Chronology of Tibetan Detained and Taken into Custody in Tibet 2016

1. Jan 06, 2016¹

Lu Konchog Gyatso, a monk at the Lhamo Dechen monastery in Qinghai’s Malho (in Chinese, Huangnan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, was taken into custody on Nov. 7 after local authorities became aware over his plans to publish a book about his travels in India.

2. Feb 11, 2016²

Khenpo Paga and Geshe Orgyen, both high-ranking monks at Chokri monastery in Draggo (in Chinese, Luhuo) county in the Kardze (Ganzi) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, were taken into custody only a few days after they organized a prayer ceremony on Jan. 25.

The prayer ceremony was held following the news of the Dalai Lama’s medical treatment at the Mayo Clinic in the United States.

3. Feb 14, 2016³

Jamyang Dorje, 41, was taken into custody shortly after 11:00 a.m. on Feb. 14 on a road leading to the Kardze (in Chinese, Ganzi) county seat in the Kardze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture.

He was shouting for the return of [exiled spiritual leader] the Dalai Lama and demanding freedom for Tibet when he reached an intersection of three roads, where he was quickly overpowered and taken away.

4. Mar 01, 2016⁴

Mangga, 33, was taken into custody shortly after noon on March 1 in Ngaba (in Chinese, Aba) county’s Meruma township in the Ngaba Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture.

She had held up a photo of [exiled spiritual leader] the Dalai Lama and shouted slogans challenging Chinese policies. Chinese security officers quickly appeared and took her away. Her father’s name is Tsepe and her mother’s name is Pema Kyi.

5. Mar 17, 2016⁵

Tashi Wangchuk, 30, a Tibetan businessman who has been a vocal advocate for the preservation and promotion of Tibetan language education in Kyegudo (Ch: Yushu) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province, in the Tibetan province of Kham has been illegally detained on 27 Jan 2016.

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On March 30 at around 10 a.m. three Tibetans Samdrup, a prominent 40-year-old from Chugo Desar village; Lhadon, whose family name is Namgyal; and Rongshe, a 29-year-old were taken into custody in Chugo Desar village in Matoe (in Chinese, Maduo) county in Golog (in Chinese, Guoluo) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture by four local Chinese police officers and are being held at the People's Court in Matoe county.

According to the source, "they were detained for taking part in a group chat on social media," likely on the popular WeChat platform.

7. April 8, 2016

At least ten Tibetan government workers were detained by authorities on Friday in northwestern China's Gansu province when they protested the loss of their jobs amid allegations of corruption in the hiring of replacements.

The protesters were taken into custody after gathering on April 8 in front of government offices in Machu (in Chinese, Maqu) county in the Kanlho (Gannan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture. They had asked for a review of the decision to lay them off from their jobs. But instead of replying to their request, the authorities took them away to a jail or detention center in Machu.

8. April 29, 2016

Two monks attached to a large Tibetan monastery in southwestern China’s Sichuan province were detained and beaten by police last month after they attempted to mediate a traffic dispute between a Tibetan and a Han Chinese driver.

Lakyab and Tsering Gyurme, both monks at the Palyul monastery in Palyul (in Chinese, Baiyu) county in the Kardze (Ganzi) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, were released on April 29 after being held for ten days.

9. May 2, 2016

Lobsang Thubten, believed to be in his 20s, was detained shortly after launching his protest at about 3:30 p.m. on May 2 on a street known locally as Heroes’ Road in the main town of Ngaba (in Chinese, Aba) county in the Ngaba Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture.

He walked in the road with a photo of [exiled spiritual leader] the Dalai Lama and called for his long life and for freedom for Tibet.

10. May 4, 2016

Pema Wangchen, a father of three was reportedly detained and tortured by security officials for singing the Tibetan national anthem at a public gathering in China's western Sichuan province. Video of the Tibetan man singing the banned anthem at a public gathering in what appeared to be a village in the Tibet Autonomous Region went viral on Wechat in April. After the video surfaced, the man was detained for 15 days before being released in early May.

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*http://www.tibetanreview.net/china-detains-3-tibetans-for-online-chat-about-recent-exile-elections/

*Tibetans Protest Dismissal from Their Jobs, Are Detained; http://www.rfa.org/english/news/tibet/dismissal-04082016140116.html


*Tibetan Monk from Ngaba Arrested Following Solo Protest; http://tibet.net/2016/05/tibetan-monk-from-ngaba-arrested-following-solo-protest/


11. May 16, 2016
Jampa Gelek, believed to be about 23 years old, was seized by police at about 8:30 p.m. on May 16 in Tawu (in Chinese, Daofu) county in the Kardze (Ganzi) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture. No reason was given for his detention, and there has been no word on his present whereabouts or condition.

12. May 26, 2016
Lobsang Dargye, 35 and a monk at Ngaba’s restive Kirti monastery, was taken away by police at night on May 23. He had been arrested once before and was sentenced in 2011 to a three-year term in prison, and after serving his three years he returned to Kirti monastery to continue his studies. No word was immediately available regarding why Dargye was detained, but local police had required the monk after his release to regularly report to them on his daily activities.

