

URGENT ACTION

TIBETAN RELIGIOUS LEADER DISAPPEARED

Choktrul Dorje Ten Rinpoche, a Tibetan religious and education leader, has been missing since December 2025 after he was reportedly taken into custody by authorities in Qinghai province, China. Since then, there has been almost no information about his fate or whereabouts. The authorities should urgently disclose his location, ensure his rights are protected, and release him unless there is sufficient credible evidence of a recognizable criminal offense.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter to the government official(s) listed. Use the sample letter below as a guide or use your own words.
- [Click here](#) to report your action(s) on **UA 34.26**. We share this number with the officials we are trying to persuade.

Secretary Wu Xiaojun
Qinghai Provincial Committee of the Chinese Communist Party

No. 12 Xida Street, Xining,
Qinghai Province, 81000,
People's Republic of China
Email: qhszwzqyj@163.com

Send a copy of your letter to the address below

CC: Embassy of China in the United States
Ambassador Xie Fang
3505 International Place, NW,
Washington DC 20008
Email: chinaembpress_us@mfa.gov.cn

Dear Secretary Wu,

I am gravely concerned about the fate and whereabouts of **Choktrul Dorje Ten Rinpoche** (rendered in Mandarin by the authorities as **多杰旦仁波切**), a Tibetan religious leader and founder of a monastery and a vocational school in Chikdril (Jiuzhi 久治) County in Golog (Guoluo 果洛) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai province.

According to secondhand reports, Choktrul Dorje Ten Rinpoche was taken into custody by authorities on or around December 4, 2025. Since then, there has been almost no information made available about where he is being held or on what legal basis. In January 2026, individuals following the case reportedly received indications that he was “under investigation”. It is not clear whether he has had access to a lawyer of his choice.

It is alarming that individuals with knowledge of the case have reportedly been warned by local authorities not to share information about the case, suggesting officially backed efforts to control information and discourage external reporting through intimidation and other tactics.

I urge you to disclose legal proof of Choktrul Dorje Ten Rinpoche’s whereabouts, release him immediately unless there is credible evidence that he has committed an internationally recognizable offense, ensure his protection from torture and other ill-treatment and access to a lawyer of his choice and to his family, and end intimidation and restrictions against those seeking information about his case.

Yours sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Choktrul Dorje Ten Rinpoche is a Tibetan religious and education leader from Chikdril (Jiuzhi) County in Golog Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai province. Born in 1967, he is recognized as a reincarnate lama (Rinpoche) and has long played an important role in local religious and community life. He founded and led a monastery in Mentang Township and established a vocational training school around 2010, which provided education in Tibetan language, culture, and vocational skills.

The school offered both general subjects and specialized training, including Tibetan language, traditional arts, medicine, and cultural practices. According to publicly available information, it grew into one of the largest vocational schools of its kind in the region, at one point enrolling over 800 students and graduating several thousand, many of whom went on to positions in higher education or employment. The school's work was known to and supported by local officials, including inspections as evidenced by [state media](#) reports. In early November 2025, local government departments conducted inspections at the school, indicating that it remained operational shortly before Choktrul Dorje Ten Rinpoche's reported detention. The school was reportedly closed following his disappearance, and students were sent home.

Choktrul Dorje Ten Rinpoche was also active in local public structures, including as a member of the county-level political consultative system and in roles linked to the local people's congress. He also supported local livelihoods, including through business activities, and was widely regarded as a community leader who provided financial and social support to families in need.

Since his presumed detention in December 2025, the only news of Choktrul Dorje Ten Rinpoche's status are limited word-of-mouth reports that he was "under investigation". In China, such terminology has often been used to refer to detention under the criminal investigation phase – prior to the procuratorate approving criminal detention or filing an indictment.

Access to information from Tibetan-populated areas remains highly restricted, particularly for journalists, researchers and human rights organizations, making it difficult to independently verify cases of detention and disappearance. Over the years, Amnesty International has documented several cases, such as those of Tibetan religious leader **Tenzin Delek Rinpoche**, monk **Rinchen Tsultrim** and language activist **Tashi Wangchuk**, involving limited access to counsel, lack of transparency and other fair trial concerns. In recent years, authorities in Tibetan areas – despite their nominal "autonomous" designation - have imposed increasing restrictions on Tibetan-language education and religious practices. Educational and cultural initiatives that promote Tibetan language and identity have faced heightened scrutiny and control. Religious leaders and educators have also been subject to surveillance, restrictions and, in some cases, detention, as part of broader state policies promoting "ethnic unity" and a unified national identity, alongside expanded ideological education and increased emphasis on Mandarin Chinese as the primary language of instruction. These measures have further narrowed the space for cultural and religious expression and reinforced state control over Tibetan Buddhist practices.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: Chinese, English, or your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: October 15, 2026

NAME AND PRONOUN: Choktrul Dorje Ten Rinpoche/ 多杰旦仁波切 (he/him)