

# Tibettruth

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We have over the years received, researched and published each and every self-immolation protest inside occupied Tibet. So it's with confidence and knowledge that we report these actions as having two main demands; a *call for Tibetan independence and the return of the Dalai Lama*. It's a matter of record.

That these Tibetans have sacrificed their lives to oppose the Chinese occupation of Tibet is an act of supreme courage and devotion. While some are uncomfortable with such loss and question its impact, we recognize and respect the right of Tibetans to determine the nature and expression of their struggle.

It's also our view that anyone, in full knowledge of the facts on Tibet's self-immolation protests, who cynically misrepresents the motives and demands of those brave Tibetans deserves to be exposed and opposed. At this point allow us to introduce the exiled Tibetan Administration's updated (December 2018) document '*Tibet Was Never Part of China, but the Middle Way Approach Remains a Viable Solution*'. On the subject of the demands made by Tibetans who self-immolate it states:

**"We want freedom and We want the return of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to Tibet. In turn, these two slogans can be analyzed through two different frames. The call for freedom is a call for improved human rights conditions. The call for the return of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to Tibet is also a political call given that the successive reincarnations of the Dalai Lama (from 5th to the 14th) have headed the Tibetan political establishment for 376 years, making the Dalai Lama a symbolic representation of political reform in Tibet"** Page 6 (Emphasis added).

Tibetans ablaze in flames holding the Tibetan national flag, the symbol of Tibet's sovereignty and independence, others shouting from the fire that Tibet is independent. Witnesses reporting that self-immolations were demanding a free Tibet and support for the Dalai Lama. Statements written by Tibetan self-immolators making clear their support for Tibet's independence. Case-upon-case, documented and reported, yet the very Administration that represents in exile the cause of Tibet chooses to re-write the facts.

It expunges any reference to 'independence' and goes on to exhibit a degree of 'double-think' that would sit comfortably within George Orwell's '1984'. The salaried analysts and politicians of the exiled Administration have *decided* that what their Tibetan sisters and brothers are demanding when setting themselves on fire is an improvement of human rights.

This is a contemptuous betrayal of the facts and indeed the sacrifice made by those Tibetans who offered up their life.

Why the rewrite you may be asking? Look no further than political expediency. The exiled Tibetan Administration in its desperation to secure negotiation with the Chinese regime has determined that censoring any mention of 'independence' will assist what in essence is a policy of appeasement.

In which the Tibetan right to national independence is surrendered in the delusional hope of attaining improved autonomy. In such circumstances the voices of Tibetans burning in the flames are an inconvenient hindrance and so are callously re-interpreted and presented as a more supportive and diluted narrative.

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