

Order of the Kandze Tibetan Autonomous Prefectural Government

The following information is a translation of a posting on the Chinese government website www.tibet.cn on July 18. Although the website is normally trilingual (Chinese, Tibetan and English), this posting was only found on the Tibetan version (http://zw.tibet.cn/news/.) The posting is based on an article which appeared originally in the official Tibet Daily newspaper and details the measures, agreed at a meeting of the Kandze Tibetan Autonomous Prefectural Government, which are to be taken against monasteries, monks and nuns for taking part in "turbulent activities" in Kandze Autonomous Prefecture in the Kham region of Tibet (Chinese province: Sichuan). "Turbulent activities" is a reference to the demonstrations and protests which have taken place throughout Tibet since March. The division into three parts has been done by Free Tibet.

The settlement of "Serious decisions" to be taken against monasteries and monks/nuns for undertaking turbulent activities - settled at the third conference of the Executive Committee of concerned region.

Prefectural head: Li Changping Kandze Autonomous Prefecture Date: 28/06/2008

PART ONE [measures to be taken against individual monks and nuns]

In order to protect social stability, enforce socialist law and ensure the fundamental interests of the people, the following measures are to be taken against monasteries, monks and nuns who voice or distribute splittist slogans and fliers, fly "snow lion" [Tibetan national] flags, and who take part in illegal demonstration to incite splittism.

1. A monk/nun charged with a minor crime will – upon confessing his/her mistake, displaying a good attitude and signing a confession letter – become the responsibility of his/her family head, who will, when he/she has been taken home, undertake his/her re-education and take care of him/her.

2. A monk/nun charged with quite serious [medium] crimes will undergo serious reeducation and will remain in custody until he/she co-operates by telling the truth, confessing their guilt and submitting a shuyig [self-criticising letter]. He/she must sincerely and voluntarily tell the truth.

3. A monk/nun with serious crime and attitude problem will be subjected to serious re-education. He/she will be warned and his/her religious rights will removed. He/she will be dismissed from his/her monastery.

4. Masterminds behind activities of splittism and disturbances, members of any of such underground organisation, anyone who led such disruptive activities will be severely punished accordingly to the law. In addition their religious rights will be removed completely by dismissing them from their monasteries. Removal of their religious rights will remain in effect even after dismissing them from the monasteries whereby they will not be allowed join any other monastery and if any monastery is found to have accepted such a monk/nun, the head of that monastery's Democratic Management Committee will be considered a supporter and protector of splittists and disruptive elements.

PART TWO [measures to be taken against monasteries]

The following serious measures will be taken against monasteries which have been involved in turbulent activities.

5. Monasteries that had more than 10%-30% monks taking part in disturbances will be subjected to restrictions and searches. According to the constitution, suspected monks/nuns will be arrested and illegal belongings will be confiscated. All religious activities at the monastery will be halted. Movements of monks will be closely monitored.

6. [Government-appointed] Monastic Management Committee members of monasteries whose monks have taken part in turbulent activities, will be responsible for rectifying and reforming monks and nuns through serious re-education. If the matter is clearly apparent or if there are no suitable persons in the monastery, the local government will send specially appointed personnel to carry out the aforementioned activities. During the period of rectification and reformation, the monastery's financial management will be closed and religious activities halted.

7. A monk/nun who is found to be uncooperative with the work teams during the period of rectification and reformation (not registering, not surrendering photos, leaving the monastery without official permission, not reforming despite repeated reeducation) will be completely dismissed from the monastery. After removing his/her religious rights, he/she will be sent home. His/her hut at the monastery will be destroyed.

A monk/nun who hasn't registered at the religious affairs office or who has come from outside [other regions] and whose rights are not clear or those who had been away from the monastery for a very long time, will be subject to dismissal from the monastery and their huts will be destroyed.

8. Monks/nuns from monasteries involved in turbulent activities will be required to re-register. The huts of those monks/nuns who show remorse will be provided with number plates [to identify them]. Monks and nuns who took part in turbulent activities and show no remorse will be dismissed from the monastery and a limitation will be set on the number of monks/nuns at the monastery according to the number of monks/nuns who took part in turbulent activities and those who were dismissed.

9. Those monks/nuns who are still determined to talk about splittism, who clearly intend to undertake further turbulent activities, who fail to respond properly to reeducation and to new restrictions will be dismissed from the monastery.

PART 3 [religious leaders and monastic management committees]

10. Monks/nuns whose suspected involvement in turbulent activities has not been confirmed must be thoroughly investigated by reincarnates [lamas], geshes [the equivalent of PhDs in Buddhist Philosophy, the highest ranking teachers] and Monastic Management Committees. If Monastic Management Committee members, reincarnates and geshes fail in their duty to properly investigate such cases, they will be given strict-re-education and will be examined for faults.

11. Monastic Management Committee Members, reincarnates, geshes whose stand is not clear or who are suspected of being double-faced will be warned and will be investigated in front of an assembly of monks/nuns. Such persons will be asked to provide written confessions. The accounts of the investigations of such persons and their confessions will be exposed on regional news and television. 12. Monastic Management Committee members, monks, reincarnates, and geshes involved in providing or revealing information or collaborating with foreign splittist groups, and facilitating and inciting turbulent activities, will be subjected to severe punishment. Their civil, political, governance, religious association rights will be removed. They will be not allowed to organise any religious activities. In case of reincarnates [lamas], their titles will be stripped, their power over monastic financial management will be terminated and an audit will be conducted to investigate their corruption and misuse of the monastic finance. This will be shown on the regional news and televisions.