

Tibetan Outlook towards China's Maneuver over Tibet: Case of Tibetan immigrants staying in Nainital, Uttarakhand (India)

Dr. Vikram Vir Bharti

Abstract— The very research paper is focused to make a query and search about the outlook of the Tibetan staying in India, regarding China's regime in Tibet. The universe selected for the study encompass, Tibetan staying in Nainital, which is a mountainous town and district headquarters of Uttarakhand state of India. The study tends to trace the present status and mind-set of the Tibetan staying outside their homeland, Tibet. The paper raises a few crucial questions regarding the fate of the Tibetan staying outside Tibet. "Are they happy to be Indian now? If yes! Then what answer does India have to them and also to China?"

Index Terms— Tibet, Tibetan, India, China, Homeland, Immigrants, Citizenship, Outlook, Future.

1 INTRODUCTION

TIBET for long haunted by the Chinese, and the progression of Chinese occupation still prevails (Sperling, 2004). Once known as 'Forbidden Kingdom', now no longer is a hidden territory for the outside world. The Chinese started its sway over Tibet, long back in 1950s, when the People's Liberation Army (PLA) invaded Tibet and defeated the Tibetan Army at Chamdo. However, as per China's narrative, there is evidences from the Chinese ancient text which refers Tibet as a part of China or rather to say they never regarded Tibet as a country (Jinpa, 2016). At times, call it the land of feudal, poverty, and starvation. The history of resistance is long backed, but 'The Rolling Wheels of Monks', could not withstand the barbaric assaults of Chinese in Tibet.

Long back in the year 1959, on 17th March, his holiness The Dalai Lama, fourteenth Rinpoche had to escape from Lhasa (Gupta & Ramachandran, 2012) and seek asylum in a sleepy town of Dharamshala, Himanchal Pradesh, India. It also resulted in the mass influx of Tibetan refugees into India that continues until today (Artiles, 2012). Decades witnessed the injustice done to the innocent Tibetan at home by Chinese. The two big giants of Asia- India, and China, have their own justification for their actions and procedures. However, being sandwiched between, Tibet and the fate of many Tibetans. Tibet always did and still resist the Chinese occupation of Tibetan territory. But, China amongst one of the fastest-growing power in the world, hardly had to face consequence from the other parts of the world and specifically from the so-called International organization which work for peace. Even in times, America and Great Britain too handled the situation diplomatically; when they could handout Tibet for its freedom. Abandoned was the innocent Tibetan, left with no choice but to flee outside homeland and seek shelter in other countries more specifically, India.

As the Tibetan philosophy guides its true Tibetan to follow the saying and footsteps of his holiness the Dalai Lama. The Geographical location, proximity, and cordial gesture of India, suited Tibetan immigrants. The two-point system, i.e. following the religious Guru, and the common Himalayan Geography of the hill districts of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, and hill districts of Bengal, became a second home for Tibetan outside Tibet.

China always overrules claims of Tibet as a nation, and showcase it as the Western interpretation of ethnic relations of China created by Western colonialists more than 100 years ago, which depicted Tibet, not as part of China in history (CGTN, 2019). As per the official Chinese propaganda, 'Tibet Movement', is branded as a "splittist movement" backed by "Western imperialist forces," and its supporters are consistently referred to as "hostile Western forces" (CTA, 2020).

Since 1950s China enforce its claim on Tibet, and to accomplish its ambitious motive, China changed the cartography of the actual boundaries of Tibet before occupation by China. In this line, China divided the very region of which some areas became the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), and others were incorporated into neighboring Chinese provinces (BBC NEWS, 2019) (Mahalingam, 2014), as shown in fig 1, map no. 3. Historically, Tibet had its identity as a country (fig 1, map no.1), and was originally divided into three provinces, namely *U-Tsang*, *Amdo* and *Kham*, as showcased in fig 1, map no. 2. Now, what we see or made to see and believe is Chinese administrative prefectures, which are divided and engulfed by the Chinese regime.

