

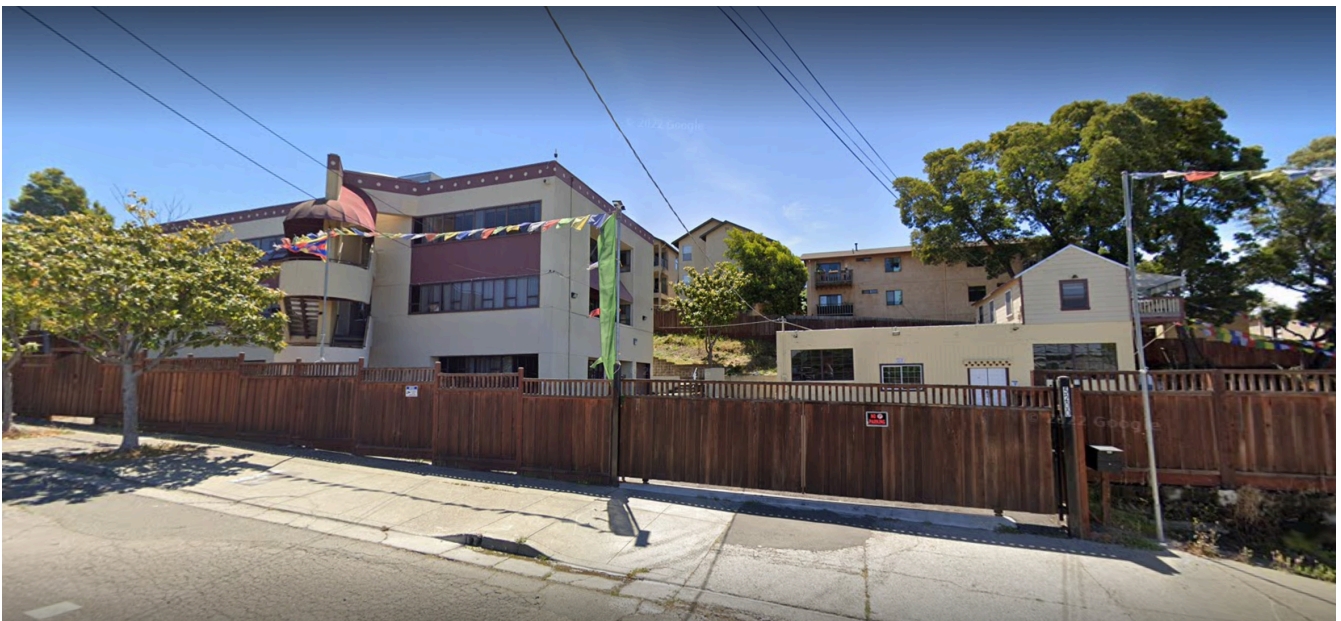


**Tibetan Association of
Northern California**

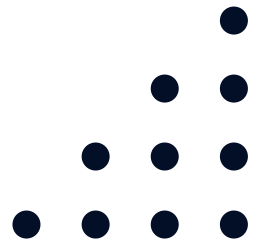


ANNUAL REPORT

2024 - 2025



“Unity of Purpose; Strength in diversity”



Prepared by
TANC

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Message from Office of Tibet, Washington D.C.



བོད་ཀྱི་ཕྱི་ལོ་བྱུང་བའི་འཕྲོ་ལྷན་པུ་འཛུགས་པུ་

THE OFFICE OF TIBET

Ref: OOT-DC/NATA/2026-2027/012

April 16, 2026.

Dear TANC community members,

I am delighted to learn that the Tibetan Association of Northern California (TANC) is organizing a Gratitude Dinner on May 2. This is a very commendable act of acknowledging and expressing our deepest appreciation and gratitude to all the individuals and organizations for standing by the Tibetan people in the times of our greatest collective trauma and hardship.

As His Holiness the Dalai Lama constantly reminds us that the people who support Tibet and the Tibetan cause are neither anti-China nor pro-Tibet, but they are just pro-truth and pro-justice. This year is also *Ghoton*, the celebration of His Holiness' 90th Year and the *Year of Compassion* and therefore a great opportunity to share His messages of oneness of humanity, kindness, and non-violence.

Tibet sadly continues to be one large open-air prison in the face of relentless assault on the Tibetan civilization by the repressive Communist Chinese regime, yet the spirit and determination of the Tibetans remains indomitable. His Holiness' visionary leadership continues to empower us all to be self-assured and determined.

I am proud to say that all the Tibetan Americans have not only retained our cultural roots but have also become contributing members of the country that you have chosen to live in-the United States of America.

Through your efforts, I am sure more Americans will have a better understanding of Tibet and the Tibetan people and in our own small way contribute to the colorful fabric of America's multiculturalism and diversity.

I would also like to convey hearty congratulations to the principal, teachers, students, and parents of *Namchod Kyetsel* School for their inspiring and exemplary performance at the recent Art and Literary Competition in NYC.

Finally, I would like to express heartfelt gratitude to the current and former board members of TANC for their utmost dedication and service and making TANC one of the most successful and vibrant Tibetan communities in North America.

Bhod Gyalo!

Sincerely,

Namgyal Choedup
Representative of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and
Central Tibetan Administration to North America



Message from The President, TANC



བློ་གྲོས་བོད་རིགས་སྤྱི་མཐུན་ཚོགས་པ།

TIBETAN ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Motto: Unity of Purpose; Strength in Diversity

"TANC is a home away from home for me—I truly belong here... it is always a joy to return to the community." These heartfelt words from our community's youth reflect the spirit and purpose of our work. Guided by this sense of belonging, we have focused on strengthening our community spaces and programs.

Upon assuming office, we prioritized improving our infrastructure. We constructed bleachers to accommodate our growing community and built a new canopy, which also serves as a rental resource, generating income for TANC. Further, we have brought improvements to our shrine room, and we look forward to improving our community hall. A major highlight of the past year was that we successfully paid off our mortgage. Our community center now fully belongs to the community—an achievement made possible through the collective effort, generosity, and dedication of past board members and many others over the years.

