

Global Letter Writing Campaign to Dhondup Wangchen

Dhondup Wangchen was arrested in Tibet on 26 March 2008 for filming interviews with ordinary Tibetans about their views on the Beijing Olympics, the Dalai Lama, and Chinese government policies in Tibet.

The resulting interviews provide a rare glimpse into the thoughts, feelings, joys, and hardships of Tibetans living under occupation.

To view ‘Leaving Fear Behind’ and judge for yourself visit: <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=8048230761996582635#>

Dhondup is currently serving a six year prison sentence in Xichuan prison, which is a labor camp in eastern Tibet (Ch: Qinghai Province). Dhondup is known to have been tortured and has not received medical treatment despite having contracted Hepatitis B since being in detention.

As part of an international campaign for the release of Dhondup Wangchen, supporters worldwide are sending him short, personal letters in prison. Former Tibetan political prisoners have testified to the fact that they became aware of the letters arriving at their prison from people around the world. This gave them a tremendous source of strength and encouragement.

Letters to a political prisoner also send a signal to the Chinese authorities that the global community cares about the well-being of this individual, and that their treatment in prison is under scrutiny. Prison letter-writing campaigns have resulted in better conditions for prisoners and in some instances a reduced sentence.

Please write a personal letter to Dhondup Wangchen in Xichuan Prison

Prison Address:

Dhondup Wangchen [Chinese: Dangzhi Xiangqian]
Xichuan Prison
108 Xichuan South Road
Xining City
Qinghai Province, 810029
People’s Republic of China

Please send copies of your letter to the following Chinese leaders:

(Copying your letters to the Party Chief of Qinghai and the Minister of Justice is more likely to make the prison authorities take note of this campaign.)

* Wu Aiyong, Ministry of Justice, No.10 Chaoyangmen Nandajie, Beijing 10002, People’s Republic of China.

* Qiang Wei, Secretary of the CPC Qinghai Provincial Committee, Qinghai Provincial General Office, No.12 Xidajie, Xining, Qinghai 810000, People’s Republic of China.

When writing your letter please remember:

- to include Dhondup Wangchen's name as it is known in Tibetan - Dhondup Wangchen, and in Chinese - Dangzhi Xiangqian
- to include a simple greeting, with a little bit of information about how you heard about Dhondup Wangchen and why you have decided to write to him.
- to use common sense and basic precautions, remembering that the letters you send will be read by the prison authorities
- you do not need to include your full address, but your name and country of origin will help to show the breadth of global support.

To ensure that Dhondup Wangchen and the authorities know of the wide reaching support for his release, we advise that you include the following paragraphs both in the translated Tibetan and Chinese form (simply cut and paste the Chinese text in to your letter):

- Message for the benefit of Dhondup Wangchen. Simple 'Cut & Paste' the Tibetan text:

ང་ཚོས་དོན་གྲུབ་དབང་ཆེན་ལྷུ་གུ་སྐྱེས་དང་གཏུང་སེམས་མཉམ་སྦྲེད་ནམ་ཡང་ལྷུ་དོན་གྲུབ་དབང་ཆེན་ལྷུ་གུ་
བཅོས་པའི་བལྟས་མོ་དེར་འཇམ་གླིང་མི་མང་ཁྱོད་ནམ་དགའ་བསུ་ཆེན་པོ་ཐོབ་ཡོད་ལ་མི་ཁྱིའོ་མང་པོས་ཁྱེད་རང་ཁྱེད་
སྤོང་བྲོལ་ཡོང་བའི་འདོད་སྣང་གསུང་བཞེས་ཡོད།

(English Translation)

"I am writing this personal letter to you to offer you my support. I join thousands of individuals around the world in expressing my appreciation of your actions as a film-maker and in calling for your immediate release. "

- Message for the benefit of the prison authorities, Justice Minister and Qinghai Party Secretary. Simply 'Cut & Paste' the Chinese text below

我要以此信來表達個人對旺青頓珠的支持。自從他在2008年三月被捕後，我一直關心並注意他的案子。他沒有犯任何罪行，他是無辜的，正如同全球成千上萬關心他的人一樣，我要表達對他拍攝影片的支持，要求他立即被釋放。我同時非常關心旺青頓珠的健康及生活狀，同時要求獄方給予他所需的醫療處置，也請您了解，這些我們關切的議題，將同時向中國中央政府及青海省省委書記強衛遞交。

(English Translation)

"I am writing this personal letter to Dhondup Wangchen (Dangzhi Xiangqian) to offer him my support. Dhondup Wangchen is an innocent man. I join thousands of individuals around the world in expressing my appreciation of his actions as a film-maker and in calling for his immediate release. I am also gravely concerned for Dhondup's health and well-being and urge the prison authorities to ensure that he is being given the medical treatment he requires. Please also be aware that these concerns are being brought to the attention of China's Central Government and Qiang Wei, Party Secretary of Qinghai Province."