



Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House

December 6, 2008

Thank you Bay Area Friends of Tibet and the Tibetan Association of Northern California for organizing Tibet Day 2008 to celebrate your 25th Anniversary and honor your rich Tibetan culture, heritage and struggle for freedom.

The Chinese government has not lived up to its promises to improve human rights. Beijing has not ended its military campaign against peaceful Tibetans, allowed journalists and independent monitors unfettered access to the region, nor commenced a sincere and transparent dialogue between high-level Chinese leaders and the Dalai Lama.

The cause of Tibet is a challenge to the conscience in a world. Freedom loving people of the world want their leaders to show resolve in standing up to regimes that brutalize their people. China can flex its economic muscle and dismiss world criticism but it does so at a cost in international standing.

The United States has a special responsibility to promote values of liberty, equality and human rights that we hold dear. I look forward to working with President Barack Obama on behalf of the human rights and religious freedom of the people of China and Tibet.

I am proud to represent a City where protecting human rights is a top priority and send my best wishes for a wonderful day of celebration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy Pelosi".

NANCY PELOSI
Speaker of the House