

Self-immolations in Tibet

In Tibet, 147 Tibetans have resorted to self-immolating to protest against the Chinese government's oppressive regime; of whom 126 are known to have died. The condition and whereabouts of the others are not known, though some are reported to be in hospital. The first self-immolation took place in February 2009. In 2017, there were two self-immolations in Tibet.

Background | Cases | Take Action

Why are Tibetans self-immolating?

The tragic act of self-immolation reflects the desperation Tibetans inside Tibet currently feel. These Tibetans have been driven by the deteriorating situation inside Tibet, the years of repression and the deep frustration at the lack of any progress towards a just and peaceful solution. Almost all have shouted slogans during their protest, and the vast majority have called for the Dalai Lama to be allowed to return to Tibet. Many have also called for freedom for Tibet, for human rights to be respected, for religious freedom, for unity amongst Tibetans and, in some instances, for independence.

The Chinese government's policies in Tibet, which restrict freedoms and basic human rights, have intensified since 2008 when Tibetans across Tibet protested against Chinese rule. There has been an increase in the number of troops stationed in Tibetan areas and monks and nuns have been subjected to 'patriotic re-education' sessions. Demonstrations in Tibet have continued since 2008, with heavy sentences handed down to protestors. The act of self-immolation may be one of the last actions that these Tibetans feel they have control over, and their hope is to draw attention to the situation and ultimately bring about positive change for their fellow Tibetans.

Cases of self-immolation in Tibet

2009: Tapey

2010: none

2011: Phuntsok | Tsewang Norbu | Lobsang Kunchok & Lobsang Kelsang | Kelsang Wangchuk

Kayang & Choephel | Norbu Damdrul | Tenzin Wangmo | Dawa Tsering | Palden Choesang

Tenzin Phuntsok

2012: Tenyi & Tsultrim | Sonam Wangyal | Lobsang Jamyang | Rinzin Dorjee | Sonam Rabyang

Tenzin Choedron | Lobsang Gyatso | Damchoe Sangpo | Nangdrol | Tsering Kyi | Rinchen

Dorjee | Gyepo | Jamyang Palden | Lobsang Tsultrim | Sonam Dhargye | Lobsang Sherab

Tenpa Darje & Chimey Palden | Thupten Nyendak Rinpoche & Atse | Choepak Kyap & Sonam

Dorjee Tseten & Dhargye | Rikyo | Tamdin Thar | Tenzin Khedup & Ngawang Norphel

Dickyi Choezom | Tsewang Dorjee | Lobsang Lozin | Lobsang Tsultrim | Dolkar Tso | Choepa

Lungtok & Tashi | Lobsang Kelsang & Lobsang Damchoe | Yungdrung | Gudrub

Sangay Gyatso | Tamdin Dorjee | Lhamo Kyab | Dhondup | Dorjee Rinchen | Tsepo & Tenzin

Lhamo Tseten | Thubwang Kyab | Dorjee Lhundrup | Dorjee, Samdup & Dorjee Kyab

Tamdin Tso | Tsegay | Kalsang Jinpa | Gonpo Tsering (Tsoe) | Nyingkar Tashi | Nyingchag Bum

Kharbum Gyal I Tangzin Dolma I Chagmo Kyi I Sangdag Tsering I Wangchen Norbu
Tsering Dhondup I Lubum Gyal I Tamding Kyab I Tamdin Dorjee I Sangay Dolma I Wangyal
Kunchok Tsering I Gonpo Tsering (Luchu) I Kalsang Kyab I Sangay Tashi I Bendey Khar
Tsering Namgyal I Kunchok Kyab I Sungdue Kyab I Lobsang Gendun I Pema Dorjee
Kunchok Phelgye I Wangchen Kyi
2013: Tsering Tashi I Drubchok I Kunchok Kyab I Lobsang Namgyal I Drugpa Khar
Namlha Tsering I Rinchen & Sonam Dhargye I Phagmo Dhondup I Tsezung Kyab I Sangdag
Kunchok Wangmo I Lobsang Thokmey I Kalkyi I Lhamo Kyab I Kunchok Tenzin
unidentified female I Chugtso I Lobsang Dawa & Kunchok Wooser I Tenzin Sherab
Wangchen Dolma I Kunchok Sonam I Shichung I Tsering Gyal I Kunchok Tseten
Tsultrim Gyatso
2014: Phagmo Samdrub I Lobsang Dorjee I Jigme Tenzin I Lobsang Palden I Dolma
Thinley Namgyal I Kunchok I Lhamo Tashi I Sangyal Tashi I Tsepey Kyi
Kalsang Yeshi
2015: Norchuk I Yeshi Khando I Neykyab I Tenzin Gyatso I Sangye Tso I Sonam Topgyal
Tashi Kyi
2016: Kalsang Wangdu I Sonam Tso I Tashi Rabten
2017: Pema Gyaltzen | Wangchuk Tseten
Self-immolations outside of Tibet

Case details

(in chronological order; most recent first - last updated 20 March 2017)

(147) Name: Wangchuk Tseten

Date of protest: 15 April 2017

Location: near a busy street in a central area of Kardze, Kandze Prefecture, Sichuan Province

Age: 30

From: Asey Gyechak nomadic region of Nyagrong, Kham

Status: TBC

(146) Name: Pema Gyaltzen

Date of protest: 18 March 2017

Location: near Tsoga monastery in Gyagrong, Kham, Sichuan Province

Age: 24

From: Gyagrong, Kham

Status: TBC

Pema Gyaltzen (also known as Pegyal) set himself on a fire around 4pm local time on Saturday, 18th March 2017, near Tsoga monastery in Nyagrong (in Chinese: Xinlong) in Kham region of eastern Tibet in a protest against the Chinese rule in Tibet. Sources close to the Radio Free Asia said that Gyaltzen "called for the return of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to Tibet and for freedom in Tibet at the time of self-immolation." [read more](#)

(145) Name: Tashi Rabten

Date of protest: 8 December 2016

Location: main street of Machu town, Kanlho

Age: 33

From: Trokho Meya township, Machu county

Status: Died at scene

Tashi Rabten, a father of two, shouted slogans during his protest, including calling for the return of the Dalai Lama, the release of the Panchen Lama and for freedom for Tibet. His wife and children were detained, interrogated and forced to sign a document saying his protest was due to domestic problems. At least nine other Tibetans have been detained in connection to the protest. The authorities denied his family a traditional funeral... [read more](#)

(144) Name: Sonam Tso

Date of protest: 23 March 2016

Location: Sera monastery, Dzoge county, Ngaba, Amdo

Age: 50

From: presumed from Dzoge county, Ngaba, Amdo

Status: Died from injuries

Sonam Tso, a mother of five, self-immolated on Sera monastery's circumambulation circuit. Sonam shouted slogans calling for freedom for Tibet and the return of the Dalai Lama. She died before she could be transferred to hospital. She was cremated and given a traditional funeral on the same day to avoid her body being confiscated by the authorities. Her husband Kelsang Gyatso and a relative Tsultrim were detained shortly after the protest; their whereabouts are not known... [read more](#)

(143) Name: Kalsang Wangdu

Date of protest: 29 February 2016

Location: Shiwa, Nyagrong county, Kardze, Kham

Age: 18

From: Retsokha Aryaling monastery, Nyagrong county

Status: Died from injuries

Kalsang Wangdu self-immolated in his home village of Shiwa. He called for "Tibet's complete independence" and "May His Holiness live for 10,000 years" during his protest. He succumbed to his injuries before reaching hospital. His body was returned to his family, however, they have been placed under surveillance by Chinese police and told to say Kalsang died in a random fire at his home... [read more](#)

(142) Name: Tashi Kyi

Date of protest: 27 August 2015

Location: Ngura, Labrang county, Kanlho, Amdo

Age: 55

From: Ngura village, Labrang county

Status: Died from injuries

The mother of five died the morning after her self-immolation. The exact reason for her protest is not clear, but it came shortly after Chinese officials came to evict one of her neighbours and demolish their property. Her body was seized by Chinese officials, denying her family the ability to hold funeral rites... [read more](#)

(141) Name: Sonam Topgyal

Date of protest: 9 July 2015

Location: Gesar Square, Jyekundo (Yushu), Kham

Age: 26

From: Nagchen, Yushu prefecture

Status: Died from injuries

Sonam Topgyal died in hospital the day after his protest. Sonam's motivation is not known, but as the protest came close to the Dalai Lama's birthday it may have been a direct challenge to China's rule in the region. Sonam was a monk from Derge monastery. His family attempted to retrieve his body, but were denied this and his parents and five siblings were all detained... [read more](#)

(140) Name: Sangye Tso

Date of protest: 27 May 2015

Location: outside government office, Chone county, Kanlho, Amdo

Age: 36

From: Meru Sebpa village, Chone county

Status: Died at the scene

Sangye Tso's self-immolated outside a government office near Tashi Choekorling monastery in Chone. Immediately prior to her protest, Sangye placed a portrait of the Dalai Lama, which had slogans including "Freedom for Tibet" on it, and a

bunch of incense sticks in front of the gates. Her body was seized by police and her ashes later released to her family...
[read more](#)

(139) Name: Tenzin Gyatso

Date of protest: 20 May 2015

Location: Tawu county, Kardze prefecture, Kham

Age: 35

From: Khangsar township, Tawu county

Status: Died

Tenzin Gyatso, a father of four, self-immolated outside a building used for local government meetings. Local Tibetans believe Tenzin's protest was in response to the tightening of security measures in the region in the run up to the Dalai Lama's 80th birthday on 6 July. Tenzin was quickly seized by police. His family told by the police that he had died the following day.. [read more](#)

(138) Name: Neykyab

Date of protest: 16 April 2015

Location: Adué Gyade village, Ngaba county, Amdo

Age: 46

From: nomadic region of Soruma, Ngaba

Status: Died at the scene

Neykyab, a layman and former monk, self-immolated in the courtyard of his home next to a shrine dedicated to the Dalai Lama and the Panchen Lama. During his protest, Neykyab shouted for "the return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet" and "the release of the reincarnation of the Panchen Lama". Chinese authorities seized his body and detained two of his relatives for interrogation... [read more](#)

