



INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR TIBET

Religious Freedom

<https://savetibet.org/why-tibet/religious-freedom>

Religious freedom in Tibet is under assault.

The Dalai Lama and the Tibetan diaspora are able to share the teachings of Tibetan Buddhism with the whole world. But sadly, in Tibet, Tibetan Buddhism faces threats to its survival as a result of Chinese policies.

Tibetans are being persecuted for their beliefs. They can be [arrested](#) simply for owning photographs of the [Dalai Lama](#) or celebrating his birthday. Inside Chinese prisons, they can be beaten and tortured.

China is trying to control the Tibetan reincarnation system. After [abducting the reincarnated Panchen Lama](#) and his family when he was just six years old, the Chinese Communist Party now says it plans to select the next Dalai Lama—an absurd claim that the international community needs to respond to decisively.

Tibetan Buddhism focuses on a system of rigorous study that is being severely restricted by Chinese policies. Chinese authorities have also subjected monks and nuns to ‘patriotic re-education’ and forced them out of their Buddhist institutes. To ensure total government surveillance of Tibetan monks and nuns, police stations have been opened inside or next to monasteries.

These efforts are part of China’s plan to ‘Sinicize’ Tibetan Buddhism—meaning to bring it under the control of the Chinese Communist Party. The Chinese government is also cracking down on Christians, Muslims and practitioners of all faiths.

