

The Reincarnation of Dalai Lama

In Tibetan Buddhism, Dalai Lama was like a leader in both spiritual and political. People in Tibet believed in Dalai Lama who was a living Buddha and had the supreme authority in Tibetan Buddhism. In 1959, I leaved Tibet to India because of the invasion of the People's Republic of China. Since that time, there had been almost half century. And I tried to find a way to talk with Chinese government about the freedom of Tibet, but there was no way to negotiate, because China insisted that I was the person who wanted to separate China and Tibet, but what I wanted to do was that relieved Tibet to the real freedom, both in body and mental, but not like separating. So it caused deeply conflict between me and Chinese government. However, right now, I had to pay attention to a question that was most sensitive, which was my reincarnation. This was a chance for me to choose whether to continue the reincarnation of Dalai Lama, and also was a challenge for me to face a lot of problems such as the place of rebirth. But this was the situation, I am older and older, and I had to make the decision.

The first thing that I thought about was whether to reincarnate. According to many reasons, my choice was continuing to rebirth. Firstly, The succession of Dalai Lama was a tradition of Tibetan Buddhism and the first Dalai Lama had asked the female guardian spirit of Lhamo La-Tso, the divine lake in Tibet, to protect the "lineage" of reincarnation(Shackle). If I decided to stop this tradition, it might disappoint the ancestors of Dalai Lama, who were actually "me" in the history. How could I violate myself? Also, I was like a protector of Tibetans and they believed in

me, I could not disappoint them, too. The role that Dalai Lama played in Tibet was not just a leader, but a guardian of Tibetans and Tibetan Buddhism. And China had ruined many Tibet culture and religious culture since 1959(Queen). I had to rescue Tibet culture, and this was my task. So, I have to reincarnate to continue my work that relieved Tibet and developed Tibetan Buddhism culture. Tibetan people needed me to support them and help them achieving the real liberation. Tibetan also need a leader to guide them along the right way. I was aware of that there were some Tibetans wanted to use violence to against Chinese government, which was the way that not what I preferred to. They needed a correct leadership, so that we could show the world that we wanted peaceful(Queen). The important thing for me was awakening people. I was a living buddha, so I was the teacher that lead people to get ride of dukha. Tibetans had done a lot of efforts for their awakening, if they used the violence to against China, they would lose their accumulations. And they would have more dukha because of their actions. That was the worst thing for me and Tibetans. I had to teach them and told them what was the real way to achieve freedom, to awakening themselves, and to get into nirvana. This was also why I needed to do the reincarnation of Dalai Lama. I was always thinking about Tibetans and how to protect Tibetans Buddhism.

In this case, the most important stakeholders were China and Tibet. For China, I thought that whatever I decided to do, they could find a way to further their goals, which was to ensure the unification of the motherland in their words. The implication of this words was overturning me, Dalai Lama, because they had confirmed that I was

a person who split the country. If I decided to reincarnate, they could have a chance to leave me away, just like what they did for Panchen Lama: Chinese government identified a person became the 11th Penchan Lama and they kidnapped the more reliable person who was chosen by Daila Lama(Wong). And the Chinese government had said that they would name the next Daila Lama(Wong). According to those information, It seemed like I should not to reborn. However, if I did not to do the rebirth, Chinese government would easily control the Tibetans, and the most thing I cared about was the Tibetans' resistance because it might block the Buddhism's belief, and finally people lost themselves because they were focused on how to get ride of China, but not payed more attention to Tibetan Buddhism. So, I had to reborn because I still have the un-finished task. But for the government, even they had prepared for both sides, I thought they might prefer to see that I did not to reborn, because it would be easily for them to weaken the Tibetan Buddhism and control Tibetans. And that was what I was feared.