(137) Name: Yeshi Khando

Date of protest: 8 April 2015

Location: Kardze town, Kardze county, Kham

Age: either 42 or 47

From: Chokri Nganggan nunnery, Kardze county

Status: Died

Yeshi Khando, a nun, set herself alight near a police station whilst calling for the return of the Dalai Lama and for unity amongst Tibetans. Chinese police confiscated the body and the following day informed her family that the body was not going to be released... [read more](#)

(136) Name: Norchuk

Date of protest: 5 or 6 March 2015

Location: Trotusk, Ngaba county, Amdo

Age: 47

From: assumed Trotusk, Ngaba county, Amdo

Status: Died at the scene

A 47 year old nomad, Norchuk, self-immolated just days before the anniversary of the Tibetan National Uprising in 1959. Her body was immediately cremated for fear it would be seized by local police. Norchuk was a mother of three... read more

(135) Name: Kalsang Yeshe

Date of protest: 23 December 2014

Location: Nyitso monastery, Tawu, Kardze prefecture, Kham

Age: unclear, possibly 28 or 38

From: Thewa village, Tawu county, Kardze

Status: Died from injuries

Kalsang self-immolated next to a police station located inside Nyitso monastery. He called for the return of the Dalai Lama and for freedom for Tibetans as he set fire to himself. Prior to his protest, Kalsang Yeshe placed a note underneath an image of the Dalai Lama which read "six million Tibetans are waiting for you". His body was seized by police and cremated. One report indicated family members were forced at gunpoint to dispose of Kalsang's ashes in a local river... read more

(134) Name: Tsepey Kyi

Date of protest: 22 December 2014

Location: Meruma town, Ngaba prefecture, Amdo

Age: 19

From: Meruma Town, Ngaba prefecture (assumed)

Status: Died at the scene

Tsepey, a nomad teenager, self-immolated in Meruma town, and sources indicate that her protest was a response to "China's repressive policies". Tsepey died at the scene and her body was quickly confiscated by Chinese police. Reports indicate family members were detained and questioned following the self-immolation... read more

(133) Name: Sangyal Khar

Date of protest: 16 December 2014

Location: Amchok, Sangchu county, Khanlo prefecture

Age: 33

From: Chung Nyuthang village, Amchok

Status: Died at the scene

Sangyal Khar set fire to himself outside a police station in the town of Amchok. A local source suggested Khar was protesting against "Chinese policies in Tibetan areas". Reports indicate his body was confiscated by the authorities who

then refused to hand it over to Khar's family... read more

(132) Name: Lhamo Tashi

Date of protest: 17 September 2014

Location: outside police station, Tsoe county

Age: 22

From: Amchok village, Sangchu county, Kanlho

Status: Died at the scene

Lhama Tashi shouted slogans during his protest, though it is not known what the slogans were. One source said he self-immolated "for Tibetan freedom", another said it may have been timed to coincide with the Chinese President's visit to India. The authorities refused to hand over the body to his family, denying them a traditional funeral. Ashes were given to the family the following day... read more

(131) Name: Kunchok

Date of protest: 16 September 2014

Location: outside police station, Gade county

Age: 42

From: presumed from Gade county, Amdo

Status: in critical condition in hospital

Kunchok set fire to himself outside a police station in Tsangkor town. A local source said Kunchok "self-immolated in protest against Chinese policy in Tibet". Kunchok has a son and daughter in monastic institutions in Gade county... read more

(130) Name: Thinley Namgyal

Date of protest: 15 April 2014

Location: Khangsar, Tawu county, Kham

Age: 32

From: presumed from Khangsar

Status: died at scene

A local resident said Thinley Namgyal "self-immolated in protest against Chinese policy and rule". Locals took the body to a nearby monastery before the authorities could confiscate it. The body was later handed over to his family... read more

(129) Name: Dolma

Date of protest: 29 March 2014

Location: outside Ba Choede monastery, Bathang

Age: 31

From: Chisung village, Bathang county, Kardze, Kham

Status: unknown (taken to hospital)

Dolma, a nun, self-immolated on a path circling Ba Choede monastery. Locals extinguished the flames and took her to hospital. The authorities banned anyone from visiting her. Her condition is not known. Six nuns from Dolma's nunnery were subsequently detained. Their whereabouts and condition are not known... [read more](#)

(128) Name: Lobsang Palden

Date of protest: 16 March 2014

Location: main road, Ngaba

Age: 20

From: Kirti monastery, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: died in hospital on 21 March

Lobsang Palden self-immolated on the main road in Ngaba on the sixth anniversary of a violent crackdown by the Chinese authorities. Prior to his protest, Lobsang called for unity amongst Tibetans. During his protest he shouted slogans. Security forces took Lobsang to a military hospital but he died five days later. Lobsang's family were given some remains but were unable to identify them... [read more](#)

(127) Name: Jigme Tenzin

Date of protest: 16 March 2014

Location: outside Shador monastery, Tsekhog

Age: unknown

From: Shador monastery, Tsekhog, Malho, Qinghai

Status: died

Jigme Tenzin self-immolated on the path circling Shador monastery. His fellow monks took him inside the monastery but were unable save him. They immediately cremated the body to avoid confiscation by the authorities. The monastery was sealed off by security forces and monks arrested. Jigme's father was also arrested after he appealed for the monks not to be punished... [read more](#)

(126) Name: Lobsang Dorjee

Date of protest: 13 February 2014

Location: near Kirti monastery, Ngaba

Age: 25

From: Chukle Gongma nomadic area, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: died on 15 Feb in hospital

Former Kirti monk Lobsang Dorjee doused himself with gasoline and set fire to himself at about 6.30pm on the main road near Kirti monastery. He shouted slogans before the police took him away. Lobsang died two days later in hospital. He was cremated without his family's knowledge... [read more](#)

(125) Name: Phagmo Samdrub

Date of protest: 6 February 2014

Location: near a school in Dokarmo

Age: 27

From: Dokarmo, Tsekhog county, Malho, Qinghai

Status: died in hospital

Phagmo set himself on fire at about 9.30pm. Sources say he protested "for the cause of Tibet". Phagmo died shortly after Chinese security forces took him to hospital. He was cremated without his family's consent who were then forced to throw his ashes into a river... [read more](#)

(124) Name: Tsultrim Gyatso

Date of protest: 19 December 2013

Location: Amchok town, Labrang, Gansu

Age: 43

From: Amchok monastery, Labrang county

Status: died at scene

Tsultrim Gyatso left a note before his self-immolation, saying he felt "compelled" to burn his body because of the suffering of Tibetans under China's "tyrannical laws". His body was taken to Amchok monastery, however, the Chinese authorities later confiscated and cremated the body preventing further traditional rituals... [read more](#)

(123) Name: Kunchok Tseten

Date of protest: 2 December 2013

Location: Meruma town, Ngaba, Sichuan

Age: 30

From: nomadic family in Machu, Gansu

Status: died on way to hospital

Kunchok Tseten's self-immolation took place whilst David Cameron was on a state visit to China. During Kunchok's protest, he shouted "Long live the Dalai Lama, lets unite our brothers here and those in exile". Police took him away but he died before reaching hospital. His body was cremated, preventing his family from conducting traditional funeral rituals. Kunchok's wife and several relatives were arrested shortly after the self-immolation... [read more](#)

(122) Name: Tsering Gyal

Date of protest: 11 November 2013

Location: Pema county, Golog, Qinghai

Age: 20

From: Akyong monastery, Pema county

Status: died on way to hospital

Prior to his self-immolation, Tsering Gyal called for Tibetans to unite and for the preservation of Tibetan language and tradition. As he burned he chanted "May the Dalai Lama know". He was taken away by police, but died whilst being transferred to a hospital in Xining. His body was returned to Akyong monastery where monks performed traditional funeral rituals... [read more](#)

(121) Name: Shichung

Date of protest: 28 September 2013

Location: Gomang town, Ngaba, Sichuan

Age: 41

From: Gomang town, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: died at scene

Shichung, a tailor and father of three, set fire to himself near his home. Local Tibetans initially prevented police from taking his body away, however, police confiscated the body from the family home later the same day, preventing traditional rituals. Before his protest Shichung told friends that he found it difficult to live under Chinese rule... [read more](#)

(120) Name: Kunchok Sonam

Date of protest: 20 July 2013

Location: Thangkor Soktsang monastery, Dzoge

Age: 18

From: Dzoge, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: died at scene

Kunchok Sonam, a young monk, self-immolated after morning prayers at his monastery. He is said to have shouted slogans during his protest. Monks and local Tibetans prevented Chinese security from removing his body, and hundreds gathered for an illegal prayer service. At least six Tibetans were detained following Kunchok's protest, including his mother who was later released. Three monks remain in detention... [read more](#)

(119) Name: Wangchen Dolma

Date of protest: 11 June 2013

Location: Nyatso monastery, Tawu, Kardze, Sichuan

Age: 31

From: Dragthog village, Tawu county

Status: died on 14 June 2013

Wangchen, a nun, self-immolated near Nyatso monastery which was hosting a major gathering of monks. She died from her injuries three days later. Chinese police refused to hand over her body to her family who have since been placed under surveillance... [read more](#)

(118) Name: Tenzin Sherab

Date of protest: 27 May 2013

Location: Gyaring area of Jyekundo, Qinghai

Age: 31

From: nomad from Chumarleb, Jyekundo, Qinghai

Status: died at the scene

Tenzin Sherab was a nomad forced to resettle into a village by the Chinese authorities. Local sources said that prior to his self-immolation, Tenzin had expressed concerns about the impact of Chinese policies on Tibetan religion and culture. Tenzin's family were interrogated after the self-immolation and unable to take the body to the local monastery for a traditional funeral... [read more](#)

(116, 117) Name: Lobsang Dawa & Kunchok Woesser

Date of protest: 24 April 2013

Location: Taktsang Lhamo Kirti monastery, Dzoge

Age: Lobsang 20, Kunchok 23

From: Dzoge county, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: both died at the scene

Lobsang and Kunchok self-immolated together on the eve of the 24th birthday of the kidnapped Panchen Lama, though it is not known if this was deliberate. Their protest took place near the main prayer hall of Taktsang Lhamo Kirti monastery. They shouted slogans against China's policies in Tibet. The monastery conducted traditional rituals but were ordered to cremate the bodies the next day by the Chinese authorities... [read more](#)

