



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

This is an appeal to:

- Highcommissioner for Human Rights UN
- United Nations Special Rapporteur on Religion and Belief
- Minister of Justice of PRC
- 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 People's Government

**Sender's name and address:**

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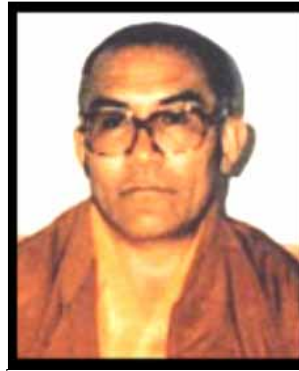
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**Botschaft der  
Volksrepublik China  
S.E. Botschafter  
Metternichgasse 4**

**A-1030 Wien  
Österreich**



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*Chairman of the TAR People's  
Congress Standing Committee*  
**Jampa Phuntsok**  
Xizang Zizhiqu Renmin Daibiao  
Dahui  
Changwu Wei Yuanhui  
**Lhasashi / Xizang Zizhiqu  
People's Republic of China  
Volksrepublik China**



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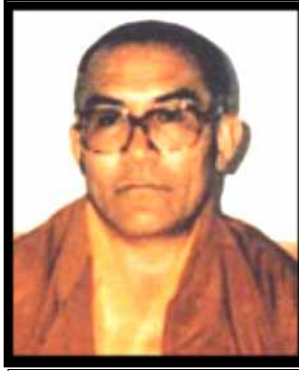
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*Minister of the State Nationalities  
Commission of the People's  
Republic of China*  
**Guojia Minzu Shiwu**

**Weiyuanhui  
252 Taipingqiao / Xichengqu  
Beijingshi 100800  
People's Republic of China  
Volksrepublik China**



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**Mr. Li Baodong**  
*Ambassador and Permanent  
Representative  
Chinese Mission to the United  
Nations*  
350, East 35th Street  
**New York, NY 10016  
USA**

**Your Excellency,**

The whereabouts of **Chadrel Jampa Trinley Rinpoche (Qiazha Qiangba Chi- 恰扎\* 强巴赤列 lie)**, 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,

**Your Excellency,**

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