Alongside these improvements, our programs continued to thrive. Namchod Kyetsel Tibetan Language and Culture Education Program remains one of our key initiatives. Named by His Holiness the Dalai Lama in 2014, Namchod Kyetsel, meaning "Garden of Intellectuals" currently serves 275 children supported by 21 dedicated instructors and Principal. We introduced an after-school tuition program for students as well as programs for our seniors including yoga and health-related activities. We also hosted a successful month-long Tibetan cultural immersion summer camp, which was warmly received by participants and families. We continue to promote outreach to other communities and cultures and as such participated in the Himalayan Festival, the South Asian Cultural Festival, and others.

We were honored to host Sikyong Penpa Tsering in December 2024, who met and interacted with our community members, especially our youth. He visited Namchod Kyetsel and expressed his appreciation how well the program is being run. This year also marked the year-long "Ghoton" celebrations marking His Holiness the Dalai Lama's 90th birthday. Celebrated as the "Year of Compassion", the program was launched on July 6, 2025, with the participation of Mayors and elected leaders from across the Bay Area, making it a truly memorable and meaningful occasion. TANC has a series of events planned for this year-long celebration.

Urgent Need: At this time, one of the most pressing needs we must address is a long-standing roof leakage problem at our community center. While we continue to explore funding support to resolve this issue, we urge the support of our community and well-wishers in addressing this important need.

THANK YOU! We extend our deepest gratitude to Betsy Gordon for her continued assistance in providing scholarships to our students. We also thank the Hewlett Foundation, the Haas Fund, and many other organizations and individuals whose generous support has been vital to our progress. Without their contributions, we would not be where we are today. We are also grateful to all the Dharma centers in the Bay Area for their continued support.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our board members and their families for their dedication and the many sacrifices they have made in the service of our community. Our heartfelt thanks go to our wonderful community for the cooperation, trust, and love you have shown this board. Your support continues to inspire and guide us in our work. Together, we remain committed to preserving our culture, strengthening our community, and building a brighter future for generations to come.


Kurajo Tashi
President



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ཚོགས་གཙོ་འགན་ལུང་འཕྲིན།

༡༡། དས་ཚོགས་གཙོ་འགན་ལུང་འཕྲིན་པ་ནས་བཟུང་། གཞི་རྩའི་འཇུགས་སྐྱུ་ལ་དམིགས་བསལ་གཙོ་བོ་བཞག་ཡོད། ཚོགས་པ་དང་ཚོགས་པའི་མི་འབོར་འཕེལ་རྒྱུ་ལ་འཚམས་པའི་སྲིད་ཁྲིམས་ལ་བཞུགས་དང་། མདུན་ཐང་དུ་གཞན་ལོལ་གསར་རྒྱུ་བཞུགས་པ་དེའི་མང་ཚོགས་ནས་སྤྱི་ཁུངས་ལྷན་འཛུགས་ཀྱི་འཇུགས་ལ་ཚོགས་པའི་དཔལ་འབྱོར་གྱི་ཡོད་འབབ་ཞིག་ཀྱང་ཆགས་ཡོད། དེ་ཚམ་དུ་མ་ཟད། ཚོས་ཁང་ཡར་རྒྱས་དང་། མ་འོངས་པར་ཚོགས་ཁང་ལ་ཡང་ལེགས་བཅོས་བྱེད་འཆར་ཡོད།

ལོ་འདིའི་ནང་གི་དོན་ཚེན་ཞིག་ལྷིང་ཚོས་སྤྱི་ཁུངས་གི་སྐྱེད་གཞི་ལ་ཆ་ཚང་གཙོ་བོ་ལྷན་པ་བྱུང་ཡོད། ད་ལྟ་ཚོགས་པའི་སྤྱི་ཁུངས་གི་བདག་དབང་ཆ་ཚང་ཚོགས་པ་རང་ལ་ཡོད། དེ་ནི་སྲོལ་གྱི་ཚོགས་པའི་རྒྱུ་ལས་རྣམས་པ་དང་། མི་མང་རྣམས་ཀྱིས་སེམས་ལྷུགས་དང་གཏོང་ཡོད། མཉམ་ཚུབ་ཀྱིས་དཀའ་ལས་རྒྱབ་པའི་འབྲས་བུ་ཡིན།

དེ་དང་མཉམ་དུ་དེ་ཚོའི་ལས་འཆར་རྣམས་ཀྱང་འཕེལ་རྒྱས་བྱུང་ཡོད། བྱང་ཀེལ་བོད་རིགས་ཚོགས་པའི་གཞན་འཇུག་སློབ་གྲྭ་རྣམས་དེ་ཕྱིད་སྲིད་ཚུལ་དེ་བཞིན་ཚོགས་པའི་ལས་གཞི་གལ་ཆེ་ཤོས་དང་གཙོ་ཆེ་ཤོས་ཞིག་ཡིན། སློབ་གྲྭ་དེ་ནི་བོད་ཀྱི་བཞུགས་པ་ལ་བོད་ཀྱི་སྐད་ཡིག་དང་རིག་གཞུང་སློབ་འཁྲིད་བྱ་ཡུལ་གྱི་བརྒྱུ་གཞི་ལོག་ཡིན། ད་ལྟ་རྣམས་དེ་ཕྱིད་སྲིད་ཚུལ་སློབ་གྲྭ་སློབ་སྦྲུལ་གྲངས་ ༢༠༥ དང་། དགོ་ཆུན་ ༢༡ སློབ་སྤྱི་གཙོ་བོ་བཅས་ཡོད།

ལོ་འདིར་ཚོགས་པས་དེས་ནས་སློབ་སྦྲུལ་ཚོའི་ཆེད་དུ་རྒྱུ་གཏུལ་གྱི་སློབ་གྲྭ་གོ་ལ་རྗེས་ནང་སློབ་ལ་སེམས་པའི་སློབ་གྲྭ་དང་འབྲེལ་རིགས་པ་དགོས་དེས་རིགས་ལ་རྒྱུར་སློབ་གྲྭ་གི་ལས་འཆར་ཞིག་སྲེལ་སྤྲོད་བྱུང་ཡོད། ལོ་ན་ཆུན་པོ་ཚོའི་ཆེད་དུ་ལུས་སློབ་དང་། སྐྱེད་བཅོས་དང་འབྲེལ་བའི་ལས་འཆར་ཡང་བཅུ་གས་ཡོད། ད་དུང་། དབྱར་ཁ་སློབ་གྲྭ་གྲུང་མེད་རིང་ལྷ་གཙོ་བོ་རིང་དབྱར་དུས་སློབ་གྲྭ་ཡང་གོ་སྐྱོད་ཀྱི་ལུས་ཡོད། དེ་ལ་པ་མ་དང་སློབ་སྦྲུལ་ཚང་མས་དགའ་བསུ་བྱས་ཡོད།