(115) Name: Chugtso

Date of protest: 16 April 2013

Location: near Jonang monastery, Dzamthang

Age: 20

From: Bharma village, Dzamthang county, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: died

Chugtso, a mother of one, self-immolated near Jonang monastery in Dzamthang county. Local sources said her self-immolation "was in protest against China's repressive policies in Tibet". She died at the scene and her body taken into the monastery for traditional rituals. A cremation was held in haste as the authorities threatened confiscation of the body... [read more](#)

(114) Name: unidentified female

Date of protest: end of March 2013

Location of protest: Jyekundo, Qinghai

Age: unknown

From: unknown

Status: survived

At the end of March, an unidentified Tibetan woman set fire to herself in an effort to save her home from being demolished. The incident took place in Jyekundo, which was hit by a major earthquake in 2010. Since the earthquake, Tibetans in Jyekundo have protested against Chinese government redevelopment policies and land seizures... [read more](#)

(113) Name: Kunchok Tenzin

Date of protest: 26 March 2013

Location of protest: Luchu, Kanlho, Gansu

Age: 28

From: Mogri monastery, Luchu

Status: died

At approximately 7pm (local time) Kunchok Tenzin set fire to himself in protest against Chinese rule in Tibet. The monk's protest took place at a large intersection near Mogri monastery. He died at the scene and his body was swiftly taken back to the monastery by locals. Kunchok's body was cremated on the same night in order to avoid it being taken away by Chinese forces... [read more](#)

(112) Name: Lhamo Kyab

Date of protest: 25 March 2013

Location of protest: near Tsoe, Sangchu, Kanlho

Age: 43

From: Meshul township, Sangchu, Kanlho, Gansu

Status: died

Lhamo Kyab, a forest guard, self-immolated by dousing himself in kerosene and jumping into a prepared fire. He died at the scene. Following the protest Chinese security personnel arrived in the region and began surveillance operations. The situation is described as tense... [read more](#)

(111) Name: Kalkyi

Date of protest: 24 March 2013

Location of protest: Jonang monastery, Dzamthang

Age: 30

From: Barwa township, Dazmthang, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: died

Kalkyi, a nomad and mother of four, set herself on fire near Jonang monastery. Kalkyi succumbed to her injuries and her body was carried into the monastery by local Tibetans. It is not clear if Kalkyi's body remained in the monastery or was eventually taken away by Chinese security personnel. A large crowd later gathered at her family home to offer prayers... [read more](#)

(110) Name: Lobsang Thokmey

Date of protest: 16 March 2013

Location of protest: Kirti monastery, Ngaba, Sichuan

Age: 28

From: Kirti monastery, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: died

Lobsang Thokmey self-immolated at Kirti monastery, where he had been a monk since childhood. The protest took place on the anniversary of a 2008 demonstration which ended with Chinese soldiers killing at least 10 Tibetans. Lobsang died in hospital and his body was taken away by Chinese officials... [read more](#)

(109) Name: Kunchok Wangmo

Date of protest: 13 March 2013

Location of protest: Dzoge county, Ngaba, Sichuan

Age: 31

From: Dzoge county, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: died

Kunchok Wangmo self-immolated at approximately midnight, on the eve of Xi Jinping's appointment as President of China. She died at the scene and her body was taken away and cremated by Chinese authorities. Kunchok's ashes were returned the following day to her husband, Drolma Kyab, who was arrested after refusing to admit his wife had self-immolated due to a family feud. Chinese media state that Drolma Kyab was arrested on suspicion of "intentional homicide"... [read more](#)

(108) Name: Sangdag

Date of protest: 25 February 2013

Location of protest: Ngaba town, Sichuan

Age: unknown

From: Dhiphu monastery

Status: unknown

Sangdag, a monk from Dhiphu monastery self-immolated at 10am on a main road in Ngaba town. Chinese security personnel doused the flames and his body was taken away, first to Ngaba hospital and then to a second unknown location. Sangdag's current condition and whereabouts are not known... [read more](#)

(107) Name: Tsesung Kyab

Date of protest: 25 February 2013

Location of protest: Shitsang monastery, Luchu

Age: 27

From: presumed from Luchu, Kanlho, Gansu

Status: died

Tsesung Kyab died after self-immolating in front of the main prayer hall of the Shitsang monastery. Tsesung's body has remained in the hands of the local Tibetan community. Chinese troops have been deployed to the Luchu area in the aftermath of this self-immolation... [read more](#)

(106) Name: Phagmo Dhondup

Date of protest: 24 February 2013

Location of protest: Chachung monastery, Palung, Tshoshar

Age: early 20s

From: Tsaphuk town, Palung

Status: died

Phagmo Dhondup set fire to himself at Chachung monastery during a traditional prayer ceremony. Phagmo was then rushed to the hospital by fellow monks. Phagmo succumbed to his injuries and died in hospital. Restrictions have been imposed on Chachung monastery and Chinese security forces have been deployed in the area... [read more](#)

(104, 105) Name: Rinchen & Sonam Dhargye

Date of protest: 19 February 2013

Location of protest: Kangsta, Zoega

Age: Rinchen 17, Sonam 18

From: Kangsta

Status: both died at the scene

At 9:30pm Rinchen and Sonam Dhargye set themselves on fire in protest against China's continued occupation and repressive policies in Tibet, although it is not known what the exact slogans shouted were. The families of the self-immolators are in possession of the bodies and hope to perform funeral rites without the interference of Chinese authorities... [read more](#)

(103) Name: Namlha Tsering

Date of protest: 17 February 2013

Location of protest: Sangchu county, Labrang

Age: 49

From: nomadic area of Ganja township

Status: died

At approximately 5:40pm (local time) Namlha Tsering self-immolated on a busy street in Sangchu county in the Kanhlo autonomous prefecture of Tibet. Namlha was farmer and nomad and was married with three children. The flames were swiftly extinguished by Chinese authorities and Namlha was taken away. It later emerged that Namlha succumbed to his injuries and was cremated the same day. Families and friends have been forbidden to pay their respects to Namlha's home and the village has been surrounded by Chinese troops... [read more](#)

(102) Name: Drugpa Khar

Date of protest: 13 February 2013

Location of protest: Amchok, Sangchu, Kanlho

Age: 26

From: Lushoe Kyi village, lower Amchok township

Status: died

At approximately 1pm (local time) Drugpa Khar set himself on fire in protest against Chinese policies. The father of three succumbed to his injuries and died at the scene. Details about this self-immolation have been slow to reach outsiders... [read more](#)

(101) Name: Lobsang Namgyal

Date of protest: 3 February 2013

Location of protest: Dzoge county, Ngaba, Amdo

Age: 37

From: Kirti monastery

Status: died at the scene

Whilst on fire, Lobsang Namgyal shouted slogans for the long life of the Dalai Lama and ran towards the Dzoge county police station. Lobsang's body was taken away by Chinese authorities and immediately cremated. His family is under surveillance and his brother has been detained... [read more](#)

* Lobsang Namgyal was widely reported to be the 100th Tibetan under Chinese rule to self-immolate. He was actually the 102nd under Chinese rule - as one self-immolation took place in Beijing, by Passang Lhamo in September 2012 - and the 101st in Tibet as the joint self-immolation of Thupten Nyendak Rinpoche and Atse, which took place in April 2012, only came to light in March 2013.

(100) Name: Kunchok Kyab

Date of protest: 22 January 2013

Location of protest: near Bora monastery, Labrang, Kanlho, Gansu

Age: 26

From: Gyalring village, Labrang, Kanlho, Gansu

Status: died at the scene

Details of Kunchok's self-immolation are not fully known, however following the protest Chinese security forces took Kunchok's body away. Local Tibetans warned authorities there would be a major protest unless the body is returned to Kunchok's family and a traditional funeral allowed. Kunchok is survived by a wife and 10-month old son... [read more](#)

(99) Name: Drubchok

Date of protest: 18 January 2013

Location of protest: Drachen, Marthang county, Ngaba, Sichuan

Age: 28

From: Drachen, Marthang county, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: died at the scene

As Drubchok (also referred to as Tsering Phuntsok) began his protest, he referred to the Dalai Lama and clasped his hands in prayer. The father of two died at the scene. Chinese security officials took his body away and are understood to have cremated the body without informing the family. Security measures have been tightened in Drachen... [read more](#)

(98) Name: Tsering Tashi (aka Tsebhe)

Date of protest: 12 January 2013

Location of protest: Amchok, Kanlho, Gansu

Age: 22

From: Amchok, Kanlho, Gansu

Status: died at the scene

During his protest, Tsering Tashi called for Tibetan freedom as well as the long life and return of the Dalai Lama. Despite the ban by authorities on Tsering's family to perform rituals or organise funeral services, locals brought Tsering's body to his family home and offered prayers. They were soon ordered to stop by police forces and the family was forced to immediately cremate Tsering's body... [read more](#)

(97) Name: Wangchen Kyi

Date of Protest: 9 December 2012

Protest location: Dokarmo, Tsekhog county, Malho, Qinghai

Age: 17

From: Dokarmo, Tsekhog county, Malho, Qinghai

Status: died at the scene

Wangchen Kyi (also referred to as Bhenchen Kyi) set fire to herself in the Dokarmo nomadic area of Tsekhog county. Wangchen chose to self-immolate in the nomadic area rather than in a town as she did not want the authorities to take her body away. During her protest she called for the long life of the Dalai Lama and for Tibetans "to prevail for tens of thousands of years". Several thousand people gathered for her funeral but were dispersed by armed police... [read more](#)

(96) Name: Kunchok Phelgye

Date of Protest: 8 December 2012

Protest location: Dzoge county, Ngaba, Sichuan

Age: 24

From: Sumdo monastery, Dzoge county, Ngaba

Status: died at the scene

Kunchok Phelgye self-immolated in front of Taktsang Lhamo Kirti monastery in Dzoge county. Kunchok was a senior student of Buddhist philosophy at the monastery. During his protest, he called for the long life and return of the Dalai Lama and Kirti Rinpoche as well as the reunification of all Tibetans. Security has been increased at Taktsang Lhamo Kirti monastery and in the surrounding area... [read more](#)

