



# Telluride Institute Tibet Fund Newsletter

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**YOU ARE TIBETAN**  
June 18, 2009

by Tsoltim N. Shakabpa

You are the birds in the bush  
That no Chinese can catch  
You are the eye of the needle  
Through which communism can't  
pass  
You are the shadow  
That follows freedom everywhere  
You are the sharp thorns  
That protect the roses of faith  
You are the David  
Who dares to challenge Goliath

You are Tibetan

You befriend compassion  
And attain love  
You exhibit humility  
And achieve dignity  
You practice non-violence  
And gain respect  
You seek democracy  
And spurn communism  
You despise war  
And embrace peace

You are Tibetan

You are my compatriot  
Who loves our nation  
You are my best friend  
Who stands by me  
You are my brothers and sisters  
Whose blood I share  
You are the skipper  
Who will sail us to freedom  
You are the soul  
Who makes me whole

You are Tibetan



Good morning!

Tibet has not been in the news much, lately.

Have Tibetans accepted lack of freedoms, violations of human rights, denial of self determination and access to information from and to the outside world? Have they given in to the "inevitable?" Is that the reason for the news hiatus?

Nope.

Absolute control of all media by scared, gutless dictators is the answer. Tibet is not quiet; Tibetans have not rolled over and accepted the slaughtering of their values, their environment, their personal freedoms. They are gagged. They AND WE get to hear only what the Communist Party Rulers want us to hear.

This bad situation is getting worse yet. The New York Times reported on June 18 that censorship will increase: "American computer makers say the Chinese government has not backed down from a requirement that Internet filtering software be installed on all computers sold in China after July 1, despite reports this week that the rule had been relaxed.

"(...) in another sign that Chinese officials are trying to assert more control over the Internet, the city of Beijing wants to recruit 10,000 volunteers by the end of the summer to monitor Internet content, said Ms. Guo, an employee of the Beijing government's Spiritual Civilization Office."

These steps toward even tighter control of information supposedly serve to protect minors from access to pornography. A lame excuse at best. Most analysts agree that the filters will be used to curtail political dissent.

Chinese law actually forbids the advocacy of independence or self-determination for territories Beijing considers under its jurisdiction, as well as public challenge to the CCP's monopoly in ruling China.

Which is in direct conflict with Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

**Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.**

More interesting facts on China and Human Rights can be found at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human\\_rights\\_in\\_the\\_People%27s\\_Republic\\_of\\_China](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_rights_in_the_People%27s_Republic_of_China)

Please join Students for a Free Tibet in sending a message to Dell and HP asking them NOT to comply with China's demands: <http://actionnetwork.org/campaign/stopgreendam/explanation>

THANK YOU!

Elisabeth

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*The Montrose Asanga Institute will celebrate the Dalai Lama's 74<sup>th</sup> birthday on July 12 at the Nepal restaurant. I'll let you know more details in the next newsletter.*