ཕྱི་ལོ་ ༢༠༢༠ ལྷ་ ༡༢ རང་བཅོལ་བྱེད་པའི་མི་འཛིན་ཀྱི་འཇུགས་ཀྱི་སྲིད་སྲོད་སྲོལ་པ་ཆེ་རིང་མཚོ་གཤུང་ཀེལ་ས་གནས་སུ་ལེགས་པར་དགའ་བསུ་སྒྲུ་ལེན་གཞན་རྒྱས་ལུས་ཡོད་པ་དང་། ཁོང་གིས་ཚོགས་པའི་མང་ཚོགས་དང་དམིགས་བསལ་སློབ་སྦྲུལ་དང་བཞུགས་པ་ལ་བཞུགས་པའི་ལས་འཆར་ལྷན་ཀྱིས་བོད་དོན་དང་འབྲེལ་བའི་གོ་བསྐྱར་བཀའ་ལོན་བྱུང་བར་དགའ་སྲོལ་དང་། ཁོང་གིས་ཚོགས་པས་མཛོད་འཆར་དང་གོ་སྐྱོད་གཞན་ཕྱོགས་ཐད་བརྩོད་པ་ཡང་གཞན་ཡོད།



ལོ་འདི་ནི་སྤྱི་ལོར་ལ་བོད་ས་ལ་སྐབས་མགོན་ཆེན་པོ་མཚོ་ག་དགུང་གྲངས་ ༩༠ ཕེབས་པའི་གོ་སྐོན་དང་འབྲེལ་
 ལོ་འཁོར་གཅིག་འདིར་ “བྱམས་བརྗེད་ལོ” ཞེས་འཛམ་གླིང་ཡུལ་གྱི་གང་སར་སྤྱང་བརྗེ་ལུ་བཞིན་ཡོད་པས།
 ཕྱི་ལོ་ ༢༠༢༥ ལྷ་ ལ་ ཚེས་ ༦ ལ་སྤྱི་འཐུངས་སྐར་ཉིན་མོ་དང་སྐབས་བསྟན་ལས་འཆར་འགོ་བརྩམས་ལུས་ཏེ་
 ལོ་འཁོར་གཅིག་གི་རིང་ལས་འཆར་འདུ་མིན་སྟེལ་དང་སྟེལ་ལུས་ཡིན།

ཇོ་དྲུག་དགོས་མཁོ། ད་ལྟ་ཚོགས་པས་ཇོ་དྲུག་གལ་ཆེན་དགོས་མཁོ་ཞིག་ནི་ཚོགས་པའི་སྤྱི་ཁང་གི་ཁང་པའི་
 ཐོག་རྗེས་སེང་ལ་བརྗེན་ནས་ཆར་པ་འབབ་སྐབས་ཚུ་ཐིགས་པ་འཛོག་པའི་དཀའ་ངལ་དེ་ཡིན། ད་ཚོས་
 དཀའ་ངལ་འདི་སེལ་བར་མཁོ་བའི་རོགས་དཔུལ་ཐབས་འཚོལ་ལུ་ལུས་ཀྱང། ད་ཚོས་ཚོགས་མི་ཡོངས་དང་
 ཚོགས་པར་རྒྱབ་སྐྱོར་བ་ཡོངས་ནས་མཉམ་ཚུལ་གྱིས་དཀའ་ངལ་དེ་མཚུགས་ལུར་སེལ་ཐབས་ཡོད་པར་ནུབ་
 སྐུལ་ལུ་བཞིན་ཡོད།

ཐུགས་རྗེ་ཆེ། ད་ཚོས་བྱང་ཀེལ་བོད་རིགས་ཚོགས་པའི་ཚབ་ལུས་ཏེ་ Betsy Gordon ལགས་སུ་ད་
 བར་ས་གནས་ཀྱི་བོད་ཕུག་རྣམས་ལ་སྤོབ་ཡོན་ལུ་མཐུང་གནད་བར་སྤོང་ཐག་པ་ནས་ཐུགས་རྗེ་ཆེ་ལུ་རྒྱ་ཡིན།
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History

The Tibetan Association of Northern California (TANC) was founded on July 6, 1990 and formally registered as a nonprofit organization in 1994. Established by a group of dedicated community members, TANC was created to serve the needs and aspirations of Tibetans in Northern California through a unified, community-based organization.

Guided by the motto “*Unity of Purpose, Strength in Diversity,*” and symbolized by the “*Four Harmonious Friends,*” TANC has grown alongside the community it serves. From a small founding membership, the San Francisco Bay Area is now home to approximately 4,000 Tibetans.

Mission

TANC’s mission is to preserve and promote Tibetan language, culture, and identity while supporting the broader aspiration of self-rule in Tibet. The organization works to raise awareness of the Tibetan cause and strengthen social, cultural, and artistic traditions within the Northern California Tibetan community and beyond.

Goals

- Support the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) under the leadership of Sikyong, President of CTA.
- Collaborate with CTA and Tibet support organizations to advance the Tibetan cause
- Promote unity and strengthen community engagement
- Preserve and transmit Tibetan language, religion, and cultural heritage to younger generations
- Organize programs that raise awareness of the situation in Tibet
- Represent and respond to the needs of Tibetans in Northern California
- Encourage mutual care and support among community members, especially in times of need

Overview (2024 - 2025)

The 2024–2025 year has been both busy and productive for the Tibetan Association of Northern California, with a range of activities to promote and preserve our cultural and linguistic heritage. Key initiatives included academic support services, a structured summer cultural camp, and a dedicated older adults program—reflecting TANC’s commitment to holistic, intergenerational well-being.

To strengthen financial sustainability, the Board launched the Losar Fair, combining fundraising, cultural celebration, and opportunities for local vendors while deepening community engagement.