(95) Name: Pema Dorjee

Date of Protest: 8 December 2012

Protest location: Shitsang monastery, Luchu county

Age: 23

From: Choekor village, Luchu county, Kanlho, Gansu

Status: died at the scene

Pema Dorjee set fire to himself In front of Shitsang monastery in Luchu. During his protest, Pema called for an independent Tibet, the return of the Dalai Lama and unity amongst Tibetans. Heavy restrictions have been placed on the Shitsang monastery since the protest... [read more](#)

(94) Name: Lobsang Gendun

Date of Protest: 3 December 2012

Protest location: Pema county, Golog, Qinghai

Age: 29

From : Penang monastery, Pema county, Golog, Qinghai

Status: died at the scene

Lobsang Gendun self-immolated at a road intersection in Pema county. Whilst engulfed in flames he walked with clasped hands and shouted slogans. Before his protest Lobsang left a message, calling for unity and solidarity among all Tibetans. Since the protest, security has been intensified at Penang monastery and in Pema county... [read more](#)

(93) Name: Sungdue Kyab

Date of Protest: 2 December 2012

Protest Location: near Bora monastery, Sangchu county, Kanlho

Age: late teens

From: Dardo village, Bora township, Kanlho, Gansu

Status: in hospital

Sungdue Kyab set fire to himself near Bora monastery. Chinese security personnel arrived, doused the flames and took Sungdue to a hospital in Tsoe, which has now been heavily fortified by Chinese police. Sungdue has not been allowed any visitors and details of his current condition are not known. Tensions are mounting in Bora and communications have been restricted... [read more](#)

(92) Name: Kunchok Kyab

Date of protest: 30 November 2012

Protest location: Shagdom region, Ngaba, Sichuan

Age: 29

From: Akyi township, Dzoge county, Ngaba

Status: died 1 December

Kunchok Kyab, a father of two, set himself on fire near a gas station. Police arrived at the scene and took Kalsang to hospital. A group of young Tibetans who followed the police vehicles have since gone missing. Crowds gathered to demand the return of Kalsang and the group who followed him. Kalsang died in hospital on 1 December... [read more](#)

(91) Name: Tsering Namgyal

Date of Protest: 29 November 2012

Location of Protest: Luchu, Kanlho prefecture, Gansu

Age: 31

From: Samtsa Lotso Dewa, Luchu

Status: died

Tsering Namgyal, father of two, set himself on fire outside the local Chinese government office in Luchu. Tsering shouted slogans against the government's repressive policies. Since Tsering's self-immolation, military personnel is being deployed to Luchu and its inhabitants are being put under increased restrictions... [read more](#)

(90) Name: Bendey Khar

Date of Protest: 28 November 2012

Protest Location: Tsoe county, Kanlho prefecture, Gansu

Age: 21

From: Yarki Sodhi village, Tsoe region

Status: died

Bendey Khar (also referred to as Wande Khar) set himself on fire in Tsoe. During his protest he shouted slogans calling for freedom for Tibet, the return of the Dalai Lama, the release of Panchen Lama and the protection of Tibet's environment. Following his death, Tibetans gathered at Bendey's home to pray... [read more](#)

(89) Name: Sangay Tashi

Date of Protest: 27 November 2012

Protest Location: Sangkong, Labrang county, Kanlho, Gansu

Age: 18

From: Sangkhong Ngyulre village, Labrang county

Status: died

Sangye Tashi set himself on fire on the main street of Sangkong at about 11pm. During his protest, Sangye shouted slogans calling for the return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet and the release of all Tibetan political prisoners, including the Panchen Lama. Sangye died on the spot and his body was taken to a nearby house... [read more](#)

(88) Name: Kalsang Kyab

Date of protest: 27 November 2012

Protest location: Kangtsa township, Dzoge county, Ngaba, Sichuan

Age: 24

From: Dowa Megey village, Kangtsa township

Status: died

Kalsang Kyab, one of six sons of a nomadic family, set fire to himself in front of a government office. During his protest, Kalsang shouted slogans calling for the long life of the Dalai Lama and Kirti Rinpoche. Kalsang's body was then taken by local Tibetans to Dowa Mege village to be blessed. In the aftermath of the protest, restrictions have been heightened in the Kangsta region... [read more](#)

(87) Name: Gonpo Tsering

Date of Protest: 26 November 2012

Protest Location: Luchu, Kanlho prefecture, Gansu

Age: 24

From: unknown

Status: died

Gonpo Tsering set fire to himself in front of the main prayer hall at Ala Deugo monastery in Luchu. The father of three shouted slogans during his protest, including freedom for Tibet, human rights for Tibetans and the return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet. Local Tibetans carried his body into the monastery, where many more locals assembled to say prayers for Gonpo... [read more](#)

(86) Name: Kunchok Tsering

Date of Protest: 26 November 2012

Protest Location: gold mine in Amchok, Kanlho, Gansu

Age: 18

From: unknown

Status: died

Kunchok Tsering self-immolated a week after Tsering Dhondup, in front of the same gold mine in Amchok. The Chinese-run mining operation has been the focus of protests by Tibetans concerned over the mine's environmental impact. Large numbers of local Tibetans gathered at Amchok monastery to say prayers for Kunchok, who is survived by his 19 year-old wife... [read more](#)

(85) Name: Wangyal

Date of Protest: 26 November 2012

Protest Location: Serthar, Kardze prefecture, Sichuan

Age: 20

From: unknown

Status: died at scene

Wangyal, a student of Sertha People's Middle School, set fire to himself on a main street in Serthar. During his protest

shouted slogans for the freedom of Tibetan people and the return to Tibet of the Dalai Lama. He died at the scene and Chinese security personnel took his body away... [read more](#)

(84) Name: Sangay Dolma

Date of protest: 25 November 2012

Protest location: Dokarma, Tsekhog county, Malho, Qinghai

Age: (teenager)

From: unknown

Status: died

At around 7pm local time, Sangay Dolma, a teenage nun, died after setting herself on fire in front of a government office in Dokarmo. Large numbers of Tibetans gathered to pray for Sangay. She is the third Tibetan to self-immolate in Dokarmo, following the authorities' ban on funerals and paying respects to self-immolators... [read more](#)

(83) Name: Tamdin Dorjee

Date of Protest: 23 November 2012

Protest Location: Dokarma, Tsekhog county, Malho, Qinghai

Age: 29

From: Mekor village, Tsekhog county, Malho, Qinghai

Status: died

Tamdin Dorjee self-immolated at around 6.30pm in front of a local government office in Dokarmo. Tamdin held his hands in a praying gesture and shouted for the long life of the Dalai Lama during his protest. Despite official warnings, over a thousand Tibetans gathered to say prayers for Tamdin and mantras for the long life of the Dalai Lama. Tamdin was the second Tibetan to self-immolate in Dokarmo, following the announcement on 14 November that those associated with or paid respects to self-immolators would be punished... [read more](#)

(82) Name: Tamding Kyab

Date of Protest: 22 November 2012

Protest Location: Luchu county, Kanlho, Gansu

Age: 23

From: Palgur Nagri village, Luchu county, Kanlho, Gansu

Status: died

Former monk and nomad, Tamding Kyab, self-immolated at about 10pm local time on 22 November near Luchu river. Local Tibetans recovered Tamding's body and returned it to his home, where local monks performed traditional rituals. He had previously told friends that there was no point to living if the Dalai Lama could not return to Tibet... [read more](#)

(81) Name: Lubum Gyal

Date of Protest: 22 November 2012

Protest Location: Dowa township, Rebkong county

Age: 18

From: Dowa, Rebkong county, Malho, Qinghai

Status: died

Lubum Tsering's self-immolation, in the afternoon of 22 November, came after Chinese authorities announced a ban on funerals and prayers for self-immolators. It is believed the ban, plus heightened security may have been the trigger for Lubum's protest. Local people prevented Chinese security from taking Lubum's body away, and many gathered for traditional rituals despite the ban... [read more](#)

(80) Name: Tsering Dhondup

Date of Protest: 20 November 2012

Protest Location: gold mine in Amchok, Kanlho, Gansu

Age: 35

From: Chungennang village, Amchok, Kanlho, Gansu

Status: died

Tsering Dhondup, self-immolated at about 8.30am on 20 November near the entrance to a gold mining site located at Ghong-ngon Lari mountain, in Amchok, in an apparent protest against Chinese mining activities. His body was returned to his home. Hundreds of people gathered to say prayers and pay respects. Tsering was married with three children... [read more](#)

(79) Name: Wangchen Norbu

Date of Protest: 19 November 2012

Protest Location: Kangsta, Yadzi county, Tsohar, Qinghai

Age: 25

From: unknown

Status: died

During his protest, which occurred at 8pm near the Ganden Choeling monastery, Wangchen called for freedom for Tibet, the return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet and for the release of the Panchen Lama. A large number of people gathered at the monastery for a funeral later that evening, where the crowd shouted for the long life of the Dalai Lama... [read more](#)

(78) Name: Sangdag Tsering

Date of protest: 18 November 2012

Protest location: Dokarmo town, Rebkong county, Qinghai

Age: 24

From: Rebkong county, Qinghai (assumed)

Status: died at the scene

Sangdag Tsering set himself on fire in front of a local Chinese government office in Dokarmo town, where a public

meeting had been where Chinese officials announced a ban on paying respects to self-immolation victims. Despite the ban a funeral service was held attended by several thousand Tibetans. Sangdag had written a poem calling for Tibetan unity, including the words: "The brave men of the snow mountains, Don't forget your loyalty to Tibet."... [read more](#)

(77) Name: Chagmo Kyi

Date of protest: 17 November 2012

Protest location: Rongwo town, Rebkong county, Qinghai

Age: about 27

From: Madpa village, Rebkong county, Qinghai

Status: died at the scene

Farmer, taxi driver and mother of two, Chagmo Kyi, self-immolated in Dolma Square in Rongwo town. Monks took her body into the monastery. Hundreds of monks and local Tibetans attended the funeral despite a security ban... [read more](#)

(76) Name: Tangzin Dolma

Date of protest: 15 November 2012

Protest location: Tsemo region, Rebkong county, Qinghai

Age: 23

From: not known

Status: died at the scene

Tangzin Dolma self-immolated in the courtyard of a local temple in the Tsemo region of Rebkong county. Sources indicated a large number of Tibetans were gathering in the evening in Tsemo for Tangzin's funeral... [read more](#)

