

The Tortured Truth

A Free Tibet report

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The Tortured Truth

There are “extremely few cases of torture”¹ claimed China in response to probing questions from the UN. But testimonies obtained by Free Tibet expose a different truth, where physical and mental torture are commonplace and where torture is used by the state as a weapon to suppress ordinary Tibetans. As the UN concluded in November 2008, the tortured truth in China and Tibet is “of routine and widespread use of torture”².

Despite torture being prohibited in Chinese and international law, the UN Special Rapportuer, after inspecting prisons and detention centres, concluded in 2006 that torture remained *widespread*³. Since then, as the UN Committee Against Torture⁴ confirmed, the situation has only worsened. In March 2008, peaceful protests swept across the Tibetan plateau. In response, brutal tactics were employed by the Chinese Government, including physical and mental torture, beatings and the use of lethal force to put down the protests and to deepen the climate of fear which now grips Tibet. Nine months on, the location and well-being of hundreds of Tibetans remains unknown, these disappeared are at serious risk of torture.

The tragic reality is that not only does China fail to prevent cruel and degrading treatment and acts of torture, but as Free Tibet exposes, Chinese Government policies, including patriotic re-education, provide the very conditions where torture is likely to take place. Tortured Truth reveals the difference between the promises of the Chinese Government and the true experiences of Tibetans.

The Tortured Truth

“Extraction of confession by torture and corporal punishment and ill-treatment of prisoners by prison police are strictly prohibited by law in China.”⁵

China’s written statement to the UN Committee Against Torture 10 September 2008

Whatever lip service the Chinese government may pay to its obligation to prevent torture, torture and other forms of inhumane and degrading treatment have been institutionalised in Tibet.

In 2006, following his visit to China and Tibet, Dr Manfred Nowak, the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, found that torture was *widespread*. He identified the following common methods used to carry out torture:

Beatings with sticks and batons; use of electric shock batons; cigarette burns; hooding/blindfolding; guard-instructed or permitted beatings by fellow prisoners; use of handcuffs or ankle fetters for extended periods (including in solitary confinement or secure holding areas); submersion in pits of water or sewage; exposure to conditions of extreme heat or cold; being forced to maintain uncomfortable positions, such as sitting, squatting, lying down, or standing for long periods of time, sometimes with objects held under arms; deprivation of sleep, food or water; prolonged solitary confinement; denial of medical treatment and medication; hard labour; and suspension from overhead fixtures with handcuffs.⁶

In November 2008, the UN Committee against Torture considered China’s fourth periodic report on torture. The UN asked the Chinese Government a set of probing questions and also received written and oral evidence from organisations, including Free Tibet⁷. Once the evidence and responses had been reviewed by the Committee members, the Committee not only repeated its 2006 findings, that torture remains **widespread** in Tibet and China, but concluded that torture was also **routine**.

These conclusions confirm that torture in Tibet cannot be simply dismissed as aberrant behaviour by individual Chinese officials. The number of cases, the routine employment of torture, the generalised impunity exercised by state officials, and Chinese state policies, for example, patriotic re-education, which create the very conditions for torture, represents a concerted policy of torture by the Chinese State in response to opposition in Tibet.



Tibetan Singer and Blogger, Jamyang Kyi, arrested 1 April 2008

“Each interrogation session aroused a different kind of fear in me. One day in the middle of an interrogation, I thought instead of enduring this, it would be better to be killed by a single bullet. My family and relatives would grieve but as for me, I would have to suffer the pain only once.”⁸

Hundreds of Tibetans unaccounted for



Palden Gyatso was imprisoned for 24 years. Upon his release he managed to smuggle the instruments of torture used on him to India. The instruments, currently in use in Tibet, include thumbcuffs and an electric baton. Palden Gyatso lost most of his teeth after the high voltage electric baton was inserted into his mouth.

