

SKRIET I GRUS NO. XXXIII

Nedenstående er utdrag av forslag til politisk manifest for Den internasjonale komite for Tibets frigjøring (ICOLT), stiftet av en gruppe tilstedeværende fra forskjellige land, sammen med tibetanere 20/3.89. Komiteen er uavhengig av Tibetregjeringen i Dharomsala og av alle andre organisasjoner. Komiteen vil ha en koordineringsgruppe i Dharomsala, men hovedarbeidet, med vekt på informasjon og politisk mobilisering, vil skje i medlemmenes respektive hjemland.

-Above all, ICLOT seeks to awaken the world to the fact that what Tibet has suffered, is no ordinary occupation of territory, but a systematic attempt to stamp out a nation with its culture:

- 1) The Chinese have killed or starved to death nearly a quarter (1.2 million) of all Tibetans.
- 2) A strongly subsidized migration of Chinese into Tibet is conducted on such a scale that the Tibetans are becoming a minority in their own country. (In Amdo there is now three times as many Chinese (2 millions) as Tibetans, and the Chinese have taken the best land.)
- 3) Destruction of institutions, killings, imprisonment, torture and forced "re-education" on a nation-wide scale has clearly had as a direct aim the total elimination of the cultural and mental identity of the Tibetan nation. These methods were not discontinued after the "cultural revolution".
- 4) The Chinese have almost totally destroyed the material manifestations of Tibet's religious and artistic culture, - more than 9000 monasteries with their libraries, sculptures, paintings, musical instruments, etc. Contrary to what is said by China, most of this was carried out before the "cultural revolution."

To put this into perspective, there is probably only one parallel to it in the history of mankind: the eradication of the Inka, Maya and Aztek civilizations in the Americas by the Europeans in the 16th century. And in both cases we see the material expression of a "Western", world-regimenting, primitive, ideological fanaticism with overwhelming physical might at its hands crushing a higher culture.

There is one significant difference in these situations, however. While these ancient American civilizations had no one to turn to for help, contemporary Tibet exists in a world of "civilized" and "democratic" nations that all know what is happening, and that are powerful enough to stop the onslaught. -And these nations have a long-established "fire-fighting" common forum to do this - The United Nations. Keeping this in mind, there seems to be no rational reason that the Tibetan civilization of today should suffer the same fate as the Inka and maya/Aztek. Still, that is now what is about to happen. If nothing is done very soon by these nations that call themselves advanced, there is all the reason in the world to question the meaning of words like "civilized", "democratic", "human rights", and "The United Nations", the way these nations use them as applicables to themselves.

Dharomsala
25. march 1989
Sigmund Sætereng

Korreksjon:

Skrift i grus XXI

-Om Charlie Parker, s.6, 16. linje nedenfra, hvor trykkfeildjevelen har skapt et improviserende fellesskap ved at alle er like rågale!! -Det ville neppe bli noe fellesskap på den måten. Men de må være vågale! Håper dette ordet framleis er forståelig på norsk!

Sigmund Kvaløy