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International Tibetan Shugden Community
全球和藏人联合雄登法会

NY DOS# 4757403

In Response to Lobsang Sangay's Urgent Press Conference

When Lobsang Sangay appeared recently at an “urgent press conference” our hopes were raised, thinking that he would help mend the split in the Tibetan Community between Shugden and non-Shugden followers. We hoped that because of the western education he had received that he would have an enlightened view regarding the segregation and discrimination of Shugden followers and would lift the ban on the practice of Shugden imposed by the Dalai Lama. . We had hoped his promise to be a leader for All Tibetans would come true.

We thought that he would address the video that surfaced on October 16 in the Tibetan Community. This video, made by a group of young Tibetans, including Tashi Dorje, stated that they intended to kill Nyima Tulku Rinpoche this summer, but did not have the opportunity. Nyima Tulku Rinpoche, a highly respected Shugden practitioner, publicly practiced Shugden and this was the reason for their determination to murder him. They stated that they would continue to try and kill him. We had hoped that the “urgent press conference” was being held to implore these young Tibetans, and all Tibetans, to stop the killing. Lobsang Sangay is very aware of the killings and murders that have been occurring for years. There have been numerous murders and attempted murders, including the attack of Kungchok Thargyal in 2014 and the stabbing of Phuntsok Gyaltzen in 2016. Both of these attacks and others on Shugden followers have occurred in Lobsang Sangay's mother's own home town. These assaults have been connected to one group, who are directly associated with the Dalai Lama organization. Unfortunately we were very disappointed in the actual purpose of the press conference.

Lobsang Sangay announced the release of a video and a book to “counter the false allegations” made by the Shugden followers. These propaganda productions merely add fuel to the division within the Tibetan Community. Does Lobsang Sangay truly believe the one-sided Reuters article depicting Shugden followers as Chinese funded puppets? Why did the Reuters article not mention the signs posted in the windows of stores and health clinics in the Tibetan settlements in India, banning Shugden followers from entering to purchase food or obtain needed health services? The Reuters reporter has admitted that he has no proof that the protestors were receiving funding from the Chinese government. If the Reuters article is to be considered accurate, then we question the accuracy of the Washington Post article portraying Lobsang Sangay as a Chinese supporter, owning a house in the US purchased for him by the Chinese Government. When this article was published, we did not believe the accusations. But now, if the Reuters article is to be considered factual, shouldn't the Washington Post's article also be given the same consideration?

We also question the funding for the production of this video and the publishing of the 365 page book. It has been estimated that the cost of the publication was 25 million US dollars. Some have estimated the cost to be as high as 100 million US dollars. Is the Tibetan exiled government misappropriating funds

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donated by Westerners for the health and welfare of the Tibetan refugees to continue their propaganda campaign promoting segregation of and discrimination against Shugden followers?

Why wouldn't these funds be used to help combat the AIDS health crisis and diabetes epidemic recently surfacing within the Tibetan Community?

Does Lobsang Sangay really have the power to stop the segregation and discrimination against the Shugden followers or is he merely a puppet being used by the Dalai Lama to continue the propaganda against the Shugden followers?

Lobsang Sangay stated that many Shugden followers have been using papers issued by the Indian Government. If the Shugden followers were truly being supported by the Chinese Government would they be able to get travel papers and refugee status from the Indian Government?

In India and Nepal, outside the laws of the Tibetan exiled Administration, Shugden communities and monasteries exist and practice Shugden exists. These refugees were shunned by the exiled Tibetan Administration but were allowed to practice in India and Nepal.

The US Government has pledged 23 million USD in aid to the Tibetan exiled community. We would like to know if any of these funds are being allocated to the Shugden followers within the Tibetan refugee community. Since 2008, the Tibetan exiled Administration has cut off all funding to the Shugden community, both the citizens and the monasteries. We fear that once the cover up being perpetrated by Lobsang Sangay is made public, the generous support from the Western communities will end completely. This will affect all Tibetans, not only the Shugden followers but the non Shugden followers as well.

We urge Lobsang Sangay to have another "urgent press conference" and lift the ban on the practice of Shugden and stop segregation immediately.

IMAGES OF DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION

REFUSAL OF MEDICAL SERVICES



"Public Notice: This monastery is under pledge to dissociate itself from any individual or organization practicing Dorjee Shugden or having any association with Shugden Worshippers. Therefore, they are requested not to visit this unit of the monastery for any reason. Thank you for the co-operation."

The Loseling Altruistic Medical Association (LAMA) is a charitable medical association registered with the government of Karnataka, India. This medical association runs Loseling Clinic, at Drepung Loseling Monastery, which is supposed to provide healthcare to all Tibetans, both ordained and lay.