



འབྲུག་རྒྱལ་ཁབ་

THE OFFICE OF TIBET

241 EAST 32ND STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10016

July 16, 2009

It has been sixty years since Tibet was first invaded by the Chinese government. Tibetans in Tibet who live under occupation and Tibetans who live in exile have been fighting for their survival ever since.

Our language, culture and identity have been at risk for many years now. In Tibet, Chinese government policy promotes Chinese language and culture at the expense of Tibetan language and culture. There is very little freedom of speech and press and religion. Tibet's monasteries are closely watched and controlled by government agencies. Therefore the Tibetan communities outside Tibet who live in freedom have a special duty to preserve our unique culture. We have realized that education is one of the most effective tools for cultural preservation.

Rima Fujita, the founder of Books for Children, understands the urgency to preserve our culture and the Tibetan way of life. She has been a devoted friend and a supporter of the Tibetan people for two decades. She has created beautiful children's books that are written in Tibetan, English and Japanese for the Tibetan refugee children in exile. Her books have been honored, loved and enjoyed by many Tibetan children in refugee schools.

I thank Ms. Fujita for her efforts to preserve Tibet's culture and heritage. Her enduring commitment to helping Tibet and improving Tibetan children's education through her art and books is deeply appreciated. And lastly, I congratulate her for her accomplishment.

Sincerely yours,

Lobsang Nyandak

Representative of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to the Americas