“One day, as soon as the protests first began, my husband said with a sigh, “Those who have died are already gone. But those who have been arrested are certain to be cast into the eighteen realms of hell and bound to suffer immeasurably.” Jamyang Kyi

In March 2008 demonstrations erupted in the Tibetan capital, Lhasa and spread across the Tibetan Plateau. More than 125 protests were recorded covering over 60 counties in Tibetan populated areas⁹. These protests, which were predominantly peaceful, were brutally suppressed; thousands of Tibetans were arbitrarily detained.

Lack of official details combined with severe restrictions on information from Tibet render it an impossible task to determine the exact number of Tibetans in detention. The first official Chinese statistics were published on 21 June 2008 in a Chinese newspaper, China Daily, which reported that a total of 4,434 persons had been detained by 9 April 2008, 3,072 of whom had been released¹⁰. However this number only includes those detained in the Tibetan Autonomous Region and Gannan Autonomous Prefecture up until 9 April and does not include those arrested in the other Tibetan Autonomous Prefectures, where most of the protests took place. Therefore the actual figure is presumed to be much higher. Based on the figures above the status and whereabouts of 1,249 Tibetans remain unknown.

Nyichang, a 38-year-old woman from Harama village, Ngaba County, in Sichuan province, was arrested on 18 March 2008. Her 'crime' was removing a signboard from the local Chinese administrative office during peaceful protests on 16 and 17 March. She was subjected to brutal torture for nine days and died shortly after her release.

Jigme Gyatso

“They would hang me up for several hours with my hands tied to a rope..... hanging from the ceiling and my feet above the ground. Then they would beat me on my face, chest, and back, with the full force of their fists. Finally, on one occasion, I had lost consciousness and was taken to a hospital. After I regained consciousness at the hospital, I was once again taken back to prison where they continued the practice of hanging me from the ceiling and beating me.”

“Once I was beaten continuously for two days with nothing to eat nor a drop of water to drink. I suffered from pains on my abdomen and chest. The second time, I was unconscious for six days at the hospital, unable to open my eyes or speak a word. “

Jigme Gyatso's full testimony can be viewed on www.youtube.com

Following protests in Labrang, Xiahe County, Gansu Province, Jigme Gyatso (also known as Guri), 42, a monk from Labrang Monastery was arrested on 21 March for his assumed role in the protests. He was subjected to torture for more than a month. His injuries were so severe; he had to be hospitalized for almost one month.

On 3 September 2008, Jigme recorded on a camera his first hand account of the torture he suffered in detention. The video was released by Voice of America's Tibetan service on www.youtube.com. Two days later the police launched a nationwide search



Jigme Gyatso spent almost a month in hospital recovering from the torture he suffered in custody

When China was asked by the Committee against Torture to clarify the numbers and whereabouts of Tibetans missing in connection with the unrest, China rejected the question. China stated, **“The incident happened in March 2008 in Lhasa and Gansu, Sichuan and Qinghai was not parades and demonstrations, there is also no such a thing as “hundreds of people” have been arrested because of the demonstrations.”**¹¹

China did provide some new figures, stating that as of July 2008 China had detained 953 persons, out of which 42 have been convicted and sentenced and “116 criminal suspects are under trial according to law”. But even these most recent Chinese Government figures leave 795 people unaccounted for¹².

Unaccounted for, these hundreds of individuals are extremely vulnerable to torture.

See no evil, speak no evil, hear no evil –
Torture happening with impunity behind closed doors

Since the Uprising in March 2008 Tibet has been effectively closed off from the outside world. China is determined that the ugly truth about its policies, the crackdown on protesters and the treatment of Tibetans does not reach the outside world. Telephone calls and internet traffic are intercepted, severe restrictions on journalists make it almost impossible to report without interference and *de facto* martial law in Tibet has

restricted freedom of movement. In the last few months very few Tibetans have been able to cross into Nepal or India to reveal what has been happening in their country. In addition to actual restrictions, the UN Committee against Torture concluded that the recent crackdown in Tibet *“has deepened a climate of fear and further inhibits accountability”*¹³.