(75) Name: Kharbum Gyal

Date of protest: 15 November 2012

Protest location: Rongwo town, Rebkong county, Qinghai

Age: 18

From: not known

Status: died at the scene

Kharbum Gyal set himself on fire in a street in Rongwo town. Hundreds of people are reported to have gathered for his funeral. Further details are not yet known due to the blocking of communications by the Chinese authorities... [read more](#)

(74) Name: Nyingchag Bum

Date of protest: 12 November 2012

Protest location: Dawo town, Rebkong county, Qinghai

Age: 20

From: not known

Status: died

Nyingchag Bum died after setting fire to himself on the main street in Dowa town. Monks have taken his body to a local monastery. Further details are not yet known due to the blocking of communications by the Chinese authorities... [read more](#)

(73) Name: Nyingkar Tashi

Date of protest: 12 November 2012

Protest location: Rongwo town, Rebkong county, Qinghai

Age: 24

From: not known

Status: died

Nyingkar Tashi's protest took place at about 3.30pm in Rongwo town. He died from his injuries. Further details are not yet known due to the blocking of communications by the Chinese authorities... [read more](#)

(72) Name: Gonpo Tsering

Date of protest: 10 November 2012

Protest location: Lushoe village, Tsoe county, Kanlho, Gansu

Age: 19

From: Tsoe county, Kanlho, Gansu (assumed)

Status: died later same day

Gonpo Tsering called for "freedom for Tibetans, the return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet and freedom of languages" during his self-immolation protest. Monks and local Tibetans took Gonpo to his home following the protest where he died later the same day... [read more](#)

(71) Name: Kalsang Jinpa

Date of protest: 8 November 2012

Protest location: Rongwo town, Rebkong county, Qinghai

Age: 18

From: former monk from Rongwo monastery

Status: died

Kalsang Jinpa died after self-immolating in Rongwo town. He carried a banner as he set himself on fire which called for the rights of the Tibetan people to be respected and for the return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet. After the self-immolation thousands of Tibetans gathered in front of Rongwo monastery in protest against the Chinese regime, shouting slogans including freedom for Tibet and for the return of the Dalai Lama... [read more](#)

(70) Name: Tsegyal

Date of protest: 7 November 2012

Protest location: Tingser village, Bekhar, Driru county, TAR

Age: 27

From: unknown

Status: died 18 November

A self-immolation by a man identified as Tsegyal took place at 8pm in Bekhar township. Information regarding this protest has been slow to come out of Tibet and some details remains unconfirmed... [read more](#)

(69) Name: Tamdin Tso

Date of protest: 7 November 2012

Protest location: Gemar market, Rebkong county, Qinghai

Age: 23

From: Dro Rongwo, Rebkong county, Qinghai

Status: died at the scene

Tamdin Tso set fire to herself near Gemar market in Rebkong. She shouted "His Holiness the Dalai Lama must come to Tibet" during her protest. Monks carried her body to her home for traditional rituals. Following the self-immolation, several thousand Tibetans gathered in Rebkong to protest against China's oppressive rule and to say prayers for Tamdin Tso... [read more](#)

(66-68) Name: (l-r) Dorjee, Samdup & Dorjee Kyab

Date of protest: 7 November 2012

Protest location: Gomang, Ngaba county, Sichuan

Age: Dorjee 15, Samdup 16, Dorjee Kyab 16

From: Ngoshul monastery, Ngaba county, Sichuan

Status: Dorjee died; Samdup & Dorjee Kyab taken to hospital

Three teenage monks set themselves on fire in a joint protest in front of a Chinese police station in Gomang. They called for freedom for Tibet and the return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet. Dorjee died at the scene, whilst Samdup and Dorjee Kyab were taken to a hospital by Chinese security personnel. Their current conditions are not known... [read more](#)

(65) Name: Dorjee Lhundrup

Date of protest: 4 November 2012

Protest location: Rebkong town, Qinghai

Age: mid-twenties

From: Chuma village, Rebkong county, Qinghai

Status: died

Dorjee Lhundrup, a farmer and thangka painter, set fire to himself in Taglung South Street, Rebkong. He shouted slogans including for the Dalai Lama to return to Tibet and for freedom for Tibet. Monks and local Tibetans protected Dorjee's body from Chinese forces. Several thousand Tibetans attended his funeral and began a protest shouting slogans. Dorjee was the 50th Tibetan to self-immolate in Tibet this year... [read more](#)

(64) Name: Thubwang Kyab

Date of protest: 26 October 2012

Protest location: Sangkok, Labrang county, Kanlho, Gansu

Age: 21

From: Sangkok, Labrang county, Kanlho, Gansu

Status: died at the scene

Thubwang Kyab self-immolated on the main street of Sangkok township. He shouted slogans calling for freedom for Tibet, for the Dalai Lama to return to Tibet and for the release of the Panchen Lama and all political prisoners. Local Tibetans took Thubwang's body to his home in Sangkhok after stopping Chinese security forces from taking the body away. Thousands of Tibetans attended the funeral, despite a security crackdown in the region... [read more](#)

(63) Name: Lhamo Tseten

Date of protest: 26 October 2012

Protest location: Amchok, Labrang county, Kanlho, Gansu

Age: 24

From: Labrang county, Kanlho, Gansu

Status: died at the scene

Lhamo Tseten, a nomad and farmer, set fire to himself near a People's Armed Police station in Amchok. He ran down the street ablaze whilst shouting slogans calling for freedom for Tibet and the return to Tibet of the Dalai Lama. After collapsing, he is said to have clasped his hands together as if he was praying. He died at the scene. Chinese security forces did not intervene as local people took Lhamo Tseten's body to his hometown... [read more](#)

(61, 62) Name: Tsepo & Tenzin (right)

Date of protest: 25 October 2012

Protest location: Narong, Driru county, Nagchu, TAR

Age: Tsepo 20, Tenzin 25

From: former monks from Bankar monastery, Driru

Status: Tsepo died; Tenzin unknown

Tsepo and Tenzin set themselves on fire near a government building whilst shouting slogans demanding freedom for Tibet and the return of the Dalai Lama. They also called for all Tibetans to be "united like brothers". Tsepo died shortly afterwards, whilst Tenzin was taken away by Chinese security forces. Tenzin's condition and whereabouts are not known... [read more](#)

(60) Name: Dorjee Rinchen

Date of protest: 23 October 2012

Protest location: Labrang town, Kanlho, Gansu

Age: 58

From: Sayi village, Labrang county, Kanlho, Gansu

Status: died at the scene

Dorjee Rinchen set himself ablaze and ran down the main street of Labrang. Local people took Dorjee's body to his home after preventing Chinese troops from acquiring the body. Monks from Labrang monastery were said to be prevented from visiting Dorjee's home. Dorjee used to sell bread at Labrang monastery... [read more](#)

(59) Name: Dhondup

Date of protest: 22 October 2012

Protest location: Labrang monastery, Kanlho, Gansu

Age: 61

From: Denme township, Labrang county, Kanlho, Gansu

Status: died at the scene

Dhondup, a nomad and farmer, set fire to himself next to a temple at Labrang Monastery. Chinese security forces initially took Dhondup's body away but later gave the body to his family as they feared protests would erupt. Local officials also attempted to prevent prayers being said for Dhondup at Labrang monastery. Dhondup is the oldest Tibetan to have self-immolated to date... [read more](#)

(58) Name: Lhamo Kyab

Date of protest: 20 October 2012

Protest location: Bora monastery, Labrang county, Kanlho, Gansu

Age: 27

From: Drognang, Bora township, Labrang county, Kanlho, Gansu

Status: died shortly after protest

Lhamo Kyab, a layman, set fire to himself outside Bora monastery and ran down the street shouting for independence for Tibet, the release of the Panchen Lama and the return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet. He died shortly afterwards. Local Tibetans prevented his body being taken away by Chinese security forces. Before his protest he told a friend, "These Chinese are not letting us live in peace. It's better to die, better to die"... [read more](#)

(57) Name: Tamdin Dorjee

Date of protest: 13 October 2012

Protest location: Tsoe monastery, Tsoe county, Kanlho, Gansu

Age: early fifties

From: Drong che village, Khasag township, Kanlho, Gansu

Status: died at scene

Tamdin Dorjee set fire to himself in the grounds of Tsoe monastery. He shouted for freedom for Tibet and for the return of the Dalai Lama during his protest. He died at the scene. Local monks took away his body, but Tsoe monastery has since been placed under a military lockdown. Tamdin Dorjee was a father of three and grandfather of the reincarnation of Gungthang Rinpoche, a revered religious leader in Tibet... [read more](#)

(56) Name: Sangay Gyatso

Date of protest: 6 October 2012

Protest location: Dokar monastery, Tsoe county, Gansu

Age: 27

From: Tsoe county, Kanlho prefecture, Gansu

Status: died at scene

Sangay Gyatso, a layman and father of two, set fire to himself in the grounds of Dukar monastery located near Tsoe town. During his protest he called for the return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet and for religious and language rights. Sangay died at the scene. Subsequently, there has been a security clampdown in the area, with the arrival of security forces, communications with the monastery cut and Dokar monks facing interrogation... [read more](#)

(55) Name: Gudrub

Date of protest: 4 October 2012

Protest location: Nagchu town, Nagchu county, TAR

Age: 43

From: Kali village, Driru county, TAR

Status: died shortly after protest

Prior to his protest Gudrub left a statement online urging "unity and solidarity" amongst Tibetans. During his protest, at a marketplace in Nagchu town, Gudrub shouted slogans including "Wherever we go, we have no freedom", "Freedom for Tibet" and "Let His Holiness the Dalai Lama return to Tibet". Sources say he died shortly after the protest. Gudrub was a writer and had studied in exile... [read more](#)