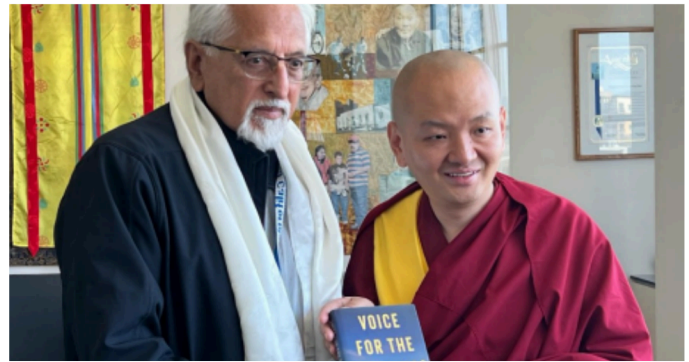
We are grateful to the teachers, students, and parents who continue to sustain Tibetan Sunday School at the community center despite limited capacity. We have also made steady progress toward funding infrastructure development and remain hopeful that, with continued support, we will soon achieve a fully functional community center.

A. Religious Activities

TANC remained committed to supporting the spiritual life of the community through regular and special observances:

- **Monthly Full Moon Prayers (September 2024–August 2025):** TANC hosted monthly full moon prayer gatherings for community members. Full moon dates were: September 18, 2024; October 17, 2024; November 15, 2024; December 15, 2024; January 13, 2025; February 12, 2025; March 14, 2025; April 12, 2025; May 12, 2025; June 11, 2025; July 10, 2025; August 9, 2025.
- **Saga Dawa Observance (May–June 2025):** During the sacred month of Saga Dawa, community members engaged in the recitation of Bhum, Nyitri, and Gyatongpa texts over a total of 16 days for collective merit accumulation.
- **Teachings by Khenpo Kärten Rinpoche (September 2024):** Tibetan community members received Amitabha Dechen Shingdrub Tsok blessings and empowerment from Khenpo Karten Rinpoche.
- **Blessings by Venerable Nechung Kuten, Oracle of Tibet and CTA (December 2024):** The official Oracle of Tibet and CTA, Venerable Nechung Kuten, gave teachings and Dorjee Phurpai Kag-gog empowerment blessings and guidance to the community members.
- **Earthquake Prayers for Tibet (January–February 2025):** In response to the earthquake in Tibet in late January 2025, TANC community members held prayers for the victims, continuing weekly observances through the 49th day. Following a request from the Kashag Secretariat of the Central Tibetan Administration, the Board unanimously decided to cancel the Losar Concert Celebration and requested that Gorshey (Tibetan circle dance) be suspended as a gesture of solidarity with those affected.
- **Prayer Services for Late Mr. Gyalo Thondup, Elder Brother of His Holiness the Dalai Lama (February–March 2025):** In solidarity and mourning following the passing of Kungo Gyalo Thondup on February 8, 2025, at the age of 97, TANC community members held weekly prayer services for seven weeks, concluding on the 49th day. As a mark of respect and collective grief, Gorshey (Tibetan circle dance) was suspended during this period.
- **Amitayus Long Life Initiation (April 2025):** As part of the Basic Tenets of Buddhism, the TANC community participated in the Amitayus Long Life Initiation led by Kyabje Gosok Rinpoche. Centered on Amitayus, the Buddha of infinite life, the ceremony was conducted to promote longevity, health, and well-being. Community members received blessings and empowerment through traditional rituals, prayers, and guided visualizations.
- **Long-Life Prayers for His Holiness the Dalai Lama (May–August 2025):** Community prayers were held at TANC for the well-being and long life of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, with members gathering in a spirit of compassion and devotion. Tea and refreshments were served, and many members also conducted prayers in their homes, submitting collective counts. In May, the reported totals were: Mani Yigdrug (7,972,028); Gyalwai Tse-Ngag (891,130); Dolma Toh-Chag Nyer-Chikpa (51,352); Dolma Zung-Ngag (943,628); Ugyen Jung-shi Sol-dreb (121,033). In August, the reported totals were: Mani Yigdrug (2,412,050); Gyalwai Tse-Ngag (281,900); Chok-Chu Munsel (936); Dam-Tsik Dorjee Deypa (20,165); Sung-Jin Denpai Nga-Dra (1,184).

- **Teachings by Kyabje Kundeling Rinpoche (July–August 2025):** From July 29th to August 5th, Kundeling Rinpoche visited the Bay Area for a series of teachings and community engagements organized by TANC. He was received by the TANC leadership upon arrival and participated in a Bay Area tour, including meetings with the Mayors of Richmond and El Cerrito. Rinpoche then delivered a series of teachings and initiations, including Introduction to Dharma, Kag-gok, Jab-Tru, the Three Principal Aspects of the Path, Avalokiteshvara teachings and initiation, and the Guru Yoga of Avalokiteshvara. He also conferred the Long Life Tara initiation and visited the Land of Medicine Buddha in Santa Cruz, offering further teachings.



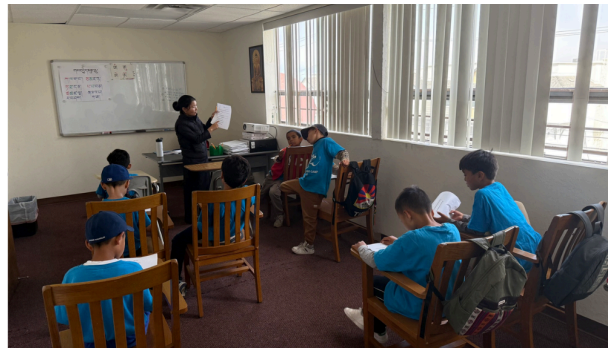
B. Community Activities and Events

TANC hosted and participated in a wide range of cultural and commemorative programs, including:

- **Congressional Gold Medal Anniversary (October 2024):** This occasion marked the 17th anniversary of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama receiving the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal, in recognition of his lifelong commitment to peace, non-violence, compassion, human rights, and interfaith understanding. TANC commemorated the day with a special long-life prayer for His Holiness, accompanied by traditional Tibetan music and dance performances, followed by Gorshey (Tibetan circle dance).