Lodoe Gyatso, now 55, had been released on 2 May 2013 after completing 21 years at Chushur Prison near Lhasa was arbitrarily detained again in Lhasa at around midnight local time on 14 May 2016 for unknown reasons. His family members and relatives have no information on the exact location of his detention. Chinese authorities have detained Lodoe Gyatso, a former Tibetan political prisoner who was released from prison three years ago after serving 21 years.

14. June 08, 2016
Lobsang Tsering, 20, was arbitrarily detained at about 4 pm local time on 7 June when he staged a lone protest walking along the main road of Ngaba County town, holding high above his head a portrait of the Tibetan spiritual leader His Holiness the Dalai Lama and raised slogans such as, “May His Holiness Live for 10,000 years!” and “Freedom for Tibet!” Local police personnel immediately took him into custody as soon as they saw him. Like many other lone protesters before him, Lobsang Tsering’s whereabouts and condition remain unknown.

15. June 17, 2016
Choesang Gyatso, a monk of Lutsang monastery in Mangra (in Chinese, Guinan) county in the Tsohlo (Hainan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, was again detained by police from his monastery on May 29. The reason for his detention is unknown, and no information is available about his present condition though friends and relatives are asking where he is being held,” RFA’s source said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Chinese police descended in force on Friday at a Tibetan protest site near Qinghai Lake, detaining five protesters without explanation at around 8.00 a.m. local time a day after an assault by authorities on Tibetan villagers left eight seriously injured.

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12Two Tibetan Monks Detained in Ngaba on Unknown Charges; http://www.rfa.org/english/news/tibet/charges-05262016150613.html
13Tibetan political prisoner released from prison after 21 years, detained again three years later; http://www.tchrd.org/former-tibetan-political-prisoner-released-from-prison-after-21-years-detained-again-three-years-later/
A previously unnamed Tibetan woman detained by police last week for staging a solo protest in Sichuan’s Ngaba county has been identified as Konchok Drolma, a housewife and mother of two young children. She has a seven-year-old son and a four-year-old daughter,” a Tibetan man living in Switzerland named Sonam told RFA’s Tibetan Service on July 22, citing sources in Ngaba (in Chinese, Aba) county.

Lodroe, a monk, enrolled in Ngaba prefecture’s restive Kirti monastery was secretly taken into custody on November 18, 2015 has been located by his family at a prison in Sichuan. His family and other relatives searched for him far and wide, and finally found him languishing in a prison in Lunggu [in Chinese, Wenchuan] county in Ngaba (Aba), the source said, adding, “The charges against him have never been announced.

Gendun Drakpa, 39, was working as treasurer of the Thangkor Socktsang monastery in Ngaba (in Chinese, Aba) prefecture’s Dzoege (Ruo’ergai) county when he was taken from his quarters in the presence of his roommate on Aug. 24, the source said. He was focused solely on the work of the monastery and was not involved in any illegal [political] activities,” RFA’s source said. Lobsang Sherab, aged about 35 and a worker in the store of the monastery in Dzoege (in Chinese, Ruo’ergai) county, was seized at night on Aug. 24, the same day on which monastery treasurer Gendun Drakpa was also detained.

Tibetan writer and teacher Gangkye Drupa Kyab was detained again on 17 September, a day after his release from prison. He had served more than four years and a half for merely exercising his right to freedom of expression and thought. His friend, Samdup, who had been released on 19 August after serving more than four years, was also detained on 18 September. Tibetan writer and teacher Gangkye Drupa Kyab was detained again on 17 September, a day after his release from prison. He had served more than four years and a half for merely exercising his right to freedom of expression and thought. His friend, Samdup, who had been released on 19 August after serving more than four years, was also detained on 18 September.

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Lodroe, a monk enrolled at the Jonang monastery in Dzamthang (in Chinese, Rangtang) county, was seized by police on June 14 while walking with friends to buy food in neighboring Barkham (Ma’erkang) county. He was taken away in handcuffs without explanation and has been held in custody ever since. His monastery and family and relatives have repeatedly asked the authorities for information about him, but have never received any answers.

20China detains recently-released Tibetan writer and his friend for ‘brainwashing class’; http://chrd.org/china-detains-recently-released-tibetan-writer-and-his-friend-for-two-week-brainwashing-class/
22Tibetan Linked to Self-Immolation is Detained after Evading arrest For Three Years; http://www.rfa.org/english/news/tibet/linked-10112016153042.html
Lobsang Tsurtrim, a monk in Ngaba (in Chinese, Aba) county’s Kirti monastery, was taken into custody at around 1:00 p.m. on Oct. 17 after shouting slogans while walking along a street in Ngaba county’s main town.

Tenpa, a former Kirti monastery monk about 18 years old, was taken into custody in the afternoon of Dec. 16 while carrying a photo of exiled spiritual leader the Dalai Lama along a main road of the Ngaba county seat, an exile-based Tibetan told RFA’s Tibetan Service.

Police in northwestern China’s Gansu province beat and tortured the wife and daughters of Tibetan self-immolator Tashi Rabten after taking them into custody for questioning following Rabten’s fatal protest last week, local sources say.