



THE DALAI LAMA

March 18, 2008

Dear Senator Feinstein:

Thank you very much for the statement that you have issued concerning the recent sad turn of events in Tibet and for your attempts to persuade the Chinese authorities to exercise restraint in dealing with the demonstrations.

Naturally, I am deeply saddened by what is happening in Tibet. What is more, the authorities in Tibet have threatened further reprisals after midnight, Monday, 17th March, and I am apprehensive about what form they will take.

I do not believe that more repressive measures will achieve the declared aim of unity and stability in the long term. I believe the best way forward is to resolve the issues between us through dialogue, as I have long been advocating, and I appreciate your support for this process too.

At this crucial juncture, it is imperative that the Chinese authorities begin to realise the need to win Tibetan hearts and minds by building up their confidence and trust rather than resorting to further use of force.

I treasure my friendship with you and Richard Blum. I deeply appreciate your interest and support to the Tibetan cause at this most critical time.

With prayers and good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
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