



# Stop Torture in Tibet

Free Tibet Campaign's *Stop the Torture in Tibet* initiative will highlight persistent torture and maltreatment in Tibet's prisons, detention centres and labour camps. Since 2002 China has released at least 14 political prisoners early as a result of pressure from governments and individuals worldwide, thereby demonstrating sensitivity to international criticism of its human rights record. By highlighting individual political prisoners who have experienced torture, we aim to both contribute to their early release from prison and to bring to an end the practice of torture in Tibet.

## Anu

# Stop the Torture in Tibet

*Note: Although Anu is due for release in March 2005 it is still important to write on her behalf (see Action, below).*

**Anu**, an amputee seamstress, was taken from her home late at night in March 2001 by members of the Public Security Bureau and was detained in Sitru, the provincial police detention centre in Lhasa.

The reason for her arrest still remains unclear, but unconfirmed reports suggest that she was accused of possessing 'separatist' material including speeches by the Dalai Lama, and is suspected of links to the Tibetan Government in exile in India. In the absence of official charges or a trial, she was sentenced to four years' imprisonment and was initially held at the Trisam Re-education through Labour Centre, where she was forced to labour for long periods of time. She was kept in Unit 3 where criminal and political prisoners are held together. According to former inmates, prisoners live in poor conditions without proper access to medical care and sanitation. At some point Anu was moved to Drapchi Prison.

Another Tibetan, **Lobsang Namgyal** (also known as Lonam) who was detained in June 2001 apparently in connection with Anu's case, is also serving a four year sentence in Drapchi Prison. It is unclear what charges were brought against him.

According to earlier reports Anu was just 13 years old when she was run over by a Chinese military truck on her way to school, after which her right leg had to be amputated. Following this, she no longer attended school and was educated by her father in traditional Tibetan tailoring for which she was well respected in Lhasa. Anu lived alone in Lhasa and was believed to be very religious and charitable, apparently giving much of

her salary away. A Tibetan friend of hers who now lives in exile said, "Anu was well known for her compassionate nature and most of her small income was given to homeless people, the sick and former political prisoners and she went to visit them in hospital if they were ill. Her motivation was not political, it was only to help others as part of her religious faith."

In prison Anu, who was already in poor health before her detention, is reported to suffer from frequent and severe headaches. Former fellow political prisoner Ngawang Sangdrol confirmed that, in spite of the intense headaches, Anu is forced to continue to work as hard as other inmates, is unable to get any effective medicine from the prison infirmary and is not allowed to keep Tibetan medicine given to her by visitors.

Anu is reported to suffer great anxiety from being held in a cell with

<b>Name:</b>	Anu
<b>Age:</b>	approx 51 yrs
<b>From:</b>	Lhasa
<b>Arrested:</b>	March 2001
<b>Reason:</b>	Unconfirmed, thought to be possession of 'separatist' materials
<b>Sentence:</b>	4 years
<b>Expected release:</b>	March 2005
<b>Prison:</b>	Drapchi Prison

criminal prisoners. Ngawang Sangdrol has expressed concern that the other prisoners are "particularly rough" and that they are encouraged by prison guards to inform upon Anu.

*(Sources: Amnesty International, TJN, Free Tibet Campaign.)*



### ActionActionActionActionAction

Write to the authorities below requesting:

- Confirmation that Anu will be/has been released in March 2005.
- That details of the 'crime' she was alleged to have committed be made public.
- The full restoration of her political rights on her release from prison.
- That Anu receives immediate medical attention.
- Confirmation that Lobsang Namgyal will be released in June 2005.
- A commitment that the torture and maltreatment of all prisoners arrested for "counter-revolutionary" offences or "endangering state security" in Tibet will cease. (China does not recognise the expression "political prisoners".)
- An independent investigation into prison conditions in Drapchi and into reports that prisoners have been tortured in detention, with the investigation's findings to be made public.

#### Addresses

1. *Governor of Drapchi Prison*

**Name:** Jianyuzhuang  
**Address:** Xizang Zizhiqu Di Yi Jianyu Lasashi 850003  
 People's Republic of China  
**Salutation:** Dear Governor

2. *Minister of Justice*

**Name:** Zhang Fusen Buzhang  
**Address:** Sifabu  
 10 Chaoyangmen Nandajie  
 Chaoyang Qu  
 Beijingshi 100020  
 People's Republic of China  
**Email:** minister@legalinfo.gov.cn  
**Fax:** + 86 10 6520 5236  
 or +86 10 6529 2345 (c/o  
 Ministry of Communications)  
**Salutation:** Dear Minister