

Yushu Zangzu Zizhizhou Gonganju
Minzhulu, Yushushi
Yushu Zangzu Zizhizhou
Qinghaisheng 815000
People's Republic of China

Dear Director,

I am writing out of very deep concern for **Tashi Wangchuk** 扎西文色 who has recently been detained and sentenced to five years in prison solely for exercising his right to freedom of expression. He has been an advocate for greater Tibetan language education in schools in Tibetan populated areas. He expressed on social media his anxieties about many Tibetan children being unable to speak their native language fluently. He attempted to use the legal system to help encourage the policy of using local languages in the schools.

Article 4 of China's Constitution says, "*All nationalities have the freedom to use and develop their own spoken and written languages and to preserve or reform their own folkways and customs.*" **Tashi Wangchuk**, did nothing more than just that. He has not advocated for independence for Tibet and has praised President Xi Jinping for having "promoted a democratic and law-abiding country." Thus all of his activities are within the rights spelled out in the constitution.

I urge you to assure an immediate release for **Tashi Wangchuk**, I further urge you to ensure that, until his release, he has regular, unrestricted access to his family and lawyers of his choice without delay, and that he is protected from torture or other ill-treatment.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this very important matter.

Respectfully,

cc: Ambassador Cui Tiankai
Embassy of the People's Republic of China
3505 International Place, NW
Washington, DC 20008