Within this climate of fear only a few are willing to risk their freedom and that of their friends and family to expose the human rights abuses taking place in Tibet.

One woman who dared to share the details of the desperate situation she witnessed around her is Norzin Wangmo, from Ngaba County. After seven months of detention, Norzin was sentenced on 3 November 2008 to five years imprisonment for passing on news about the protests to contacts by telephone and email.

On 9 April 2008 about a dozen monks disrupted an official media visit to Labrang Monastery (Ch: Xiahe) which the Government had organised. It was the first time journalists had been allowed into the region since protests broke out. When the journalists reached Labrang Monastery the monks jumped in front of the cameras and spoke about the lack of human rights and their desire for freedom¹⁴. Visibly shaken and scared, they defied their own fears, and faced the unavoidable consequences of their action. Thabkey, a 30 year old monk, was arrested along with seven other monks for speaking to the media. Thabkey was beaten so severely in detention that his mental health has been seriously affected. The assumption is that he suffered blows to his head during his period in detention.

Another brave witness, Jigme Gyatso (see page 5) went into hiding after his testimony of torture while in detention was uploaded onto youtube. He was the subject of a manhunt and finally arrested by 70 armed police on 4 November 2008. Free Tibet is extremely concerned about his well-being and safety.

Convictions at any price

China claims: **“The notion that the criminal justice system is still strongly focused on the admission of guilt and confession is groundless.”** China’s response to the UN CAT Committee 10 September 2008

“It shall be strictly forbidden to extort confessions by torture and to collect evidence by threat, enticement, deceit or other unlawful means.” Article 43 of the Chinese Criminal Procedural Legislation

One of the main factors within the Chinese legal system that contributes to the pervasiveness of torture is the courts’ acceptance and use of confessions as evidence of guilt, contrary to international practice and its own recent guidelines¹⁵.

In spite of China’s laws prohibiting extortion of confessions by torture, Dr Manfred Nowak, the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture found significant evidence that courts still rely heavily on forced confessions when assessing guilt. While Chinese law prohibits extracting confessions by torture, it does not explicitly prohibit the admission of evidence obtained by torture or other illegal means before the courts¹⁶. Coerced confessions remain prevalent in a judicial system which is subordinate to the ruling Communist Party and pressured to maintain so-called “social stability”. The Special Rapporteur on Torture concluded that Chinese rules of evidence “create incentives for interrogators to obtain confessions through torture.”¹⁷

A former Tibetan policeman explains motives for obtaining confessions from his own experience:

“One of the reasons is the fact that the police has a strong motivation to improve their performance records so that more funding will come from the higher authorities, and to improve the standing of the officers in question. The police need to be able to show high rates of cases solved. If they have a low rate, they will be criticised. So they will just go out and arrest people, beat them and force a confession.”¹⁸

The UN Special Rapporteur interviewed Bangri Rinpoche in Tibet’s Chushul prison in 2005. Bangri Rinpoche is serving an 18 year sentence on charges of ‘attempting to split the country’. Dr Nowak describes the torture methods inflicted on Bangri Rinpoche:

The first five days of his detention was the most difficult period as he was continuously interrogated night and day. He was held handcuffed with one hand behind his shoulder and the other around his waist, and empty bottles were put in the spaces between his arms. His legs were fettered, he was hooded and made to kneel on a low stool for 1.5 hours. The room where he was held was dark and dirty and without natural sunlight. Regular interrogations continued over the following three months. Most of the time he was wearing handcuffs and shackles, even when eating and sleeping. Because of this and because he was afraid it was often hard to sleep. The police wanted him to confess for the flag incident, as well as to having established the children's home for political purposes.¹⁹

Dr Manfred Nowak called for the release of Bangri Rinpoche and the other two Tibetan prisoners he met due to the likelihood that they were convicted on the basis of information extracted under torture²⁰. To this day, all three remain in prison.

