

URGENT ACTION

DISCLOSE WHEREABOUTS OF TIBETAN WRITER

Druklo (pen-name Shokjang), a young Tibetan writer and blogger is believed to be arbitrarily detained with no access to a lawyer, and to be at risk of torture and other ill-treatment. This happened after he wrote an article describing the increased presence of Chinese security officers ahead of a politically sensitive Tibetan anniversary.



On 19 March, Druklo (pen-name Shokjang) was taken away by national security police officers from a hotel in Tongren County (Rebkong) in the Huangnan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture (Malho), Qinghai province, in northwest China. He is a prominent Tibetan writer and blogger known for his critical articles about the current situation in Tibetan areas. His friend who was taken away at the same time has since been released, but Druklo remains in detention.

According to Druklo's close friend, Golog Jigme Gyatso, a Tibetan monk currently living in Switzerland and who was formerly imprisoned in China for being the assistant filmmaker of *Leaving Fear Behind* -- a documentary which interviewed Tibetans about their opinions of the Dalai Lama, China and the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games -- the authorities have not given Druklo's friends and relatives the reason for his detention or the charges for which he is detained. The monk told Amnesty International that Druklo is believed to be held in a detention center in Tongren County, and that friends and relatives in Druklo's hometown have not been able to confirm his whereabouts.

On 16 March, Druklo had written an article on his blog around the time of the 56th anniversary of the failed Tibetan uprising against Chinese rule in 1959, describing the increased police patrols on the streets of Tongren County. Druklo was also previously detained in 2010 when he was studying at China's Northwest University for Nationalities in Lanzhou, Qinghai province, for writing about the Tibetan protests of 2008.

Please write immediately in Chinese, English or your own language:

- Demanding that the authorities immediately disclose the whereabouts and legal status of Druklo;
- Urging the authorities to provide immediate guarantees for his safety and to give assurances that he is not tortured or otherwise ill-treated in detention;
- Calling on the authorities to ensure without delay that he has regular, unrestricted access to a lawyer and his family;
- Urging the authorities to release him immediately and unconditionally unless he is charged with an internationally recognizable criminal offence.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 1 JUNE 2015 TO:

Head of Tongren County Public Security Bureau
Ma Yajun
Tongren County Public Security Bureau
22 Xiaqiong Middle Road
Tongren County
Huangnan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture
Qinghai Province 811300
People's Republic of China

Secretary of Tongren County Party Committee
Jiang Shunian
Tongren County People's Government
Dehelong Middle Road
LongWuzhen, Tongren County
Huangnan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture
Qinghai Province 811300
People's Republic of China
Fax: + 86 0973 8722440
Salutation: Dear Secretary

And copies to:

Director
Li Dongping
Qinghai Provincial State Security Department
48 Gonghe South Road
Xining 810007
People's Republic of China

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ethnic Tibetans in China face discrimination and restrictions on their rights to freedom of religious belief, expression, association and assembly. Druklo was born in Xiahe (Labrang) in Gansu province, in the Tibetan area of Amdo. He is popular among Tibetans for his critical writings, including his books written in Tibetan language *For freedom I have no regret* and *The courage of Rangdrol*, as well as articles posted on the Internet such as *Conflict and Resolution: A Response to Liu Junning*, which is a rumination of China's ethnic policies, and *Tonight, I am in the Grasslands of my Hometown*, which is a critique of the Chinese government's resettlement of Tibetan nomads.

This is the second time Druklo has been targeted by the Chinese authorities. On 6 April 2010, while he was still attending the Northwest University for Nationalities in Lanzhou, Druklo was detained with a fellow student Teurang, for co-editing the banned literary magazine the *Shar Dungri* (Eastern Snow Mountain) in which articles touching on the 2008 protests in Tibetan areas of China had been published. The authorities accused him at the time of having been in contact with the Tibetan Youth Congress, a Tibetan exile organization. He was eventually released on 8 May 2010.

Name: Druklo (pen-name Shokjang)
Gender m/f: m

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