- **Nobel Peace Prize Anniversary (December 2024):** The Nobel Peace Prize awarded to His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, in recognition of his non-violent approach and lifelong advocacy for peaceful solutions rooted in tolerance and mutual respect, remains a deeply significant milestone, treasured and celebrated by the Tibetan community worldwide. Geshe Lobsang Dawa was hosted at Namchod Kyetsel, where he engaged with students and shared teachings on Tibetan Buddhist philosophy.
- **Summer Cultural Camp (June–July 2025):** TANC hosted a Tibetan cultural immersion summer camp from June 16 to July 11, providing children with an engaging and enriching experience centered on Tibetan language and cultural learning. The program included excursions, cooking, and creative arts, along with recreational activities such as kite flying, scavenger hunts, and environmental clean-up projects. Each Wednesday morning, campers visited nearby monasteries to offer prayers and observe Lhakar, making the summer both educational and meaningful.



- **Trungkar – 90th Birthday of His Holiness the Dalai Lama (July 6, 2025):** On July 6, 2025, TANC hosted the Bay Area Trungkar Celebration honoring His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama’s 90th birthday. The daylong event featured prayers, music, dance, and community gathering, along with recognition of board members, sweet offerings from Sera Jay CA, and shared meals. The celebration also launched the “Year of Compassion” and drew mayors from Berkeley, Albany, El Cerrito, and Richmond, along with distinguished guests, including representatives from the Oakland Mayor’s Office. TANC received proclamations from the cities of Berkeley, Richmond, El Cerrito, and the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors in honor of the “Year of Compassion” including a Congressional Commendation from CA Congressman John Garamendi (8th District) in honor of His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s 90th birthday. Cultural performances by Tibetan and Mongolian artists were followed by a peace march and Gorshey (Tibetan circle dance). The free event was made possible by the dedication of TANC board members and many volunteers.



- **TANC Fundraising Celebration (July 12, 2025):** A festive fundraising evening at the Unitarian Universalist Church was held to continue the celebration of His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s 90th birthday, featuring food, music, and dance.
- **Albany Public Library outreach program (August 2025):** TANC, in collaboration with Albany Public Library, hosted an event on August 6, 2025, at the Albany Public Library to raise awareness about His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama and his global contributions. This gathering was part of the year-long Ghoton - a “Year of Compassion” celebration to spread His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s message of compassion.

These events strengthened unity, cultural continuity, and collective appreciation of His Holiness the Dalai

Lama's life and legacy.

C. Civic and Political Engagement

TANC remained actively engaged in civic participation and advocacy:

- **Tibetan Democracy Day (September 2024):** TANC hosted the 2024 Tibetan Democracy Day Celebration on September 2 at Deshi Phuntsokling Hall. The event commemorated the milestone established by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama in 1960 at Bodh Gaya, marking the introduction of democratic practices for Tibetans in exile. The program included a formal ceremony honoring this legacy, followed by a community lunch and traditional Gorshey. Observed annually since 1975, Tibetan Democracy Day reflects the ongoing commitment to democratic governance within the Central Tibetan Administration, supported by regular elections and the Parliament-in-Exile as a key pillar alongside the Judiciary and the Kashag.
- **General Body Meeting (November 2024):** The meeting focused on key community initiatives, including preparations for the upcoming NATA meeting, feedback and suggestions related to TANC and Namchod Kyetsel, the vision for a new community center, and fundraising strategies for future projects.
- **Visits by Sikyong Penpa Tsering (December 2024):** Sikyong Penpa Tsering visited the Bay Area for a two-day program featuring a public talk on December 21, followed by a Q&A session with community members. On December 22, he delivered a youth-focused talk with a subsequent Q&A session. The visit concluded with a luncheon attended by TANC Board members, Team Tibet, Students for a Free Tibet (SFT), SFRTYC, and other committee members, providing an opportunity to express appreciation for ongoing community work and to engage with key contributors in a more personal setting.



- **North America Tibetan Association Meeting (December 2025):** TANC president, Kunjo Tashi, Vice president, Kalsang Dorjee, and Assistant General Secretary Kalsang Lhamo attended the 2024 North America Tibetan Association Meeting in Washington D.C. It was organized by the Office of Tibet

and the Washington D.C. Tibetan Association.



- **66th Tibetan National Uprising Day Commemorations (March 2025):** TANC, together with the San Francisco Regional Tibetan Youth Congress (RTYC), Students for a Free Tibet (SFT), and Bay Area Friends of Tibet (BAFoT), commemorated the 66th anniversary of Tibetan National Uprising Day through a series of three events across the Bay Area (Richmond City Hall, Berkeley City Hall, and San Francisco City Hall). The observances began on March 9 at Richmond City Hall with a flag display, proclamation ceremony, and public gathering honoring the March 10, 1959 uprising and remembering those who sacrificed their lives for the Tibetan cause. On March 10, community members continued the commemoration with a flag-raising ceremony at Berkeley City Hall, followed by a final gathering at San Francisco City Hall, where participants reaffirmed their commitment to the Tibetan democratic cause and ongoing advocacy efforts. Tibetans across the globe come together and honor the lives lost in the struggle and pray for the martyrs that have self-immolated for the cause of the Tibetan freedom struggle.



- **Townhall Q&A with Tibetan Parliamentarian (March 2025):** TANC hosted North-America Tibetan Parliamentarian (Chithue), Mr. Tenzin Jigme, who spoke to the community and engaged in a lively Q&A session.

- **Immigrants’ Rights Rally (March 2025):** In solidarity with Richmond City Hall’s Immigrant Rights Rally, TANC and Namchod Kyetsel students hosted a booth and performed during the event. Organized by the City of Richmond, the rally followed the raising of the Tibetan flag at City Hall a week earlier in honor of Tibetan National Uprising Day, where it remained displayed for several weeks as a gesture of continued support. TANC’s participation reflected its commitment to immigrant rights and the visibility of the Tibetan community within the broader civic space.



- **Talk by Mr. Lobsang Jinpa (April 2025):** Mr. Lobsang Jinpa, Secretary to His Holiness the Dalai Lama, delivered a special talk to the community, offering rare insights into His Holiness’s biography and his four core commitments. The session provided attendees with a valuable opportunity to deepen their understanding of His Holiness’s life, values, and global mission.
- **Tibetan-Chinese Youth and Community Dialogues:** TANC hosted a dialogue event co-organized with Chinese Youth Stand for Tibet and the Stanford Tibetan Student Union at the TANC center. The gathering brought together Chinese, Tibetan, and other youth to share perspectives and engage in open discussion on the present and future of Tibet. The event fostered mutual understanding and aimed to build bridges across communities through respectful and constructive dialogue.



