

## Tibet Society Founding Member's Letter to the Editor of the Times

[9 April 2017]

Exactly 58 years ago, on 9th April 1959, Mr Francis Beaufort-Palmer wrote a letter to The Times suggesting a Society be formed to help Tibetans. Thus the world's first Tibet support group, Tibet Society, was duly formed.

"May I suggest that a society should now be formed to help the Tibetans?"

Mr Beaufort-Palmer's short letter to THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES reads:

"Sir, - Recent events in Tibet resemble those in Ethiopia in 1935-36. The Emperor's exile was relatively short. His cause - that basic cause of freedom against predatory aggression - was greatly helped by the Abyssinia Association formed after a letter in your columns. Our work assisted the Emperor Haile Selassie eventually to return to his capital, after the brilliant military campaign.

May I suggest that a society should now be formed to help the Tibetans?

Yours, & c.,

Francis N. Beaufort-Palmer.

2 Rosary Gardens, S.W.7.

The original Council of Tibet Society was made up of former diplomats and others who had direct knowledge and experience of Tibet.

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