The matter of fact is, initially before Chinese occupation, Tibet had its own flag (See fig 2), Tibetan National Anthem called *Gyaloo*, Currency called *Ngul*, Tibetan Constitution, Postal Stamp, Tibetan Passport system, etc. Even the treaty which was signed in March 1914 during Shimla Convention was between Tibetan Authorities and British India, and laid down the foundation of McMahon Line after British colonial administrator Sir Henry McMahon, (see fig 3). However, being the third patron of the Shimla Convention, the then Chinese authorities did not sign the Convention because they had objections about Article

• Dr. Vikram Vir Bharti (Assistant Professor), Department of Tourism Studies, Government Degree College Rudraprayag, Uttarakhand, India, PH-07830366032. E-mail: vikram8611@gmail.com

9, which laid down the boundaries between Inner and Outer Tibet. With it, the Chinese for long did not raised any objections regarding any other issues of the rest of the Articles of the Convention, including the McMahon Line (Kalha, 2014) (Mahalingam, 2014). Nonetheless, by 23 January 1959, the than President of China, Zhou made the following comments to, the than Prime Minister of India, J.L.Nehru, stating that, the treaty was not signed between the Governments of China and India. The McMahon Line was a product of the British policy of aggression against the Tibetan Region of China. Tibet local authorities did signed the very treaty, but the Government of China is not satisfied with the 'unilaterally drawn' line. He also made the statement regarding the maps, stating it, signed before the convention, and was formulated behind the back of the Chinese plenipotentiary (Kalha, 2014).

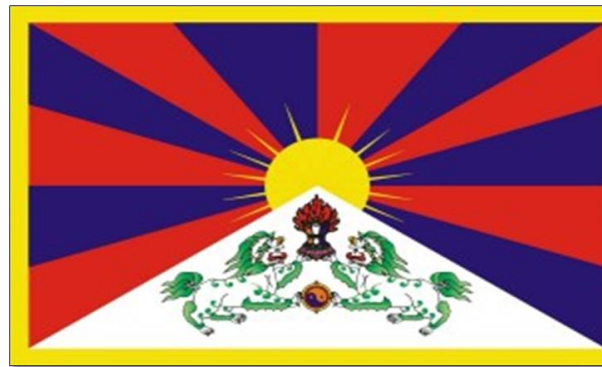


Fig. 2. Depicting Tibet National Flag
Source: - (CTA, 2020)

