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