

# URGENT ACTION: TIBETAN POLITICAL PRISONER

**NAME: LHUNDRUB DRAKPA**

**TIBETAN:** ལྷུན་འགྲུབ་གྲགས་པ

**CHINESE:** 楞珠扎巴

**PINJIN:** LENGZHU ZHABA



**AGE ON DETENTION:** 36 on detention

**SUMMARY:** Lhundrub Drakpa, a Tibetan singer, has been sentenced to six years in prison for performing a song that criticised Chinese government repressive policies in Diru County, Nagchu Prefecture, Central Tibet (Ch: Biru, Tibet Autonomous Region).

**PRISON:** Unknown

**STATUS:** Sentenced to six years

Lhundrub Drakpa, a popular Tibetan singer from Diru County in Nagchu, central Tibet, was sentenced to six years in prison in June 2020. He was detained in May 2019 after he released a song about the repression that Tibetans face under China's occupation.

Lhundrub was held for over a year before he was sentenced, was beaten during detention, and denied access to a lawyer of his choice. He is in serious danger of further torture and even death at the hands of Chinese authorities.

Torture of prisoners in Tibet is endemic and is used systemically and routinely by Chinese authorities against Tibetans. Findings show that the level of violence directed at Tibetan political prisoners is frequent, extreme, and results in Tibetans being left with long-term and life-threatening conditions following a period of detention, including paralysis, the loss of limbs, organ damage, and serious psychological trauma.

An alarming number of Tibetans continue to die in custody or shortly after release from detention, and incriminating signs of torture and other clues to the reasons for death raise serious concern.

Please write immediately in Chinese, English or your own language. We have provided sample text below but you can write your own message highlighting asking they:

Release Lhundrub Drakpa immediately as he has committed no crime. Article 35 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China guarantees freedom of speech, rights that are also enshrined under international law.

Urge for information regarding Lhundrub Drakpa's location and health status. The lack of information raises the alarm that he is at serious risk of torture or other forms of ill-treatment, and that he could also be being denied access to necessary medical treatment.

Call on the authorities to ensure without delay that he has regular, unrestricted access to a lawyer.



SEND APPEALS TO THE FOLLOWING THREE LEADERS: See sample text below in English and Chinese

**1. WU YINGJIE,  
TAR PARTY SECRETARY**

People's Government of the  
Tibet Autonomous Region  
No. 1 Kang'angdonglu  
Lhasa  
Tibet 850000  
People's Republic of China

**2. LOBSANG JAMCAN,  
CHAIRMAN**

People's Government of the  
Tibet Autonomous Region  
No. 1 Kang'angdonglu  
Lhasa  
Tibet 850000  
People's Republic of China

**3. RONG SHENG,  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

Tibetan Autonomous Region  
Justice Department  
No.8 Duodilu  
Lhasa  
Tibet 850000  
People's Republic of China

SAMPLE LETTER

Dear ADD NAME OF LEADER

I am contacting you to raise the case of LHUNDRUB DRAKPA, ལྷུན་འགྲུབ་གྲགས་པ།, 楞珠扎巴.

LHUNDRUB DRAKPA, ལྷུན་འགྲུབ་གྲགས་པ།, 楞珠扎巴 is a singer and musician from Driu who has been sentenced to six-year in prison in response to peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression. His whereabouts and status are unknown.

楞珠扎巴 (LHUNDRUB DRAKPA, ལྷུན་འགྲུབ་གྲགས་པ།) 是一位來自比如的西藏歌手，他因為和平行使他的言論自由，而遭到判刑六年。目前他的下落與狀態仍然不明。

Under Article 35 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China guarantees freedom of speech. These rights are also enshrined under international law.

在《中華人民共和國憲法》第35條中提到，人民的言論自由應該受到保障。相關權利在國際法中也是受到保障的。

The lack of information regarding Lhundrub Drakpa's location and health status raises alarm that he is at serious risk of torture or other forms of ill-treatment, and that he could also be being denied access to necessary medical treatment.

目前外界完全無法得知楞珠扎巴的下落與健康情形，他目前身處於遭受酷刑以及其他不合理待遇的極高風險之下，他也可能無法獲得所需的醫療措施。

I urge you to take all measures within your power to reveal his current location and secure his immediate release.

我要求您行使您職權下所有手段，揭露他所在位置，並立即釋放他。

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Lhundrub Drakpa is known by Tibetans for his devotion to Tibetan cultural and artistic traditions. He is one of the most popular Tibetan singers in the region, his songs overwhelmingly focus on asserting Tibetan national identity and expressing pride in Tibetan culture and traditions as a way of voicing dissent and countering the false propaganda of Chinese authorities.

In 2013 Lhundrub Drakpa he was detained in relation to a song called "Tashi Yardo" that was performed in collaboration with another well-known Tibetan singer, Gonpo Tenzin. Gonpo Tenzin was detained in November 2013 and held for a year and a half before being found guilty of "spittism" - a state security crime often used against Tibetans who protest or express their culture outside of the boundaries tolerated by the ruling Chinese occupation - and sentenced to three and a half years imprisonment. He was released on 1 August 2018.

Lhundrub Drakpa was under intense surveillance by local Chinese authorities in Tibet but continued to post short verses expressing pride in Tibetan culture and traditions and calling out the destruction of Tibet's environment and the Tibetan language.

His family in exile in India have said they have been unable to contact Lhundrub Drakpa since 2016 because local authorities banned Tibetans from maintaining contact with Tibetan family or friends in India. Those who do maintain such contact face imprisonment, torture and death.