(54) Name: Yungdrung

Date of protest: 29 September 2012

Protest location: Zatoe town, Qinghai province

Age: 27

From: Karma township, Chamdo, TAR

Status: died on way to hospital

On 29 September, Yungdrung set fire to himself in Zatoe town. He was wearing traditional Tibetan clothes and shouted slogans during his protest. He called for independence for Tibet, the return of the Dalai Lama and the Karmapa to Tibet, and for long life for the Dalai Lama. He also referred to Kalon Tripa Lobsang Sangay as the king of Tibet. Yungdrung was taken away by Chinese security forces. The Chinese authorities later informed his family that he died whilst being taken to hospital, but did not hand over his body... [read more](#)

(52, 53) Name: Lobsang Kelsang & Lobsang Damchoe

Date of protest: 27 August 2012

Protest location: near Kirti monastery, Ngaba, Sichuan

Age: Kelsang 18; Damchoe 17

From: Raruwa village, Chara township, Sichuan

Status: both died in hospital later same day

Lobsang Kelsang, a monk from Kirti monastery, and Lobsang Damchoe, a former Kirti monk, self-immolated at 8.30am on 27 August near the eastern gate of Kirti monastery in Ngaba. Both shouted slogans against China's rule and the Tibetan battle cry "Ki, Ki". After the flames were extinguished they were taken away by Chinese police. They both died in hospital later the same day. The two teenagers were cousins. Lobsang Damchoe's sister, Tenzin Choedron died after self-immolating on 11 February... [read more](#)

(50, 51) Name: Lungtok & Tashi

Date of protest: 13 August 2012

Protest location: Ngaba, Sichuan province

Age: both in early 20s

From: not known

Status: Lungtok died 13 Aug, Tashi died 14 Aug

Lungtok, a monk from Kirti monastery in Ngaba, and Tashi, a former monk, set fire to themselves on 13 August. Both shouted slogans during their joint protest outside Kirti monastery. Chinese security forces doused the flames and forcibly took them away. Tashi was also reportedly beaten. Lungtok died later the same day. Tashi died the following day in hospital. Following the self-immolations Tibetans gathered in Ngaba to protest against China's oppression. Security forces responded with violence, killing one and injuring others. An unknown number of Tibetans were detained... [read more](#)

(49) Name: Choepa

Date of protest: 10 August 2012

Protest location: Meruma, Ngaba prefecture, Sichuan

Age: 24

From: Meruma region, Ngaba prefecture, Sichuan

Status: died

Choepa, a Tibetan nomad and known activist, self-immolated at 10am on 10 August 2012 in Meruman township in eastern Tibet. He was heard to shouting slogans as he walked down the street ablaze. Chinese security forces extinguished the flames and took him away. Choepa died before reaching hospital. His body was cremated by Chinese officials denying his family a traditional Buddhist funeral... [read more](#)

(48) Name: Dolkar Tso

Date of protest: 7 August 2012

Protest location: Tsoe, Kanlho, Gansu province

Age: 26

From: Tasur, Nawu township, Kanlho

Status: died

Dolkar Tso set fire to herself in the afternoon of 7 August at Tsoe Gaden Choeling monastery in Tsoe City. During her protest Dolkar called out for the return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet and that there is no freedom in Tibet. Monks rushed out to help her but she died later the same day. Dolkar was from a farming family and leaves behind a four-year old son and a two-year old daughter... [read more](#)

(47) Name: Lobsang Tsultrim

Date of protest: 6 August 2012

Protest location: outside Kirti monastery, Ngaba, Sichuan

Age: 21

From: Ryiwa village, Cha township, Ngaba

Status: died

Lobsang Tsultrim self-immolated at approximately 5pm local time on 6 August in front of Kirti monastery. The young monk shouted slogans calling for the return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet and for Tibetans in Tibet and in exile to unite. He attempted to walk towards a government building whilst he was on fire, but collapsed to the ground. Armed police extinguished the flames and took him away. Lobsang died later the same day in hospital... [read more](#)

(46) Name: Lobsang Lozin

Date of protest: 17 July 2012

Protest location: Barkham, Ngaba prefecture

Age: 18

From: Tsodun monastery, Barkham

Status: died

Lobsang Lozin's protest took place at about 12 noon in front of the main prayer hall of Tsodun monastery. Lobsang shouted slogans during his protest, though it is not clear what these were. He died at the scene. Reports indicate that Chinese security personnel attempted to enter the monastery but were stopped by local Tibetans who blocked a nearby bridge. There are fears of confrontations between security forces and local Tibetans as tensions escalate... [read more](#)

(45) Name: Tsewang Dorjee

Date of protest: 7 July 2012

Protest location: Damshung, Lhasa prefecture

Age: 22

From: Jyekundo, Qinghai province

Status: died

Tsewang Dorjee, a 22-year old nomad, self-immolated at about 1pm on 7 July, the day after the Dalai Lama's 77th birthday, in front of a community hall in Damshung (Chinese: Dangxiong), Lhasa prefecture. Tsewang shouted slogans calling for the long life of the Dalai Lama as he set fire to himself. [UPDATE 12 July] Reports indicate that Tsewang Dorjee died later the same day... [read more](#)

(44) Name: Dickyi Choezom

Date of protest: 27 June 2012

Protest location: Jyekundo, Qinghai province

Age: in her 40s

From: Jyekundo, Qinghai province

Status: in hospital in serious condition

Dickyi Choezom, a mother of two in her 40s, set fire to herself whilst taking part in a protest to highlight unjust land confiscation policies implemented by the Chinese authorities following the Yushu earthquake of April 2010. Local police extinguished the flames and rushed her to hospital. Her current condition is not known. The authorities refused family visits to the hospital... [read more](#)

(42, 43) Name: Tenzin Khedup (left) & Ngawang Norphel (right)

Date of protest: 20 June 2012

Protest location: Zatoe town, Qinghai province

Ages: Tenzin 24; Ngawang 22

From: Tenzin local; Ngawang from Ngaba

Status: Tenzin died 20 June; Ngawang died 30 July

On 20 June, at about 3.30pm, two young Tibetan men held up banned Tibetan flags and shouted slogans in Zatoe town, Jyekundo, eastern Tibet. As they called for freedom in Tibet and for the return of the Dalai Lama they set fire to themselves. Tenzin died at the scene, whilst Ngawang was taken to hospital where he survived for almost six weeks before succumbing to his injuries on 30 July. Prior to their protest Tenzin and Ngawang wrote a message saying their deaths were "for the Tibetan cause" and they called for unity amongst their fellow Tibetans... [read more](#)

(41) Name: Tamdin Thar

Date of protest: 15 June 2012

Protest location: Chentsa, Malho

Age: in his 40s or 50s

From: nomad from Malho region

Status: died

On 15 June, Tamdin Thar, from a nomadic family and in his 40s or 50s, self-immolated in front of a People's Armed Police base in Chentsa, Malho (Ch: Huangnan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture), Amdo (located in the Chinese province of Qinghai). Tamdin was taken away by police and died later the same day... [read more](#)

(40) Name: Rikyo

Date of protest: 30 May 2012

Protest location: near Jonang monastery, Dzamthang

Age: 33

From: Tsangde, Dzamthang, Sichuan

Status: died

Rikyo, a 33 year-old nomad and mother of three, set fire to herself at about 3pm on 30 May near Jonang monastery in Dzamthang (Chinese: Rangtang) county, Ngaba Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan province. Rikyo died at the scene and her body was taken to the local monastery... [read more](#)

(38, 39) Name: Dorjee Tseten (left) & Dhargye (right)

Date of protest: 27 May 2012

Protest location: outside Jokhang temple, Lhasa

Ages: Dorjee 19; Dhargye early 20s

From: Dorjee from Bora, Gansu; Dhargye from Ngaba

Status: Dorjee died at scene; Dhargye died in hospital

Dorjee Tseten and Dhargye set fire to themselves in front of the Jokhang temple in central Lhasa in the afternoon of 27 May, during the Buddhist festival of Saga Dawa. Security forces doused the flames and took the two men away. Chinese state media confirmed that Dorjee died later the same day. Tibetan sources say Dhargye died in hospital in July. These were the first self-immolations to take place in Lhasa... [read more](#)

(36, 37) Name: Choepak Kyap (left) & Sonam (right)

Date of protest: 19 April 2012

Protest location: Barma, Dzamthang county, Ngaba

Ages: both in their 20s

From: Dzamthang county, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: both died several hours after protest

Cousins Choepak Kyap and Sonam self-immolated at about 1pm near a local government building in Barma township. Local Tibetans immediately surrounded the two men to prevent security forces from beating them and taking them away. Their bodies were taken to Dzamthang Jonang monastery for prayers and funerals. Security forces have since converged on the monastery. Prior to their self-immolation, the two cousins recorded saying their actions were "for the restoration of Tibet's freedom"... [read more](#)

(34, 35) Name: Thupten Nyendak Rinpoche (left) & Atse (right)

Date of protest: 6 April 2012

Location of protest: Dzogchen monastery, Derge, Kardze, Sichuan

Age: Rinpoche 45, Atse 23

From: Rinpoche from Dzogchen monastery,

Atse from Serthar Tibetan Buddhist Institute

Status: both died at the scene

Initial reports indicated Rinpoche and Atse died accidentally in a house fire, however the Tibetan government in exile released a report in March 2013, stating that the deaths were confirmed as self-immolations. The report said that Rinpoche phoned his family on the day of the incident saying he was going to end his life. His fellow monks did not report the self-immolation at the time for fear the monastery would be closed... [read more](#)

(32, 33) Name: Chimey Palden (left) & Tenpa Darje (right)

Date of protest: 30 March 2012

Protest location: Barkham, Ngaba prefecture

Ages: Chimey 21, Tenpa 22

From: Tsodun monastery, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: Chimey died on 31 March, Tenpa on 7 April

Chimey Palden and Tenpa Darje, monks from Tsodun monastery, set fire to themselves in a joint protest outside local government offices in Barkham whilst shouting slogans against the Chinese government. Both were taken by security forces to a local hospital. Chimey Palden died the day after the protest, whilst Tenpa Darje died a week later on 7 April. The Chinese authorities refused to hand over their bodies for traditional rituals, instead cremating the bodies and handing over the ashes... [read more](#)

(31) Name: Lobsang Sherab

Date of protest: 28 March 2012

Protest location: Cha township, Ngaba prefecture

Age: 20

From: Kirti monastery, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: died