Creating Conditions for Torture

Patriotic re-education campaigns

Not only does China fail to respect its own laws and international obligations to prevent torture, Chinese policies actually create the conditions where torture is likely to take place.

In July 2008, Free Tibet received information that the Chinese government in the Kandze region of Tibet (Ch: Gardze Prefecture) in Sichuan province had drawn up a series of measures to purge Tibetan monasteries and nunneries of those nuns and monks deemed by the authorities to have undertaken subversive activities during the protests of March and April 2008 in Tibet.

The measures, detailed in an article in the official Tibet Daily newspaper, were posted on a trilingual Chinese government news website²¹ on July 18 2008 under the heading 'Order of the Kandze Tibetan Autonomous Prefectural Government'. The Order states that families of monks and nuns who confess to 'minor' crimes are to be responsible for their 're-education'; religious leaders accused of collaborating with foreign 'splittist' groups (this includes speaking to foreign journalists) are to be publicly humiliated on state television.

"A monk/nun charged with quite serious [medium] crimes will undergo serious re-education and will remain in custody until he/she co-operates by telling the truth, confessing their guilt and submitting a shuyig [self-criticising letter]"²²

It is significant that these new measures were announced in Kandze Prefecture; during 2002-2007, authorities in Kandze Prefecture detained more Tibetans for peaceful political expression than from any other prefectures in the Tibetan Autonomous Areas²³. Kandze also witnessed numerous protests during this year, even a month after all other protests had been put down in other areas.

These measures not only violate religious freedoms but they create obvious conditions for torture because of the campaign's insistence on 'telling the truth' and the admission of guilt.

Since March 2008, patriotic re-education campaigns have intensified in Tibet among both monastic and lay communities. Patriotic re-education is a compulsory programme, predominantly forced upon monasteries and nunneries which are viewed as hotbeds of resistance against Chinese rule. Its aim is to stamp out loyalty to the Dalai Lama and to quash Tibetan nationalist feelings. It requires Tibetan Buddhists to accept patriotism towards China as a part of Tibetan Buddhism. It can often require monks and nuns to sign self criticising letters.

Like 'Re-education through Labour', evidence from Tibet demonstrates that patriotic re-education aims to break the will and alter the personality of individuals. The UN has characterised re-education through labour as a systematic form of inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment, if not torture²⁴.

Forced re-education leads "to intimidation, submissiveness, self-censorship and a "culture of fear"²⁵.

The patriotic re-education campaign causes severe mental anguish among Tibetans. It has even led monks to commit suicide. Refusing to denounce the Dalai Lama or to participate in the campaign often results in detention. It is reported that the protest at Tongkor Monastery which resulted in the killing of protestors by security forces was prompted by the arrest of two monks during a patriotic education campaign at the Monastery (further details can be found on page 11).

Failure of Safeguards

“The justice organs in China strictly abide by the criminal procedure law when handling cases.”²⁶

Set out below are the legal safeguards and rights which Chinese law guarantees. Such rights include: access to legal counsel and medical care whilst in detention and limitations on the length of detention before trial. China repeatedly highlighted these legal safeguards in response to the questions posed by the UN Committee against Torture.

However the truth is that these safeguards and rights, at least in the Tibetan Autonomous Region and in the Tibetan Autonomous Prefectures are routinely disregarded.

Length of pre trial detention

“The duration of investigation and detention of a criminal suspect after arrest shall not exceed 2 months. For cases which can not be completed before the deadline, it could be extended by one month with the approval by the people’s procuratorate at a higher level.”²⁷

- Tibetan nomad Adak Kalgyam was arrested on 3 October 2007 following his refusal to take part in a patriotic education campaign in his village in Lithang county. He was held incommunicado detention for ten months before he was charged and found guilty of ‘inciting splittism’.
- Dhondup Wangchen, a nomad who video recorded the views of more than one hundred Tibetans about their responses to Chinese occupation has been in detention for over nine months, without any charges brought against him . His brother-in-law who attempted to visit him on 31 August 2008 in Ershilipu Detention Center in Xining was denied access to him. His whereabouts remain unconfirmed.
- Jigme Gyatso, Dhondup’s assistant was conditionally released from prison in October, after being held for over eight months in detention.