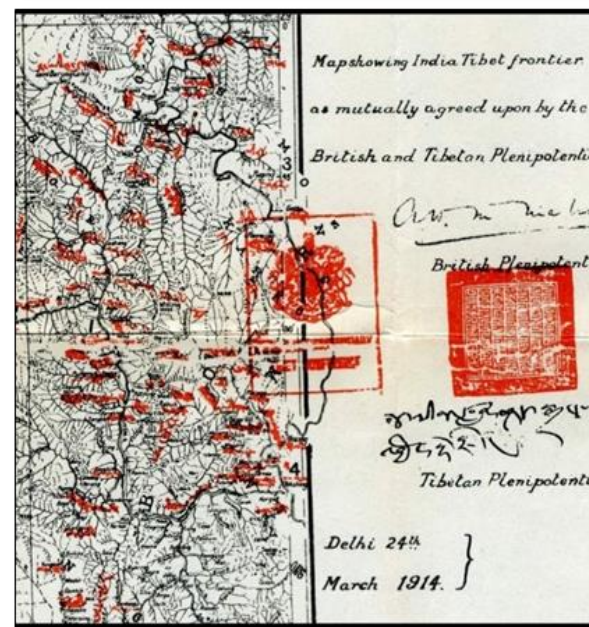
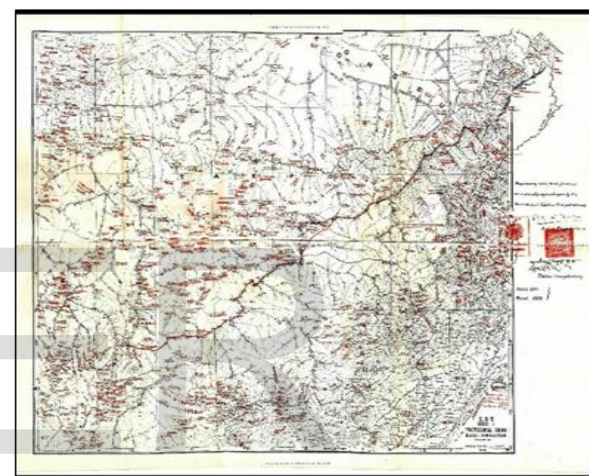
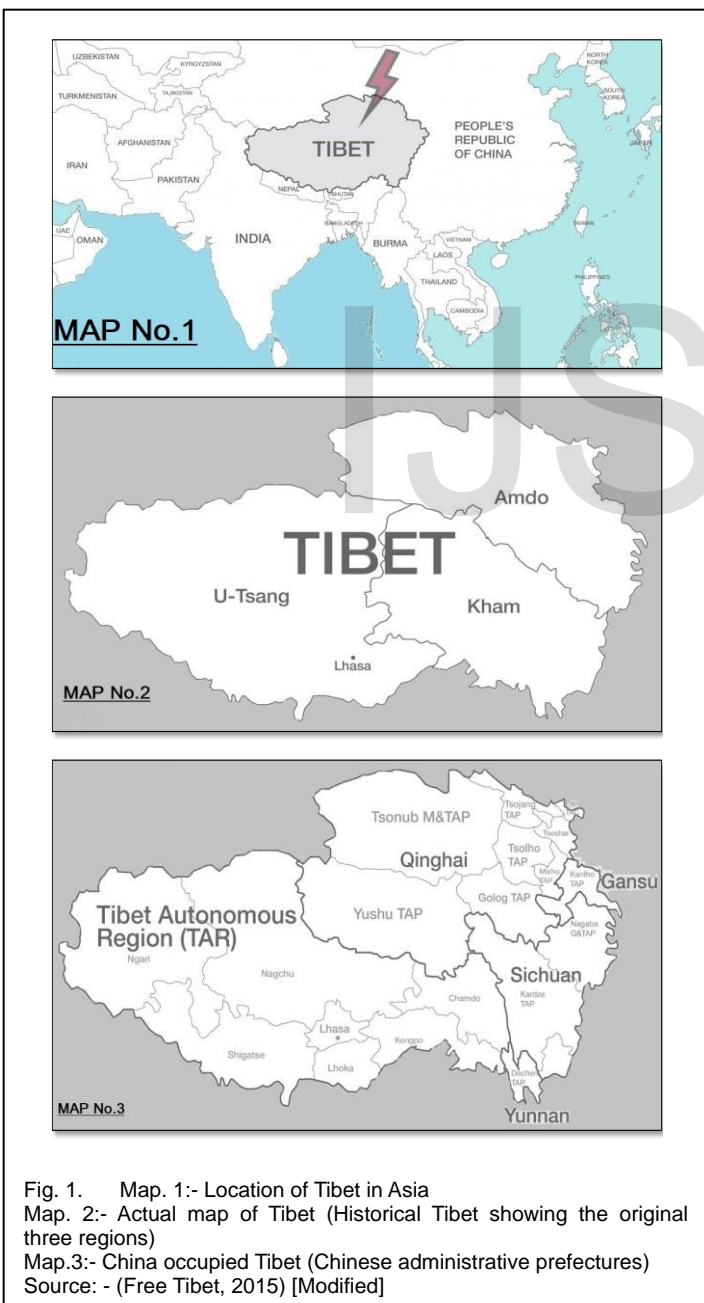


Fig. 3. Depicting Document supporting Tibet – British India Agreement March 1914
Source: - (Oberoi, 2020)

TABLE 1
CHINA AND TIBET NARRATIVE ABOUT TIBET ISSUE

ELEMENT	CHINA	TIBET
-Tibet as a country	Tibet is Autonomous Region of China	Tibet is forcefully annexed by China
-Sovereignty	Tibet's sovereignty belongs to China past many centuries	Tibet was a free nation but forcefully colonized by the alien rule of China
-Human Rights Violation	China denies	1.2 million people were killed under Chinese rule
-Religion and Culture	China is reviving Tibetan religion and culture	China forcefully subduing rich Tibet cultural heritage and religion
-Development	China claims to uplift Tibet's economy and livelihood	Chinese development in Tibet majorly benefited the Han Chinese immigrants.

