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*Transforming our world
through nonviolent action*

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Daring banner hang at G20 Meeting in France



Acclaimed Tibetan poet Tsering Wangmo Dhompa reads at SFT's Renaissance Series

Students for a Free Tibet

Fiscal Year 2011 Annual Report (Sept 2011 – August 2012)
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OUR MISSION

Students for a Free Tibet (SFT) works in solidarity with the Tibetan people in their struggle for freedom and independence. We are a chapter-based network of young people and activists around the world. Through education, grassroots organizing, and non-violent direct action, we campaign for Tibetans' fundamental right to political freedom. Our role is to empower and train youth as leaders in the worldwide movement for social justice.

CAMPAIGNS AND PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHTS

Enough! Global Intervention Now to Save Tibetan Lives

SFT, in collaboration with International Tibet Network, launched the *Enough!* campaign, calling for a multi-lateral global diplomatic intervention for Tibet. By November 2nd--the day before the G-20 Summit began in Cannes, France--we had gained over 20,000 pledge signatures. Tibetan Youth Association of Europe (TYAE) and SFT hung a banner off the Cannes Ville train station that said, "Enough! Global Intervention Now to Save Tibetan Lives" in French, to ensure that world leaders addressed the recent trend of self-immolations in Tibet with China's President at the Summit. TYAE and SFT also hung an enormous *Enough!* banner on a landmark in Nice, France. On November 2nd, 100 creative actions took place across the globe simultaneously.

Lhakar Movement: Tibetan Self-Reliance and Non-cooperation

The Lhakar ("White Wednesday") movement is the most significant grassroots resistance initiative to emerge from Tibet in decades. What began as a campaign to take practical actions on Wednesdays--the Dalai Lama's soul day--to assert Tibetan cultural identity is evolving into a widespread non-cooperation and self-reliance movement inside Tibet. A growing number of Tibetans are eating only in Tibetan restaurants and boycotting Chinese businesses--simple, socioeconomic activities that are low-risk, sustainable, and profoundly revolutionary. To promote the Lhakar movement in exile, SFT supported the launch of www.Lhakar.com, held numerous talks on Lhakar with Tibetan communities, and encouraged our members to take the Lhakar pledge by committing to one concrete action for Tibet every Wednesday.

Renaissance Series:

Renaissance Series amplifies everything banned in Tibet, shines a spotlight on the Chinese-government's repression, mobilizes support for Tibetans jailed by China, and ensures that their voices are not silenced. Past episodes were presented in unique and innovative ways and held in New York, Minnesota, Japan, California, Washington, DC, and India on a wide range of topics, such as Tibetan poetry, music, revolution-themed art, social media and the Arab Spring, Nomad Rights, and the theme of Pride, Unity, & Vision. Episodes also included guest appearances by Tibetan artists, writers, activists, and journalists, among others.



Protest against deportation of Tibetans in Nepal

Campaign Victory for Human Rights in Nepal

In September of 2011, 23 Tibetans were detained in Nepal after attempting to escape Tibet, and SFT led a successful campaign to ensure that the 23 individuals were turned over to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, rather than the Chinese government, who would have surely detained and tortured them for their daring escape.

SFT protests Hu Jintao in Hong Kong

SFT members traveled to Hong Kong in July to protest Hu Jintao on the 15th anniversary of Hong Kong's handover to China. Joining a march of half a million, they inserted Tibet into the mainstream Chinese democracy movement. It was the first time in SFT history that our activists were not arrested, detained or expelled for a "Free Tibet" protest on Chinese soil.

New Website with Tibetan Language

In early March, SFT launched its new website with exciting features including easier navigation, streamlined ways of taking action, and a calendar featuring our upcoming events. The new website includes a Tibetan language section.



Lhakar in Tibet, Lhakar everywhere

Launched "Reclaiming History" campaign

On May 23, SFT launched the "Reclaiming History" campaign with a countdown to the centenary of 1913 Tibetan Proclamation of Independence. We held ceremonies in Dharamsala, Delhi, Philadelphia, NY, Chicago, Madison, San Francisco, Toronto, Amherst, Burlington, Utah, Santa Fe, Portland. We distributed 100s of Proclamation copies, urging people to celebrate Feb 13, 2013 as Tibetan Independence Day.

Advanced Multilateral Action for Tibet

SFT mobilized its members to secured support from influential figures to advance the call for multilateral action for Tibet. In August, US Congressmen Wolf and McGovern wrote to Hillary Clinton supporting multilateral forum for Tibet, marking a major milestone in this campaign. The 200 participants from 40 countries at the recent Special TSG Meeting adopted this initiative as the flagship campaign for the coming year.



Lhadon and Tendor speak on "Our Nation: News & Analysis on the State of Tibet"

Re-launched Web Show 'Our Nation'

In April, SFT launched the second season of Our Nation: News & Analysis on the State of Tibet featuring SFT's Tendor and Tibet Action Institutes's Lhadon in order to provide comprehensive analysis and commentary on the Tibet issue. The first three episodes of the season have already been viewed more than 8,000 times on SFT's YouTube channel.

Global Tibet Lobby Force

In March, SFT joined ICT, Tibet Network and other groups for the largest-ever Lobby Day. Over a hundred Tibetans and supporters met with US Congress members, urging them to pressure China to stop the crackdown in Tibet. Within a week, the US Senate unanimously passed a resolution condemning China's failed policies in Tibet and calling for free media access and an end to religious repression. SFT members also took part in Lobby Days in London, Ottawa, and New Delhi, and helped organize the first-ever lobbying initiatives in Brussels and Canberra.



