



इन्हुरेड इन्टरनेशनल  
**INHURED INTERNATIONAL**

International Institute for Human Rights, Environment and Development  
institut international des droits de l'homme, de l'environnement et du developpment

For Immediate Release

*Press Communiqué*

**Arbitrary Arrest of Tibetan Refugees in Kathmandu**

*Kathmandu, 6 July 2016*

INHURED International is alarmed with the arrest of Tibetan refugees from Srongsden Bhrikuti School, Boudhha while celebrating Dalai Lama's 81<sup>st</sup> birth ceremony peacefully as a manifestation of their religious faith.

INHURED's team visited Nepal Police Club, Bhrikutimandap today where 28 Tibetan refugees along with few Nepalese were confined without arrest warrant. It has been reported to the team that Tibetan refugees along with the fellow Nepalese were peacefully preparing for the celebration were arrested from the school premises and area around, taken to Boudhha Police initially, and to Gaushala Police, and finally confined at Nepali Police Club, Bhrikutimandap. Few people arrested reported the team, of only passing by the venue of the ceremony for personal work and got arrested without a valid reason.

Right to religious freedom has been constitutionally guaranteed for every **person** under article 31 of the Nepalese Constitution 2072. Article 31 (3) however, restricts activities that breach public peace or any act that jeopardizes religion of each other. In the given incidence, not any evidences of public nuisances or jeopardizes has been recorded.

Refugees are generally expected to respect laws and regulations of the country of refuge. This duty can include duty to refrain from engaging in subversive activities directed against their country of origin. However, delimitation between these obligations and rights of refugees to enjoy fundamental human rights such as right to religion and culture manifestation in peaceful manner has to be carefully interpreted.

INHURED International condemns such unconstitutional and anti-human rights act of Nepal Police towards the refugee community. We strongly urge Nepal Government not to repeat such acts of arbitrary arrest and uphold rights of refugees irrespective of any political views.

Gopal Krishna Siwakoti, PhD  
President