- **Tibet Lobby Day in Washington, D.C. (June 2025):** TANC board members, together with students from the Free Tibet organization, participated in Tibet Lobby Day in support of initiatives organized by the International Campaign for Tibet (ICT). Their participation reflected a shared commitment to advancing the advocacy agenda and objectives outlined during the event.
- **Meeting with U.S. Congressman Jim McGovern (August 2025):** The TANC President and board members met with Congressman Jim McGovern of Massachusetts during a town hall in Lafayette, hosted by Congressman Mark DeSaulnier of California. Congressman McGovern warmly greeted the delegation with “Tashi Delek” and displayed a rosary gifted to him by His Holiness the Dalai Lama. He

expressed deep appreciation for the Tibetan community’s prayers following the passing of his daughter in April. On behalf of Tibetans in Tibet and the global diaspora, the board conveyed sincere gratitude for Congressman McGovern’s longstanding and steadfast support. Congressman McGovern reaffirmed his commitment to the Tibetan cause, including continued advocacy for the appointment of a Special Coordinator for Tibet.

**Meeting
with
Congressman Jim McGovern**

August 21, 2025



These engagements strengthened partnerships, amplified community voices, and reaffirmed TANC’s commitment to the Tibetan cause.

D. Fundraising Activities

TANC implemented myriad fundraising initiatives to sustain programs and operations:

- **Community Cafés (October 2024–August 2025):** Since October 2024, TANC has hosted 12 Sunday Community Cafés from 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM, providing a space for food, conversation, and community connection. The first café of each calendar year is traditionally hosted by TANC Board members. These cafés serve as a key source of income to support the monthly operating expenses of the community center. TANC extends its sincere appreciation to the following groups for generously hosting and supporting these community services:
 - October 6, 2024 – TANC Board Members
 - November 3, 2024 – Bay Area Former Gyuto Monks
 - November 17, 2024 – Ladakh Sonamling Group
 - December 15, 2024 – Bylakuppe Old Camp 2
 - November 19, 2023 – Meyer Sound Tibetan Employees
 - March 9, 2025 – Ex-Namgyal School and Tibetan Families from Nepal

- March 17, 2025 – Sikkim Family
 - March 23, 2025 – Mundgod Group
 - April 27, 2025 – Bay Area Tibetan Golfers
 - May 11, 2025 – Saney Thundok
 - August 17, 2025 – Ex-Mussoorie Group
 - August 24, 2025 – Darjeeling Group
- **Losar Fair (January 2025):** TANC hosted its first Losar Fair, a vibrant two-day celebration that brought together local vendors, families, and community members days before the Tibetan New Year. Vendors showcased and sold goods and traditional foods through paid space reservations, while TANC board members and community partners operated a café during the event. The fair raised a total of \$11,200 in support of future initiatives and served as a successful platform for cultural celebration, community engagement, and shared pride.



- **Ladakh Jhangthang Nomad Livestock Relief Fund:** TANC organized multiple fundraising efforts to support nomadic families in Ladakh that suffered massive livestock losses due to snowstorms. Through community cafés and individual donations, TANC raised \$36,809 for the families in Ladakh.
- **Asian Cultural Festival:** TANC participated in the Asian Cultural Festival in Downtown Berkeley, where Namchod Kyetsel students presented a cultural performance and TANC hosted a community café offering food and beverages. The event highlighted Tibetan culture and community spirit, and resulted in a net financial loss of \$628.



- **Annual Fundraising Concert (May 2025):** TANC’s annual fundraiser featured Bay Area artist Tashi Topden, along with performances by parents and Namchod Kyetsel students, showcasing Tibetan cultural performances as well as Bollywood, Nepali, Ladakhi, and Bhutanese music and dance. The event also featured a variety of traditional foods.
- **Himalayan Fair participation (May 2025):** TANC participated in the 42nd Annual Himalayan Fair, showcasing Tibetan culture through Namchod Kyetsel student performances and community engagement. The event also served as a fundraising opportunity through the sale of momos, laphing, tea, and beverages prepared by volunteers who gathered at the TANC kitchen on May 11th. Community members came together to celebrate the cultures of Tibet and the broader Himalayan region, and the TANC Board extends its sincere gratitude to all volunteers and participants for their contributions.



These efforts successfully combined cultural celebration with financial sustainability and broad community participation.

E. Infrastructure Development

TANC continued improving its community center with the support of volunteers, professionals, and board leadership.

- The shrine room (Choe-khang) underwent restoration, including repainting, cleaning, and renewal of sacred objects under the guidance of Mr. Lobsang Jampa.
- New bleachers were installed to enhance accessibility and comfort during community events. The Bleacher Project was a key undertaking this year, adding comfortable seating and improved accessibility for community gatherings, events, and cultural activities, especially for elders and children. This effort was made possible by skilled volunteers in our community who generously contributed their in-kind labor, along with the dedication and steady commitment of the board members.

The Board extends its deepest gratitude to all contributors. These accomplishments reflect the collective dedication of our community, and we remain committed to building a strong and lasting home for future generations.



F. Other Programs and Activities

TANC expanded its community services through:

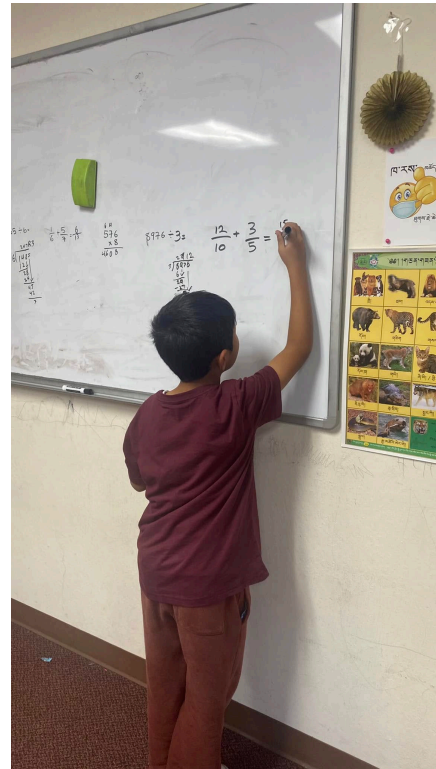
- **Gracious Dinner (September 2024):** With the 2024–2026 Board in place, TANC hosted a community dinner to introduce new board members and share upcoming initiatives. The free event was held at the Berkeley Adult School and offered an opportunity for community members to meet the new board members.
- **Jinpa Film Screening (December 2024):** TANC hosted a free screening of *Jinpa*, a critically

acclaimed film by Tibetan filmmaker Pema Tseden, offering the community an opportunity to engage with Tibetan cinema and storytelling.

