



**Chadrel Rinpoche, former Abbot of Tashi Lhunpo**

This is an appeal to:

- Highcommissioner for Human Rights UN
- Special Rapporteur on Religion and Belief
- Minister of Justice of PR China
- Chinese Embassy in Germany, Austria and to the UN
- Director of Tibet Justice Department
- Prime Minister of PRC Wen Jiabao
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of the PRC
- Chairman of the TAR Government

Sender's name and address:

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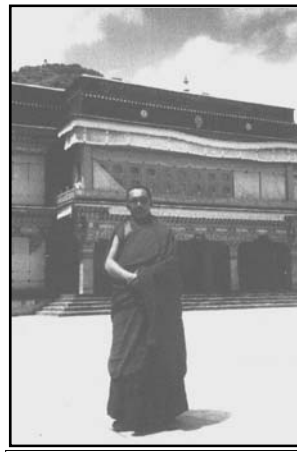
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**Ms. Navaneethem Pillai**  
UN Highcommissioner  
for Human Rights

Palais des Nations  
8-14 Avenue de la Paix  
**CH-1211 Geneva**  
Schweiz



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*Director of Tibet Justice Department*

**Meng Deli Juzhang**

Sifabu / Duodilu

**Lasashi 850 000**

Xizang Zizhiqu

**People's Republic of China**

Volksrepublik China



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**Padma Choling**  
Baima Chilin Zhuren  
**Xizang Zizhiqu Renmin Zhengfu**

1 Kang'angdonglu  
**Lasashi 850000**

Xizang Zizhiqu

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**Mr. Heiner Bielefeldt**

Special Rapporteur on Religion and Belief

Office of the UN Highcommissioner for Human Rights

8-14 Avenue de la Paix

**CH-1211 Geneva**

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## Dear Director,

The whereabouts of **Chadrel Jampa Trinley Rinpoche (Qiazha Qiangba 恰扎\* 强巴赤列 (Qiazha Qiangba Chile))**, who led the search for the reincarnation of the Panchen Lama, remain uncertain, although he is said to have been released from prison in January 2002. At the EU-China dialogue in Madrid a document was handed over that confirmed the release of Chadrel Rinpoche from Chuandong No. 3 prison. According to recent information he is being kept instead under house-arrest in an isolated resort (dujian cun) , which is nothing but an extended form of detention.

In 1989, **Chadrel Rinpoche**, then abbot of Tashi Lhunpo Monastery, was appointed by the Chinese government to lead the official search for the reincarnation of the Panchen Lama. In 1995, shortly after an announcement by the Dalai Lama, Chadrel Rinpoche disappeared along with the boy recognised as the Panchen Lama, 6 year old Gedhun Choekyi Nyima. After nearly 2 years detention, Chadrel Rinpoche was sentenced in April 1997 to 6 years imprisonment, based on accusations that he had conspired with the Dalai Lama and had conducted himself improperly. However, his decision to cooperate with the Dalai Lama was originally endorsed by the Chinese authorities in 1993. These accusations are therefore false. We are very much concerned over the dearth of news concerning Rinpoche's location and health condition. We therefore request information regarding the whereabouts and the status of Chadrel Rinpoche. We also call for his immediate and unconditional release from the alleged house arrest and request that he be restored to his former position as abbot of Tashi Lhunpo Monastery, Shigatse.

We also ask that international impartial observers be allowed access to **Gedhun Choekyi Nyima** and his family to establish their well-being. We furthermore would like to ask the Chinese authorities to respect Tibetan Buddhist traditions and culture and allow Tibetans to freely practice their religion without restrictions or interference.

Yours faithfully,

## Dear Madam,

The whereabouts of the Tibetan dignitary **Chadrel Jampa Trinley Rinpoche 恰扎\* 强巴赤列 (Qiazha Qiangba Chile)**, who led the search for the reincarnation of the Panchen Lama, remain uncertain, although he is said to have been released from prison in January 2002. At the EU-China dialogue in Madrid the Chinese delegation handed over a document that confirmed the release of Chadrel Rinpoche from Chuandong No. 3 prison. According to recent information he is being kept instead under house-arrest in an isolated resort (chin. dujian cun) south of Dib military camp in Lhasa, which is nothing but an extended form of detention.

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## Your Excellency,

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