

URGENT ACTION

TIBETAN WRITER IMPRISONED AFTER UNFAIR TRIAL

A young Tibetan writer and blogger, Druklo (pen-name Shokjang), was sentenced to three years imprisonment, almost one year after he was first detained. It is believed that this is as a result of an article he wrote describing the increased presence of Chinese security officers ahead of a politically-sensitive Tibetan anniversary.



On 19 March 2015, **Druklo** (pen-name Shokjang) was taken away by national security police officers in Tongren County (Rebkong) in the Huangnan (Malho) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai province, in northwest China. On 17 February 2016, Druklo was sentenced to three years in prison by the Peoples' Intermediate Court in Tongren County (Rebkong). The exact charges are unknown, but are related to separatism. He did not have access to a lawyer throughout his detention or during his trial, and his family were only informed that his sentencing would take place two days before. Druklo will appeal against the verdict.

Druklo is a prominent Tibetan writer and blogger known for his critical articles about the current situation in Tibetan areas. On 16 March 2015, Druklo had written an article on his blog about the 56th anniversary of the failed Tibetan uprising against Chinese rule in 1959, describing the increased police patrols on the streets of Tongren County (Rebkong). Druklo was 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.

Druklo © Private

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

- Urging the authorities to release Druklo immediately and unconditionally;
- Pending his release, urging the authorities to ensure that he has regular, unrestricted access to his families and lawyers, and is protected from torture or other-ill-treatment.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 8 APRIL 2016 TO:

Director

Wang Hucheng
Huangnan Aut. Prefectural Public
Security Bureau
Huangnan People's Government
Building
No.10 Xiaqiong Zhonglu
Longwuzhen, Tongren County
Huangnan Tibetan Autonomous
Prefecture
Qinghai Province 811300
People's Republic of China
Salutation: Dear Director

Jiang Mingkuan
General Office of the Huangnan People's
Government
Huangnan People's Government
Building
No.10 Xiaqiong Zhonglu
Longwuzhen, Tongren County
Huangnan Tibetan Autonomous
Prefecture
Qinghai Province 811300
People's Republic of China
Salutation: Dear Director

Wang Zhengsheng
Qinghai Provincial State Security
Department
No 50 Bayi Zhonglu
Xining 810007
People's Republic of China

Director

And copies to:
Director

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. This is the first update of UA 85/15. Further information:

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa17/1437/2015/en/>

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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 online 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 Dugri* (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: Male

Further information on UA: 85/15 Index: ASA 17/3517/2016 Issue Date: 25 February 2016