Adak Kalgyam



Dhondup Wangchen

All three men said they were tortured

Family notification

“After a criminal suspect is detained or arrested, the public security organ will notify within 24 hours the relative of the detainee or his (or her) employer about the reasons of the detention or arrest and the locality of confinement.”²⁸

- From the time of his arrest on 3 October 2007, Adak Kalgyam’s family was denied access to him. Despite numerous requests to Lithang county police station they were not informed of where he was being held.
- Paltsal Kyab, a Tibetan from Sichuan province, died on 26 May 2008, five weeks after he was detained by police. His family had no news of his situation until 26 May when authorities informed the family of Paltsal Kyab’s death. Severe injuries to his body indicate that he died as a result of being tortured while in police custody.

Access to legal counsel

“Prisons in China effectively guarantee the right of lawyers to meet their clients serving sentences in prison, with detailed procedural regulations for the access which are effectively implemented.”²⁹

- On 3 April 2008, 18 Chinese lawyers offered free legal counsel to Tibetans arrested in connection with protests. All 18 lawyers were threatened with disciplinary action by the Ministry of Justice and two lawyers, Teng Biao and Jiang Tianyong, were denied renewal of their licenses on 31 May 2008.
- On 23 September 2008 the Chamdo Prefecture People’s Court in the Tibetan Autonomous Region, Gyanbe town (Ch: Xiangpi), found eight monks guilty of bombing, or aiding in the bombing, of an empty local government building on 23 March 2008. The information received by Free Tibet indicates that the monks were denied all access to legal counsel from the time of being detained until sentencing. It is reported that the legal proceedings against the monks had been shrouded in complete secrecy.

Medical access

“When a detainee is sick, he’ll receive timely medical treatment; when there is a need to be treated in the hospital, the local hospital will take up the responsibility.”³⁰

Many detainees who are tortured in detention require hospital treatment. In the past, many detainees have died in prison due to torture. In recent years, the Chinese authorities have taken steps to reduce the numbers of prisoners dying in custody by releasing prisoners in immediate danger of dying to the care of their families, so that their death does not take place in detention.

For those lucky enough to be permitted access to medical treatment, the costs are often prohibitively expensive.

Nyichang, a 38-year-old woman from Harama village, Ngaba County, in Sichuan province, was arrested on 18 March 2008. Her ‘crime’ was removing a signboard from the local Chinese administrative office during peaceful protests on 16 and 17 March. During her period in detention she was subjected to violence. When she was released from prison her body was covered in bruises. She could not speak or eat without immediately vomiting. Her relatives tried to take her to the county government hospital but she was denied medical treatment. Her condition continued to deteriorate. She died on 17 April 2008, leaving four children behind.

Jigme Gyatso: **“In the end, when I was on the verge of dying, they handed me over to my family. At my release, my captors lied to the provincial authorities by telling them that that they had not beaten me. Also, they lied to my family members by telling them that they had not beaten me; they also made me put down my thumbprint (as a signature) on a document that said that I was not tortured. I had to stay for about twenty days at a hospital and spent 20,000 Chinese Yuan to get treatment .”**

20,000 Yuan is more than the average yearly income of a Tibetan family from Labrang.

Deaths due to excessive force

In its questions to China, the UN Committee against Torture requested that China provide information on the deaths that had been reported during the spring protests in Tibet. The Committee also asked whether China had made or planned to make any investigations into those deaths.