Lobsang Sherab, a 20 year-old monk who had returned home from Kirti monastery two days earlier, set fire to himself in the main street of Cha township, Ngaba prefecture, Sichuan province on 28 March. During his protest, Lobsang shouted slogans against China's policies which discriminate against Tibetans. He died at the scene. Security personnel took his body away. Chinese officials have ignored pleas from the family to return the body so that traditional rituals can be performed... [read more](#)

(30) Name: Sonam Dhargye (or Thargyal)

Date of protest: 17 March 2012

Protest location: Tongpo town, Rebkong county

Age: 43

From: Rebkong county, Qinghai

Status: died

Sonam Dhargye, a 43 year-old farmer and father of three, set himself on fire on a main road in Tongpo town, Rebkong county in Qinghai province. Sonam, died almost immediately as he had drunk kerosene and poured it over his body which was wrapped in cotton and wire. Whilst on fire Sonam called for the return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet, for Tibetan language rights and for an end to Chinese rule. His body was taken to Rongpo monastery, where several thousand people attended his funeral... [read more](#)

(29) Name: Lobsang Tsultrim

Date of protest: 16 March 2012

Protest location: Ngaba

Age: 20

From: Kirti monastery, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: died in hospital on 19 March

Lobsang Tsultrim set fire to himself near the county office in Ngaba. The Kirti monk shouted slogans against China's rule and ran down the street whilst on fire. When Chinese police caught Lobsang they beat him. Lobsang died three days later in a hospital in Barkham. Local officials cremated his body denying his family the right to hold traditional rituals. Tibetan shops and restaurants in Ngaba closed for three days in a show of solidarity... [read more](#)

(28) Name: Jamyang Palden

Date of protest: 14 March 2012

Protest location: Rongbo Gonchen monastery

Age: 34

From: Rebkong county, Qinghai

Status: died 29 September 2012

At about 10.30am Jamyang Palden, a monk, set fire to himself in the grounds of Rongbo Gonchen monastery in Rebkong county, Malho Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai province. Several local people helped extinguish the flames. He was initially taken to a local hospital but was later taken back to his monastery, where monks treated his injuries. The monastery has since been placed under strict surveillance by Chinese security personnel. The protest occurred on the anniversary of the start of the 2008 uprising that spread across Tibet. Jamyang Palden died on 29 September 2012, finally succumbing to his burns... [read more](#)

(27) Name: Gyepe

Date of protest: 10 March 2012

Protest location: next to Chinese military office in Ngaba

Age: 18

From: Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: died at scene

Gyepe, a monk from Kirti monastery, self-immolated on the anniversary of the 1959 Tibetan National Uprising. His protest took place next to an office of the Chinese military in Ngaba. Gyepe died at the scene and his body was taken away by Chinese soldiers. His family were not allowed to hold a traditional ceremony and Gyepe's body was cremated the following evening under heavy security... [read more](#)

(26) Name: Dorjee

Date of protest: 5 March 2012

Protest location: near government building in Cha

Age: 18

From: Cha township, Ngaba county, Sichuan

Status: died at scene

Dorjee set himself on fire as he walked towards a government building in Cha township, Ngaba county. During his protest he shouted slogans against China's policies in Tibet. According to eyewitnesses the flames around Dorjee were so fierce he could hardly be seen. Dorjee died at the scene and the authorities took away his body... [read more](#)

(25) Name: Rinchen

Date of protest: 4 March 2012

Protest location: in front of Kirti monastery, Ngaba

Age: 32

From: Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: died at scene

Rinchen, a 32 year-old mother and widow, set fire to herself in front of a Chinese police surveillance station at the main entrance to Kirti monastery in Ngaba, Sichuan province. During her protest Rinchen shouted for the Dalai Lama to return to Tibet and for freedom for Tibet. Rinchen succumbed to her injuries at the scene. Rinchen was a mother to four children, the eldest being 13 and the youngest only a few weeks old. Her husband died in 2011... [read more](#)

(24) Name: Tsering Kyi

Date of protest: 3 March 2012

Protest location: vegetable market, Machu

Age: 19

From: Machu, Kanlho prefecture, Gansu

Status: died at scene

Tsering Kyi, a 19 year-old student from Tibetan Middle School in Machu, Kanlho prefecture, Gansu province, self-immolated in the middle of a busy vegetable market in Machu town. A witness said that Chinese vendors at the market threw stones at Tsering's burning body. Tsering died at the scene and her body was taken away by police... [read more](#)

(23) Name: Nangdrol

Date of protest: 19 February 2012

Protest location: in front of Dzamthang Jonang monastery, Ngaba

Age: 18

From: Dzamthang, Ngaba prefecture, Sichuan

Status: died at scene

Nangdrol set fire to himself at 2pm on 19 February in front of his local monastery in Dzamthang. He shouted slogans including "May His Holiness the Dalai Lama live 10,000 years" and "Freedom for Tibet". Nangdrol died at the scene. Local monks prevented Chinese security forces from taking away his body. Over a thousand Tibetans attended a vigil for Nangdrol at Dzamthang Jonang monastery in the evening of 19 February... [read more](#)

(22) Name: Damchoe Sangpo

Date of protest: 17 February 2012

Protest location: Themchen county, Tsonub, Qinghai

Age: 38

From: Bongthak monastery, Themchen

Status: died

Damchoe Sangpo, a 38-year old monk from Bongthak monastery, self-immolated at 6am on 17 February near the grounds of his monastery. It is reported that he died shortly afterwards. Damchoe was a teacher and a member of the Democratic Management Committee - the government controlled body that runs the monastery. Damchoe had objected to the presence of Chinese security forces at the monastery and the cancellation of a religious festival. Security had been tightened at Bongthak monastery following recent protests in the area. Damchoe's self-immolation is the third to have occurred in Qinghai province... [read more](#)

(21) Name: Lobsang Gyatso

Date of protest: 13 February 2012

Protest location: Ngaba town

Age: 19

From: Kirti monastery, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: unknown

Kirti monk Lobsang Gyatso self-immolated at about 2.30pm on 13 February at the top of the main street of Ngaba town. Lobsang shouted slogans of protest against the Chinese government. Chinese police extinguished the flames and were then seen to beat Lobsang as they took him away. A young Tibetan that tried to help Lobsang was also beaten and detained. Lobsang's current whereabouts and condition are unknown. Lobsang is described as "one of the best and brightest students in his class"... [read more](#)

(20) Name: Tenzin Choedron

Date of protest: 11 February 2012

Protest location: outside nunnery, Ngaba county

Age: 18

From: Dechen Choekorling nunnery, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: died before reaching hospital

Tenzin Choedron set herself on fire at about 6pm on 11 February near Dechen Choekorling (aka Mamae) nunnery,

located 3km outside Ngaba town, Sichuan province. During the protest she shouted slogans against the Chinese government. She was taken away by Chinese security, however she died whilst being transported to hospital. Following the protest, Dechen Choekorling nunnery was surrounded and sealed off by Chinese security personnel. Tenzin is the second nun from Dechen Choekorling nunnery to have self-immolated; Tenzin Wangmo died after setting fire to herself on 17 October 2011... [read more](#)

(19) Name: Sonam Rabyang

Date of protest: 9 February 2012

Protest location: Triwang town, Tridu county, Yushul, Qinghai

Age: mid-30s

From: Lab monastery, Tridu

Status: inrecovery, under surveillance

Sonam Rabyang is a monk from Lab monastery. Sonam survived his self-immolation protest and was taken to hospital. Following the incident senior monks from Lab monastery were detained by the Chinese authorities. A year later it has emerged that Sonam has lost both his legs and is under surveillance in his family home in Yuthung village... [read more](#)

(18) Name: Rinzin Dorjee (aka Rikpe)

Date of protest: 8 February 2012

Protest location: Ngaba town

Age: 19

From: Meruma village, Ngaba county, Sichuan

Status: died on 21 February

Rikpe set himself alight in protest against China's rule. The protest took place at a school in Ngaba town, Sichuan province. Security personnel took him to the county hospital where he died on 21 February. Rikpe was a former monk of Kirti monastery, and lived with his family since 2010. Rikpe was described as a kind and humble person, a hard and persistent worker and when he was a monk he used to enjoy looking after pigeons. Two monks who witnessed the self-immolation were arrested, but their identities and whereabouts are unknown... [read more](#)

(17) Name: Lobsang Jamyang

Date of protest: 14 January 2012

Protest location: Ngaba town, Sichuan

Age: 22

From: former monk from Andu monastery in Ngaba

Status: died on 16 January

On 14 January, at approximately 1.30pm, Lobsang doused himself in petrol, set himself alight and walked into the street, near Kirti monastery, Ngaba (Sichuan province). During his protest Lobsang called for freedom in Tibet and "May His Holiness the Dalai Lama live thousands of years". Police beat Lobsang before taking him away. It is believed he died two days later. Local Tibetans gathered to demonstrate against Lobsang's treatment by the police. It is reported that the police opened fire on the crowd, injuring several Tibetans. One Tibetan may have been shot dead. An unknown number of Tibetans were arrested... [read more](#)

(16) Name: Sonam Wangyal (aka Sopa Rinpoche)

Date of protest: 8 January 2012

Protest location: in front of Darlag police station

Age: 42

From: Darlag county, Golog TAP, Qinghai

Status: died at scene

Sonam Wangyal, a 42-year old senior monk, set fire to himself outside the Darlag county police station on 8 January 2012. Before drinking and pouring kerosene over himself, Sonam shouted slogans calling for Tibet's freedom and the long life of the Dalai Lama. He also had distributed leaflets saying that his protest was "not for personal glory but for Tibet and the happiness of Tibetans". Also known as Sopa Rinpoche, Supa Tulku and Lama Sobha, Sonam was a well-respected lama and ran an old people's home and an orphanage in Darlag. This is the first known self-immolation protest to have occurred in Qinghai province... [read more](#)

(14, 15) Name: Tenyi (left) & Tsultrim (right)

Date of protest: 6 January 2012

Protest location: Ngaba town, Sichuan

Age: both approx. 20

From: Tenyi - Kirti monastery; Tsultrim - former monk*

Status: Tenyi died at scene, Tsultrim died on 7 Jan

Tenyi and Tsultrim, both about 20 years old, set fire to themselves in the courtyard of a hotel in Ngaba (Sichuan province) and then ran into the street whilst shouting slogans including, "His Holiness the Dalai Lama must return to Tibet" and "May His Holiness the Dalai Lama live for 10,000 years!". Tenyi is understood to have died at the scene, whilst Tsultrim died the following day. (*Though not confirmed, Tsultrim is believed to be a former monk.)... [read more](#)

