Shakabpa’s original passport recovered

The original passport issued by the government of independent Tibet in Oct 1947 to the head of the country’s finance department, Tsepon Wangchuk Deden Shakabpa, has been recovered and handed over to the Office of His Holiness the Dalai Lama on Mar 29, said the Friends of Tibet (INDIA) General Secretary, Mr. Tenzin Tsundue. The handover was made to the Dalai Lama’s private secretary, Mr. Tenzin Gheyche, by Tsundue and Rev. Pema Dorjee, former head of Sarah Institute of Buddhist Dialectics, near Dharamsala.

Shakabpa used the passport while heading a Tibetan government trade mission in 1948 to India, the United Kingdom, the United States and several other countries. The passport, made on a large sheet of traditional hand-made Tibetan paper, bears visa and transit permit seals and stamps issued by more than seven countries. The passport is dated “26th day of the 8th month of Fire Pig Year (Tibetan),” corresponding to Oct 7, 1947.

The historic document had fallen into the hands of antique dealers after Shakabpa passed away at his home in Kalimpong, India, in 1989.

Friends of Tibet (INDIA) bought the document, along with other related papers, from an antique dealer in Kathmandu for a princely sum of money at the end of a long negotiation over price. The transaction was carried out by Mr. Kogpo Dhondup, the newly elected settlement officer of Boudha-Jorpata Tibetan Refugee Camp, Nepal.

Friends of Tibet (INDIA) stumbled upon the historic document in the course of securing materials for their Tibet exhibition called “STORY OF A NATION: Independent, Occupied and Exiled Tibet.” Said Mr. Tsundue: “In our efforts to gather the incredible story of this nation, we have been able to bring together some amazing old photographs and objects of historical importance belonging to independent Tibet. So far, we have been able to collect more than 60 photographs and objects. The traveling exhibition will start its journey from May 2004 from Cochin, South India.”

Shakabpa’s surviving family members welcomed the recovery of the lost historic document. In a statement Apr 4, they said that after the late Tsepon W/D Shakabpa passed away on Feb 23, 1989, his “valuable documents, scriptures and artifacts were improperly sold to private dealers and individuals without the knowledge, consent, or authorization of the elder principals of our family.”

1992 में पूर्व बंगाल में गुम हुआ था पासपोर्ट

पहला तिब्बती पासपोर्ट नेपाल में

अनन्त प्रचार + दिनांकित\n
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पहला तिब्बती पासपोर्ट नेपाल में