



March 10, 2009

50th Anniversary of the Tibetan Uprising Against China's Brutal Occupation

For Immediate Release

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Press contact: Pema Shastri (617) 697 8444

Boston, MA – Starting at 9:00 a.m. in front of City Hall, Tibetan Americans and supporters will raise the Tibetan National Flag to mark 'Tibet Day' declared by the Governor of Massachusetts, Deval Patrick in Boston.

On 10 March 1959, the Tibetan people rose up against China's occupation of Tibet, and to protect their temporal and spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, whom they believed was going to be abducted. In China's brutal crackdown, thousands of Tibetans died and tens of thousands fled into exile, including the Dalai Lama. Tibet groups globally will be marking the 50th anniversary of this important event.

Afternoon commemoration will take place in front of the State House at 2:00 p.m. His Holiness the Dalai Lama's 10 March statement will be read along with the declaration of "Tibet Day" in Boston.

The group will stage a peace march around Boston Common at 3.30pm to commemorate 50 years of Tibetan resistance and to appose the continuing crack down by the Chinese government in Tibet. The march will be followed by a candle light vigil at Brewer Fountain and the screening of the award-winning documentary "Leaving Fear Behind" whose makers are still in prison in Tibet. Two ex-political prisoners from Tibet, Tsering and Yeshe Togden will share their experiences under Chinese occupation and the current situation in Tibet.

"We are calling on our state representatives to support the Tibetan people's right to freedom" added Tibetan Association of Boston (TAB) president, Sonam Shatsang. "Representatives should publicly back the Dalai Lama's initiatives at finding a peaceful solution to the occupation of Tibet. It is time for the international community to act and ensure China ends its oppressive policies in Tibet. Fifty years of oppression is too long."

Hosted by TAB, Tibet's spiritual and temporal leader, His Holiness the Dalai Lama will confer a teaching and a public talk on May 2, 2009 at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, MA. Tickets for the day long event is available on www.ticketmaster.com.

About TAB

Tibetan Association of Boston (TAB) is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. For more information, visit www.bostontibet.org