- **Senior Program (2025):** Starting January 1, 2025, TANC launched its Senior Program, held every Wednesday at our community center. The program offers enriching activities for elders, including yoga, workshops on Tibetan medicine, religion, and dance, weekly nutritious lunches, and outings such as camping, sightseeing, and hiking—fostering wellness, cultural connection, and community. We thank the volunteer instructors and event coordinators for their care and kindness toward our seniors.



- **Homework Help Program (January through May 7, 2025):** TANC launched its first Homework Help Program, offering free academic support to community children every Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. Three volunteers—a former CTA public servant, a law student, and a former Kumon tutor—provided two hours of homework assistance at each session.



- Kidney Disease Screening and Awareness Program (April 27, 2025):** TANC, in collaboration with a UC Berkeley student-run organization, hosted a kidney screening event to raise awareness about kidney health. The initiative brought together over 20 UC Berkeley students and two volunteer physicians to provide health screenings and promote community wellness and education.



These programs strengthened intergenerational care, learning, and community well-being.

Namchod Kyetsel Tibetan Language and Cultural Education Program

Namchod Kyetsel (*Garden of Intellectuals*) remains a cornerstone of TANC's cultural preservation efforts. From modest beginnings, the program has grown to serve over 275 students from Kindergarten (Ngondro) through Grade X.

Through Tibetan language instruction, cultural education, and performing arts, the program continues to nurture identity and inspire younger generations. Although classes are held on Sundays, instructors remain engaged throughout the week through supplemental instruction and academic support.

Structure and Administration

The program operates under TANC and is overseen by the Namchod Kyetsel Committee, composed of a TANC board member, the Principal, and the PA President. The program employs 20 instructors in Tibetan language, music, and dance. Families contribute a nominal enrollment fee.

Program Overview

Namchod Kyetsel emphasizes both language preservation and cultural expression. While families play an essential role in language transmission, structured instruction ensures continuity across generations. The program follows the standardized curriculum of the Department of Education of the Central Tibetan Administration while maintaining flexibility to support diverse learning needs. Students regularly participate in cultural performances and community events.

Program Updates

- **New Principal (September 2024):** Leadership transitioned on September 2, 2024, when Mr. Tenzin Dhonyo assumed the role of Principal following Mr. Kelsang Dorjee Lungkhawa's election to the TANC Board.
- **Temporary Relocation (September 2024):** Due to space constraints, the Namchod Kyetsel temporarily moved to Longfellow Middle School in September 2024. After the lease ended in February 2025, it returned to the TANC community center, with additional classroom space provided in the shrine room and board meeting room.

TANC sincerely thanks the community for its patience and adaptability during this transition.

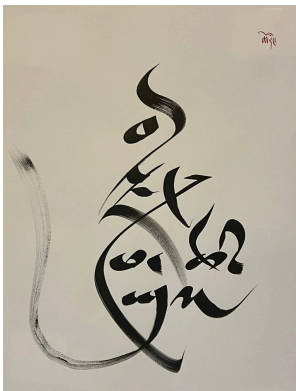
A. Academic and Instructional Initiatives

- **Grade X Launch (October 2024):** Namchod Kyetsel introduced a new Grade X class to support advanced study and teaching assistant opportunities. Designed for senior students, the program deepens learning in Tibetan language, culture, and history while also allowing students to serve as teaching assistants. The first cohort began in October 2024 under the guidance of lead instructor Mr. Tenzin Ghegay.
- **The "I Can Read Tibetan" Initiative:** At Namchod Kyetsel, the morning assembly is considered a very important element of the curriculum. During the assembly, all students Grade III and above are given the opportunity to read in Tibetan in front of all the students. This is encouraged to develop interest and confidence in reading Tibetan. All the students receive a pin that celebrates, "*I Can Read Tibetan*".



B. Student Engagement

- **“Tibet, Our Country” project (November 2024):** A student-led heartwarming and precious project initiated several years ago, this project allows our students to bring them closer to Tibet. Students with guidance from their respective class teachers mount exhibitions and make presentations related to different topics (such as culture, environment, geography, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, CTA, etc.). Students also put on cultural performances during the event. Grade V students led by Genla Monlam performed a moving short play based on the forced colonial boarding schools inside Tibet. Grades IV and VI students had a Tibetan Spelling competition led by Genla Sonam Tsering.





- **Dialogue Session with Honorable Sikyong Penpa Tsering (December 2024):** During his visit to Namchod Kyetsel and the Bay Area Tibetan community, the Sikyong (President of CTA) delivered a special presentation and engaged in dialogue with youth.



- **Guest Speaker Series (September 2024-April 2025):** Namchod Kyetsel hosted former Health Secretary within CTA and His Holiness the Dalai Lama's sister-in-law, Mrs. Namgyal Lhamo Taklha (September 15, 2024), President of the Tibetan Youth Congress, Mr. Gonpo Dhondup (April 13, 2025), and well-known teacher of Buddhism, Venerable Geshe Lobsang Dawa (April 20, 2025). Venerable Geshe Lobsang Dawa's clear explanations of basic Buddhist philosophy provided young community members with a valuable opportunity to engage with the teachings and deepen their understanding of Tibetan Buddhist thought.



C. Competitions and Academic Enrichment

- **Handwriting Competition (April 30, 2025):** In commemoration of International Tibetan Handwriting Day, Namchod Kyetsel held a handwriting contest for all classes. The top three entries from each class were displayed during the Annual Day celebration.
- **Tibetan Spelling Bee (May 25, 2025):** Under the stewardship of Mr. Sonam Tsering, students from Grade III and above participated in a Tibetan spelling contest aimed at strengthening their language skills.
- **Feedback to CTA Department of Education on Revised Textbooks (2025):** Namchod Kyetsel’s Principal coordinated with teachers from Tibetan weekend schools across the North American West Coast to review and provide feedback on the newly revised textbooks. A series of teacher meetings were held to ensure the process was thorough, meaningful, and constructive.

