

# TSERING WOESER

## A CANDIDATE FOR THE 2013 SAKHAROV PRIZE

TSERING WOESER IS A POET, BLOGGER, DISSIDENT WRITER AND CULTURAL HISTORIAN BASED IN BEIJING WHO PROVIDES A UNIQUE WINDOW INTO THE COMPLEX REALITIES OF TIBET



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Tsering Woeser is a **Tibetan activist, blogger, poet and essayist** based in Beijing, in the People's Republic of China. She was born in Lhasa but when she was a small child, her family relocated to the Kham area of western Sichuan province.

In 1988, she graduated from Southwest University for Nationalities in Chengdu with a degree in **Chinese literature**. She worked as a reporter in Kardzé and later in Lhasa and has lived in Beijing since 2004 as a result of political problems. Woeser is **married to Wang Lixiong**, a renowned author who frequently writes about Tibet. According to Reporters Without Borders, "Woeser is one of the few Tibetan authors and poets to write in Chinese." As the government refused to

give her a passport, she sued the authorities.

Woeser is the author of a book, *Notes on Tibet* (西藏笔记; Xīzàng Bìjì). According to the Tibet Information Network, the government banned the book in September 2003. She has also written many other poems and books, such as *Tibet's True Heart. Selected Poems* and *Unlocking Tibet: A Chinese Author's Perspective on Tibet Issue*, written together with her husband Wang Lixiong.

Tsering Woeser, who has been put **under house arrest** on several occasions, is posting articles and poems on her blog based on information from her many friends and contacts inside Tibet. She has become one of the only Tibetan voices that is regularly heard in the outside world.

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*Tibetan author and blogger  
Tsering Woeseer with Ai Wei  
Wei after receiving the Inter-  
national Women of Courage  
Award at the US Embassy in  
Beijing on May 19, 2013.*

### AWARDS:

- Norwegian Authors Union Freedom of Expression Prize (2007)
- Freedom of speech medal by the Association of Tibetan Journalists (2007)
- Courage in Journalism Award by the International Women's Foundation (2010)
- Prince Claus Award (2011)
- International Women of Courage Award (2013)

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Woeseer's blog in Chinese: <http://woeser.middle-way.net>

English translations of Woeseer's blog articles: <http://www.highpeakspureearth.com>