The comparative reviewing of the Tibet issue, China and Tibet have divergent views, as represented.

Source: - (BBC NEWS, 2019)

2 OBJECTIVES

The paper seeks to find a basic point of view and mind-set of the Tibetan staying outside Tibet, here the case of Tibetan staying in Nainital. Some of the major questions to be answered:

- The expectation of Tibetan from the Indian Government regarding their future, if they stay in India as an Indian citizen.
- If not then, in case they have to move outside of India than what will be their future.
- Rights equivalent to an Indian citizen, say right to vote. *(Which is already in process since 2014)
- If given a choice, will they be happy to stay in India as an Indian citizen or would like to move to the homeland and been ruled by the Chinese Government?
- Will Tibetan be happy to be part of China? NOW. If so, then, still Tibetan staying in India want to stay back or vice-versa.
- If war breaks between Tibet and China, what role do Tibetan staying outside Tibet, expect from India and the world?

3 METHODOLOGY

The paper is based on both primary and secondary sources of data. For secondary sources, the author went through documentaries, research papers, books, newspapers, and blogs, etc. about Tibet. Specifically, news write-ups and interviews of the concerned.

Questionnaire comprising of both close and open-end questions has been designed. In-depth interviews of elderly Tibetans of Nainital, has been conducted to get deep understanding and viewpoint of the Tibetan staying in India.

Non-probability sampling method has been involved in the study, specifically convenient sampling is adopted. The total sample size is 150 (Comprising both male and female respondents) out of the total Tibetan population staying in Nainital, which is 209.

The medium of the questionnaire selected is English. In some cases, help from the Tibetan having equal knowledge of English and Tibetan is approached to avoid misunderstanding of the concept of the question asked.

To comprehend the Tibet issue more deeply, the author also made a field trip to McLeod Ganj, Dhramsala, which is the headquarter of the Tibetan government-in-exile. During the same period, the author also attended Students for Free Tibet (SFT, India National Network) workshop, for a better empathetic approach to the very issue of Tibet and to know what Tibetan youth think and approach with the Tibet movement. The author also met higher authorities of Tibetan government-in-exile and its various office-in-charges including the Prime Minister, Shri. Lobsang Sangay (*Kalon Tripa*), head of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA, Tibetan government-in-exile).

4 BACKGROUND OF TIBET AND ITS FALL & STRUGGLE

4.1 Tibet's Fall and Struggle

Gangchen, i.e. Land of snow, Forbidden City, Roof of the World were some of the synonyms used for the beautiful country (Is it?) TIBET. Lies at an average altitude of 4000m, Comprises of the unique geography, and immense mineral resources. The snow-clad mountains of Tibet are a mother to some of the major river system of Asia.

The total population, which is approx. above 6 million is spread over three provinces i.e. *Kham*, *Amdo*, and *Central* Tibet. The major livelihood pattern of Tibetan areas farmers, nomads, and semi-nomads. The religious belief of the Tibetan is Buddhism, which was introduced into Tibet in 7th century AD, by the 37th King of Tibet, *Songtsen Gampo*.

Things have started changing very fast since 1st October 1949, when the Communist Party headed by Mao Zedong founded the People's Republic of China (PRC), after the fall of the Republic government of Chiang Kai-Shek. The announcement by Radio Beijing about liberating all Chinese territories, forced Tibet as well, though Tibet was an independent country until then. The Tibetan Government tried to talk with PRC and too wrote a letter to Mao Zedong about the injustice. Tibet too decided to send two of their senior officials to the neutral country (outside Tibet and China), to talk about the issue. However, it could not be materialized as, 'when applying for VISA at Delhi, for Hong Kong (Neutral Land outside these two countries), the Tibetan official with VISA was also about to accept a two-point statement, which states that,

- i. Tibet national defense will be handled by China &
- ii. Tibet should be recognized as a part of China.

(Tibet's Journey in Exile, 2012)

Both the aforementioned points are very much shaped by the Chinese, and was unacceptable to Tibet, hence the point of negotiation canceled. Things become horrible to horrendous on 11 November 1950, when 40 thousand PRC troops attacked *Chamdo*, and defeated (Paul Harris, 2008), so-called Tibetan army and captured provincial Governor, Ngabo Ngawang Jigme. Being a peaceful Nation, Tibet never sought UN membership, hence their appeal to the UN on 11 November 1950 was in vain.

