

Southwest Minnesota State University
The Mustang Gold Lecture Series
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NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER TO VISIT SMSU CAMPUS

Dalai Lama Speech Scheduled for October 7

MARSHALL, Minn.—On the 64th anniversary of China’s invasion of Tibet, his Holiness the 14th Dali Lama, Tenzin Gysato, will speak at the Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU) campus. The speech is co-sponsored by the President’s Office and the SMSU Global Studies department.

The Dalai’s talk is scheduled for Tuesday, October 7 at 7 p.m. at the SMSU RA Facility, 1501 State Street, Marshall, Minn. “We are expecting an overwhelming turnout, so it is advised to get your tickets early, arrive early and plan for large crowds,” stated Dr. Michael Cheng, SMSU Global Studies Director.

Tickets may be purchased on-line until October 6 at www.smsu.edu/globalstudies/dalailamaticket and cost is \$15/ticket. There will limited ticket sales at the door. Press passes are available upon request to the SMSU President’s office, 507-555-0001. All proceeds from the tickets will be given to support the **free TIBET** organization (<http://www.freetibet.org/>).

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“The Dalai travels the world peacefully working to free Tibet and promote the tenets of peace, compassion, forgiveness, tolerance, contentment and self-discipline,” stated Jampa Yonten, SMSU Business Administration graduate student. “For 623 years the Dalai Lamas have served as spiritual leaders of Tibet. SMSU is very fortunate to host the current Dalai Lama Tenzin Gysato on such a historic anniversary.”

On October 7, 1950, Tibet was invaded by China. China leadership claimed, "The task of the People's Liberation Army for 1950 is to liberate Tibet." In October of that year, 40,000 Chinese troops invaded. Today, Tibet remains occupied and restricted.

The free Tibet organization, founded in 1987, stands for the rights of Tibetans to determine their own future and campaigns for "an end to the Chinese occupation of Tibet and for the fundamental human rights of Tibetans to be respected."

SMSU was founded in 1967 in the southwest region of Minnesota. Its current enrollment is 6,665 students with 50 academic majors offered.

“Even if you do not fully support the beliefs of the Dalai Lama or free Tibet, this is a chance to hear one of the most influential leaders in the world speak. How often do you get to see a Nobel Peace prize winner, especially in Marshall, Minnesota?” stated SMSU President Connie Gores.

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