(13) Name: Tenzin Phuntsok

Date of protest: 1 December 2011

Protest location: Khamar township, Chamdo

Age: 46

From: Karma monastery, Chamdo, TAR

Status: died in hospital on 6 December

According to sources, Tenzin Phuntsok set himself on fire near a field in Khamar township, Chamdo (Tibet Autonomous Region) in the afternoon of 1 December, in protest against China's continued repression in Tibet. He shouted slogans and scattered leaflets during his protest. Sources say he had been frustrated with the recent crackdown at Karma monastery by the Chinese authorities... [read more](#)

(12) Name: Palden Choesang

Date of protest: 3 November 2011

Protest location: Tawu, Kardze, Sichuan

Age: 35

From: Gaden Choeling nunnery, Tawu, Kardze

Status: died at the scene

Palden Choesang set herself on fire at approx 12.40pm near the Namgyal stupa in Tawu, whilst shouting slogans including "Freedom in Tibet", "Long live His Holiness the Dalai Lama" and "Let the Dalai Lama return to Tibet". Her body was taken to nearby Nyitso monastery. Subsequently Chinese police surrounded Nyitso monastery and demanded her body be handed over... [read more](#)

(11) Name: Dawa Tsering

Date of protest: 25 October 2011

Protest location: Kardze, Sichuan

Age: 31

From: Kardze monastery, Kardze

Status: in critical condition

Dawa Tsering set himself on fire during a dance ceremony at Kardze monastery. Whilst ablaze he shouted for the return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet and for equality and freedom for the Tibetan people in Tibet. Fellow monks extinguished the flames and took Dawa to hospital. Dawa refused medical help and was returned to Kardze monastery where he is reported to be in critical condition. The monastery has since been cordoned off by security personnel... [read more](#)

(10) Name: Tenzin Wangmo

Date of protest: 17 October 2011

Protest location: near nunnery, Ngaba county, Sichuan

Age: 20

From: Dechen Choekorling nunnery

Status: died at the scene

Tenzin Wangmo's protest took place at approx 1pm on 17 October near her nunnery (Dechen Choekorling, aka Mamae), about 3km from Ngaba town centre. She set herself on fire and then whilst walking down the street shouted slogans for the return of the Dalai Lama and for religious freedom in Tibet. The protest lasted between seven and eight minutes, before Tenzin died at the scene. Her body was taken back to the nunnery by fellow nuns, however the authorities demanded the body was handed over or disposed of that day. The nunnery was then placed under strict surveillance... [read more](#)

(9) Name: Norbu Damdrul

Date of protest: 15 October 2011

Protest location: Ngaba town, Sichuan

Age: 19

From: former monk of Kirti monastery

Status: died in hospital on 5 January 2012

Norbu Damdrul set himself on fire at about noon on the main street in Ngaba on 15 October. During his protest he shouted "We need freedom and independence for Tibet" and called for the return of the Dalai Lama to Tibet. Though he was badly burnt he was reported to be still alive when the police took him away. His well-being and whereabouts remained unknown until his death in a Chinese military hospital in Barkham county on 5 January 2012... [read more](#)

(7, 8) Name: Kayang (left) & Choephel (right)

Ages: Kayang 18; Choephel 19

From: both former monks of Kirti monastery

Date of protest: 7 October 2011

Location: Ngaba town, Sichuan

Status: Kayang died on 8 Oct; Choephel died on 11 Oct

Kayang and Choephel staged a protest together on the main street in Ngaba. They clasped their hands together and set fire to themselves, whilst calling for Tibetans to unite and rise up against the Chinese regime and shouting slogans for Tibet's freedom and the return of the Dalai Lama. Security personnel took the two to the local hospital where they later died. Prior to the protest Choephel told his colleagues that the "current atmosphere of repression was unbearable"... [read more](#)

(6) Name: Kelsang Wangchuk

Date of protest: 3 October 2011

Protest location: Ngaba, Sichuan

Age: 17

From: Kirti monastery

Status: in hospital

On 3 October at approx 2pm, Kelsang Wangchuk walked onto the main street in Ngaba holding a photo of the Dalai Lama and shouting slogans protesting against Chinese rule. He then set himself on fire. He was immediately surrounded by Chinese soldiers who doused the flames, beat him and took him away. Kelsang is understood to be in hospital, though is reported to be facing interrogations and indiscriminate beatings... [read more](#)

(4, 5) Name: Lobsang Kunchok (left) & Lobsang Kelsang (right)

Date of protest: 26 September 2011

Protest location: Ngaba, Sichuan

Age: both 18 or 19

From: both from Kirti monastery

Status: both in hospital

Lobsang Kunchok and Lobsang Kelsang held a joint protest in Ngaba at approx 11am on 26 September, waving the banned Tibetan flag, calling for religious freedom and shouting "Long live His Holiness the Dalai Lama" before setting fire to themselves. Both monks were taken away by security personnel and taken to hospital. Lobsang Kelsang is the younger brother of Phunstok, the monk who immolated himself on 16 March 2011. In March 2012 reports were received that Lobsang Kunchok had undergone multiple amputations, and his parents were being refused access to him. Their

current condition and whereabouts is not known... [read more](#)

(3) Name: Tsewang Norbu

Date of protest: 15 August 2011

Protest location: Tawu

Age: 29

From: Nyitso monastery, Tawu county, Kardze, Sichuan

Status: died at the scene

On 15 August Tsewang Norbu protested outside local government buildings in Tawu, Kardze in Sichuan province. Tsewang shouted slogans including "We Tibetan people want freedom", "Long live the Dalai Lama" and "Let the Dalai Lama Return to Tibet". He also distributed leaflets before pouring kerosene over his body and setting himself on fire. He continued to shout slogans for about 15 minutes before he died at the scene. The Chinese authorities subsequently placed Tawu under military lockdown and cut off Nyitso monastery, surrounding it with armed police and soldiers... [read more](#)

(2) Name: Phuntsok

Date of protest: 16 March 2011

Protest location: Ngaba town, Sichuan

Age: 21

From: Kirti monastery

Status: died on 17 March

Phuntsok immolated himself in the busy market of Ngaba to mark the third anniversary of the crackdown on Tibetan protestors at Kirti monastery in 2008 which resulted in 10 deaths. During his protest Phuntsok chanted "Long live the Dalai Lama". Chinese police extinguished the fire and began beating Phuntsok, however, local Tibetans protected him and took him back to his monastery. Phuntsok succumbed to his injuries the following day. Subsequently, Kirti monastery and the town of Ngaba was placed under military lockdown... [read more](#). To read more about the situation at Kirti monastery [click here](#) .

First recorded self-immolation in Tibet

Name: Tapey

Date of protest: 27 February 2009

Protest location: Kirti monastery, Ngaba, Sichuan

Age: mid-twenties

From: Kirti monastery, Ngaba, Sichuan

Status: survived, hospitalised

The first recorded self-immolation in Tibet occurred on 27 February 2009. Tapey, a Kirti monk in his mid-twenties, set himself on fire in protest after local authorities told monks at Kirti monastery that they were not allowed to observe a traditional prayer festival. Police shot Tapey before they extinguished the flames and took him into custody. Until December 2011 his whereabouts and condition were unknown. Update 17 Dec 2011: Tapey is believed to be detained in a military hospital in the Barkham area. His legs are paralysed and his arms are "next to numb" according to Woesser, the

Beijing-based Tibetan blogger... [read more](#)

Self-immolations outside of Tibet

Passang Lhamo, 13 September 2012, Beijing

Passang Lhamo, 62, self-immolated in China's capital city of Beijing on 13 September 2012. Pasang is understood to have set herself on fire in protest against illegal land-grabbing by Chinese authorities in the Jyekundo (Yushu) region of eastern Tibet following the devastating 2010 earthquake. A major rebuilding programme meant Pasang was forced to move from her ancestral home.

According to the Central Tibetan Administration, Passang Lhamo self-immolated after "repeated appeals to the central authorities in Beijing failed to yield any concrete results". She was reportedly taken to hospital and treated for "severe burn injuries". Her current condition and whereabouts is not known. (Reports of the incident only emerged in January 2013 due to China's strict controls over sensitive information.) Further reading: CTA

Passang Lhamo is the second Tibetan known to have self-immolated in protest against government policies of forced evictions and land seizures, after Dickyi Choezom set fire to herself on 27 June 2012.

Self-immolations in exile

Seven Tibetans are known to have self-immolated in exile.

Dorjee Tsering, 29 February 2016, Dehra Dun, India. Died (Tibet Society)

Karma Ngedon Gyatso, 6 August 2013, Kathmandu, Nepal. Died (RFA)

Drupchen Tsering, 13 February 2013, Kathmandu, Nepal. Died (Phayul)

Jampa Yeshe, 26 March 2012, New Delhi, India. Died (AP)

Bhutuk, 10 November 2011, Kathmandu, Nepal. Injured (Phayul)

Sherab Tsedor, 4 November 2011, New Delhi, India. Injured (Guardian)

Thubten Ngodrup, 27 April 1998, Delhi, India. Died (CTC & Jamyang Norbu blog)

Unconfirmed self-immolations

[February 2012] Three Tibetans reportedly self-immolated on 2 February 2012 in the remote village of Phuwu in Serthar (Chinese: Seda) county, Kardze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan province. The three Tibetans were said to be herders, one of whom was said to have died and the other two seriously injured. However, due to the communications blackout imposed by the Chinese authorities this incident has yet to be confirmed. Until this incident has been verified the names are not being added to the list of the Tibetans who have self-immolated.

Take Action

China has to be called to account, not only to end the crackdown in Tibet but also to respect the fundamental rights and freedoms of the Tibetan people. The British government must publicly state its concern over the current situation and, along with other international governments, persuade China to ease the increasingly tense situation by withdrawing its

troops from Tibetan regions, review its repressive policies in Tibet and grant universally recognised human rights to the Tibetan people.

[Click here for details of actions you can take.](#)

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