By 17 November 1950, His Hilliness the Dalai Lama was bestowed with full political responsibilities. All his efforts and delegation for peace with the PRC Government failed. Another negotiation, which was held on 29th April 1951 had 10 point statement formulated by PRC was also failed. However, on 21st May 1951, China presented a new draft of the 17 point agreement, Tibet refused to sign it but was forced to accept it on 23 May 1951 (Goldstein, 1995).

In 1954, PRC invited His Holiness the Dalai Lama to Beijing, but unfortunately, the point of freedom of Tibet did not reach any point rather it was the only point of conflict. By 1956 to 59 things became bad to worse, as, on 10th March 1959, a national uprising against China took place in capital Lhasa. Unfortunately on 17th March 1959, His Holiness the Dalai Lama was left with no choice but to leave Tibet, thus seeks asylum in India. With him, there were thousands of other Tibet national who followed His Holiness in exile in India, Bhutan, and Nepal.

4.2 Progression in Exile

(Rehabilitation, Education & Safeguarding Culture)

Since 1959, there has been a constant migration of Tibetan to India and other parts of the world. So the matter of the rehabilitation of the Tibetan in India was always a concern. His Holiness the Dalai Lama requested the Indian Government to hand out support for re-habilitation of Tibetan in India in a way that they could survive their ethnic identity and cultural heritage. At the same time preserving Tibetan values to transcend it to future generation to be true Tibetan.

The early days of Tibetan in India were very tough and full of hardship. They had to work as laborers, roadside workers and had to perform jobs that engage them in dangerous and treacherous terrain. With the efforts of His Holiness, major settlement camps were established in different parts of India like Karnataka, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Arunachal Pradesh.

The early livelihood of the Tibetan in India was an agro-based but soon with the felt need, there were other means of livelihood adopted and experimented which included handcraft, small scale industries, and business. By 1965, the Tibetan Industrial Rehabilitation Society came into existence, which bought various projects for Tibetan rehabilitation.

Education was yet another issue of concern for the Tibetan children staying in India. With the efforts of His Holiness, the first Tibetan school was established at Mussoorie, Uttarakhand in 1960. With the support of the Indian Government, there

evolved, Tibetan School Society, later come to be known as the Central Tibetan School Administration (CTSA). Not only this, Tibetan students were also being sent to Europe and the USA for higher studies and a few selected under scholarship to pursue the University level, and research studies. The effective literacy rate (population of 6 years and above) of exile is 82.4% (Demography Survey of Tibetans in exile, 2009).

With the Chinese occupation of Tibet, there also arose a desperate need for the Tibetan to safeguard its culture and heritage. Chinese not just forcefully acquired their territory but also forced Tibet to follow the Chinese way of communist philosophy. In doing that, china destroyed thousands of monasteries and cultural centers in Tibet (Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD), 2016) (Donald S., 2010). The only option left for Tibetan was to preserve its culture outside Tibet, mainly in different parts of the Indian sub-continent.

By now, there are more than 200 monasteries and nunneries having been established in different parts of India and adjoining countries like Nepal and Bhutan. Besides this, various institutions of Performing Arts, Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Tibetan Medical and Astro Institute, Central University of Tibetan Studies (Tibet's Journey in Exile, 2012) have been established so that Tibet may survive its identity and culture in exile.

4.3 Tibet Administration in exile

It was the need of an hour to install governing body of the Tibetan administration to look for the welfare and the issues of Tibet's existence and freedom. It was 29th April 1959, when His Holiness the Dalai Lama established administrative setup of Tibet, outside home country at Mussoorie, India. Though in 1960, it was shifted to Dharamsala, Himachal Pradesh. It came to be known as the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA). The very setup was instated as Councils, i.e. different departments to look and operate different issues and problems of the exiled population and also to initiate the issue of a free Tibet.

Today there are around seven main departments of Tibet administration, which look after Religion, Culture, Home, Finance, Education, Security, Information & International relations, and Health. There are also three independent bodies called the Election Commission, the Public service Commission, and the Office of the Auditor-General.