In its answers (see below) China showed contempt for the Committee. Contrary to evidence from numerous and corroborated sources that Chinese armed police had killed scores of protesters by opening fire, China claimed that any deaths that had occurred were due to “law-breakers” rather than police using disproportionate force against unarmed civilians.

The Committee clearly found China's answers evasive and unconvincing. In its conclusions the Committee demanded that China "should conduct a thorough and independent inquiry into the reported use of excessive force, including against peaceful demonstrators and notably monks, in Kandze county, Ngaba county and Lhasa."³¹

China's claim: According to the investigation conducted by the department concerned, during the incident on 14 March in Lhasa and other places, the criminal violence committed by law-breakers caused the death of 18 innocent persons who were chopped, smashed or burned to death (among them, 3 were Tibetans), and one law enforcing personnel died a martyr's death. This has already been published.

Free Tibet set out its own evidence to the Committee, obtained from sources inside Tibet:

Killings in Ngaba county, 16 March 2008

Chinese armed troops fired into a crowd of unarmed Tibetan civilians during a peaceful protest on 16 March 2008, killing at least 13 people including Lhundup Tso, a 16 year school girl. The police first shot tear gas into the crowd and then beat many of the protestors. Then they shot live rounds of ammunition into the crowd. Eight Tibetan bodies were brought to Kirti monastery for prayers. Two were monks, one a lay female and five were lay men.

Photographs which highlight entry-exit bullet wounds on the corpses brought to Kirti monastery suggest the use of high-velocity weapons by the Chinese armed troops. The use of such weapons against unarmed civilians is evidence of the use of lethal and disproportionate force by the Chinese authorities in Ngaba county.



Bodies are brought to Kirti monastery on 16 March for prayers



Lhundup Tso, 16, shot dead on 16 March 2008

Killings in Tongkor town, Kandze county on 3 April 2008

On 2 April 2008 hundreds of Tibetan civilians marched towards government buildings to protest against the arrest of two monks from Tongkor monastery. The monks had been arrested following a raid on the monastery after the monks had refused to take part in patriotic re-education sessions. The road into the town was blocked by hundreds of armed police; a stand-off ensued with the protesters. Separate sources claimed to have witnessed eight Tibetan protesters shot dead by Chinese armed police.



Tseyang Kyi, 23, Tsar Ngoe Village, killed in the Tongkor massacre

Conclusion and Recommendations

Recommendations to the Chinese Government

1. China to issue a standing invitation to all the UN thematic and treaty bodies, including the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture
2. China should provide official figures of Tibetans arrested, detained and sentenced since 10 March 2008 including details of their locations and status
3. China should allow independent human rights monitors access to Tibet to investigate allegations of torture and excessive use of force against protestors during the Spring Uprising
4. China should allow unfettered access to Tibet by both foreign and Chinese journalists
5. China should include in its legislation a definition of torture including mental torture and cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment that conforms to the elements in the Convention Against Torture
6. The Criminal Procedure Law should be amended to explicitly state that any confession or statement obtained through torture is inadmissible in all proceedings
7. China should immediately abolish its patriotic re-education campaign, as its elements qualify as inhumane and degrading treatment, if not torture
8. China should immediately release Bangri Rinpoche, Jigme Gyatso and Lobsang Tsultrim and all other political prisoners

Recommendations to the International Community

1. Publicly raise your objections to China's human rights record in Tibet
2. Ensure bi-lateral and multi-lateral dialogue with the Chinese Government is measured against specific human rights benchmarks
3. Request that Embassy staff have regular and unfettered access to all parts of Tibet
4. Sponsor and promote an independent inquiry into the 2008 Uprising

Additional Recommendations to EU Member States

1. Appoint an EU Special Representative for Tibet, with a mandate to include the promotion and protection of human rights in Tibet
2. Pursue a more coordinated strategy on Tibet