D. Cultural Engagement

- Namchod Kyetsel students gave cultural performances at TANC events and regional festivals, including the Monlam Festival in Richmond and the Himalayan Fair and Asian Cultural Festival in Berkeley.

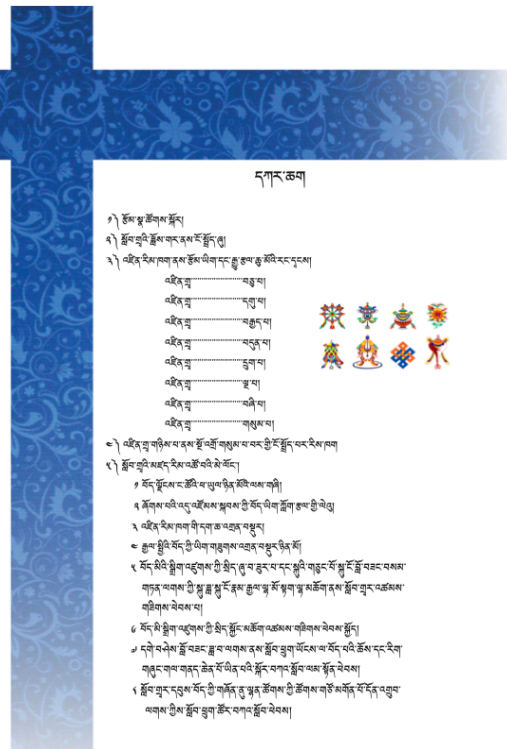


- **The PA fundraising concert (May 3, 2025) and Annual Day celebration (June 1, 2025):** These events highlighted student achievements and strengthened community participation. The concert featured performances by students, parents, and teachers, with all proceeds supporting the Namchod Kyetsel program. The year-end Annual Day recognized student participation and achievement with certificates, followed by games and activities for students and families.



E. Publications

- **Launch of *Namchod Kyetsel Magazine* (July 2026):** TANC’s Namchod Kyetsel launched its first-ever *Namchod Kyetsel Magazine* on July 6, 2025 in honor of His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s 90th birthday. The magazine featured creative writings in Tibetan and art from Namchod Kyetsel students.



TANC's Financial Summary

The 2024–2025 fiscal year reflects a stable and community-driven financial model supported by donations, fundraising events, program contributions, and volunteer-led initiatives.

Financial Report	
September 1, 2024 - July 31, 2025	
Distribution Account	Total
Income	
110 General Donation	60,849.55
120 Foundations Grant	93,000.00
150 Program Revenue	238,699.34
160 Membership Dues	7,135.00
Total for Income	\$399,683.89
Cost of Goods Sold	
Gross Profit	\$399,683.89
Expenses	
210 Program-School Exp	74,274.63
220 Consulting & Professional Fees	2,520.00
230 Program Event	109,487.99
240 Scholarships	49,000.00
250 Building Repair & Maintenance	27,680.41
270 Insurance	19,877.25
280 Office Supply & Business Tax	3,903.14
300 Loan- Interest Expense	3,183.37
30 Telephone/Internet/Website	4,432.28
310 Tax- Property	5,182.54
320 Utilities	34,759.76
330 Auto Expenses	1,051.73
380 Travel & Meal	3,492.79
390 Bank & CC Fees	353.82
Total for Expenses	\$339,199.71
Net Operating Income	\$60,484.18
Other Income	
3015 Temporary Restricted Net Assets	-50,000.00
5808 Other Income	20,704.45
Total for Other Income	-\$29,295.55
Other Expenses	0
Net Other Income	-\$29,295.55
Net Income	\$31,188.63

Key revenue sources included:

- Foundation Grants (Betsy Gordon, Hewlett, and Haas Foundations)
- Community Cafés and Losar Fair proceeds
- Annual fundraising concert and cultural events
- Program fees from Namchod Kyetsel
- Targeted relief and community fundraising campaigns

These funds supported core operations, educational programming, infrastructure improvements, and community services.

TANC is deeply grateful to the donors, volunteers, and supporters whose generosity sustains our mission. We are equally thankful to Bay Area Dharma centers for their steadfast collaboration and support. Careful stewardship of resources has enabled us to expand services while remaining financially responsible.

Future Programs and Infrastructure Projects

Looking ahead, TANC remains committed to strengthening both its programming and physical infrastructure.

1. Program Expansion

- Expansion of youth academic support and enrichment programs
- Strengthening of senior wellness and cultural engagement initiatives
- Continued development of health education and preventive care programs
- Enhancement of cultural and civic engagement activities

2. Infrastructure Development

- Completion of long-term community center enhancement projects, including most urgently, the repair of the center's leaking roof (fundraising target: \$40,000).
- Continued improvement of classroom and event spaces
- Upgrading accessibility features for elders and families
- Strengthening the shrine room as a spiritual and cultural center

TANC envisions a fully developed, permanent community hub that meets the growing needs of the Tibetan population in Northern California.

Acknowledgments and Gratitude

It is no exaggeration to say that TANC's successes are the result of the sustained generosity of many friends, foundations, and organizations who, over decades, have contributed in-kind support, financial resources, and steadfast moral encouragement.

TANC extends our heartfelt gratitude to all our donors, volunteers, community members, and partner organizations. Your generosity of time, resources, and unwavering support has made it possible for our programs to grow and flourish.

We are especially grateful for the spirit of unity, compassion, and service that defines our community. It is through this shared dedication that TANC continues to thrive, and we look forward with hope and determination to building an even stronger future together.

TANC BOARD MEMBERS 2024 -2026



Left to Right (T): Anam Tsamri, Tenzin Chodar, K.T. Lhamo, Tenzin Khando, Tashi Dorjee, Tenzin Phentok, Ugyen Kyab
Left to Right (B): Kunga, Lobsang Jampa, Lobsang Chodon, Kunjo Tashi, Kalsang Dorji Lungkhawa, Tenzin Lhundup

Editorial Team:

Advisors: Kunjo Tashi, Kalsang Dorji Lungkhawa

Editors: Dechen Tsering, Tenzin Dhonyo

Graphics Layout: Ugyen Kyab



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Tibetan Association of Northern California

www.tanc.org

“Unity of Purpose; Strength in Diversity”

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