The theme of the Tibet administration (Outside Tibet) is initiated with democratic philosophy. To achieve it, the Commission of Tibetan People's Deputies (CTPD), was established on 2nd September 1960. (Since 2006, it is known as Tibet Parliament in Exile.) In 1990, His Holiness the Dalai Lama dissolved the '*Kashang*' Cabinet, which was by this time was appointed by his holiness himself. Now a purely democratic system was adopted for the election of the Cabinet (Bhattacharjea, 1994). The new system came to be known as 'The Charter of Tibetan in Exile'. In 1992 His Holiness also declared that 'after Tibet's independence the very administration in exile shall be abolished and a new federal, and democratic system shall be operational in all three provinces, i.e. (*Do-toe, Do-med and U-Tsang*) of a free Tibet. His Holiness shall discharge all his duties and observe the life of a common citizen of free Tibet'.

In 2001, there was yet another amendment took place which

stated, ‘the Charter to provide a direct election of the ‘Kalon Tripa’ (The Executive head of the CTA) by the Tibetan population in exile. The executive head of CTA i.e. Kalon Tripa nominates candidates as Cabinet members (Kalons) but had to seek the permission of the Parliament. The nominated candidates have to prove two-third of- majority vote in parliament for an appointment.

From the 1960s to 2011, there were total of 14 Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile, practiced its session successfully. By 2011, the new Executive head (Kalon Tripa) and the Parliament were elected in a purely democratic way by the exiled Tibetan population. Yet another notable event took place in 2011 when the Dalai Lama officially renounces his political leadership. The new system resonates with the words of His Holiness the Dalai Lama:

“My desire to devolve authority has nothing to do with a wish to shirk responsibility, it is to benefit Tibetans in the long run.”

Abridged (www.nytimes.com, 2011)

Hence, since 2011, The Dalai Lama officially renounce his political leadership role in the Tibetan exile government. His decision intended to strengthen the democratic structure of the Tibetan movement on the eve of elections to choose a new generation of political leaders (Yardley & Wong, 2011).

4.4 Efforts and struggle for identity

Being a peace-loving nation, Tibet struggle for independence always chosen the path of non-violence to put forward their viewpoint in front of China and the world. Various non-government organizations came into existence for the very issue. The Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC) and The Tibetan Women’s Association (TWA) are among the prime NGO’s which are working for the same, with peace approach. Simultaneously, the Tibet Support Group (TSG’s) also came into existence incorporates international support in the form of the international community, which want to see Tibet as an independent nation.

In the year 1987, His Holiness proposed a middle path to China, which he addressed in the United Nations Congressional Human Rights Caucus; Incorporates **Five-Point Peace Plan for Tibet** (Tibetan Women's Association, Dharamsala,India, 2011). These five points stated:

- I. Transformation of the whole of Tibet into a zone of peace.
- II. Abandonment of China’s population transfer policy which threatens the very existence of the Tibetan as a people.
- III. Respect for the Tibetan people’s fundamental human rights and democratic freedom.
- IV. Restoration and protection of Tibet’s natural environment and the abandonment of China’s use of Tibet for the production of nuclear weapon and the dumping of nuclear wastes.
- V. Commencement of earnest negotiations on the future status of Tibet and relations between Tibetan and Chinese people.

(Tibet's Journey in Exile, 2012)

By this time, His Holiness became foresight for Tibet and Tibetan existence, hence even proposed a solution that says let

be Tibet part of the PRC, but in that case, should observe Five Point Peace Plan for Tibet. However, China remained adamant.

By August 1993, all formal talks with China government ended, or rather China did not at all wanted to have a word with Tibet. However, in 2002, China hosted a four-member Tibetan delegation for initiating His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s middle way approach to solving issues of Tibet. From 2002 to 2007; followed the formal talks between China and Tibet regarding the very issue, paving the way so that there could be talks and a solution which could be beneficial for both the nations.