Recommendations to Free Tibet Supporters

1. Scrutinise your Government's position on Tibet - Find out the views of your elected representative, your Ministers and your Head of Government: and specifically what actions they are taking to help end the widespread and routine practise of torture in Tibet
2. Spread the Word – inform people, family, friends, work colleagues about Tibet and what is happening inside Tibet right now
3. Donate to Free Tibet's Torture Campaign in order for us to continue to monitor the situation in Tibet and to strengthen our lobbying work for the prevention of torture in Tibet
www.freetibet.org

Notes and references:

1. Written replies by the Government of the People's Republic of China* to the list of issues (CAT/C/CHN/4) to be taken up in connection with the consideration of the fourth periodic report of China, (China's Response) 10 September 2008, page 7. The written replies can be read at http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cat/docs/CAT.C.CHN.Q.4.Add.1_en.pdf
2. Concluding observations of the Committee against Torture (CAT) of the fourth periodic report of China (CAT Conclusion), 21 November, page 3. The report can be read at: <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cat/docs/CAT.C.CHN.CO.4.pdf>
3. Special Rapporteur on Torture Highlights Challenges at End of Visit to China, Press Release, 2 December 2005, is available at: <http://www.unhchr.ch/hurricane/hurricane.nsf/0/677C1943FAA14D67C12570CB0034966D?opendocument>
4. The Committee Against Torture is the body of independent experts that monitors implementation of the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment by its State parties.
5. China's Response, page 27.
6. The UN Special Rapporteur on Torture's Report on China (Nowak Report) is available at <http://www.freetibet.org/files/file/about/Nowak%20report.pdf> , Para. 45 p. 14 E/CN.4/2006/6/Add.6
7. Free Tibet's written submission to the 41st session of the UN Committee Against Torture is available at <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cat/cats41.htm> or visit our website at www.freetibet.org
8. Jamyang Kyi's testimony can be read in English at <http://www.highpeakspureearth.com/2008/11/they-by-jamyang-kyi.html>
9. Free Tibet's uses the term 'Tibet' to refer to the three provinces known as U-Tsang, Amdo and Kham which comprised Tibet before the Chinese invasion in 1949. The Chinese Governments term 'Tibet' refers only to the Tibetan Autonomous Region (TAR) which was established in 1965 and comprises of U-Tsang and some parts of Kham. The Tibetan areas of Amdo and Kham were incorporated into the Chinese provinces of Gansu, Sichuan, Yunnan and Qinghai. The majority of the protests in the spring of 2008 took place in Amdo and Kham, outside the TAR.
10. http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2008-06/21/content_6783415.htm
11. China's Response, Page 5
12. Ibid
13. CAT Conclusion, Page 8
14. The protests by the monks can be viewed on youtube: <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=YnckD1ZaFU4>
15. The Ministry of Justice in 2007 directed courts not to rely on confessions on their own as sufficient evidence of guilt
16. Nowak report, Page 12
17. Ibid
18. Interview by Tibet Watch, 2005, name withheld to protect the interviewee
19. Nowak Report, Page 47
20. The Special Rapporteur also interviewed Jigme Gyatso and Lobsang Tsultrim, both convicted for political crimes
21. The website posting in Tibetan is available at: <http://zw.tibet.cn/news/22>. The full text of the measures can be read at <http://www.freetibet.org/newsmedia/28-july-2008/>
22. Part One, Article 2, Order of the Kandze Tibetan Autonomous Prefectural Government
23. Section IV, Tibet: Special Focus for 2007, in the CECC2007 Annual Report
24. Special Rapporteur on Torture, Highlights Challenges at End of Visit to China, Press Release, 2 December 2005,
25. Report of the UN Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, Manfred Nowak, 10 March 2006, page 22 (E/CN.4/2006/6/Add.6)
26. China's Response, Page 6
27. Ibid
28. China's Response, Page 4'
29. Ibid Page 4
30. Ibid
31. CAT Conclusion, Page 9

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