



FOREWORD

The 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso

My Tibetan Childhood is the autobiography of a young Tibetan that vividly describes the brutal repression of Tibet by Chinese forces in the 1950s. The author personally witnessed the events he describes in this book, and he records them convincingly and straightforwardly. Today, only a few elderly people remain who can recount these sad events from personal experience. Candid recollections such as these are of great value not only to new generations of Tibetans who want to understand the recent history of their own people but also to readers abroad who are interested in what actually happened in Tibet.

This book, originally written in Tibetan, was earlier translated into Chinese. Now, it has been translated into English. Readers of both Chinese and English who are already familiar with what took place in Tibet after 1950 will recognize what is described here; for others it may be a revelation. Either way, I am sure the candor of these recollections will convince readers of the justice of the cause of Tibet and lead them to lend us their support.