In the year 2008, Tibetan envoys visited China and proposed, the **“Memorandum for Genuine Autonomy for the Tibetan People”**. But China misinterpreted it and hence again in 2010, **‘Note to the Memorandum’** was required to be presented to China to clarify the concerns and misinterpretation on the memorandum from the Chinese side. It also requested China to lift unnecessary charges on His Holiness the Dalai Lama of being separatist. It requested China to liaison with His Holiness to solve the issue in line with the points referred in the memorandum.

Still, these peace talks prevail. Tibet left with no choice but to believe in a thin silver lining over dark clouds of China’s regime.

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 Brief profile of Tibetan of the study area (Nainital)

The Tibetan settlement in Nainital was started in the late 1960s. However, there were Tibetan before that too, but the Tibetan who came before 1950 were now regarded as Indian citizens and hold Indian citizenship, though their number is very less.

TABLE 2
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF TIBETAN STAYING IN NAINITAL

Total Population of Tibetan in Nainital	Total Number of Male	Total Number of Female	Total Number of Children (Below 18)
209	80	95	25
Total Number of Families			50* ~48
Livelihood Pattern			Business
Income source			Business
Education		45 % Educated	

Source: - (Tibetan Freedom Moment (BRDL), 2018-19)

Nainital is one such hill district where we find Tibetan immigrants. The town cradles around two hundred plus Tibetan. The major source of income for them is business. The Indian government provided the settlement area and the market place called, Tibetan market, which with the course of time

became one of the major attractions for the tourist who visits Nainital.

There is a total of 50 families staying in Nainital (Refer Table 2 for demographic profile of Tibetans staying in Nainital). However, at present, only 48 reside in Nainital as two of the Tibetan families had to leave because their livelihood was completely based on, as the street vendor and since the Uttarakhand High Court passed the order regarding the street vendors hence they too had to suffer the consequences and had left with no choice but to leave Nainital.

Amongst them, all the families' livelihood is based on tourism, more especially as a shopkeeper selling clothing, bags, cosmetic goods, toys, etc. Even it is bit shocking that they too had to sell Chinese goods as they are left with fewer choices as in accordance with demand patterns of the tourist they have to have products which are cheap and easily available. However, since the year 2020, with an escalation in the border dispute between India and China, following the Indian counterpart, Tibetan staying in Nainital too stood to boycott Chinese goods to be sold in the Tibetan market in Nainital.

The Tibetan children for pre-school in few cases join the convent school in Nainital but the majority joins Tibetan school and later for higher education joins Tibetan center for higher education. The majority of Tibetan parents wanted their children to get educated in India as they believe that their children get better education and amenities in India rather than in China occupied Tibet. But, yes, they are very much concerned with inculcating education of the Tibetan way of life and philosophy to their children and simultaneously get modern education in India.

There is no doubt that each Tibetan surveyed in Nainital firmly believes that one day Tibet will be an independent country. If at least not completely independent, but at least to the level of 'Middle Path', proposed by His Holiness the Dalai Lama to China (*Which refers to genuine autonomy to Tibet, with conditions applied*).

Regarding India as a second home, the majority of Tibetan believes it is 'home away from home'. They respect Indians and their people, and live in harmony with host population. The Tibetan population staying here is very much courteous towards the generosity of India towards Tibetan immigrants. It is also to be noted that the Tibetan by blood, who are born in India are attached to this land as an Indian. But yes! They know, they are Tibetan by the origin, and believe, one day they or their future generation will go back to Tibet and proudly stay in their homeland, '*Free Tibet*'.

When asked about their stay in India as Indian citizen status, the majority of Tibetan put forward their viewpoint that 'if they stay rather recognized as an Indian citizen, they want to be treated as a mainland people and want to get privileges which are given to the citizen of India. Contrary to this, when asked about their stay in India as a Tibetan; the majority of the Tibetan population responded very positively and are more than satisfied with the efforts of the Indian Government to re-establish them in India.

Concerning, the question of their stay in India or go back to Tibet, which is China now. The response is overwhelming by a firm determination to no way, but almost half of the response

is, can't say as they are not very much clear about the future progression of China towards them.

The point of contact between Tibetan outside Tibet and mainland Tibetan. The majority of the population did not ever visit their home country. The only medium of contact for them is the Tibetan Government in exile in India. Through them only, they able to keep whatever little contact with the mainland Tibetans. The Tibetan Government in exile tries to bridge between them and the mainland fellow man.