The second stakeholders were Tibetans. There were some militant Tibetans who wanted to use violence to liberate, and they looked like already disagree with me and challenge me(Eimer). I was worried about them They should see what was the real task of us who were the Buddhists. What we wanted was a great situation of awakening, and a great chance to achieve the higher level in Buddhism, but not like just fought for the political independence, what we really wanted was a mental and spirit independence and at least the peaceful of Tibet. If the Chinese government could give us those conditions, why did we have to against them? If only for the

militant Tibetans, I thought they might do not want me to rebirth, because I looked like a hindrance for their goal which was not what we truly want. But that precisely became one of the reason that I had to reincarnate, I had to lead them back to the right way so that they would not go far away from Buddhism. However, for most Tibetans, they wanted me to reincarnate because I was the teacher of awakening, the leader of Buddhism, and the support of spirit.

Since I had decided to continue the reincarnation. The next problem that I faced was the place or the situation of my rebirth. My group and I had the same idea about the reasons why I have to rebirth that I mentioned before, and when we moved on to the place questions, we had divergence. Firstly, we have the same base which was that the place should have Buddhism faith now. Some of people in our group thought that I should rebirth in Tibet and it should be the best choice, because I was the leader of Tibetan Buddhism, and Tibet was the most relevant place for Tibetan Buddhism. Although Tibet seemed like the best place for my rebirth, I had to think about the reality question. The Chinese government statement for me was a person who agitated for an independent Tibet, and it could be crime that even only have a picture of me(Jacobs). I was not allowed stay in China, so it would be hard to rebirth in Tibet. Another suggestion for me was to rebirth in Dharamsala in India where was the place that I lived now. It was a good suggestion for me because we had some Tibetans here and we had a exiled government here, and India was also believed in Buddhism. I would say “yes.” It was a good place.

However, I thought about rebirth in America. An American Religious

Identification Survey showed that Buddhists have grown 170 percent since 1990 to 2000(Quinn). In America, Buddhism was not the most important one, but the growth of Buddhism in America was the fastest one. If we looked at states, there was none state where Buddhism was most advantageous, but if we looked at a community or somewhere smaller, we could find some places that Buddhism was main stream. And that was the place that I wanted to rebirth. Firstly, America had more resources than Tibet and India, like the influential medias and the powerful position of America, which could help me to claim my points like peaceful better. And I could get a better help to liberate Tibetans. Secondly, America can provide a better protection of me. I was afraid that I would be the same end like Panchen Lama, so I needed a greatest protection of my reincarnation, and I thought it would be better in America than in India, because America was further from China than India. And I had the good relationship with America leadership, and Americans(Bork). According to all of those reasons, I would like to rebirth in America. But there was one thing that I concerned which was that if American leaderships got closer to me, I thought it would influence the relationship between China and America because I was the person that China wanted to arrest. But I did not want more conflict, and I hoped this world would be peaceful, so I did not ask more help or political asylum from America. Just like now, keeping the relationship between America and me to avoid more sensitive topic. Then about the ethnic, I thought it should be yellow race, because it would easily accept by Tibetans and it would make next “me” easily to be found in America. Then the cost of finding time was also a problem that I had to care about, because if it took a long time

like seven or eight years, I was afraid that militant Tibetans would do some radical actions and Chinese government would intensify the conflict and destroy more culture of Tibet. So becoming a yellow race people in America would reduce the cost of time. And I thought I would give more specific information of my reborn place before I reincarnated, such as in the east of America, or the middle, or the west.

To make those decisions were difficult and I had paid attention to the cost of finding time. My concern was that if it took a long time, the situation would become instability. And it might caused big problems. Just for comparison, in history, the most instability time of society was the time period of the authority's changing. Because I thought it was a characteristic of the human society. That time period was the weaker time of authority, and the against forces would seize the chance to take the advantages. That was why I wanted to reduce the cost of finding time. And I thought I would also named the next leader of Tibetan Buddhism before I reincarnate so that there would be no vacant time of leader. I did not prepare to identify Panchen Lama to be the leader, because he was not stand with us, and actually I could not make sure whether he was the reincarnation of 10th Panchen Lama, because he was identified by Chinese government which was a irreligious government. However, Hopefully, my worries were just unnecessary and I had a great hope for tomorrow. Like what I said, "21st century will be much happier"(Celizic).

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