

PARLIAMENTS:

ICT Report: The Rome Declaration: The 5th World Parliamentarians Convention on Tibet ended in Rome on November 20, with the adoption of the Rome Declaration on Tibet. The convention was attended by 133 Parliamentarians and associates from 30 Parliaments around the world and included an address by the Dalai Lama at the Chamber of Deputies of the Italian Parliament. The declaration proclaimed that its message was resolutely not anti china but a statement of support for justice and truth with a sincere conviction that the Tibetan and Chinese peoples can find a way to coexist with mutual respect. The declaration concluded with a commitment to set up an international parliamentarian's network for Tibet with a secretariat who will work towards advancement of a specified list of 7 near-term action plans in engaging action on Tibet. The full statement of the declaration can be viewed at <http://www.savetibet.org/media-center/tibet-news/rome-declaration-tibet>

U.S. GOVERNMENT:

Pelosi thanks India for extending hospitality to Dalai Lama: On November 23, Speaker Nancy Pelosi, while welcoming the Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Capitol Hill, thanked India for extending hospitality to His Holiness the Dalai Lama and said, "India is a country that is value based." The Speaker had visited the Dalai Lama's home in the north Indian hill town of Dharamsala in 2008 following the Tibet uprisings of March 2008 and the subsequent Chinese crackdown. Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh is on a four day trip to Washington DC. <http://www.phayul/news/article.aspx?id=26059>

For further coverage of the U.S.-China summit, visit the ICT Blog: <http://weblog.savetibet.org/>

Analyzing Obama's summit statement on Tibet by Todd Stein

<http://weblog.savetibet.org/2009/11/23/analyzing-obama's-summit-statement-on-tibet/>

Reading the tea leaves on President Obama's Tibet statement in Beijing by Bhuchung K. Tsering

<http://weblog.savetibet.org/2009/11/23/reading-the-tea-leaves-on-president-obama's-statement-in-beijing/>

INSIDE TIBET:

Special Bonus for Chinese troops in Tibet: On Saturday, Reuters India reported a local newspaper, the Guangzhou daily, said that Chinese soldiers from the southern boomtown of Guangzhou who are newly assigned to Tibet will get a "special allowance" of up to 160,000 Yuan (\$23,440) for serving there. According to China Military Online, sponsored by the People's Liberation Army Daily, the "special allowance" is paid by local governments to the families of new soldiers to compensate for the loss of their labor. The Guangzhou paper gave no details of other bonuses, but the potential payment for those heading to Tibet is generous and even more than what many graduates would hope to earn as an annual salary. <http://in.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idINIndia-44140220091121>

Tibetan writer-photographer sentenced to five years in prison: The Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD) reported that Kunga Tsayang, a Tibetan writer-photographer was sentenced to five years in prison on charges of disclosing state secrets in a closed door trial on November 12, 2009 by the kanlho Intermediate People's Court in Gannan, Gansu Province. Kunga Tsayang, a monk of Amdo Labrang Tashikyil Monastery, who wrote under the pen name of "sun of snowland" (Tib: Gang-nyi), had traveled widely in Tibet in connection with his work at an environmental protection group and his travelogues dealt on the special characterisc features of Tibetan topographical landscapes, culture, customs, habits and religious heritage. He is also the author of several brave and compelling essays on the Tibet protests of 2008 including, "Who is the Real Splittist?," "Who is the Real Disturber of Stability?," and "Who is the Real Instigator of Protests?." He was arrested on March 17, 2009 during a midnight raid. His family and close associates had no idea of his whereabouts until he was brought to the court hearing. <http://www.tchrd.org/press/2009/pr20091119.html>

DALAI LAMA:

The Dalai Lama attends conferences in New Delhi: On November 22, the Dalai Lama gave the valedictory address at a International Conference in New Delhi: Exploring Tibet's History and Culture organized jointly by Delhi University and the Central University for Tibetan Studies, Varanasi. More than 40 scholars from around the world including US, Britain, Europe and Asia attended the conference. In his address, the Dalai Lama said, "A lot of times truth is distorted. Since a lot of people are now interested in Tibet, it is necessary that all information about Tibetan history and Tibet is collected and the truth be told to the world. A clear picture of the past history, government system, social field must be researched on and revealed in the form of texts and books." <http://trak.in/news/present-tibetan-history-to-world-dalai-lama-tells-students/26215/>