When asked about the role of India and the world regarding Tibet struggle with China. The Tibetans staying in India firmly believe that India and the other world's nation, if undiplomatically handout support to Tibet, China will definitely look into the matter more seriously.

The Tibetan has a firm belief that there is no point staying at homeland under alien rule one day Tibet will be a free country.

Interview with, Mr. Tenzin Tsundue, is an activist for the Tibet issue and eminent freedom fighter for the cause, 'Free Tibet'. In his views and literature, focuses on the complete autonomy for Tibet. His and his counterpart dream to hail Tibet as a free country. For them, there is no middle way, as in general can be said, 'forceful compromise' (Tsundue, 2017).

5.2 Concerns

India-China relationship is also leverage on the Tibet issue, as both the nations have their narrative and justification. Nevertheless, there are more concerning issues related to territorial disputes (Chellaney, 2014). The geo-political scenario between India and China has a lot to do with Tibet, which at the moment seems diminishing because of the aggressive strategy of China's regime. Though China sorted its dispute with most of the neighbors, however the McMahon Line, which was a boundary between India and Tibet, unfortunately, became an international boundary with China (Richards, 2015).

India has been cordial to the Tibetan refugees staying in India, however, Tibetan position to stay is ambiguous, restricted from exercising the full rights of citizens, and vulnerable to changes with the political scenario of India (Tibet Justice Center, 2016). India's gesture for Tibet and the Tibetan is always amiable and welcoming, though diplomatic and elusive stand. India somehow failed to capitalize on the issue against China's Propaganda in Tibet (Klieger & et al., 2015).

Another deep area of concern is that the new generation of Tibetans born in exile is questioning the leadership's direction in the struggle against Chinese (Aljazeera NEWS, 2019). In an interview to news magazine 'The Week', Dalai Lama told, "Even though Tibet was an independent country, politically China occupies Tibet today,".

"Under the given circumstances, I have been saying for some time now that there is a need to focus on preservation of Tibetan culture, religion and identity. It is no longer a struggle for political independence," Dalai Lama said (India Today, 2019).

The Tibetan youth loves His holiness Dalai Lama, though the majority of the youth and the Tibetan youth associations around the world wanted to follow the modus operandi of complete independence.

China on another hand playing, wait and watch game, and firmly

believe that the 'Free Tibet moment' shall collapse once the Dalai Lama passes away and the movement will lose its backbone, and confront a serious setback (CGTN, 2019). Furthermore the colossal damage to Tibet and the Tibetan population staying in mainland Tibet is from China's policy of population transfer aimed at reducing Tibetans to an insignificant minority in their own country by sending in millions of landless, and jobless Chinese (friendsoftibet.org, n.d.).

6 CONCLUSION

In light of the latest development in world politics, China has been subsided by most of the countries in the world, especially since Covid-19 outbreak. On 19th May 2020, the bill was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs in US Congress to recognize Tibet as independent nation (<https://freetibet.org/>, 2020).

In past, India to maintain bilateral relations with China, prohibited Tibetan to campaign or rally against China in India. However, the tables are turned now, India's relations with China started worsening day by day, triggered with the border disputes at various fronts. India should easily leverage by openly supporting the 'Free Tibet', cause. Since 1950s Tibet and the innocent Tibetan suffered in the hands of barbarous Chinese entity. Tibetan stood against the dragon fire with ice attitude, and this is the main reason the very Tibet cause won the heart of people around the world. Tibet issue is one of the longest agitation in the world for freedom, solidarity and self-determination. Tibetan firmly believe that, one day they will live under the roof of free Tibet.

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ACRONYMS

- [1] **PRC:** People's Republic of China
- [2] **PLA:** People's Liberation Army
- [3] **TAR:** Tibetan Autonomous Region
- [4] **CTSA:** Central Tibetan School Administration
- [5] **CTA:** Central Tibetan Administration
- [6] **CTPD:** Commission of Tibetan People's Deputies
- [7] **TYC:** Tibetan Youth Congress
- [8] **TWA:** Tibetan Women's Association
- [9] **TSG:** Tibet Support Group
- [10] **SFT:** Students for Free Tibet