



ཚེ་མཚོ་ཤེ་མཚུག་པོ་ལོ་རྒྱུ་ལ་འཛིན་པའི་ཚེ་མཚོ་ཤེ་མཚུག་ལེ

**CHHODHI TASHI LHUNPO CULTURAL SOCIETY**

(Registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860)

Ref. No.

Date :

**Official Statement of the Tashi Lhunpo Monastery on the 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
of His Holiness the 11<sup>th</sup> Panchen Lama  
April 25, 2009**

On this auspicious occasion of the 20<sup>th</sup> birthday of His Holiness the 11<sup>th</sup> Panchen Lama, Tenzin Gendun Yeshe Thinley Phuntsok Pal Sangpo, we at Tashi Lhunpo Monastery, on behalf of Tibetans everywhere, with great reverence wish Him good health, happiness, peace and prosperity.

It is well known that the successive lineages of the Panchen Lama have played an important role in shaping the history of the Tibetan people and of Tibet. It is an historical truth that the Panchen Lama lineages, along with the lineages of the Dalai Lama, have made tremendous contributions to the temporal and spiritual development of the Tibetan people. Both lineages have, throughout many centuries, strived hard for the welfare of the Tibetan people.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Panchen Lama, in particular, throughout his lifetime endured many sufferings while fighting for the rights and interests of the Tibetans inside Tibet, as well as working for the revival of Tibetan Buddhism within the region. He devoted his entire life to fighting for the welfare of the Tibetan people and ultimately made the supreme sacrifice of his precious life. But the 10<sup>th</sup> Panchen Lama is still today remembered with great affection by all Tibetans for his brave and sincere efforts to improve the lives of those inside Tibet.

Now in 2009, twenty years since his passing, we commemorate this year in his memory. But most importantly, this year, following the recommendations of the Tibetan Exile-Cabinet and the Parliament-in-Exile, and under the guidance of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, we will carry out spiritual activities including prayer meetings in order to accumulate collective good merits for the benefit of the Tibetan people.

But today as we celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> birthday of His Holiness the 11<sup>th</sup> Panchen Lama, Gedun Choekyi Nyima, we are saddened by the knowledge that his whereabouts still remain a mystery to the world; this despite the collective voices of concern and protests raised by many organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, as well as those of a great number of individuals, concerning the disappearance of the Panchen Lama and his family.