Tibet Lobby Day at the Capitol in Washington, DC



Banner hang in Washington, DC

Xi Jinping's Tibet Challenge

As China's new leader landed on US soil in February, SFT members rappelled off a landmark bridge in Washington, DC and unfurled a giant banner reading "Xi Jinping: Tibet will be free." The action was carried live on US network news and kicked off a series of creative protests during Xi's high-profile visit. This fall, as Xi ascended to power, SFT joined key Tibet groups in releasing the report, "Xi's Tibet Challenge", linking China's incoming president to 60 years of policy failures and the self-immolation protests in Tibet. A parody video of the Korean hit pop-song called "Xi's Tibet Challenge: Gangnam Style," released on the eve of China's leadership handover, racked up over 40,000 YouTube views. It was covered by Time Magazine, Wall Street Journal, the New York Times blog, Times of India and other mainstream global media.



Tendor inspires camp participants

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Free Tibet! Action Camp XV in India

In October, SFT India hosted 40 participants for the 15th Free Tibet! Action Camp, which was held in Dharamsala. SFT's Executive Director Tenzin Dorjee, Deputy Director Kate Woznow, Tibet Action's Director Lhadon Tethong, and Program Director Freya Putt led workshops in facilitation, advanced media, online and mobile security, public speaking, grassroots recruitment, campaigns and strategy, and nonviolent direct action.



SFT Regional Conference at UMASS Boston

Leadership Trainings and Activist Tools

SFT held leadership and strategic nonviolence trainings for dozens of Tibetans, students, and activists in San Francisco, Amherst, Toronto, Delhi, Dharamsala, London, Edinburgh.

TIBET ACTION INSTITUTE HIGHLIGHTS

The Tibet Action team continued its groundbreaking work to develop and deploy new technology, training, and education tools to enhance online security and Internet Freedom in Tibet. Tibet Action launched the "Safe Travels Online" video series, releasing seven culturally relevant videos designed to educate Tibetans on safer web and communications practices. We also launched a widespread public awareness campaign in the Tibetan community to address the malware risks posed by email attachments and on safer ways of sharing files. Attachments with malware are the most common online attack carried out on Tibetans. The major Kalachakra gathering in Bodhi Gaya, India earlier this year also gave us the opportunity to screen videos and distribute Safe Travels Online materials, including at a gathering of more than 2,000 monks, many of whom communicate regularly with Tibetans inside Tibet. Bringing Down a Dictator in Tibetan was also screened and we distributed electronic copies of translated nonviolence strategy literature and online security resources in Tibetan and Chinese.



One of Tibet Action's informational flyers



Lhakar Academy graduates

On the training front, Tibet Action held two major digital security group trainings in April and May – one in Bylakuppe, a large Tibetan refugee settlement in south India, and the other in Dharamsala, northern India, reaching 99 people. We reached an additional 35 people through shorter one-on-one sessions and small trainings for NGOs. We also held the second annual Lhakar Academy training over four intense weeks near Dharamsala in May with 10 hand-picked Tibetan youth leaders from Canada, US, Nepal and India, along three trainers-in-training from last year's Lhakar Academy class.



With our partners at the Guardian Lab, we began work on a Tibetan SMS Text Messaging application for smartphones, based upon default Android SMS/MMS application. TbTxt and TbChat are designed with a localized user interface, while still providing the strong security features of the original applications. A basic Tibetan keyboard for Android phones was also developed to provide Tibetan language support. The YakChat web messaging app is also in the testing phase. We continue to find and troubleshoot bugs in these apps and are building an active group of testers focused on feedback related to language and other localization needs. In addition to our technology development and training work, Tibet Action staff continued to bring the Tibetan voice to international tech security and strategic nonviolence conference and meetings around the world.

SCROLL DOWN FOR SFT'S FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Students for a Free Tibet FY 2011 Income and Expense (Sep 2011 – Aug 2012)

The following includes the total income and expenses of SFT, including those of SFT's special project Tibet Action Institute, which was launched in 2009.

As a registered 501c3, SFT is required by law to uphold the highest standard of fiscal transparency, which includes being audited each year. For more details, you can view SFT's IRS 990 forms on our website.

Revenue

Donations

Foundations/Grants	\$241,709
Contributions	
Individual Contributions	\$417,675
Tibet Groups	\$2501
Membership	\$51,048
Total Donations	\$712,933

Earned Income

Program Fees	\$7,411
Merchandise Sales	\$7,590
Total Earned Income	\$15,001

Total Other **\$18**

TOTAL REVENUE **\$727,952**

Expenses

Programs

Campaigns	
Cultural Resistance	\$49,739
Economic & Environment	\$46,097
Human Rights	\$87,377
Political Actions	\$59,943
Total Campaigns	\$243,156

International Organizing	\$37,353
Leadership Training	\$77,444
Tibet Action*	\$141,041

Total Programs **\$498,992**

Total Management & General **\$121,423**

Total Fundraising **\$106,045**

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$726,461**

* **Tibet Action Institute** brings together thought leaders and technology experts at the forefront of the Tibet movement to develop and implement programs designed to help Tibetans achieve human rights. Funds for Tibet Action's budget are raised independently by our small committed staff. Tibet Action's income and expenses below are reflected in totals above.

FY2012 Totals for Tibet Action:

Income: \$134,729 Expenses: \$141,041

